ADA 504 Compliance Committee Spring Meeting
Friday, May 5th, 2017
Minutes

The Committee Members present at the meeting on May 5th were: Sarah McAbee, Rodney Stephens, Jean Martin, Saralyn Mitchell, Suzanne Sims, Steve Clark, Janet Dorning, Mike Essary, Lisa Hyde
Excused: Omar Smith, Ashley McElroy, Lisa Philippart, Jessica Baker
Absent: Jerry Bradford
Guest: Belinda Krigel- (Chair) Accessible Technology and Information Committee

Format of Meeting: In an effort to maximize the use of everyone's time and ensure all Committee members were updated appropriately, we used an email dated April 28th that included all Spring updates and reports. The ADA committee members also attended the May 5th Faculty/Staff meeting which included a presentation by the Chair of the Technology and Information Committee, Belinda Krigel, about the new Accessibility Website and the resources being made available on campus for improving content accessibility.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 4:15.

Next Meeting will be Fall 2017.

Attachments: Email to Committee dated April 28th
PowerPoint of May 5th Accessibility presentation

Saralyn Mitchell

From: Saralyn Mitchell
Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 10:34 AM
To: Jerry Bradford; Steve Clark; Michael Essary; Sarah McAbee; Lisa Philippart; Suzanne Sims; Janet Dorning; Lisa Hyde; Rodney Stevens; Omar.Smith@rehab.alabama.gov; Ashley.McLeroy@rehab.alabama.gov; Jean Martin; Saralyn Mitchell
Cc: Belinda Krigel
Subject: ADA Spring Compliance Committee Meeting
Attachments: ADA Stats Fall 2016.docx; ADA Stats Spring 2017.docx

Good Morning ADA Committee Members,

In an effort to maximize the use of everyone's time and also provide you with a Spring ADA Committee compliance update, we will not have a called Spring meeting; instead we will do the following:

- Use this email to provide Disability Services statistical data from Fall 2016 and Spring 2017. See attached reports.
- Use this email to share updated Facilities/ Barriers Report – information will be shared below, " A"
- Use this email to provide an accessible Parking Update – Information below, "B"
- In lieu of a called Spring committee meeting, we will attend the upcoming May 5th Faculty/Staff Meeting to hear the report on the new Accessible Website, Accessible Resources, and the progress being made by the Accessible Technology and Information Committee. (You will recall that the formation of this committee was one of our initiatives from 2015-16.) I have included the email from Belinda Krigel, Chair of the Committee, below. "C"

A. **Facilities/ Barriers Report-** Since our last meeting (November), there have been no student complaints about Facilities/Barriers. All student requests for facility related accommodations were fulfilled in a timely manner by our Maintenance/Facilities department. During Spring semester, we have received 2 community complaints about the women's upstairs restroom in the Sandridge Student Center not complying with ADA standards. Upcoming building renovations will address this area. - *Saralyn Mitchell*

B. **Accessible Parking** - During Spring semester, a plan was coordinated for restriping the accessible parking by the Classroom Building, Waters, and the Gym to provide in compliance parking needed by our students and the community who are on campus. Our students attending classes have the greatest need for accessible parking by these buildings. A crosswalk will also be added for additional safety. This project is in process and will be completed May 2017. – *Jerry Bradford*

C. **Email about presentation from Belinda Krigel at Staff/Faculty Meeting on May 5th, 2017**

All,

In support of the continuous improvement and review of technology and information accessibility, a website has been developed by the Technology and Information Accessibility Committee (http://www.athens.edu/digital-communications/accessibility/). The purpose of this website is to raise awareness, share the University Accessible Technology and Information Plan, and to provide useful online resources to benefit the entire Athens State community. Although meeting the requirements of Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 is required by law, we can all appreciate the incredible value of technology and information in the world of academia and how reducing content accessibility barriers adds even more value.

During the upcoming May 5th Faculty/Staff meeting, updates and information about technology and information accessibility will be one of the topics addressed. You are encouraged to review the new website to learn more. The *Athens State Accessible Technology and Information Guide* is a great place to start to learn about the many resources that are immediately available to assist with modifying content for accessibility (http://www.athens.edu/digital-communications/accessibility/accessible-technology-and-information-guide/).

