

UC Electronic Accessibility Leadership Team

Report to the UC IT Leadership Council

October 16, 2012

I Accomplishments over Past Year

Policy. The EALT developed a draft IT Accessibility Policy and accompanying requirements document. The goal is to express the University's commitment to IT accessibility and where possible to establish standards to be followed. The drafts have been reviewed with the IT Policy and Security group and with the IT Leadership Council. The next step is to review the draft with representatives from the Academic Council before starting a formal campus review and input process.

ITLC Action Needed: Continued support at your locations for policy adoption.

Web Accessibility Training. We held two trainings with leading web accessibility consulting firms to teach an introductory and a more advanced class in web accessibility. Both classes were filled to capacity. The participants have asked for more training. We also conducted one in person training in both the southern and northern regions on the use of our testing tool.

ITLC Action Needed: The EALT would like to submit a funding request for additional training in FY12-13 to continue to develop well-rounded IT developers. Approximate cost: \$50K.

Purchasing Guidelines. In coordination with TAS members and UCOP Procurement staff, the EALT developed and distributed preliminary guidelines for ensuring that accessibility is considered in the procurement processes. Our aim is to improve and develop the guidelines further based on field testing from locations.

ITLC Action Needed: Encourage your procurement offices, especially IT specialists, to review, use, and provide feedback on the guidelines.

Scanning Initiative and Testing Tool. Our enterprise scanning tool adoption is steadily growing. We now have hundreds of users across the system testing and validating your websites for standards compliance. A potential best practice is Berkeley's recharge service that provides complete user testing of websites and applications. Efforts are underway to connect the enterprise tool with UTrust.

ITLC Action Needed: Direct staff in charge of application and web development to fold accessibility testing into their development process.

Resources Website. The UC website that provides resources about Web accessibility (<http://www.ucop.edu/irc/itaccessibility/resources/>) continues to be updated. New original content includes guidelines for content developers, a quick reference guide for web developers, instructions for creating accessible PDFs from Word on the PC or Mac, and a guide to creating transcripts and captions.

ITLC Action Needed: Ensure that your IT staff are aware of the site; continue to support your staff who participate in reviewing the site, creating new content, and keeping it pertinent.

Accessibility Leadership Models. Two campuses created positions to bolster web accessibility for their location. Santa Cruz dedicated 20% of a director level position to accessibility, and appointed Jim Philips to find ways to use technology in more accessible ways. Berkeley created a web accessibility analyst position. Berkeley is planning to provide onsite training to campus developers and will share the videocast training sessions with other campuses.

ITLC Action Needed: Consider adding a job function to an existing FTE to lead your location's accessibility efforts.

II Goals for 2012-13

- 1. Increase UC Visibility as Accessibility Champions.** UC is quickly creating best practices for initiating rapid change over a very large, decentralized enterprise. Through conferences, articles and cross-institutional meetings, the EALT will promote the successes of UC as accessibility champions.
- 2. Participate in Accessibility Research and Pilots.** In addition to academic partnerships underway, such as UC Davis and San Diego's participation in the GOALS project, the EALT will serve on pilot groups for important vendors such as Google and Microsoft.
- 3. Build Alliances with National and Active Regional Disability Rights Groups.** By engaging with groups such as the National Federation for the Blind (NFB) and others, the EALT helps to mitigate risk by showing good faith and cooperation as issues arise. The ITLC liaison to the EALT, Pete Siegel, has been instrumental in this effort.
- 4. Pursue EALT Engagement on UC Initiatives.** The EALT will provide input on planning, procurement and regular testing for important initiatives such as UCOE and online timekeeping.
- 5. Expand Training for Developers and Extend Enterprise Scanning Adoption.** We will assist locations in expanding the use of our systemwide scanning tool, suggesting best practices for working accessibility into the SDLC and procurement processes.