EVERYTHING YOU’VE WANTED TO KNOW AS A NEW DS PROFESSIONAL

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INTRODUCTION

Jennifer Murchison, MA
• Assistant Director, Disability Resources for Students at the University of Memphis
• 20+ years in disability services
• 15+ years at the University of Memphis in Memphis, TN

Daniel Nuss, MA
• Director, Services for Students with Disabilities at the University of the Pacific
• 25+ years in disability services
• 17+ years at the University of the Pacific in Stockton, CA

AGENDA

• Discuss definitions, legal requirements and regulations
• Purposes of Accommodations
• Working with Faculty
• Working with Administration
• Your questions for us
NOT ALL DISABILITIES ARE APPARENT…

Largest populations we serve:
- ADHD
- Learning disabilities
- Psychological disabilities
- Anxiety
- Depression
- Bi-Polar
- Autism spectrum
- Chronic Health
- Neurological

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT
SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act
- Provides for equal access in the classroom and learning environments
- Provides for arrangements of accommodations that are reasonable and appropriate

The Americans with Disabilities Act (and Web Accessibility Guidelines)
- Provides for equal access and opportunities to publicly-owned facilities, and those accepting federal monies
- Includes physically-built and digital environments

ACCOMMODATIONS: THE ACT OF REMOVING BARRIERS

- Physical access
  - Buildings and hallways
  - Stairs and ramps
  - Wheelchair-accessible restrooms
- Learning environments (in-person, online)
- Reading materials and handouts, videos
- Quizzes and exams
- Papers, projects, presentations
- On-campus housing
  - Private rooms, bathrooms
  - Rest
  - Kitchens and PCs
WORKING WITH FACULTY

- They want to help but don’t know how/where to start
- Syllabus!!
- Assessments, teaching methods
- TAs and Adjuncts – challenges they face, support that may/may not have

WORKING WITH ADMINISTRATION

- Budgets, expenses
- Disability as a valued aspect of diversity
- On-board with messaging
- Promoting Universal Design concepts
- Understanding of what we do (should be proactive, not reactive)

QUESTIONS?

Thank you for your attention and participation!
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