

## DISABILITY SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES

March 3, 2016

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Dr. Saunders at 3:05 PM.

### Attendance:

Present	Department
LaQuita Saunders	History
Vera Forrest	Parking Services
Vaneta Harvey	Disability Services
Joy Good	Communication Disorders
Sharon Davis	Psychology/ Counseling-MRC
Bill Hall	Facilities Management

**Minutes:** The minutes were reviewed by the committee. No concerns were noted with the exception of a change to the attendance list. The minutes will be revised to include Vera Forrest on the attendance list. A motion was then made and carried all to approve the minutes.

### Old Business:

- ✓ **Transportation-** Vaneta Harvey provided the committee with an update on this issue. Dr. Rice-Mason has spoken with David Handwork and Lori Winn about the possibility of purchasing a new van that would meet the needs of those with disabilities. An interdepartmental purchase of such a van is being discussed at this time. Additional information from Dr. Rice-Mason will be forthcoming.
- ✓ **Service/ Comfort Animals-** It was noted that while comfort animals are not covered under ADA, they are covered by other legislation. Consequently, many universities have developed policies covering the use of both types of animals. Sharon Davis is chairing this subcommittee; she indicated they are nearing the completion of the first draft of such a policy for A-State and that she will be forwarding it to all committee members. A webinar dealing with the use of service animals will be offered; Bill Hall will be sending out information on this as soon as it is available.

- ✓ **Technology**- The issue of universal design implementation was revisited; it was decided that a workshop on universal design offered by ITTC would be beneficial. The timeline for this has not been confirmed. However, the possibility of offering it during the Back-To-School faculty meetings in August as well as New Faculty Orientation would allow a greater number of faculty members to be trained at one time.

**New Business:**

- ✓ **Facilities Accessibility**- The need to make all school facilities accessible to all persons with disabilities was mentioned by Dr. Saunders. She noted that theater seating in the Fowler Center is not freely accessible to those in wheelchairs or scooters. Restroom accessibility in some buildings-such as the new Humanities building- is also not optimal. This issue is being addressed. However, ensuring that all facilities are easily accessible remains a concern.
- ✓ **Off-Campus Events**- Similar to the concerns noted above is the need to ensure that off-campus events are held at facilities that are readily accessed by those with disabilities.

**Other Business:**

- **Next Meeting:** To Be Determined

**Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joy Good