# ADAAAC Meeting Minutes

## Wed, December 19, 2018

## 10:00 – 11:00pm

## Cunningham Hall Room 795

Attendees: Jason Anderson, Tom Bjornstad, Cassie Franklin, Paul Gunderson, Aura Hirschman, Kevin Jahnke, Mary Knasinski, Jason Kuiper, Kim Pietsch, Sarah Ruder, Zachary Steuerwald, Nicole Stelzner, Beth Traylor, Jeb Willenbring, Susan Wolf, Karen Wolfert.

Interpreters: Brice Christianson and Tracy Kleppe

### Approval of last meeting minutes

### Note taker needed - Nicole Stelzner volunteered

### Announcements

1. New ARC Interim Director is Jon Broskowski. The search process for a permanent Director will begin in January.
2. Dan Lococo – invited to ADAAAC meeting as the community member representative. Formerly the community representative was Brian Peters. Dan is an alum of UWM and has served on multiple boards, roundtables and committees within the community. He worked diligently to coordinate funds that support literacy and education for Blind and Visually Impaired people and some of that money was even given to UWM (grant for STEM accessibility tutoring and other supports for B/VI). Dan’s interest is on people with disabilities and is focused on general inclusion and intersectionality.
3. EquatIO software: The software was developed by Text Help, the same company who developed Read & Write Gold. The focus of EquatIO is not necessarily for people with disabilities but a software that is compatible with math notations. It makes the notations accessible so that it can be read by a screen reader (notations are not often picked up by screen readers). EquatIO was pitched to Math department with support of Jeb Willenbring to see who in the Math department might have interest implementing/testing this software.
4. Volunteer needed to help with ADAAAC website - Sarah Ruder volunteered.
5. AIRA:

Is an assistive technology that was researched and a recommendation to implement this at UWM has been put forth to the Chancellor, Provost, and Dev Vengopalan. AIRA is a wireless service that connects people who are Blind or Visually Impaired to a trained, remotely-located professional/agent. This is done through an app on your smartphone or via a pair of optional Horizon Smart Glasses. The agent provides audio description for the explorer (user). The major benefit to AIRA is that explorers have instant access to the world around them. AIRA is current available at the Milwaukee Airport but it is being considered at other public places: The Milwaukee County Zoo, State Fair, and other venues – especially seasonal ones.

AIRA video - <https://aira.io/how-it-works>

AIRA Campus Network information: <https://go.aira.io/airacampusnetwork>

Another important thing to note about AIRA is that you do NOT need the glasses to use the service (if glasses are desired, they are $600/piece), you can just use the camera on your smartphone. When you purchase the service, you are purchasing a block of minutes. The most common block is 2500 minutes and on average the explorer uses 6-9 minutes per call. The phone app is free of charge and can be downloaded to both android and Apple devices.

Aura and Beth talked with Marty from AIRA Wisconsin and he assured them that AIRA does not interact with Campus IT. There was discussion on how AIRA worked and it seems that it is likely it works off of the data plan on the user’s smartphone. It would either have to work off of cellular data, WiFi, or Bluetooth. If AIRA was to be utilized on campus, the company would just have to set up “geofences” – geographically areas covered with the plan (includes inside and outside buildings).

None of the other UW System Universities are currently using AIRA and it would be fantastic if we could be the pioneers for this service.

Discussion:

* Questions for vendor on Data use for personal phones, how much network use wifi/user’s data plan – Guest UWM Wifi has an hour time limit and then they have to log in again.
* Dan Lococo: Curious on how this compares to other services out there such as Be My Eyes.
* Aura Hirschman: Understood the difference to be that with services such as Be My Eyes, the personnel who are assisting with audio description are volunteers and are not professionally trained whereas with AIRA they are professionals.
* Jason Anderson: DVR could likely cover some of the cost of AIRA for individual consumers.

### Other Committee Updates

#### Jason Anderson asked about the Campus Accessibility App

1. Karen Wolfert: Further discussions to take place in early January.
2. It would be great if students could request or even report issues on campus regarding safety/maintenance issues. For example, there is a pipe in the 2nd floor restroom of Lapham Hall which has been leaking since the beginning of the semester.
3. Karen Wolfert: Each building has their own method of reporting and each building has a building chair. An employee can pose the issue to a building chair and then they chair can make a service request with maintenance.
4. Kim Pietsch: Seems a lot of things are often overlooked or does not get done in a timely manner as it is said other things are more of a priority.

#### Aura Hirschman: On the UWM Accessibility webpage it explains how to directly contact Campus Facilities if there is an issue so it does not necessarily have to be done through the app.

#### Smoke & Tobacco Free Policy: Zach Steuerwald:

1. The soft rollout goes into effect as of January 1, 2019
2. Zach did not attend PEC so is not sure if there was more discussion
3. Signs will be sent out via Mike Priem and/or be installed over the break

#### AT/IT Committee: Kevin Jahnke

1. No meeting notes since the last meeting had to be postponed. The next meeting is tomorrow, Thursday, December 20th.
2. There will be discussions about:
   * the software updates in the campus labs
   * UW Colleges restructuring and the use of the Kurzweil licensing until it expires
   * IMTC (IT Management Council) – meetings are typically in April and October and so the hope is to have a meeting this coming April
   * Microsoft Translator – it is really cool and almost spooky how well it works. It is a great option for voice-to-text (were testing it out briefly during the meeting)
   * Accessing Higher Ground – Shannon Aylesworth attended and so will talk about what was gleaned
   * Demo from Epson coming up in January (January 14th) for SignGlasses – It is a similar concept to AIRA but focused for Deaf and Hard of Hearing where there is an interpreter in the bubble in the corner of the glasses.

#### PEC: Karen Wolfert

Milwaukee County Transit System came to present about potential route changes. The newly proposed changes would increase the frequency of specific, but they would actually have fewer routes. These are just plans and discussions at this point. The presentation will be available on the PEC website and they could even come to ADAAAC or other committees to present if that was wanted

#### ARC: Cassie Franklin

1. There will be lots of new faces around ARC in the new year. Barb Simon has retired and Jon Broskowski has been announced as the new Interim Director.
2. ARC is officially providing services to the College of General Studies (Waukesha and Washington) as of December 21st.
3. There is a demo on Epson Sign Glasses on January 14. <http://web.tecnico.ulisboa.pt/hugo.nicolau/publications/2017/Miller-CHI-2017.pdf>

### Discussion of ideas for next year’s meetings

Suggestions:

#### Invite people from Waukesha and Washington County to present (libraries, etc.)

#### Presentation or other technologies so we could potentially have a hands on experience with these technologies (SignGlasses, AIRA, etc.).

#### Exhibition Day – multiple companies come and showcase their products

#### Support Service Provider (SSP) – Graduation had their first request for an SSP which is used with Deaf-Blind individuals. The individual uses tactile information and haptics which aid in communication for the individual, as well as provides mobility assistance. More research is needed on who is responsible for this type of accommodation. What are the legal ramifications/technicalities? Who is responsible for this? Is this person to be paid or volunteer? Is this available at other venues outside of UWM? Yes, but there are lots of variations and dependents. It would be good to look into this request and our responsibilities as it could come up again in the future. <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/odhh/dbresources.htm>

1. 2017/2018 ADAAAC Annual Report - This will be sent out with the meeting minutes and the final discussion will take place at the January meeting. If you are not attending the January meeting, please send your notes to Aura and Beth

Next Meeting: January 16, 2019