



The Anatomy of an IT Accessibility Coordinator

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How Did I Become an IT Accessibility Coordinator?

- Commonwealth of Virginia adopted rules and regulations similar to Section 508. As part, Mason decided to put a Committee together to determine what a role and responsibility would look like to help achieve this new requirement. As part, the IT Accessibility Coordinator position was created.
- Mason is a level II state school – part of a requirement to was to have an IT Accessibility Policy in place.

Organizational Structure

- Poll Question
- What advantages and disadvantages does that have?

Office of the President

Compliance
Diversity and
Ethics

Assistive
Technology
Initiative

Reflection on What it Means to Be an IT Accessibility Coordinator

- Most people think I'm part of IT Technical Support to help with problems when software can't be accessed
- IT plays such an integral part throughout various areas of campus, correlate that with accessibility throughout the university – it means I have my hands in a lot of different projects.

- Policy
- Procurement
- Academic Software
- Library
- Enterprise Wide Software
- Kiosks (vending machines, ATMs, laundry, etc.) Videos (Captioning, accessibility of Video Players)

- Documents (both on websites and through courses)
- Online Course Accessibility
- Websites
- 3rd Party Applications (Website, course supplemental, procurement, etc)
- The list could go on

Key Partnerships

- What are the key partnerships made that have helped promote accessibility?
 - This will be different for everyone based upon the organizational structure.
- **IT** - has opened the doors to sitting on various committees allowing updated information on projects, purchases, etc.
- **Library** – open to the public, various database and multi-media purchases. Knowing
- **Instructional Designers and Distance Education** – Working with those who are on the front lines of online teaching where building accessibility into the design vs an accommodation is key to the level of success.

Greatest Successes

- What has been greatest successes, and why were they successes?
 - Architecture Standards Committee (ASC) which has the Architecture Standards Review Board (ASRB)
 - DE Audits and Reviews
 - Updated Policy and added Procurement Policy



Biggest Challenges

- What were the biggest challenges?
 - Getting a top down approach
 - Equal Communication – defining accessibility
 - Keeping up with demand



Contact Information

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