I want to thank the hard work and many contributions made by the Technology and Information Accessibility Committee toward this important initiative for our campus. Members include Wendy Cowan, Letitia Snow, Saralyn Mitchel, Jean Martin, Mark Gale, Gary Valcana, Bruce Thomas, Russell Frye, and Barbara Ferguson. Each of these individuals has an incredible set of skills and experiences that made my work as chair so rewarding.

I look forward to seeing all of you on May 5.

Belinda Krigel

I want to thank each one of you for your support and work on this Committee. We are making much progress in our campus accessibility efforts. Let me know if you have questions. I look forward to seeing you next Friday.

Best regards,
Saralyn
ADA 504 Coordinator

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Making Technology & Information Accessible

May 5, 2017

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What is accessible technology and information?

Technology and information are considered to be accessible if each can be accessed in more than one way without relying on a single sense or ability of the user.

Examples: Video - closed captioned, Audio – transcripts, Mousing – key strokes, Text on screen – screen reader Embedded graphics – Alt Text

Why is accessibility important?

- Accessibility expands the world of information and learning for those with disabilities
- University services and classroom instruction use technology to create, communicate, and access information
- Past practices have been reactive, modifications done only when needed
- Today, technology and information is expected to be accessible

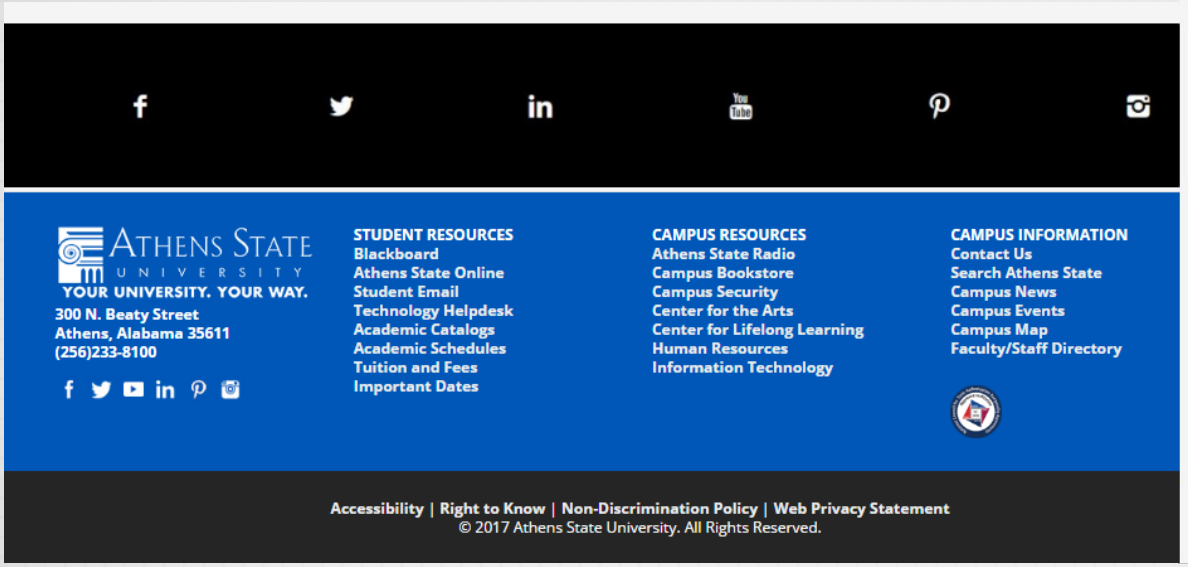
The Goal

Make technology and information at Athens State accessible by the January 18, 2018 deadline for compliance with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0, level AA standards, as adopted by the Section 508 refresh.

Meeting this goal will require gaining knowledge and implementing new technology while supporting our faculty and staff as they do the work required.

