



**Accessibility Task Force
2nd Meeting
November 26, 2024
Alumni Center, Main Conference Room
9 a.m.
Meeting Summary**

I. Governance

a. Documentation of Meetings and Dissemination of Records

b. Review of the final draft of the Accessibility Task Force Charge

c. Review of the Code of Conduct/Guidelines

Co-Chair Smalley provided copies of the Accessibility Task Force Membership Guidelines for review. Based on feedback, the following changes were identified:

- i. Review office/department titles on HR e-Campus for accuracy (i.e., Admissions and Office of Human Resources).
- ii. Add ced-group@uri.edu as the contact information under the “Resignation” and “Vacancies” sections.
- iii. Revise the “Meetings” section to note additional meetings may be called.
- iv. Update the “Terms” section to include that students are eligible for reappointment.

Next Steps: The updated guidelines will be distributed before the December meeting. The final approved draft will be stored in the Accessibility Task Force Google Drive following the December meeting.

II. Previous Business and Follow-up

a. Disability Advocacy Group List of Concerns and Walk

Co-Chair Davies shared a document titled “Petition for Change in Conditions Regarding Disability at the University of Rhode Island,” outlining concerns identified by the Disability Advocacy Group that require the university's attention. The document, issued on May 1, 2024, highlighted both resolved and unresolved items. Members suggested improving communication practices to provide clearer updates on the status of pending projects related to these concerns.

b. Rhode Island Governors' Commission on Disabilities Engagement (also "Commission) and Status of the Annual Budget Request

Member DePace reviewed:

- i. One (1) document titled, "URI Campus Accessibility List," which was submitted with the University's Capital Improvement Plan, and budget request. The State of Rhode Island Office of Management and Budget introduced new procedures in 2024 that require the review and approval of the Commission for items relating to accessible design. A list of items, spanning five (5) fiscal years was provided.
- ii. One (1) document titled, "Edwards Hall Reno draft for discussion.png," which prioritizes updating the ramp and rail to make them accessible to individuals with mobile devices.
- iii. One (1) document relating to elevator upgrades.

Next Steps: Members discussed inviting Ryan Carillo, Director, Planning and Real State Development, as a potential guest.

c. Workforce Data

Co-Chair Smalley presented a document detailing the number of workforce members who identified as disabled during FY2024. Member Wild emphasized the importance of training to clarify "what constitutes a disability" in order to encourage staff to self-disclose. Member Earle stressed the need for continuous communication to invite staff to self-disclose.

III. Next Steps and Task Force Recommendations for Agenda Items

No agenda items were identified by the Task Force before the conclusion of the meeting. However, there was concern regarding the need to develop a baseline and invite guests, who can provide updates, based on their scope and jurisdiction.

The Task Force's next monthly meeting will take place on 12-19-24 and materials will be shared one week in advance, including the updated "Accessibility Task Force Membership Guidelines.

The meeting concluded at 10:14 AM.