Disability Access and Compliance Committee (DACC) Annual Report 2014-15

Membership and Functions
The mission of the committee is to discuss, monitor, and evaluate campus-specific issues relating to compliance with California State University Executive Order 926 and produces Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance-related reports to the Chancellor’s Office as requested. As needed, DACC members serve on the Accommodation Review Board (ARB) to resolve accommodation disputes in accordance with the “Student Policy and Procedure for Resolving University 504/ADA Accommodation Disputes”.

Committee Activities and Actions
DACC did not meet in 2014-15. However, progress continued outside the formal committee structure, including assisting CSU in developing captioning guidelines, providing input on a new CSU sponsored faculty awareness training program, providing online training opportunities for technical support staff, conducting accessibility reviews, and consulting with individuals about accessibility issues.

Issues/Concerns
- The Accessibility Technology Specialist position formerly representing ITS on DACC was transferred to Academic Programs (CTLT). Please modify the membership to reflect this change. Shortly after the transfer, the incumbent retired and has yet to be replaced. As a result, progress has been slowed with respect to Cal Poly’s ATI Web and Instructional Materials related priorities.

- Other key losses include the Associate Vice President for Facilities, Disability Resources Center Director and (by January 1, 2016) the Section 508/EIT Campus Compliance Officer. These three individuals chaired DACC and/or its Physical Access subcommittee for many years and had obtained a level of expertise and leadership that will be hard to replace in the near term.

- Human and other resource constraints in this area have limited Cal Poly’s ability to take advantage of new resources/opportunities afforded by CSU to develop and implement new tools and programs to further accessibility goals.

- Increasingly, universities across the country are being investigated and found liable due to complaints of inaccessible technology/programs, and have had to invest significant resources to meet aggressive compliance timelines. To avoid similar liability in the future, Cal Poly must be vigilant and committed to ensuring that incremental progress in this critical area is being made.