

# Disability Access and Compliance Committee (DACC) Annual Report 2016-17

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## **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 (<http://www.calstate.edu/EO/EO-926.html>) 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" (<http://www.drc.calpoly.edu/support/legal/disputes.htm>).

## **Committee Activities and Actions**

In 2016-17, the DACC continued to schedule meetings quarterly (three meetings total for the academic year). The following summarizes the committee's activities and actions this year:

**Committee Name Change** – Proposed that the word "Compliance" in the committee name be replaced in favor of a word that represents a more inclusive approach to accessibility by the university (while still maintaining the charge of the committee). Committee decided to adopt "Disability Access and Inclusion Committee (DAIC)" as its new name.

**Motorized Scooter Program** – Committee discussed the idea of providing "courtesy" motorized scooters to guests with mobility impairments as an easier, safer alternative to borrowing a manual wheelchair when visiting campus. Key issues to consider are liability coverage for visitors; who is responsible for checkout, maintenance and repair of scooters; and where the scooters are stored. Committee agreed to start by focusing on student needs for motorized scooters.

DRC representative reported that the DRC recently received Student Affairs Student Success Funding (SSF) to establish a motorized scooter loaner program for students with temporary disabilities (current or prospective DRC students). DRC will explore possible partnership with Health Services for scooter checkout. DRC sought guidance from CSU-Long Beach DSS staff on how they established their scooter program and how it has fared so far. Next step is to present the proposed scooter program to Risk Management for approval.

### **Physical Access**

- Discussion of non-working automatic door at front entrance to Administration Bldg. Main reasons for door not being fixed: 1) cost (~\$20,000); 2) automatic door not required by law. It was suggested that this automatic door be fixed or replaced as the Administration Bldg. is highly visible and often the first point of contact for visitors. Committee members noted that an automatic door sends a welcoming message to campus members and visitors and exemplifies the university commitment to inclusivity. It is an example of inclusive design in that it makes life easier for everyone (temporary and permanent disabilities, parents with strollers, workers pushing carts, etc.). Electric door opener was considered as an alternative if replacement of existing automatic door is not feasible.
- DRC representative reported that the DRC received Student Success Fee funding to purchase a new accessible van for its Tram service. This new van, along with the proposed motorized scooter loaner program, will help provide more timely access to campus for students with mobility disabilities.
- Committee discussed the potential of BeAware, a new wayfinding/obstacle avoidance service for campus members with visual disabilities. Members will explore possibility of a campus pilot to see if this service is a good fit for Cal Poly.

### **Accessible Technology Initiative (ATI)**

DACC was updated on campus and CSU activities and plans towards achieving goals in the three ATI priority areas: Web Accessibility, Instructional Materials and Procurement.

In the area of Web Accessibility, committee member Craig Shultz reported that Compliance Sheriff scans of over 310 public facing webpages have been

completed this year. Web accessibility training courses for faculty/staff are being developed for Skillsoft. Creation of a Wiki page with digital accessibility resources is underway.

On May 18<sup>th</sup>, the campus celebrated Global Accessibility Awareness Day (GAAD) for the second straight year by inviting the campus to participate in various activities that highlight the importance of digital accessibility. GAAD activities were advertised in several online campus publications, the campus portal, and email lists.

Annual progress reports were submitted to the Chancellor's Office in November and aggregate data from all campuses was returned to the campus in June.

While Cal Poly has made great progress in Web Accessibility and Procurement, Instructional Materials remains an area that needs significant attention and action.

### **Continuing Issues and Action Items**

1. Physical Access Subcommittee: This subcommittee has not met in nearly two years and needs to be resumed in order to ensure that physical accessibility is continuously monitored and improved. Next year would be a good time for a campus-wide physical accessibility audit. Consider adoption of the new Accessible Icon campus-wide.
2. ATI Steering Committee (aka Digital Access Subcommittee): Cal Poly's ATI Steering Committee has been inactive for the past few years. It is time to resurrect this committee in order to satisfy ATI directive requirements.
3. DACC website: Maintain transparency by updating the DACC website to show the new committee name, to accurately reflect current committee members, and to include meeting agendas and minutes.
4. DAIC Campus Wiki: The committee will also post meeting minutes and agenda items on a campus wiki page as another way to foster transparency, particularly among Cal Poly staff. The wiki also allows the committee to assign particular tasks to team members and track progress.
5. Motorized scooter loaner program: Implement the program and monitor its effectiveness throughout the year.

6. Instructional Materials: Review the results of the MIDAS pilot project (Making Instructional Documents Accessible to Students), which aimed to increase access to instructional materials for students with disabilities per a Student Affairs strategic plan initiative. Consider options for university support of the MIDAS program, along with a companion program to provide faculty assistance for captioning instructional videos. Discuss new organizational and funding options for address digital accessibility campus-wide, particularly in the area of accessible instructional materials.
7. Guest/Visitor/Employee Accommodations: There needs to be clarity on the responsibility for ensuring accommodations are provided to guests/visitors. While Cal Poly's practice has been that each department is responsible for responding to the needs of visitors/guests for their programs and activities, there is no university policy or protocol to confirm this duty.
8. Faculty/Staff Transportation: DRC continues to receive requests for campus transportation assistance from faculty and staff. The DRC service is funded and set up to serve only students. This request warrants further committee attention in the new academic year.