

*Northern Arizona University sits at the base of the San Francisco Peaks, on homelands sacred to Native Americans throughout the region. We honor their past, present, and future generations, who have lived here for millennia and will forever call this place home.*

**Commission on Disability Access and Design**

**MINUTES**

Tuesday, August 18, 2021

12:00-1:30 pm

Zoom link: <https://nau.zoom.us/j/82254596070>

Passcode: 728855

1. Call to Order
	1. Chris Lanterman called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m.
	2. Roll Call and introductions
		1. Chris Lanterman, Audra Travelbee, Jesse Zukosky, Shane Canitz, Megan Momeyer, Matthew Van Schoick, James Ingram, Stephanie Del Giorgio, Sean Kugler, Chelsea Green, Lauren Copeland-Glenn, Monica Brown, Marian Griffin, Calvin Legassie, Alyssa Deaver, Don Carter
		2. Chris Lanterman explained the importance of reading the land acknowledgement (to acknowledge the of history of the land and to help others understand the experiences of indigenous peoples of the Americas)
			1. James Ingram read the land acknowledgement
			2. Discussion of how other people have included an action statement with the land acknowledgement in their signatures, explaining how they will ensure it will be honored
				1. Discussion about the impact of this crucial step, making it a living statement and expressing responsibility toward enacting it, not just fulfilling a requirement
		3. Approval of minutes from June meeting
			1. Sean Kugler motioned to approve the minutes. Stephanie Del Giorgio seconded the motion. Monica Brown abstained from the vote. The motion carried and the June minutes were approved.
2. **Announcements and Information Items**
	1. Candidates for position of VP of Curriculum and Assessment (Monica Brown)
		1. Reported that there are two candidates for the position, and both are outstanding
		2. The draft of the curriculum is reported to be transformative and would have a grand positive impact, being much more inclusive and thorough
		3. Monica asked everyone to please be involved with the process and to write feedback about the curriculum
	2. Diversity Awards Celebration, September 14, 5:30 – 7:00, Aquatic and Tennis Center Field (Lauren Copeland-Glenn)
		1. The event will take place outside (on the field on the north side) with physical distancing for anyone who is comfortable, but will also be available to attend remotely with a virtual component
			1. Snacks and drinks will be handed out, but not a full meal, to prevent congregating around food tables
				1. Participants are encouraged to bring their own food
			2. Everyone who participates will receive a picnic blanket to promote a sense of community while also encouraging physical distancing
				1. Accessibility will be a priority with seating options for those needing wheelchairs, chairs, and companion seating
		2. There will be a combination of prerecorded and in person remarks
			1. Samantha will reach out to award recipients for prerecorded remarks
		3. Invitations will be sent out to all members of the five diversity commissions
		4. Question posed about bad weather
			1. Lauren will talk to Samantha about a contingency plan
				1. Perhaps tents?
	3. Institute for Human Development Interdepartmental Advisory Committee
		1. Sakenya is leading the reformation of the committee and has a grant focused on employing high school students
		2. There is also a project with the National Science Foundation attempting to increase the neurodiversity in STEM programs
		3. Will be further discussed at next meeting
	4. Employment collaboration with FUSD for students with IDD (James Ingram)
		1. James has contacted representatives from both FUSD and NAU Facility Services
			1. Next step is to have them meet and discuss expectations and limitations of both programs
			2. Lauren mentioned having to ensure that no discrimination laws are being violated
3. **Discussion and Action Items**
	1. Concern brought up about new LMS Process: did not see specific representation for accessibility
		1. Counterpoint: Sean and Chris are representatives, and each vendor meets with accessibility teams
	2. Disability Zone training development (Marian Griffin, IMQ)
		1. Zone trainings offered through Office of Inclusion – currently have nine inclusion trainings – IMQ sees a big need for this with disability
			1. Tentative name: Disability Zone, but open to suggestions
			2. Wants a small committee of five or less people to help develop the content of the trainings. IMQ already has a process figured out for zone trainings, but needs experts on the disability content
		2. New model for zone trainings
			1. Having someone else, beside IMQ, own the trainings
				1. Because of turnover in IMQ and being stretched thin, want to link each zone training to its own facilitators/experts (a committee) with ownership for the curriculum and facilitation over the specific zone training
				2. IMQ will still help guide and provide historical/administrative support
			2. Generally each zone training occurs two times per semester, but can occur more frequently over the summer semester (because can accommodate requests from departments)
				1. Committees can have agency over when and how frequently want to do their zone trainings
			3. Lauren mentioned unique challenges with creating the committee for the Disability Zone trainings
				1. There is no disability center for students like for other areas of diversity, so these professionals would be asked to volunteer to create and run the trainings without any compensation (resulting in overburdening underrepresented individuals which may lead to burnout)
				2. Lauren asked how to mitigate this with professional support?

Marian plans to be very involved with this committee and providing support

Suggestion made to also create more support for the disability diversity area on campus, like student groups

IMQ has been talking about this lack of resources lately and this is where the idea for creating the new zone training came from

* + - 1. Question about what kind of content the zone training will include
				1. Suggestion to include more content about accessibility in course design
			2. Marian reminded that it is possible to have several levels of zone trainings as well (101,102, etc.) and to have takeaways and tools for students, staff, and faculty
		1. Chris will send out a poll sometime this week to determine who is interested in participating in the committee for to develop the curriculum for and eventually facilitate the Disability Zone trainings
	1. Format of CDAD meetings for 2021-22 (Zoom/In Person)
		1. Chris will send out a poll this week to determine preferences for in person/Zoom vs. Zoom only
	2. Disability Pride and Heritage Month (DPHM)
		1. Will try to get funding from other sources such as STAC Proposal
		2. Featured event planning (two options for headliner events) – Chris Lanterman
			1. Squirmy and Grubs (first choice currently)
				1. Chris will check their availability this week
				2. Calvin believes they will be more likely to be able to do a virtual event (but has prices for both)
				3. Calvin: funding should also include advertising – many have seen their YouTube Videos

Lauren suggested partnering with SUN Entertainment (they have a new name) to advertise

Suggestion that the library would love to post advertisements as well

* + - 1. Anita Hollander
				1. Chris thinks it is most viable for Anita to come in the spring, since Chris and James plan to apply to external funding (state grants) that would help afford this
		1. Other potential events and planning
			1. Lauren suggests planning more in-person events but adjusting them to make them safer, while still having back-up virtual events as a contingency plan
			2. Other ideas:
				1. Sitting volleyball
				2. Accessibility Scavenger Hunt (virtual and physical)

Coordinating with Taylor Rice to do a physical scavenger hunt the day before homecoming – shifting the intent to focus on the history of the NAU campus, highlighting how campus has changed and has become more accessible and in line with universal design over time

Will collaborate with True Blue ambassadors to facilitate tour, and with alumni and librarians for content

* + - * 1. New way of dealing with homecoming – involving with instead of avoiding
			1. Tuesday film series
				1. In October, the proposed disability focus film is “Sound of Metal”

Opportunity for post-film conversation

* + - 1. “Everything You Always Wanted to Know…”
			2. Workshops
				1. Well-attended last year

But failed to record them

This year should record them and use them as tools to refer individuals to in the future

* + - * 1. Suggestion to do high level accessibility workshops for faculty
			1. Film screenings
				1. Using catalogue of the films already owned and have virtual film screenings (using Zoom) with discussions afterwards
1. **Adjournment**
	1. Chris adjourned the meeting at 1:30 p.m.