

NOTES OF MEETING and ACTION ITEMS - ENABLE YORK

Meeting Date:	Tuesday, September 26 th , 2017	
Meeting Attendees:	Voting Members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Samantha Holloway (Undergraduate Student, Student Co-Chair) ▪ Yvonne Simpson (PhD Candidate, Critical Disability Studies) ▪ Ruth Bramham (Project Co-ordinator, CBSO) 	Ex-Officio members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Elizabeth Lia (Legal Assistant, <i>Office of the Counsel/AODA Office</i>. Designate for Leanne DeFilippis) ▪ Josephine Tcheng (Advisor – Education & Communications, <i>REI</i>) ▪ Jacob McLean (VP Finance, <i>YUGSA</i>) ▪ Kat Kahnert-Wolchak (Coordinator, <i>YFS Access Centre</i>)
Apologies from:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Marc Wilchesky (Exec. Director, <i>Counselling and Disability Services- Keele Campus</i>) ▪ Deane Taylor (Manager, <i>Accessibility, Wellbeing and Counselling Services- Glendon Campus</i>) ▪ Dragon Spasojevic (Manager, Community Relations and Crime Prevention- <i>Community Safety Department</i>) ▪ Taylor Starr (Undergraduate Student) 	
Minutes taken by:	Natasha Prashad (Coordinator, <i>REI</i>)	
Next Meeting Date:	Wednesday, October 25th, 2017 from 10:00am – 12:00pm, 1048 Kaneff Tower	

Agenda:

1. **Introductions and Announcements**
 - A) **Presenting brochure and bookmark resources**
2. **Routine Items for Discussion**
 - A) **Approval of Notes from June and August Meetings**
3. **Roundtable Meeting Workplan**
4. **Senate Policy Discussion and Review**
5. **Looking ahead to the school year**

Items Discussed:

1. Introductions and Announcements

The Student Co-Chair began the meeting with roundtable introductions of members present.

Members were informed that Professor Deborah Haine contacted the committee who has three nursing students that would like to become involved with the committee's activities. These students would be joining the committee to fulfil their practicum requirement in engaging in community health advocacy. The committee is not able to offer clinical experience, however it was highlighted that the students could participate in other activities.

A) Brochure and Bookmark resources

A draft of the brochure is in progress and has been submitted to design students to update. However, it was noted that further discussion regarding the committee's goals and email account is required. Members brainstormed goals and action items to include on the committee brochure. A list of goals was sent out via email for feedback from all committee members.

2. Routine Items for Discussion

Members reviewed the notes of last meeting which occurred on June 21st and Aug 22nd. Revisions were made to notes and approved by all members present.

3. Roundtable Meeting

An update was provided to members present about the status of confirmed attendees for the event. It was suggested that the following people also be invited;

- Helen Psathas- *Director for Campus Planning & Development, CSBO*
- Samina Sami- *Executive Director, Department of Community Safety*
- Deane Taylor- *Manager, Accessibility, Wellbeing and Counselling Centre (Glendon Campus)*

- Marc Wilchesky- *Executive Director, Counselling and Disability Services (Keele Campus)*
- Deans of respective faculties

4. Senate Policy Discussion and Review

The Student Co-Chair and members from the *YFS Access Centre* provided a brief update on their communications with the Senate Equity Subcommittee (specifically with Robert Everett- University Secretariat), including the proposed consultations in the Fall for Policy for Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities. It was proposed that a meeting be scheduled with Robert Everett to share policy improvements. In addition, members were encouraged to send any input or feedback to the *YFS Access Centre's* proposed recommendations to yfsaccesscentre@gmail.com.

Furthermore, members present discussed the policy improvements and generated other improvements which included;

- Add in the perspective of breaking down systemic barriers for students with disabilities on campus.
- Emphasize that the accommodation process should not solely be the responsibility of students, but also on staff and faculty members at York. This improvement may stem from a belief from some people that students requesting an accommodation are “lazy” or “do not want to do any work”. This false belief needs to be dispelled at York University.
- Professors need to be more informed of the process for students to disclose and request an accommodation, thus building more awareness.
- Language in policy needs to ensure that students are feeling supported and safe.

5. Looking ahead to the school year

Members brainstormed activities that the committee could pursue for the following academic year. Suggestions included;

- Create a monthly Issue Alert document that can be posted on the committee's webpage to inform the York community about disability and accessibility issues. It was noted that this document would be a valuable tool in communications with administration about disability issues on campus.
- Perform an accessibility audit of York's campuses. This activity can be facilitated with the help of nursing students who would like to be involved with the committee in order to fulfil their practicum requirement for their program.
- Create a resource that maps various York personnel responsible for disability issues on campus.

Activity	Person(s) Responsible
Send out list of proposed goals for feedback	Natasha Prashad
Send invitation to additional members for Roundtable Event	Josephine Tcheng and Marcia Rioux
Set up a meeting with Robert Everett to discuss Senate Policy documents	Samantha Holloway and Marcia Rioux
Send out workplan for members to sign up for tasks for the Roundtable event	Samantha Holloway
Send out revised meeting schedule	Natasha Prashad
Send out Senate Policy document for feedback from members	Samantha Holloway
Gather and compile feedback from members on Senate Policy document	Kat Kahnert-Wolchak