# ADAAAC Meeting Notes

## Wed, May 9, 2018

## 10:00 – 11:00pm

## Cunningham Hall Room 795

Prior to going in to the Agenda, it is a custom of the committee to go around the table and have attendees introduce themselves and then indicate their position and department. At this meeting, the Chairs requested that participants also comment briefly about what kinds of changes, if any, they note in their department, since around 1990, with ADA legislation.

Attendees and summary of opening comments:

* Mary Knasinski, PASS, offered that ARC’s collaboration with PASS has increased for the PASS program, with staff from ARC meeting with the growing number of tutors, each semester, to provide an overview of ARC services and to talk about working with students with disabilities. PASS has hired deaf tutors, more recently, for ASL courses. The department is more concerned with how the physical environment is accessible to all students. It was noted that UWM is still more geared to the younger student and that we as a campus need to be more aware of the returning, non-traditional, or older students and their specific needs.
* Zach Steuerwald, Safety, referenced that safety training has grown in scope to include more awareness of people with disabilities. Inspections for safety around campus have grown in scope to include attention to ADA requirements. Web pages are now being updated with the WordPress software such that accessibility standards are easier to incorporate.
* Phyllis King, Provosts Office, offered that overall there is a broader view of design on campus, including attention to ADA standards, universal design and accessibility of new buildings. ARC has become more involved with providing resources for the student body, as well as for faculty to incorporate accessibility in teaching and classroom. New leadership is offering guidance for campus to move forward in becoming more accessible and compliant with accessibility.
* Aura Hirschman, ARC, highlighted how ARC has become more of a resource for campus, in addition to meeting the individual needs of students with disabilities on campus, with collaborations growing to work together with other departments and with helping faculty increase awareness of disability and accessibility, such as the recently launched modules for Accessible Teaching and Learning from CETL and ARC. ARC also has a full time Assistive Technology Specialist, who has enabled campus to improve AT/IT collaborations with classroom support staff and the AT/IT Committee, as well as in purchasing assistive technology for meeting the accommodation needs of students.
* Sean Zettel, UITS, talked about the fact that the “digital divide” is much less now in terms of students being equipped with IT and AT upon coming to campus, and the computer labs have grown to accommodate the IT needs of all students. UWM needs to stay mindful that not all students have laptops, cell phones or other devices.
* Kevin Jahnke, Classroom Technology Support, noted more access to tools for accessibility, including wireless technology. Staff have more experience to lend to increasing accessibility of the classrooms.
* Erin Wiggins, ASL, offered that she sees dramatic improvements in having centralized services for delivering accessibility services. There is more awareness of faculty needs. The physical environment of ASL classes (with interpreters, etc.) is in need of attention and remains a challenge.
* Brian Peterson, ADAAAC community representative from IndependenceFirst, notes that there is now more attention for deaf students to have their specific personal preferences/accommodation needs met. When he went to college in Illinois, only interpreters were available, but now there are more options for captioning or interpreter services. Overall there is more awareness of accessibility on campuses.
* Natalie Benevides, Purchasing, notes that there are now many more regulations to follow in purchasing, insuring that business contracts include accessibility of new materials. She notes much more positive attention to the physical environment being accessible.
* Beth Traylor, Media and Reserve Library, notes that discussions on accessibility in the library had just started. A couple years later, the Library created Adaptive Technology Room to offer assistive technology and software outside of ARC. The early technology and software was rudimentary. It has come a long way from the early designs.
* Kim Pietsch, Registrar's Office, noted that her department is much more aware of universal design for accessibility on campus and has taken a much more proactive role toward their environment and meeting the needs of students and staff vs. trying to go back and fix problems retroactively.

