**President’s Advisory Committee on Disability Issues**
Fall 2024 Meeting Minutes
10/10/2024, via ZOOM

# Administrative Items

## Introductions

Committee Members: Al Nemec, Ann Murphy, Elizabeth Watson, Eric Roesler, Hunter Kuester, Jason Zapf, Ruben Mota, Shannon Aylesworth, Top Tantivivat, Victoria Moerchen

UW Admin: John Achter, Kristen Jasperson

## Verify roster

Al through June 2026

Ann through June 2024

Elizabeth through June 2025

Eric through June 2024

Hunter through December 2024 (student graduating in December)

Jason through June 2026

Ruben through June 2024

Shannon through June 2024

Teresa Davis through June 2025 (student)

Top through June 2025

Vicki through June 2025

## Review of PACDI’s Committee Charge

UW System policy [Nondiscrimination on Basis of Disability](https://www.wisconsin.edu/regents/policies/discrimination-prohibited/) (RPD 14-10) states that the committee shall “provide information and recommendations [to the President of the UW System] relating to individuals with disabilities.” The committee is charged with providing recommendations in three major areas:

* Policy and guideline implementation;
* Procedures for periodic reporting of data regarding disabilities; and
* Disability related issues raised by UW System Administration, universities, or units.

The committee has been involved in promoting many issues to provide a supportive environment for students with disabilities, but over the past two years, it has promoted access to Assistive Technology and the implementation of a Universal Design in Higher Education grant from the Department of Education. The goal of this project is that all UW universities will advocate to:

* Develop policies and procedures that support universal design.
* Plan on all levels to consider universal design principles.
* Identify and support architectural, informational, and curricular experts on each campus to serve as resources in these areas.

### Action Items

* Revisit and possibly revise committee charge to include more recent activities like digital accessibility.
* Create a section on digital accessibility and include the DMSA report.
* Add a project section that includes a statement of our current focus for the year.

## Spring 2025 meeting date and mode

* Hybrid
* Thursday, April 10, 2025
* Location to be determined once agenda is finalized and based on guests who might be invited

# Updates

## Disability Directors report

Shannon, Ann, and John shared highlights of the 2023-2024 Annual Report draft. Good questions and discussion from committee members. Final report will be shared with PACDI when completed and posted on this website: <https://www.wisconsin.edu/disability-resources/ccsd/>.

### Action Items

* Committee members recommend drafting a committee statement in support of adequate staffing for disability services offices, in light of report data documenting significant increases in students requesting accommodations.

## Digital accessibility

Digital Maturity Self-Assessment – all 13 campuses participated; all 13 campuses received summative reports. This dovetailed strongly with new ADA Section II coming out and allowed us to have benchmarking. Those tools are being used by a lot of campuses as their baseline as they move into meeting compliance. The report leveraged an opportunity to put in some requests in the budget. The work was well received and by President Rothman and supported by the Office of Compliance. Paige Smith gave good feedback about how the summative document was written in that it was a guiding document that tethered together mission, scope, and compliance with deliverable outcomes. Paige said it was a good example of a soft audit or a starting point to figure out where we are at with compliance.

Through John’s advocacy and support, we have a system ADA Title II workgroup. All campuses have a point of contact (PoC) that will receive regular updates on progress. The core group developed a subgroup structure and identified five (maybe six) subgroup topic areas: Policy, Multimedia/social media, Website, Academic and Library Content (academic and library may separate). Subgroups will include subject matter experts. PoC will participate in monthly meetings with the system so they can share what their subgroups are proposing and keep the work moving forward to meet the April 2026 compliance date. The first meeting is scheduled for October 25.

# 2024-2025 Project Identification

**Goal**: identify and complete a project each academic year

**Accessibility themes**: digital, physical, attitudinal

* 1. **Topics for consideration**:
		+ ADA training
		+ ADA facilities self-assessment tool
		+ Inclusive meeting guide
		+ Universal design statement revision
		+ Annual PACDI and campus ADA report
		+ Any others to add?

**Chosen Projects and Subgroups Participants**

1. **ADA Coordinator roles and responsibilities**: Eric and Ruben
2. **ADA Training for faculty, staff, students**: Al, Gwynette, Elizabeth, Jason, Ruben, Shannon, and Vickie
3. **Disability Services Staffing Memo**: Ann and Shannon

# 2024-2025 Project Subgroup Focus Time

Regular meeting adjourned after 2 hours. Those participating in the ADA training subgroup met for an additional 90 minutes to begin discussing the project, identifying additional individuals to invite, assigning tasks and roles, and determining follow up meeting dates.

The other subgroups will convene at a later date.