

Accessibility Task Force Meeting September 16, 2025, 3PM-4:30PM

In attendance: Markeisha Miner; Andrew Davies; Erin Earle; Mary Previte; Robin Santini;
Terry Wild; Dorca Smalley; Nina Schiarrizzi-Tobin

Excused: Paul DePace

I. ATF Website

VP Miner reported that the Accessibility Task Force website has been published and may be found in the “About” tab of the Office of Community, Equity, and Diversity’s website: <https://web.uri.edu/diversity/about/accessibility-task-force/>. The meeting notes are publicly available and will be updated to reflect necessary corrections.

II. ATF Event

Co-Chair Smalley shared that the Office of Equal Opportunity is hosting a lunch-and-learn event titled, “Baseline of Compliance: The Americans with Disabilities Act and the Rehabilitation Act at the University of Rhode Island. VP Miner will join the event to describe the function of the Accessibility Task Force. Co-Chair Smalley met with Kristy A. Embrack, the new Director of Community and Organizational Development, to share the ATF’s event proposal, to be planned by the Office of Community, Equity, and Diversity.

III. ATF Announcement

VP Miner noted the announcement has been drafted and will be disseminated to the community.

IV. Definition of Accessibility

VP Miner shared copies of the comments collected when the definition of accessibility drafted by the ATF was disseminated. All members were invited to review the definition and make changes in alignment with the feedback received. Co-Chair Smalley described some of the suggestions cannot be incorporated. Member Earle asked the Co-Chairs to review the language and strike out what is not actionable. A discussion will follow at the next meeting.



V. Terms

VP Miner shared that she consulted Student Senate to request a nomination for the undergraduate student membership vacancy. Student Senate had not nominated a student at the time of this meeting. An update will be provided at the next meeting.

VI and VII. Future Guest Speakers and GIS Interactive Map

Jeff Ulricksen, Assistant Director, Spatial Services, and Ryan Carrillo, Director, Planning and Real State Development, will join the October meeting to discuss the GIS Interactive Map feature being developed under the direction of the Facilities Group and the Division of Administration and Finance.

ATF members identified Transportation and Parking as the next guest speaker.

VIII. Disability Advocacy Group

Co-Chair Davies provided an updated on the Disability Advocacy Group's current plans and envisioned direction in light of Annette Bourbonniere's recent announcement that she would be stepping away from a leadership role.