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Student Disability Services Campus Newsletter, October 2012

University of Northern Iowa. Office of Student Disability Services.

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University of Northern Iowa Campus Newsletter

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 1

OCTOBER 2012

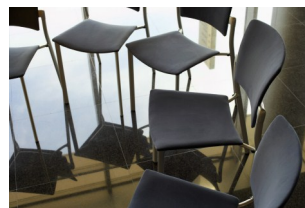
UNI Hosts Regent Institutions Disability Summit

On October 10th, UNI hosted the 3rd Annual Regent Institutions Disability Awareness Summit. Faculty, staff and students from Iowa's three regent institutions were invited to participate in the day-long event during which they could not only learn about more about disability awareness, but collaborate with colleagues from other institutions. Each institution was represented at the event, with a total of 56 people participating.

This year's event had a special focus on assistive and accessible technology and its ability to create an inclusive environment. Keynote speaker, Tim Creagan, Senior Accessibility Specialist in Information Technology from the United States Access Board, provided an overview of the

accessible features on everyday items, such as cell phones, that allow individuals with disabilities access to the technology. He also discussed different legislation that requires federally funded entities to uphold accessible standards when developing technology and websites.

After the keynote, attendees were given the chance to break out into different sessions focusing on universal design in learning, employee wellness and accessible technology and websites.



Collaborative discussions followed these break out sessions, allowing for attendees to share and learn among their peers. UNI also showcased some of the unique efforts happening on campus through a resource fair that was available for most of the afternoon.

Next year, the Disability Summit will be hosted by the University of Iowa. I encourage all that attended this year to consider making the trip to Iowa City.

Thank you to everyone who made the event a success!

Ashley Brickley

Coordinator, Student Disability Services

New Faces in the SDS Office: Come Visit!

Brittany Warren started in May 2012 as the Disability Specialist for Disability Services. Brittany received her Master's Degree from UNI in 2011 in Postsecondary Education: Student Affairs. Prior to working at UNI, Brittany worked at Upper Iowa University in Fayette, Iowa as the Student Achievement Counselor. Brittany became a new mom on September 24th to the beautiful and

healthy Ava Kay Warren. Brittany will return to the office in November. Stop by and visit when she returns!

Ellie Hail is the 2012-2013 Graduate Assistant in Disability Services. She received her Bachelor's degree from UNI in 2012 in Communication Studies, and is currently working on her Master's in the Postsecondary Educa-

tion: Student Affairs program. Ellie coordinates the Weekly Mentoring program, as well as the office newsletter. She works the academic year, Stop by to see her!



News You Can Use: Documentation Guidelines

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, individuals with disabilities are guaranteed certain protections and rights to equal access to programs and services. In order to access these rights, it is the policy of the University of Northern Iowa (UNI) for students with disabilities to register with the office of Student Disability Services (SDS) in order to determine eligibility for academic accommodations.

Accommodations for students are determined by SDS staff on a case-by-case basis after reviewing both the student self-report and supporting documentation. Students with disabilities should complete the following registration procedure in order to receive accommodations and services through SDS:

1) Complete and submit a Request for Services and Documentation Review Form

This form can be found at

[www.uni.edu/sds/](http://www.uni.edu/sds/ApplyforServices.shtml)

[ApplyforServices.shtml](http://www.uni.edu/sds/ApplyforServices.shtml) and should be completed by the student to the best of her/his ability.

2) Submit documentation in support of the request for academic accommodations

Types of supportive documentation may include:

- A recent IEP or 504 Plan
- A Summary of Performance or Support for Accommodation Request Form (Iowa Residents) (<http://www.uni.edu/sds/SAR.shtml>)

- A psycho-educational or neuropsychological evaluation

- Relevant medical records

- A letter from a current physician or psychologist

3) SDS will review the information submitted and contact the student to schedule an initial accommodation appointment

4) Student meets with SDS to discuss academic accommodation needs and to determine eligibility for services

If, at any time during this process, you have a question about the registration procedure or services

available through SDS, please contact the office at 319-273-2677.

Assistive Technology: EchoPen

What is the EchoPen?

The EchoPen is a smart pen made by LiveScribe Technology. It combines sound recording, smart pen, and note organization into one.

How does it work?

EchoPen has special ink and special notebooks that record everything you write and can be uploaded onto the computer. In addition to that, it can

record sound, such as a lecture. You can select a part of your notes, and it will play back the part of the lecture that was going on right at the time you took that note!

Why is this accommodation needed?

This technology can help students who might need to record a lecture for future refer-

ence and to organize their notes.

For more information about the EchoPen, please visit: <http://www.livescribe.com/en-us/smartpen/echo/>



Get to Know Accommodations: Sign Language Interpreting

Sign language interpreting is an accommodation provided by the Office of Student Disability Services. This accommodation is for any person is Deaf or hard of hearing. Below are a few frequently asked questions and their answers:

Why would someone need an interpreter?

An interpreter may be used any time communication is occurring between people who do not share the same language. Deaf and hard of hearing people may not have access to information if it is presented in English, either verbally or in writing. Some simple communications (for example, between a Deaf customer and a clerk in a store) can be done through written notes or gestures, but any time important content is being communicated, having an interpreter present ensures that all parties can communicate with each other.

If I want to talk to someone who is Deaf or hard of hearing, can I just talk to their interpreter?

No, you should always speak directly to the person you are communicating with. The interpreter is not part of the conversation and is not permitted to voice personal opinions or enter the conversation. The interpreter is required to interpret everything that is said.

They does not screen information at the speaker's request.

Where can I go for more information?

Karlene J Kischer-Browne

Instructor, Communication Sciences & Disorders

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(319) 273-3688 CAC 256 0356

National Association for the Deaf

www.nad.org

Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf

www.rid.org

Sources: <http://www.signonasl.com/faq.html>

<http://www.uni.edu/sds/documents/>

[FacultyTipsforWorkingwithInterpreters.pdf](#)

Image source: <http://lifeprint.com/asl101/pages>

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Universal Design in Learning

One of the hot topics discussed at the Regents Disability Summit was Universal Design in Learning. Having initially started as an architectural concept, Universal Design has evolved into a concept that can be applied in nearly every facet of the university experience, including the classroom. By using UDL techniques, instructors can

help minimize barriers to learning that many students, regardless of ability, face in the classroom.

During his presentation, Jason Vetter, ITS-Educational Technology Services, provided examples as to how technology can assist in creating a universally designed class-

room. To view his presentation, please visit:

<http://panopto.uni.edu/Panopto/Pages/Viewer/Default.aspx?id=2ee345fd-6317-4598-a838-596257d63f02>

Student Disability Services

Dean of Students Office
Division of Student Affairs

103 Student Health Center
Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0385

Phone: (319) 273-2677

For deaf and hard of hearing, use
Relay 711

Fax: (319) 273-6884

Email: disabilityservices@uni.edu



SDS Philosophy and Mission

Student Disability Services is a university resource that provides specialized services to enhance the overall academic career and personal development of each person with a disability.

Therefore it is our philosophy and mission to provide services and promote an accessible environment which allows people with disabilities an equal opportunity for participation in educational and other campus activities.

SDS is committed to providing opportunities and accommodations in higher education to all academically qualified students with disabilities. It is the responsibility of the student to seek available assistance at the university and make his or her individual needs known.

SDS affirms that no qualified person shall by reason of disability be denied access to participation in, or the benefits of, any program, activity, or service operated by the University of Northern Iowa. Each qualified person shall receive appropriate accommodations to ensure equal access to educational opportunities, programs, activities and services in an integrated setting.

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