2021-2022 JMU Campus-Wide Accessibility Committee

Date: Sept 12, 2022

Chairperson(s): Valerie Schoolcraft—Representative, Office of Disability Services

Gary Shears—Representative, Facilities Management

Administrative Support Person: Sandra Gulliver

Committee members:

Faculty & Staff: Joshua Pate, Faculty Expert

Amy Russell Yun, Faculty Expert

Dannette Bronaugh, Faculty Expert

Susan Ghiaciuc, Faculty Expert

Cheri Beverly, Representative of Faculty Senate

Kevin Lanoue, Representative from University Police

Holmes Brown, Representative from Residence Life

Kristi Moon, Representative of Human Resources

Amy Sirocky Meck, Art Dean JMU Americans with Disabilities Act

Coordinator

Tracey Kite, Representative from Advancement
Sarah Ciccone, Representative from University Events
John David Hulvey, Representative from Academic Affairs
Robin Bryan, Representative from Information Technology
Nina Critz, Representative from the Counseling Center
Bill Hartman, Representative from the Libraries
Karis Buchanan, SGA Representative
Daerenz Lyons, Engagement Fellow with Student Affairs, DEI

Ex-Officio: Meg Sander, Representative from Legal Counsel

Meeting date(s): October 27, 2021

February 2, 2022 April 27, 2022

Outgoing members: Joshua Pate, Faculty Expert.

Amy Sirocky-Meck, departure as OEO/ADA Coordinator.
Cheri Beverly, Representative of Faculty Senate
Co-Chairs recommend that all other committee members continue their service. The
Committee recommends the addition of Lori Hostetler as Faculty
expert. The Committee will solicit information from constituent

anticipated work for 22-23.

groups including faculty, staff and students through the course of

Summary for 2021-2022: The Accessibility Committee met three times across the year. Updates from across campus were invited and shared related to information, projects and concerns that impact accessibility. During the first meeting in October, potential projects were discussed and people joined working groups. The working group for the accessible event module continued exploring placement for the survey and assessment for further needs. It is suggested that it can be enhanced with a list of resources at the end of the module.

In another project, co-chair G. Shears reviewed questions about facility access that were presented to the group by a student through Mandy Vitale, Presidential Engagement Fellow with Student Affairs. Co-chairs of the Accessibility Committee and Amy Sirocky-Meck reviewed the findings. Response to the Engagement fellow was provided in April 2022 by Amy Sirocky-Meck as she was serving as the Interim OEO Director/ADA Coordinator.

In the last meeting for the year, the Committee discussed needs identified in the program review of the Office of Disability Services. V. Schoolcraft shared plans to bring Lori Hostetler to ODS for .25 FTE for the purpose of collaborating to identify more effective ways for ODS to connect with faculty. Committee members affirmed willingness to also support efforts going forward.

Recommendations:

• The Accessibility Committee recognizes the significance of the support of leadership in developing a culture that values accessibility. As JMU seeks to be a model university, engaged with ideas and the world, ensuring accessibility will help include the perspectives of diverse constituents. Thus, the Committee recommends that institutional leadership develop the designated ADA Coordinator duties into a full-time role. A full time ADA Coordinator could contribute to campus wide efforts for training and other proactive engagements to increase campus accessibility.

• In 2020-21 the Committee made a recommendation that the institution increase emphasis on intentional planning for accessible JMU events and programs. Further, it was suggested that we Create an Accessible/Inclusive Event Partner program. (Model after the Green Your Event program for environmental stewardship: https://www.jmu.edu/stewardship/greenyourevent.shtml) In support of the recommendation, a sub-committee of members developed a tutorial related to accessible event planning. It is available for review at Accessible Event Planning Module - Survey Tools | QuestionPro Survey. During 2021-22, the Committee made further edits and worked toward distribution and placement in key spaces for event planning. The working group identified that a list of resources is needed at the end of the module. The Committee continues to recommend that event planners received information about accessibility in event planning and that we embrace institutional expectations for accessible events.

2022-2023 Meetings: The Committee will schedule 3-4 meetings for the year and interim sessions will be called as needed to continue work on issues identified and to address concerns or inquiries that arise. The workspace in Microsoft Teams will be maintained to support Committee efforts. Some issues identified during 2021-2022 will be explored further with the potential for making additional recommendations.