

VHEAP Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, 15 August 2024

Attending

- Korey Singleton
- Barbara Zunder
- Jason Heron
- Sarahbeth Dreis
- Charlene Jones
- Mark Nichols
- Jamie Chandler
- Mollie Kropp
- Danielle Smith
- Brittany Dioszeghy
- Christina Wulf
- Pearl Xie

Not Attending

- Stacy McBain

Agenda items

- [July Meeting Review](#)
- **Jason:** UnConference Feedback and Follow-up? (this actually came from Korey)
 - <https://forms.office.com/r/CrvUFbKxW0?origin=lprLink>
- **Sarahbeth / Jason (as a poor substitute):**

New DOJ “Dear Colleague” letter Steve Gordon with DOJ is trying to get permission to send a Dear Colleague letter to all college leadership reminding them about ADA adherence – and the consequences of not adhering to the ADA.

- Communicating the importance of this information to Boards of Visitors, Deans, Presidents, Vice-Presidents, etc.
 - Intent is to get everyone’s attention in advance of a training that explains obligations.
 - As of Monday, letter approved by OCR

- Next step is to get approval from the US Attorney's Office (DOJ). More confident that it will get approved.
- Targeting September for training? Would be virtual. Emily Salmon at SCHEV will create a flowchart to divide up the communication between SCHEV, AHEAD, and VHEAP.
- Joan put together a spreadsheet with the different disability services directors/executives.
- SCHEV will meet with Steve Gordon again in a month (September 9). Hope to hear an update about the approval status.
- This Dear Colleague letter is specific to Virginia.
- We can distribute the letter to procurement folks (or others not identified already) on a case-by-case basis.
- Topic of Dear Colleague: ADA in general – may also cross over with K-12 folks.
- Training will cover accessible housing, documentation – how broadly the ADA applies to various areas of education – and why executives should engage with ADA enforcement.
- Can we specifically draw attention to Title II of the ADA somehow? Some sections of this require campus collaboration efforts.
- Peer groups: We haven't yet decided how to form those groups. Steve has done a training with Loudon County – folks there wanted peer groups to continue discussions and address issues. SCHEV has continued talking about this idea with Steve.
 - Need to be thoughtful about how these peer groups proceed since there are confidentiality considerations.
 - Potentially have VHEAP and AHEAD collaborate to facilitate peer group membership.
 - Joan asked Sarahbeth to be the Membership Chair to help bridge the gap with ADA coordinators.
 - Peer group trainings are intended to be ongoing throughout the year. Each peer group meets about a different topic. Typically more collaborative than a traditional VHEAP Lunch and Learn.
 - Will trainings be recorded? Steve is not allowed to record presentations.
- Goal of Steve's presentation is specifically to get top-level executives and not get deep into the weeds – more to advocate for higher/better staffing levels.
- L&L Ideas: One specific presentation on an ADA topic and one discussion-oriented session for feedback and questions.
- Concerns about including K-12 folks since this is so focused on higher education at present – transition specialists are included, however.

- Could/Should something similar happen for K-12 that's targeted at a K-12 audience?
 - What are the concerns with non-compliance to Title 2?
 - OCR complaints
 - Funds disappearing
- Are DOJ/OCR putting together resources to proactively analyze institutions? Reach out to Marylou Mobley (sp?)
- Also looking at other entities that would proactively sue.
- **Barb: Legislative Update**
 - SB21 Working Group
 - Wrapping up work
 - Emily has a good document to bring back to delegates.
 - Barb meeting with Del. Cohen to sponsor this bill.
 - Pre-orientation programming
 - Lots of talk in SB21 for students transitioning from K-12 to higher education.
 - HB 1355 Procurement Workgroup update
 - Korey represented VHEAP to talk about this bill in Richmond.
 - Barb will be there next week.
- **Korey: Partnerships**
 - VHEAP/VIVA Discussion – Could start with L&L or Town Hall
 - John Unsworth from VIVA reaching out to create a partnership. How could the libraries participate in the accessibility efforts that we're putting in place.
 - Invite to a board meeting for a brainstorming session?
 - Also looking to partner with AHEAD
 - Background:

The Virtual Library of Virginia (VIVA) is the consortium of nonprofit academic libraries within the Commonwealth of Virginia. Members include all of the 39 state-assisted colleges and universities (the 6 doctoral universities, 9 4-year institutions, and 24 community and two-year branch colleges), as well as 31 of the independent (private, nonprofit) institutions and the Library of Virginia.

Mission

As Virginia's academic library consortium, VIVA builds an equitable, accessible, and robust infrastructure of library resources and services for Virginia higher education students and faculty.
 - Invite John soon! Retiring in June 2025.

- **Mark:** Virginia Website Modernization Group
 - Talking about Title II of the ADA.
 - Currently, they also have training on their SiteImprove with an Accessible Developer, Accessible content contributor, and Accessible Designer certification certifications.
 - Consider partnership on training materials, outreach, collaboration, etc.
 - <https://www.vita.virginia.gov/websitemodernization/>
- General Stuff
 - Formal intro of new BOD members/changes (i.e., newsletter)
 - Photos and a short blurb to send out to VHEAP membership
- Event Planning
 - General sense of 2024-2025 VHEAP events/activities
 - Would we want to have a kind of Instagram account to share what we're doing?
 - Posts could be banners for L&L Sessions, bills we're working on, Title II / ADA updates
- Barb to reach out to Christa to keep the ball rolling on joint L&L events. (CC to September agenda)
 - Martina suggested potentially having a co-branded two-day event between the UnConference and AHEAD.
 - Barb currently working on financials for UVA – trying to bring registration in-house at UVA. (CC to September agenda)
- **Brittany:** Pre-orientation programming for students with disabilities entering college (per discussion from SB 21 working group). Discuss opportunities for partnerships and resources.
 - Bridgewater has a program supporting students with autism.
 - Opportunities for partnership, sharing resources, event planning, etc.
 - Landmark University in Vermont has a robust program for students with ASD, ADD, and ADHD. Emily Heltf (in Virginia) works for Landmark.
 - Beacon College (?) as another resource.
 - GMU has the MASI Program