Mason Academic Accessibility Plans (MAAPs)

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Statement of the Problem

1. Timely access to instructional resources

- Example Issue #1, Students w/ visual impairments
 - Student with total blindness enrolled in STEM courses.
 - Braille production costs since Fall 2015 ~\$80k+
 - Weeks/Months needed to convert instructional resources into accessible formats

Example Issue #2, Accessed to captioned media for Deaf/Hoh students

| SEMESTER | # OF STUDENTS | # OF FACULTY | # OF COURSES | COURSES W/ CAPTIONED VIDEO | # OF VIDEOS |
|-------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|-------------|
| Fall 2016 | 25 | 87 | 93 | 19 | 127* |
| Spring 2017 | 29 | 111 | 113 | 21 | 291** |
| Fall 2017 | 22 | 97 | 104 | 8 | 170# |
| Spring 2018 | 18 | 85 | 86 | 9 | 59## |

^{* -} Videos from 4 faculty members made up 87 of the 127 requested videos



^{** -} Videos from 3 faculty members made up 194 of the 291 requested videos

^{# -} Videos from 1 faculty member made up 103 of the 140 requested videos

^{## -} Videos from 3 faculty member made up 46 of the 59 requested videos

Statement of the Problem cont.

- 2. Coordination among campus stakeholders and consistent access to accommodations
 - Relevant Guidance <u>Resolution Agreement, Office of Civil Rights (OCR)</u>
 <u>Case No. 11-16-2083 George Mason University (October 2016)</u>
- 3. Classroom Management Issues??



Existing Solutions

Training Issues

Limited faculty training on how best to support these student populations

Course-specific Issues

- Classroom management??
- Type of course content (e.g., STEM vs. social sciences, F2F vs. fully online, etc.)

Instructional Resource Issues

- Accessibility support (i.e., documents, videos, websites)
- Supplemental applications



Proposed Solution(s)

 Create MAAPs (Mason Academic Accessibility Plans) for students with unique and challenging academic needs

ICT
Accessibility
Training
Approach in
recent
DOJ/OCR
Settlements

Whole Institution (Top-down)



Targeted Approach/Risk-Specific (High-Risk/High-Impact)



Proposed Solution(s)

- MAAPs Initiative involves the following:
 - 1. Identify students (DS)
 - 2. Identify degree programs and academic courses students are enrolled in (DS)
 - 3. Identify Academic Advisors and Dept. Chairs (Academic Council)
 - 4. Work with Dept. Chairs to identify and train faculty
 - 5. Present support and training resources
 - Creating and identifying accessible instructional resources (c/o ATI, DS, Library, and ODL)
 - Annual DS training for academic departments
 - 6. Establish remediation timelines
 - 7. Semi-annual follow-ups/check-ins



Next Step(s)

- Need Academic Council's assistance with...
 - 1. Identifying Academic Advisors and Dept. Chairs (Academic Council)
 - 2. Facilitating meetings with academic advisors, instructional faculty, and department chairs
 - 3. ??



Questions?



