

ADA Advisory Committee Meeting

September 19, 2024 (Thursday)

1:00 p.m.

Attendance: Chantel Wilson, Cindy Smith, Matt Davis, Maddie Craig, Jennifer Tougas, Kyle Davenport, Blair Jensen, Marko Dumancic, and Hannah Digges-Elliott

- Review the **Role** of the ADA Advisory Committee (Committee)
 - There were discussions regarding the ADA Advisory Committee's (formerly ADA Policy Advisory Committee) purpose. Matt Davis shared that he began serving on the Committee many years ago. Matt said in years past, Cindy Smith would send an email asking **Committee members to submit reports/updates** and that information would be added to the agenda. The **Committee agreed** this method of communication works well and should be continued going forward.
 - Chantel Wilson asked the Committee members for feedback regarding in-person or zoom meetings and going forward how often we should meet. The group consensus was to meet by **zoom once a semester**, sometime during mid semester, to discuss concerns and coordinate efforts to ensure we are headed in the right direction.

- Review the **Members** of the Committee
 - Chantel Wilson asked the Committee if we should **add any new members**. Kyle Davenport suggested that John McCammon from Athletics be added and possibly Rachel Goodman and Sarah Thomas from Campus & Community Events. The Committee agreed that someone from ITS, WKU Libraries, and Student Activities be added as well. The Committee said that student input would be helpful as well.

- Review **Format** of Committee Communication
 - Chantel Wilson asked the Committee if they would like to continue with reports/updates being submitted to Cindy Smith and then she **will send an email closer to the scheduled meeting with the reports/updates attached**. The Committee agreed that this was most efficient.

- Hannah Digges-Elliott stated in support of reports, CITL previously sent reports each year for three areas related to captioning services and training for faculty.
- Past Committee Challenges
 - No concerns were communicated regarding the Committee in the past.
- Additional Committee Discussion
 - Blair Jensen asked for clarification regarding the purpose, vision, and mission of the Committee. The Committee shared that in addition to **compiling data**, we can **share information** with the other Committee members, **call attention to issues** we are having across campus, and **identify priorities**.
 - Jennifer Tougas shared that since we are receiving federal funding, by law we need to be **champions of accessibility across campus**. Jennifer shared with the Committee the accessible improvements that were made at Garrett Plaza. She also mentioned the Committee having an educational component especially regarding VSIP and “new faces” that will **need to be educated regarding accessibility**.
- Moving Forward
 - Chantel Wilson shared with the Committee that when we talk about issues as a group we can prioritize, and a collective effort is helpful. Also, updates on laws can be communicated.
 - Chantel Wilson shared with the Committee she will be drafting an **Accessibility policy and wanted their review and feedback**.
 - Marko Dumancic reiterated his support for Zoom meetings and this Committee being **a hub for data and reports as a way to show how the University is exceeding compliance standards**. He also informed the Committee there will be a Professional Development Day on January 16, 2025, and thought it would be beneficial for the Committee to present a session.