Notes on Agenda items:

1. Approval of last meeting minutes - not comments or edits suggested
2. Request for note taker - Aura volunteered
3. Announcements
   1. Webinars – none to share, but if any are found, they will be noted in future correspondence.
   2. Accessibility Modules update – CETL and ARC are releasing the Certificate on Accommodations and Accessibility Training modules for faculty. The announcement will be official as of this week. The Universal Design component will be open, but the other Accommodation modules will be limited to use by UWM faculty. Completion of all of the modules and a follow up assessment activity (on a rubric with choices) will enable faculty to earn the certificate. Program will be updated ongoing and assessed on certain criteria on a regular basis.
   3. ARC Excellence Awards 20th Anniversary celebration winners for 2018 are Kari Dawson, Assistant Director, University Housing, Dylan Barth and Amy Mangrich, Consultants, Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL), and Erma Green**,** Adjunct Faculty, Curriculum and Instruction. Anyone still interested in attending the Friday celebration please call Cassie in ARC. We will have over 100 attendees, including those that we are honoring from the past 20 years.
   4. UDOIT/CANVAS update – David Delgado and his team are continuing to roll out UDOIT, an Accessibility Checker, developed specifically for CANVAS. This will be hosted here at UWM, and possibly for UW System, too. Update forthcoming.
   5. Industries for the Blind has awarded ARC more funding (over $15,000) for new Assistive Technology purchases, including 2 new CCTV’s, one for the library Adaptive Tech Room and one for ARC lab, as well as more Magni-Links for class and for PASS offices. This is in addition to the Community Award grant that started last Fall and includes AT equipment and accessible tutoring.
4. PEC committee update from April 18 – Zach Steuerwald has taken on the role of liaison from ARC and PEC. He provided a report:
   1. Active Shooter training his now in revision with a new group working to include attention to doors, with ADA Guidelines and safety guidelines being considered together, attention to lock down drills will include the most campus stakeholders possible.
   2. Green Fund Project update – Student Association is concerned with sustainability focus with a green roof on one campus building being pursued, a solar powered picnic table, being designed with engineering students with cell phone charging capacity, etc, and increased bike shelters for riders to campus.
   3. PEC is looking into including all of campus in a “Smoke and tobacco free” policy. This will be sent to faculty senate for approval this week. Consideration will be paid to cessation programs, and enforcement. Kerri Duc will involve the neighborhood association to ensure neighborhood relations with this change. There have been 3 smoking-related fires on campus for which fire department was called and 2 evacuations on campus with cancelling of classes.
5. AT-IT (Assistive Technology/Information Technology) Committee update – Kevin Jahnke – Committee is working to update JAWS and Zoom Text in the CCL’s. Campus software will be able to oversee purchase. There have been issues with the launch of these softwares in the past, and over this summer each “adaptive tech station in the CCLs will be equipped to launch software simultaneously with the computer start-up for equitable use and ease of use. Roger Smith recommended a checklist for Accessibility on campus. The WEPA printers have been looked into for better accessibility. Some accessibility components are available, but accessibility is questionable in other areas. Roger is working with the company on improvements.
6. Updated reports - Discussion on reports of responses to the feedback on the Accessibility Policy and next steps – Beth Traylor summarized current status and all of the materials will be provided to Chancellor, on May 16. The reports have been shared with Beth Schaefer, UITS COO and with Robert Beck, Associate Vice Chancellor, UITS and CIO.
7. Discussion of future goals for ADAAAC for 2018-2019 – The committee discussed future initiatives to focus on for next year. Recommendations included:
   1. Institute the IT Policy Draft and begin next step planning for training and marketing regarding IT Policies.
   2. Assess needs with merger of campuses.
   3. Mental Health concerns
   4. Asking for $.
   5. Increase of Shared Services model to include a budget line for looking at all classrooms being updated equally, both General Assignment classes and Classrooms assigned to departments, including for ergonomics, IT/AT, faculty accommodations and instructional needs
   6. Outline a mechanism for asking for the above.
8. Just for fun video with assistive technology, was postponed due to time constraints.

Next Meeting: June 13 at 10:00 a.m.