# ADAAAC Meeting Minutes

## Wednesday, September 11, 2019

## 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Cunningham 795

Attendees: **Jason Anderson, Jon Broskowski, David Delgado, Kurt Hennemann, Aura Hirschman, Kevin Jahnke, Dan Lococo, Mary Knasinski, Jen Murray, Tom Piccorelli, Kim Pietsch, Kathy Pinkowsky, Breanna Renor, Sarah Rothmann-Mandl, Roger Smith, Hillary Snow, Zach Steurwald, Dylan Thomas, Beth Traylor, Dev Venugopalan, Jeb Willenbring, Karen Wolfert, Susan Wolff**

1. Approval of last meeting minutes - Minutes approved from June with correction from PASS to Student Success Center.
2. Note taker - Mary Knasinski
3. Announcements/Updates
   1. Other Committees (AT/IT, PEC, etc.)

**AT/IT Committee - Kevin Jahnke**

* + The committee works on connections between assistive technology for students and information technology. It hasn’t met recently but will focus this fall on remote captioning.
  1. **PEC**
  + The Physical Environment Committee didn’t meet during the summer but will be meeting next week.
  + Jason Anderson will be our formal liaison with the PEC this year.
  1. **Facilities**
  + Thomas Picorelli mentioned that some projects were able to be finished before the start of the school year. The UWM app has a reporting option for accessibility issues on campus. However, the facilities crew’s system doesn’t interact with the app; they have their own reporting system which isn’t as immediate. Facilities Services can also be called or emailed with issues. Issues can also be reported using the Guardian app through the Police Department.
  1. **Other Announcements**
* Associate Vice Chancellor Venugopalan announced that John Meister had accepted the position of Director of the Accessibility Resource Center and starts October 15. Jon is coming from University of Colorado Boulder which is a very proactive campus for Accessibility. Dev also thanked Jon Broskowski for his work as Interim Director.
* Jon Broskowski introduced new ARC counselor Breanna Rehor.
* From CETL: UDOIT software (which checks for course accessibility issues) on hold while negotiations for its use at all UW institutions is being worked on.

1. Survey Results

* The ADAAAC survey last July asked the members about preferred meeting times and suggestions for future meeting topics. The meetings will remain on Wednesdays, typically 2nd Wednesday of the month, at 10 am., in Cunningham 795.
* Categories for possible future topics include new construction and remodeling projects on campus, website access, training of faculty and staff, the next generation and future composition of ADAAAC membership, updates on areas of campus accessibility, nonacademic department information sessions, food service updates, and discussions of ADAAAC’s role as a campus committee.
* Future speakers include Chancellor Mone, Trudy Turner, and Prof. Jeb Willenbring.
* The ADAAAC website will be updated soon.

1. Portal Update

* The Portal is an option that provides universal access through doorways on campus, and a pilot project is in process now. It works with software and hardware (a transmitter) with a universal access app for a Smartphone, and will open the door before the person arrives at it using a Bluetooth connection.
* The pilot project will be tried on several internal and external doors. A system called Andover Continuum Access Control is integrated into the access card readers on campus but is much more expensive, whereas the Portal costs only a few thousand dollars.
* It will probably start out being expanded to the Music and Arts buildings and the library, with about a dozen locations to start with. There is a question as to whether it will conflict with the access card/ID system now in place at certain doors.

1. Discussion of Centralized Accessible Course Materials Service

* Ensure consistent use and quality control of accessible materials.
* The committee would like to see this service implemented for faculty and staff. The service would produce accessible course materials for them and would be proactive, providing this support in advance of individual student requests (which is the system with ARC now.) ARC offers a service to faculty and staff to caption media, but this new service would be better for older materials, converting older documents to an accessible form.
* Student workers could be trained to do this work and the initiative would need to be provided with a budget, full time staff member to oversee it and training resources.
* Over the summer, a reading group through CETL explored this idea, and participant Hilary Snow (who offers a seminar course in Art History through the Honors College) spoke to the committee about her experiences with previous attempts to make her course fully accessible. She found there was a large time commitment to make all materials accessible, and after the work was done, it was unclear how accessible the materials actually were, in practice.

1. Other

* There will be Pet Therapy in the library through Health Heelers on September 17, with dogs, cats, and miniature horse present.

Next Meeting: October 16.