ACCESSIBILITY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Date: 4/11/2025
Time: 10:00am-11:00am
Facilitator: Colin Dory

In Attendance

Colin Dory, Teodoro Oreiro. Brian Umpstead, Alisha McDonald, Marjorie Rasmussen, Wen Zhao-Pliske, DeAnne Hamilton, Isabella Sebastiani

1.) Accessibility Resources

The OLC is seeking ideas on how to spread awareness of accessibility resources and useful training opportunities offered by Bates and beyond. While we regularly update the OLC website on SharePoint, directing people to those resources can be a challenging process.

- Marjorie says that the Friday OLC news updates have been very helpful, but it could be possible to get the VP involved in promoting them.
- Alisha suggests that Professional Development Day trainings are informative and useful.
- Isabella suggests doing workshops/webinars with a Hyflex approach, having a live session with an OWL camera to allow instructors to participate via Zoom. Some suggested topics include:
    - Accessibility Best Practices
    - Fixing Accessibility Issues Work Session

We will also reach out to the library and DSS offices to get more ideas on how to spread awareness of resources.

2.) Training

a. Topics: When it comes to training, we have a lot of topics we could tackle:
    - Using Ally
    - PDFs
    - Captions
    - Using Headings (in Canvas, in Word)
    - PPT Accessibility (maybe with an added template to work from?)

b. **Format**: When it comes to format, a Hyflex approach with shorter sessions may be the best place to start. The OLC plans to run multiple training sessions over the summer, and accessibility topics will be included in those sessions.
c. **Funding**: The Accessibility does not have a budget and therefore does not have much of an ability to offer many incentives for attending trainings. That said, we are trying to brainstorm some ideas. Some possible incentive ideas include:
    - Food and refreshment offered at trainings. (Note that lunch cannot be offered unless it is an all-day session and the funds would have to come from the OLC budget.)
    - Canvas Badging (a system of credentialing that is recognized across the SBCTC system).
    - Accessibility Deadline reminders.

3.) Good of the Order

a. The next meeting will be held Friday, May 9th.