Mr. Gary Ward  
Vice Chancellor for Operations & Student Affairs  
305B Jesse Hall  
University of Missouri  
Columbia, MO 65211

Chancellor’s Committee for Persons with Disabilities (CCPD) – Annual Report for 2016-17

Dear Vice Chancellor Ward,

The charge of the CCPD is to:

“…advise the provost and the Vice Chancellor for Operations on MU programs, services and policies that affect students, faculty, staff and visitors with disabilities. The Committee also reviews applications for funds related to projects designed to improve the campus experience of persons with disabilities and makes recommendations about the disbursement of these funds.” (http://committees.missouri.edu/persons-disabilities/index.php, accessed February 12, 2018).

Our committee has a history of being very active and we continue to work toward making MU more welcoming for people with disabilities. I am pleased to submit our annual report outlining the major activities of the Committee during the 2016-17 academic year.

The CCPD meets monthly during the academic sessions (fall and spring). During the meeting our ex-officio members provide updates on items related to accessibility and our members contribute any issues they have identified. We have maintained a very active faculty and student involvement in our committee.

The Mizzou Digital Access Policy https://accessibility.missouri.edu/policy/ (accessed 12 February 2018) was further developed and provided to the administration for adoption. Several members of the CCPD are working on the policy.

The first annual ‘Mizzou State of Accessibility’ presentation was made during Celebrate Ability Week (October 11th 2016). Members of Mizzou administration attended and heard an update of the status of accessibility at Mizzou including the Digital Access Policy.

Lee Henson Access Mizzou Award: On October 10, 2016 we held the 3rd Annual Lee Henson Access Mizzou Award ceremony. The awards honor his legacy of disability advocacy at MU and recognize members of the MU community who have championed accessibility and/or demonstrated commitment to improving inclusion of persons with disabilities. We honor three individuals and two groups. Our ceremony was a lead in to celebrate Ability Week 2016 (October 10-14). The full award description can be found here: http://disabilityservices.missouri.edu/news/2014/Lee-Henson-Access-Mizzou-Award/index.php (accessed 12 February 2018).
The committee revised the timeline for nomination and selection of Lee Henson awardees.

**Accessibility Signage:** Funding was secured and updated signage prepared and placed at 400 entrances among 93 buildings on campus. Amber Cheek and Gerald Morgan lead the effort.

The Missouri Theatre (now owned by MU) was selected by the committee for an ADA upgrade. Amber Cheek worked with Campus Facilities to develop and plan for more readily accessible entrance from the theatre’s lobby to the main hall. An automatic exterior door is also slated for the building.

At the encouragement of Amber Cheek, Kevin McDonald, Vice Chancellor for Inclusion, Diversity and Equity, established a ‘Central Fund for Employee Accommodations.’ The fund should make hiring persons who might need some accommodation an easier process for all entities on campus.

Many of the accessibility issues that the committee identifies have transportation aspects. Mike Sokoff, MU Director of Parking and Transportation, updated the committee on the current and future plans for transportation on and around the campus.

Mr. Chuck Graham, Associate Director of the Great Plains ADA center [https://www.gpadacenter.org/](https://www.gpadacenter.org/) and chair of the City of Columbia’s Disability Commission, updated the committee on actions by the City of Columbia: Accessible taxis, Intersections and roundabouts, additional accessible parking spots downtown, curb cutouts, audible crossing signals, crosswalk at 8th and Elm streets (north end of campus) needs better alert system for vehicles (perhaps flashing lights), On-Line “Citizen Complaint - Disabled Parking Violation” also applies to MU parking: [https://www.como.gov/CMS/WebForms/form.php?formid=245](https://www.como.gov/CMS/WebForms/form.php?formid=245) and transportation provided by private student housing can be held accountable for providing ‘accessible’ transportation: Fair Housing Act and ADA: [http://www.accessiblehousing.org/rights/disabilities.asp](http://www.accessiblehousing.org/rights/disabilities.asp)

**New Members**
An additional ex-officio position was added to the committee. Mizzou Counseling Center will maintain a position on the committee. Christy Hutton is the first representative for the position.

**Goals for the 2017-2018 Academic year:**
John Bowders will continue to chair the Committee.
Develop a permanent web presence for the Lee Henson Access Mizzou Award.
Identify and champion barriers to accessibility across our campus including digital access for everything Mizzou.

It would be my pleasure to meet with you to review this report and discuss the work and goals of the CCPD.
Respectfully submitted,

John J. Bowders, Ph.D., P.E.
William A. Davidson Professor of Civil & Environmental Engineering
Chair, Chancellor’s Committee for Persons with Disabilities