

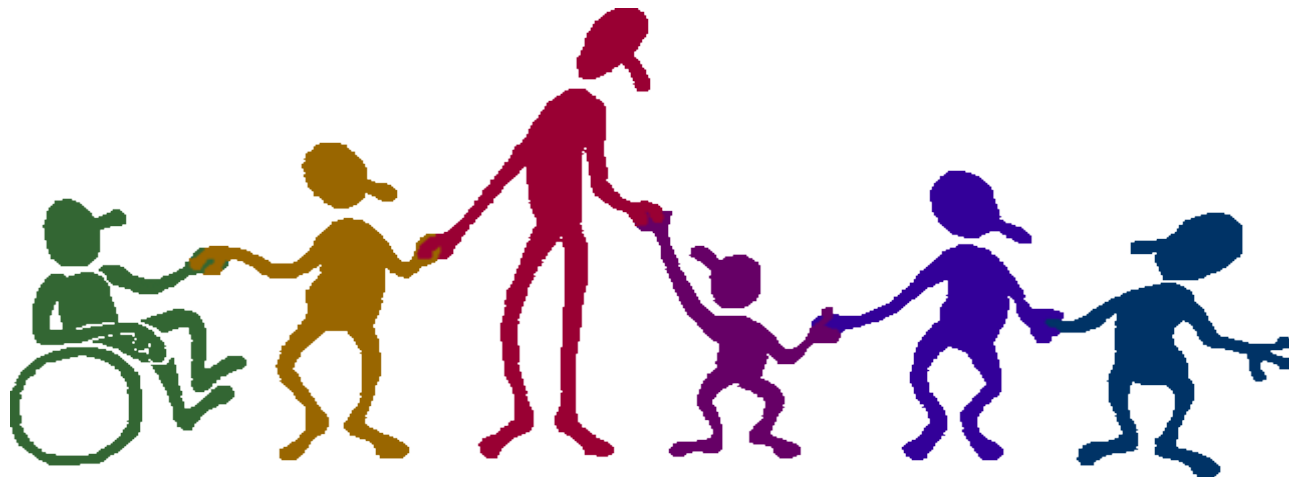
# **Ten Years with a Campus-wide Committee on Accessibility: Accomplishments and Lessons Learned**

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# Committee on Accessibility (CoA) – Origins

- Disability Studies Faculty Learning Community (FLC) in 2014-15
- Proposal to the Provost in Spring 2015 to become a formal committee
- Campus Climate Survey Data



# 2014 Campus Climate Survey Results

- Individuals who experienced exclusionary, intimidating, offensive, or hostile conduct:
  - 40% of respondents with mental health/psychological conditions (n = 32)
  - 34% of respondents with multiple disabilities (n = 26)
  - 32% of respondents with physical disabilities (n = 60)
  - 24% of respondents with learning disabilities/conditions (n = 26)
  - 24% of people with no disabilities (n = 4443)

# 2014 Campus Climate Survey Results Continued

- Areas reported to be most “fully accessible”
  - Student Union (57%)
  - Restrooms (55%)
  - Elevators (53%)
  - Website (56%)
- Areas of concern:
  - Parking
  - Walkways
  - Ramps
  - Elevators



# CoA – General Information

- The Mission of the Committee Accessibility at SUNY Brockport is to:
  1. promote and advocate for accessibility for all students, faculty, staff, and visitors
  2. increase awareness related to the needs of individuals with disabilities on campus, and
  3. develop coursework for students to study disability
- The committee is comprised of members from multiple campus constituencies including Student Accessibility Services (SAS), students (including at least one student with a disability), faculty, and staff (including a representative from facilities



# CoA – Membership

- **16 Faculty Members**

- Education and Human Development; English; Healthcare Studies; Kinesiology, Sports Studies, & Physical Education; Nursing; Psychology; Public Health and Health Education

- **18 Members of Administration/Staff**

- Human Resources; Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching; Environmental Health and Safety; Facilities; Library; Student Accessibility Services; Residential Life/Learning Communities; Student Affairs; Counseling Center; Academic Success Center; Career Design Center; University Communications, Admissions

- **3 Graduate Students**

- Counselor Education, Higher Education, and Social Work

- **3 Undergraduate Students**

- Brockport Student Government



# CoA – Leadership Structure

- Chair – Jessica Sniatecki
  - Vice Chair – Marisa Kofke
  - Secretary – Kelly Cary
  - Treasurer – Stasia Molyneux
- 
- Subcommittee (24-25): Disability Cultural Center

# CoA – Administrative Structure and Funding

- Began under Academic Affairs
  - Reporting to the Provost
- Currently operate under the umbrella of the Office for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion
  - Chief Diversity Officer is a member of University Cabinet
- Shifts in funding over the past 10 years have affected the scope of committee goals and activities



# Major Accomplishments (Highlights)

1. Disability Studies minor
2. [Accessible Events Checklist](#)
3. Free American Sign Language (ASL) classes for faculty, staff, and graduate students
4. Numerous speakers and events
  - ❖ Disability activists
  - ❖ Paralympians
  - ❖ Disability Studies conference



# Major Accomplishments Continued

5. Stickers for Push Pad door openers
6. Grant funding for everyday for campus events and sport wheelchairs for instruction and events
7. Coordinating with student clubs to plan and implement Accessibility Explorations intended to identify problematic areas on our campus
8. Directly addressing accessibility barriers at our university and advocating for systemic change
  - Campus construction



# Work in Progress

- **Institutional Cultural Change**
- **Disability Cultural Center**
  - Working group formed to explore a sensory-friendly space
  - Possible name "Zen Den"
  - Potential site identified at Brockport Downtown; library may be a potential location on main campus
  - Ongoing discussions regarding approval processes and funding
- **Additional signage**
  - Contact info for issues
  - Positioned near elevators



# Future Plans

- **American Sign Language (ASL) Classes for Faculty, Staff and Graduate Students**
  - Would like to offer two classes in 25-26 (Fall and Spring)
  - Additional funding will be required to support this
- **Screening of “Intelligent Lives” in Fall 2025**
  - Facilitation by Jeiri Flores. \$250 honorarium approved.
- **Other Possible Events:**
  - “Spellers” documentary
  - Guest Speaker: Anita Cameron, disability rights activist from Rochester



# Challenges and Lessons

- Intentional membership recruitment
  - ✓ Collaboration and mutual benefit
- Funding for events and activities
  - ✓ SUNY funding to support SWD has helped
  - ✓ Aligning scope of activities to resource allocation
- Event attendance
  - ✓ Link with classes
  - ✓ Virtual format

# Discussion

- What opportunities exist at your institution to engage this type of work? How are these areas addressed currently?
- Is there a similar group at your institution?
  - How is your work similar/different?
  - Would a committee like this work at your organization? Why or why not?

# Committee on Accessibility webpage

**Questions  
and/or  
Comments?**