Pratt Institute
Accessibility Advisory Committee

Town Hall Meeting • October 13, 2020

Overview

The Accessibility Advisory Committee began meeting regularly in 2015. Initially focused on addressing the **findings** from an **assessment of the physical campus** conducted by the American Spinal Association, over time our work expanded to include:

- Recommending actions, policies, and practices needed to **improve access to campus facilities and programs**.
- Working to ensure all **electronic and information technologies are accessible** to all individuals who wish to access them.
- Communicating new and revised policies related to accessibility to the Pratt community.
- Ensuring students, faculty and staff are aware of the **resources available** to them.
- **Engaging with the campus community regarding the committee's work.**

Committee Members

Cathy Kenny, VP for Finance & Administration- Co-chair

Helen Matusow-Ayres, VP for Student Affairs- Co-chair

Chris Gavlick, Chief Facilities Officer

Tom Greene, Director of Legal Affairs

Joe Hemway, VP for Information Technology

Dennis Mazone, AVP for Campus Safety & Preparedness

Luke Phillips, Registrar

Steve Riccobono, AVP for Human Resources

Nsombi B. Ricketts, VP for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Kimberlae Saul, Director of Planning & Design

Elisabeth Sullivan, Director of Learning/Access Center and 504 Coordinator

Tuan Vu, Associate Director of Residential Life & Housing

Areas of Focus

Accessibility - the ability for any individual in the Pratt Community to access campus spaces, websites and systems, and participate in meetings, work, class, exhibits, and events without barriers.

1. **Raise Awareness** - Increase awareness of faculty, staff and students with different physical, psychological and mental/cognitive abilities and ensure they have equal access to Pratt Institute.

2. **Remove Barriers** - Physical, technological, procedural and policy improvements throughout campus to remove barriers that can prohibit faculty, staff and students with different abilities from being their best selves at Pratt.

3. **Appreciate Differences** - Increase understanding of people with different abilities in our community through education on how they bring different perspectives to the table.

4. **Practice Inclusion** - All students, faculty and staff are aware and accepting of all abilities, and actively work to create an environment that supports everyone's success.

DEI Website Resources

Accessibility Web Page
https://www.pratt.edu/the-institute/diversity-and-inclusion/accessibility/

- Information on **Accommodation Requests** for students, faculty and staff
- Accessibility Advisory Committee charge, members, and **accomplishments**

Bias & Discrimination Reporting
https://www.pratt.edu/the-institute/diversity-and-inclusion/bias/

- **Bias, Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct Reporting Form**
  - Disability discrimination complaints sent to **Elisabeth Sullivan, 504 Coordinator**
- **EthicsPoint** for anonymous incident reporting

Resources for Students, Faculty & Staff

Students - L/AC

- **L/AC provides accommodations for SWDs; notifies faculty with students' permission**
- **c. 500 students currently registered**
- **L/AC moves classes for students with mobility concerns, including temporary injuries**
- **Receives campus complaints regarding disability discrimination (504)**

Faculty & Staff - HR

- **Benefit Department in HR provides reasonable accommodations for faculty and staff with disabilities**
- **Provide reasonable accommodations for faculty and staff with temporary injuries**
- **Access for faculty and staff to view EverFi video**

Information Technology

- Enhanced tools for teaching and learning:
  - Developed the *onePratt Student + Faculty Community Consoles* with accessibility in mind using black text on a white background with easily discernible blue links
  - *Launchpad* remote lab console delivers all lab software via a browser without having the latest hardware and makes going to a campus lab optional
  - *Production* remote job submission community for 2D / 3D printing, milling, and cutting offers online consultation and knowledge bases, as well as options for home delivery of output
- All offerings are developed under Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG 2.0) using WAVE, an industry-standard web accessibility and evaluation tool
- Digital Wayfinding tool for iOS, Android and at map.pratt.edu highlighting accessibility routes based on your starting point with quick access to safety information, sculpture park, academic departments and more
- New digital PrattCard via the PrattSafe app and at idcard.pratt.edu allows you to generate your ID card as needed. Touchless readers being integrated for campus access and Covid clearance.

We want to know:

- What is challenging for you in our new working and learning environments?
- What has been your experience accessing campus facilities and services?
- What can we do to make Pratt a more welcoming environment for students, faculty and staff?