Athens State Accessibility Website

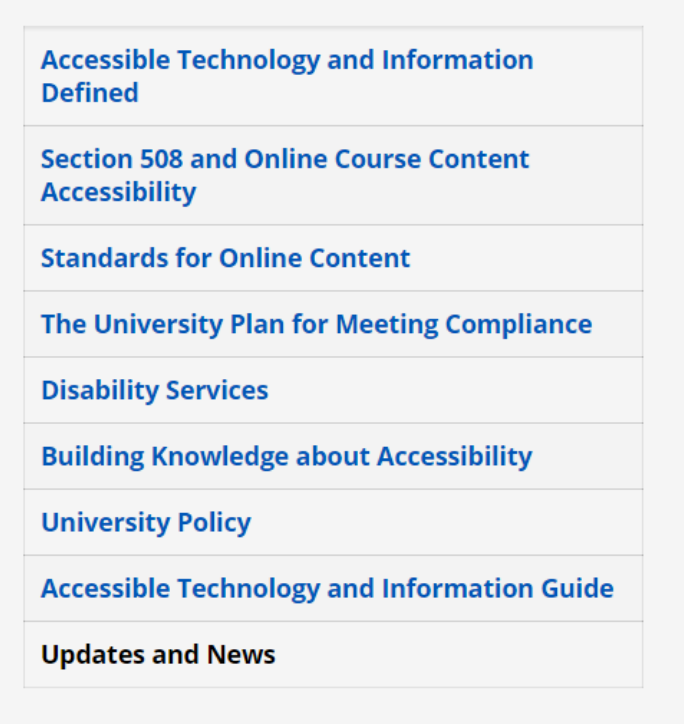
http://www.athens.edu/digital-communications/accessibility/



- Accessible Technology and Information Defined
- Section 508 and Online Course Content Accessibility
- Standards for Online Content
- The University Plan for Meeting Compliance
- Disability Services
- Building Knowledge about Accessibility
- University Policy
- Accessible Technology and Information Guide
- **Updates and News**

Athens State Accessibility Website

http://www.athens.edu/digital-communications/accessibility/



Areas Impacted

- Athens State University website
- Online course content
- Audio / video recordings
- Document files

Areas Impacted

	How:
• Athens State University website	SiteImprove
• Online course content	Ally
• Audio / video recordings	DocSoft
• Document files	Microsoft Office

Tools

SiteImprove:

Purchased January 2016

Identifies WCAG 2.0 issues

Provides extensive reporting

Tools

Ally:

Works with Blackboard

Identifies inaccessible files

Suggests how to fix files

Demonstration (3:15)

Tools

Docsoft:

Transcripts/Closed Captioning

Automates much of the process

Reduces transcription time

Tools

Microsoft Office:

- Online tutorials/documents
- Accessibility Checker in Word, Excel, PowerPoint

Action Items & Timeline

May 2017:

ATS staff:

- Install DocSoft and Ally and complete training

Action Items & Timeline

May – August 2017:

<u>The University community</u>:

- Read *Accessible Technology and Information Guide*
- Explore information specific to your area
- Take inventory of your own content – documents, video, etc.

Action Items & Timeline

May – August 2017:

ATS Staff:

- Pilot DocSoft & Ally with a small group of faculty
- Develop training and documentation
- Update website with developments/resources

Action Items & Timeline

August – December 2017:

ATS staff:

- Share information about Ally & DocSoft pilot
- Provide training for all faculty and staff

Faculty, ATS staff, and other support staff:

- Complete ***Spring 2018*** course content modifications

Many Thanks!

Accessible Technology & Information Committee

Wendy Cowan
Barbara Ferguson
Russell Frye
Mark Gale
Jean Martin
Saralyn Mitchell
Letitia Snow
Bruce Thomas
Gary Valcana

and

Steve Clark
Gary McCullors

Additional Links

http://www.usg.edu/siteinfo/higher_education_the_americans_with_disabilities_act_and_section_508

Another state, California, https://www.csustan.edu/sites/default/files/OIT/Publications/W3C-508/W3C-508-Top10FAQs.pdf also references the requirement due to the Assistive Technology Act.

And, like Georgia and California, the state of Alabama has received funding through the Assistive Technology Act for the STARs system. http://www.rehab.alabama.gov/individuals-and-families/star

Also, Section 508 has been adopted by several states, specifically for Alabama can be read at: http://cybersecurity.alabama.gov/documents/Standard_530S2_Universal_Accessibility.pdf . Athens State University has the governor of the state on the Board of Trustees