

Accessibility Committee

Meeting Minutes

May 4, 2022

1. Meeting called to order @ 1:01pm by Art Barron.
2. In attendance:
Art Barron, Shirley Malette, Beth Pirouet, Kathleen Jette, Geraldine General, Dina Naser, James Coulter, Laurisa Kapetanov, Mark Colangelo, Mary Sinclair, Mary Sinclair, Melanie DeSchutter, Monica Staley Liang, Stacey Jackson, Stephanie DeSchutter, Wayne Nevin

Regrets:

Mellissa Forget, Beth Storey, Shubham Gopal Sharma, Conrad McCulligh

3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes – March 30, 2022:

Additions, omissions, edits: none

Motion to approve: Laurisa Kapetanov

Seconded: Kathleen Jette

Approved

4. Updates:

- a. Facilities Update

Action Items Update:

- Work order in progress for all lift desks to have power and, power to study areas will be addressed during summer updates.
- Work order in progress for downtown accessible doors to be checked and those not working to be fixed.
- Accessible washroom door outside of 206 is working.
- Accessible door to the main entrance to CICE had been updated and no-touch operator controls have been added. James Coulter is investigating why it wasn't working.

- b. Report of Possible Accessibility Issues

Chatham – Access to the library and registrar's office is not fully accessible.

Action Item: Art Barron is scheduled to visit the Chatham Campus and will work with Dan Chauvin on recommendations for improvement.

Chatham Convocation will be happening at the Chatham Capital Theatre in June and a request was made to ensure the theatre is fully accessible for all graduates.

Action Item: Art Barron will follow up with the convocation committee to ensure accessibility for graduates.

Downtown – no issues to report.

South Campus – no issues to report.

Online – no issues to report.

Convocation Update – The Convocation department has implemented the following statement to graduates to provide them the opportunity to identify any accessibility needs they or their guests may have:

St. Clair College is committed to providing universal access to all of our events. If you or any of your guests have a disability and may require accommodations in order to fully participate, please indicate which accommodation(s) you may need:

- ASL Interpreter
- Large print
- Braille
- Wheelchair access
- Assistive Listening Device
- A service animal will accompany me
- An Assistant will accompany me
- Closed captioned videos

- c. Student's Perspective – Student, Nick Schuuram has expressed an interest in joining the Accessibility Committee.

Action Item: Art Barron will reach out to the student to confirm his interest.

5. Ministry Compliance:

- a. Accessibility Annual Status Report
Has been submitted to Senior Operating Group for approval.
- b. Accessibility Resources Webpage
The webpage is up to date and active. All meeting minutes up to and including February's meeting are uploaded.
- c. Accessibility Policy Update
Reviewed and updated

Action Item: A 3-year plan needs to be created. Art Barron and James Coulter will connect over the summer to create this.

6. New Business:

Art Barron had a meeting with the University of Windsor regarding a possible collaboration to implement an Attendant Care Model for students with disabilities through Assisted Living Southwestern Ontario (ALSO). Carleton University is currently using this model. Students have access to 24/7 care. Physical care, such as washroom support, is provided for all classes, events, etc... Workers come in plain clothes (no scrubs) so they don't stand out as a service provider and provide assistance to students in need. This allows students with disabilities to come to college with dignity and independence. Having this service would also aid in recruitment. Funding for implementing this program is still in exploration stages by may include BSWD and funding grants. Approximate cost is less than \$200,000 per year for up to 10 students and would be split between the university and college. Concern was expressed that BSWD funding is already being used to the maximum for other supports. It was suggested to contact the Student Representative Council to inquire if the student health insurance may be a source of funding.

7. Adjournment @ 1:21pm.