

Charter for the University Committee on Disabilities (UCD)

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The University Committee on Disabilities (UCD) advises and assists the Office of the Vice President for Diversity and Inclusion (VPDI) regarding its leadership role in promoting and fostering a campus environment of inclusiveness and accessibility. More specifically, the UCD assists the Vice President's focus of removing barriers to access, providing education to foster awareness to the campus community, and equipping the community with tools to spearhead other initiatives that address inequities. The UCD also establishes and maintains close relationships with persons and groups that are interested in accessibility throughout campus.

MEMBERSHIP

Committee membership is made up of one representative from each of the following groups:

- Each college and the library
- Office of the Provost
- Office of Equal Opportunity
- Human Resources
- Information Technology
- ISU Public Safety
- Faculty Senate
- Student Government
- Graduate & Professional Student Senate
- Professional and Scientific Council
- Merit Employees
- Supervisory and Confidential Employees

Ex-officio members of the committee shall be:

- Director of Equal Opportunity, who shall serve as Chair
- Inclusion Services Coordinator, who shall serve as Vice-Chair
- Director of Student Disability Resources, or designee
- University Human Resource individual responsible for coordinating employee accommodations
- Library employee responsible for accessibility
- University Architect, or designee
- President of the Alliance for Disability Awareness Student Organization
- Others deemed appropriate by the Chair and approved by the committee

All members have voting rights. Decisions are rendered by majority vote of UCD members present at the meeting.

Students serve one-year terms and may be reappointed. Others serve three years with terms arranged such that roughly one-third of their group is new each year. Members may be reappointed for an unlimited number of terms. Interested members of the ISU community are encouraged to attend meetings, but voting rights are reserved for committee members.

REPORTING STRUCTURE

The committee reports to the Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion. An annual report is filed with the Office of the Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion.

DUTIES OF THE COMMITTEE

1. Foster awareness of and act as an advocate for rights and needs of faculty, staff, students, and other persons with disabilities.
2. Establish and maintain an open dialogue with consultant services to university organizations (e.g., Alliance for Disability Awareness, Faculty Senate, Student Government, Graduate and Professional Student Senate) on issues related to persons with disabilities.
3. Promote and/or support speakers, meetings, conferences, special events (such as Disability Awareness Week) relating to disabilities.
4. Share and/or disseminate knowledge, interest, research ideas and data, suggestions for teaching, grant information, etc., concerning disabilities both to committee members and the campus community.
5. Foster interdepartmental research efforts, academic cooperation and services relating to disabilities and persons with disabilities.
6. Provide in-service education pertaining to disabilities and accessibility for the campus community.

SUBCOMMITTEES

The work of the committee is carried out by subcommittees as well as the committee at large. Subcommittees may be formed at the committee's discretion, with membership on a volunteer basis. The subcommittees are assigned specific tasks and responsibilities, but other functions may be assigned to them as the need arises.