

Accessible Technology Initiative (ATI) Awareness

Jenna Reeds—Web & Media Specialist, Information Support Services

History

- **1973 Federal Law:**

Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act requires access to electronic and information technology procured by Federal agencies

- **2002 State Law:**

In California, Section 508 was codified in Government Code 11135 by the State Legislature and requires the CSU to comply with the accessibility requirements of Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

- **2004 CSU Executive Order:**

The Accessible Technology Initiative (ATI) reflects the CSU's ongoing commitment to provide access to information resources and technologies to individuals with disabilities

- **2007 Presidential Directive:**

SJSU's policy and guidelines for development and monitoring of programs that ensure access to electronic and information technology for all faculty, staff, students and the public

What is accessibility?

- **Accommodation is reactive (ADA)**

- **Accessibility is proactive (ATI)**

For example, under theory of accommodation (Sections 501 or 504 of the Rehabilitation Act), an agency might wait for hard of hearing people to assert their need for a telephone amplifier

However, under Section 508 accessibility requirements, a Federal (or California state) agency that purchases a new phone system must provide telephone amplification at each phone station

The barrier to hearing is removed in advance, so that future employees or guests with hearing loss will be able to use the phones without making special requests

- **Accessibility creates a more inclusive environment**



Accessible Technology Initiative

- The CSU launched a system-wide Accessible Technology Initiative (ATI) to ensure that each CSU campus follows state and federal laws mandating access to technology as well as to ensure a culture of inclusive learning

Catheryn Cheal

ATI Executive sponsor

Associate VP & SATO for Academic Technology

San José State University

- The ATI team's responsibility is to establish policies that ensure access to technology is achieved in 3 areas:
 - **Instructional Materials Team:** Access to documents and media
 - **Procurement Team:** Access to electronic and information technology purchases
 - **Web Team:** Access to the Web

We've Been Here Before!

- Elevators & Ramps
- Captions on TV
- Accessible Parking Spaces
- Water Fountains
- Curb Cuts
- Doors



Developers

“But I don’t have the resources to make it accessible!”

- From a design stand-point, it’s actually cheaper and easier to integrate accessibility right from the beginning of a project
- It’s more expensive if you have to go back later and purchase new equipment or go back and re-code an existing application to make it accessible because then you’re paying for equipment and/or development services twice
- Accessibility standards are mandated by the CSU and required by state and Federal law, so we want to be in compliance

Resources

- **Web Accessibility** (<http://its.sjsu.edu/services/accessibility/>)
 - Includes online training in web accessibility
- **Web Accessibility Resources** (<http://its.sjsu.edu/services/accessibility/resources/>)
 - Includes tools and instructions for evaluative your website (or application) for accessibility
- **Section 508 Standards** (<http://www.section508.gov/section-508-standards-guide>)
 - 1194.21 Software applications and operating systems
 - 1194.22 Web-based intranet and internet information and applications
 - 1194.23 Telecommunications products
 - 1194.24 Video and multimedia products
 - 1194.25 Self contained, closed products
 - 1194.26 Desktop and portable computers

From Where I Sit

Video Series

(<http://teachingcommons.cdl.edu/access/materials/fwis.shtml>)

- A powerful video series of eight CSU students with disabilities who share their experiences in the college classroom
- There are also videos of faculty responses

Lana



Gregoire



LaDonna



Tiago



Kellie



Gloria A.



Gloria B.



Yvette



Accessibility @SJSU

(<http://www.sjsu.edu/accessibility>)

Accessibility for all is a priority at San José State. We are committed to providing an accessible and inclusive environment that enables all students to be successful in attaining an education. Additionally, we continually strive to provide faculty and staff an accessible environment where they can be successful in their chosen careers.