Minutes
MU Chancellor’s Committee for Persons with Disabilities
November 12, 2015
119 Parker Hall (Counseling Center Conference Room)

Attendees: Patricia Alafaireet, Amber Cheek, Cindy Cotner, Phil Deming, Bonnie Gregg, Barbara Hammer, Susan Lever, Gerald Morgan, Fred Murdock, Abbie O’Sullivan, Philip Wood.

1. Review of the Minutes of the October meeting.

2. We welcomed Cindy Cotner, a past member of the Committee to the group, as an interested “voluntary attendee.”

2. Review of recent events on campus – of most direct relevance to this Committee is that Chuck Henson is the New Interim Chancellor for Inclusion, Diversity and Equity.

3. Jason Rollins, the Associate Director Marketing Communications, is currently leading the Web Standards subcommittee under the IT Transition will be speaking to the group (postponed).

4. The 2nd annual Lee Henson award process was discussed from start to finish. Suggestions for next year include 1) having a first announcement in mid-Spring, so that students can consider nominating individuals before they leave in May; 2) keep the same location; 3) shorten the time between arrival, mingling and giving out the awards – rather than 30-45 minutes, make it closer to 15; 4) less food; 5) start the ceremony earlier in the afternoon, so it can be completed by 5 PM; 6) post the announcements for nominations in more places; 7) keep the Qualtrix form; 8) consider asking for more definitive information, as this year, the nominations fell into group categories and a lifetime award.

5. Amber Cheek presented the news of receiving funds, initially $10K, from Gary Ward’s for proactive ADA improvements on campus, focusing on Accessibility and Universal Design. The process for awarding funds would entail proposal submissions and review by the Committee. It was suggested by Barb Hammer that we approach the Student Fees group to perhaps ask for additional funds if a proposal was costlier. Amber was interested in pursuing a line item with the Capital Fund so alumni could donate directly to campus accessibility projects.

6. Susan Lever detailed communications with Faculty Council with regard to broadening the mission of the Committee and expanding membership to reflect this role.

7. Each attendee filled out a campus map – to circle what areas of campus he/she frequents. Results will be compiled and discussed at the next meeting. One goal of this endeavor is to see if there are pockets of campus not frequented by members of the Committee. Much like a “Neighborhood Watch” group, do members of our Committee cover sufficient parts of campus to be aware of potential needs?