

Senate Advisory Committee on Disability Accommodation and Compliance  
Zoom Meeting  
10/30/2023 11:00 a.m.

Minutes

Voting members: Cassandra Gipson-Reichardt (Presiding), Julie Ossege, Davy Jones, Aaron Garvy, Whitney Hanley

Nonvoting members: Alice Turkington, David Beach

Chair Gipson-Reichardt called the meeting to order.

Dr. Gipson-Reichardt discussed feedback from the Senate Council and the Senate regarding presentation of the 2022-2023 report. It was noted that the issue of changing the DOE for faculty for larger class sizes/larger amount of accommodation requests was of interest to the Provost and perhaps outside of the scope of SCDAC to recommend changes to the DOE.

Dr. Gipson-Reichardt next discussed updating the DRC website after her meeting with David Beach on Friday, September 20, 2023. David has been working on updating staff hours, staff biosketches, and updating other content on the website. Adding a survey for faculty to fill out regarding fundamental alteration procedure/information was suggested to be added to the DRC website, based on a similar form on the Colorado State DRC website. Alice Turkington suggested adding justification for why a course objective cannot be met to the form. It was discussed by the committee that a flow chart should be created for the Senate-approved UK Core course accommodation process, and that flow chart then added to the DRC public website, Other accommodation process flowcharts for other programs that have not been approved by the Senate should not be posted by DRC at this time. David Beach requested to add a limited list of appropriate classes to meet core course requirements. If they have already been approved, these can be used, and if not, a team can be convened. It was mentioned that there is an annual attempt to refresh the list of courses. David Beach will add a flowchart of the intake process at the DRC once an accommodation request is received on the DRC website.

A motion to approve the minutes from the September 25, 2023 meeting was made by Davy Jones, and seconded by Aaron Garvey. The motion was approved.

Dr. Gipson-Reichardt discussed the “Managing Accommodations Request” ~~link~~ web page on the UK DRC website. David Beach stated that he has been adding content on this page to increase the amount of information as well as increase transparency and provide more resources for faculty. David Beach next described the progress with development and implementation of AIM, the portal that will be utilized for communications with students and faculty. David stated that the DRC is taking time to ensure accuracy of accommodations in an attempt to decrease any confusion once AIM is implemented. It was noted by David Beach that AIM has many functions, and the DRC is working to optimize its use.

Davy Jones described difficulty with accessibility of the DRC website, noting small font, contrast issues, background color, multiple fonts, making it difficult to navigate. David Beach mentioned that ADA will be implementing new Title 2 regulations which may assist with this issue of website accessibility. Julie Ossege suggested adding buttons for content for easier navigation, including separate student and faculty buttons for separate navigations through resources. It was noted that website development support for the DRC is needed to alter the format of the website.

Dr. Gipson-Reichardt discussed the DRC's Flexibility with Attendance and Rescheduling Exams Agreement form. It was noted by David Beach that it is not completely clear for each course what is the number of classes that can be missed (or percentage) for a student to be able to meet learning objectives. David Beach described the 80/20 attendance rule and the need for faculty to identify a threshold of minimum attendance and the need for justification for this threshold. It was also mentioned that an instructor only needs to do this once for a course. Davy Jones requested some examples of this form filled out for faculty to see what type of content would be approved by the DRC. Aaron Garvey discussed the difficulty with determining how many classes is acceptable for a student to miss, and described that it is incumbent upon the faculty member to determine how individualized a course could be for students (i.e., a unique course development for student accommodations).

Dr. Gipson-Reichardt discussed the DRC's Flexibility with Due Dates Assignment form. Davy Jones discussed that the Flexibility with Attendance and Rescheduling Exams form does not include a statement acknowledgement that is present in the Flexibility with Due Dates Assignment form ("Student: I agree to the flexibility and notification policy defined in this agreement. I acknowledge that this flexibility will only be used in connection with my disability and does not include assignments that are late for non-disability related reasons."). Davy Jones requested that a statement like this be added to this form, and David Beach agreed.

Aaron Garvey requested if a student can provide evidence of a flare up of a disability to the DRC. David Beach discussed that this could be done through AIM once it is implemented, whereby the DRC can quickly communicate with the faculty member regarding the flare up issue.

Gipson-Reichardt adjourned the meeting.