

## **SENATE DISABILITIES ISSUES COMMITTEE**

### **MINUTES**

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2000**

**9:00 - 10:30**

#### **300 MORRILL HALL**

[In these minutes: Approval of Minutes, Paratransit, Disability Access to Web Sites, Cultural Diversity Requirement, Mayo Information Desk, Disability Access to Boynton, Students Who Do Not Complete Disability Testing Because of Cost, Publicity in Daily]

#### **PRESENT:**

James Carey (chair), William Durfee, Dave Fuecker, Paula Knutzen, Virgil Mathiowetz, Ken Myers, Julie Sweitzer, Jessica Voigts, David Wuolu

**REGRETS:** Harvey Carlson, Barbara Leonard, Elizabeth Lightfoot, Victoria Nelson

**ABSENT:** Bobbi Cordano, Joe Reichle, Amanda Tempel

[These minutes reflect discussion and debate at a meeting of a committee of the University of Minnesota Senate or Twin Cities Campus Assembly; none of the comments, conclusions or actions reported in these minutes represent the views of, nor are they binding on, the Senate or Assembly, the Administration, or the Board of Regents.]

The meeting was called to order and all present were introduced. The minutes of the meeting of November 1 2000 were approved as read.

#### **1. UPDATE ON PARATRANSIT**

Vicky Nelson was unable to attend and present an update, but forwarded copies of the Big 10 Van Service Survey for Students with Disabilities (January 23,1997). The survey data was reviewed. The University's transportation office has decided to offer the service over semester breaks. The hours of operation are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

#### **2. UPDATE ON DISABILITY ACCESS TO WEB SITES**

Julie Sweitzer reported on the status of guidelines for web page accessibility. The guidelines can be found on the Computer Accommodations Program web site (<http://cap.umn.edu/>). Phil Kragnes continues to work with OIT on issues such as timing for implementation and retrofitting of existing pages. Guidelines for accessibility to hardware and software are also in development. Ms. Sweitzer will update the Committee regularly on the status of these projects.

#### **3. CULTURAL DIVERSITY REQUIREMENT**

- This item was tabled until the next meeting due to Harvey Carlson's absence.

#### **4. UPDATE ON MAYO INFORMATION DESK**

Paula Knutzen reported that Gerry Kane of Facilities Management will be getting back to her on the problem of the placement of the phones, and Paula will also ask Mr. Kane about accessibility issues for people with vision impairments. There was discussion of the general lack of help for visitors to the building, regardless of disability issues. Dave Fuecker discussed his work on the issue of signage, and has formed a focus group to examine possible new technologies, such as GPS. Ken Myers reported that the Crookston campus has an excellent signage system in place, thanks to the excellent work of Tom Farrell. David Wuolu was not aware of any accessibility

problem on the Morris campus, and offered to ask the Disabilities Committee there about it.

#### **5. UPDATE ON DISABILITY ACCESS TO BOYNTON**

The elevator plans for the parking garage next to Boynton was discussed. It was the general sense of the Committee that it is important to get this issue in front of the broader University community and to find a way to get the original plan for a bank of six elevators restored. It was decided that this issue would be further discussed at the January meeting.

#### **6. STUDENTS WHO DO NOT COMPLETE DISABILITY TESTING BECAUSE OF COST**

- This item was tabled until the next meeting.

#### **7. PUBLICITY IN DAILY**

- This item was taken off the agenda.

#### **8. NEW BUSINESS**

- None.

Professor Carey thanked all members for attending and adjourned the meeting.

Mary Kosowski

University Senate