President’s Commission on the Status of People with Disabilities
October 14, 2014
Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Wendy Beckwith, Mariah Bellington, Kathy Berger, Emily Boysen, Cathy Coakley, Kevin Ennis, Sylvia Foster, Linda Guttman, Georgia Kerns, John LaCourse, Jeff Parsons, Tobey Partch-Davies, James Piet, Kei Saito, Lonn Sattler, Tara Scholder, Judy Stevens

I. Membership and Minutes
   - Georgia will follow up with Terri Winters, Director of Information Technology, to inquire about representation from their office.
   - The September minutes were approved. Wording will be changed under Section IV, third bullet point to read “A notice was posted on the portal reminding students that they are still responsible for meeting with their instructors to discuss services needed.”

II. Update from University Council for Inclusive Excellence and Equity
   - Kathy reported that council members spent the majority of meeting time reviewing and updating the spreadsheet of initiatives that was developed last year by the council to address concerns brought forward from the commissions.
   - Kathy brought forward a motion, seconded by Kevin, that this commission link their spreadsheet initiative on the need for training on person-first language, how to handle requests for accommodation and creating a safe environment for disclosure in the workplace, with the sustained professional development opportunities initiative which also includes implicit bias workshops, social justice educator training, safe zones, etc.
     - Motion was approved by the members.

III. WORKING GROUP UPDATES

PROGRAMMING WORKING GROUP (Georgia, Judy, Kathy, Sylvia, Chandler, Kristin, Linda, Tobey, Jillian, Kevin)
   - Events and Programs:
     - Promotion and marketing will continue for the October Rustin Delaney event and the film “Sessions”.
     - Tobey presented a motion, that the commission provide a $200 honorarium to Amos Winters for his November 18th speaking engagement.
       - Motion was approved by the members.
     - Tobey presented a 2nd motion that the commission add Women’s Studies and the Discovery Program to the list of sponsors for the Amos Winter’s event. They will post the event on their web sites and assist with distribution of other promotional materials.
       - Motion was approved by the members.
     - The working group is reviewing time/date options for the student panel discussion in February.
     - They would also like to start preliminary discussions on adding a new event/program in October in collaboration with the National Disabilities Employment Awareness month which falls in October.

PHYSICAL ACCESS WORKING GROUP (John, Lonn, Jeff, Doug, Wendy, Kei, Jim)
   - Wendy reported that the interior floor plans of campus buildings will be presented in such a way that all of the accessible features will be highlighted on the Accessibility Map for easy viewing when maneuvering from one floor to the next.
- She also reported that the Campus Energy and Planning group is also seeking permission to add Google Street Scape to campus which features real time viewing on your browser. Users could essentially view parking lots ahead of time to check on available parking spaces.
- John will be meeting with the GIS team to see if the map is technology compatible at this point so as to allow the user a portal to input data on reporting barriers/obstacles that they come in contact with.
- Lonn reminded members that he is aware of veterans with disabilities who have work study funding and would be available to assist in either projects from working groups or in our offices.
- Jeff will forward additional information that he has on Rochester and Lee bus stops which will be added to the web site.

COMMUNICATIONS WORKING GROUP (Mariah, Cathy, Nate, Emily, Tara, Janice)
- Emily reported that Chris Van Horn from Human Resources has agreed to consolidate the publicity communication for the Disability Award along with the Social Justice Awards and other commission awards. She will be sending out a Direct Communication to all campus staff in early November.
- Janice will reach out again to WildActs to ask about their commitment to the sidewalk safety project for this year. The group will also be seeking assistance from students on the poster campaign.
  - A PowerPoint will be developed with the posters and the goal is to display the PowerPoint on the overhead televisions found in the MUB and near the UNH Dining Halls.
  - Suggestion was made that we also contact Chief Paul Dean to ask officers to enforce the rules prohibiting the riding of bicycles on sidewalks.

IV. NEW BUSINESS
- Wendy reported that UNH and UNH Dining were recognized with the Employment Leadership Award on behalf of Vocational Rehabilitation and area businesses. Wendy will be attending the presentation of the award and the afternoon panel discussion on best practices.
- Kathy reported that the Clockwork portal no longer needs VPN for access.

Respectfully submitted
Janice Pierson