

The University of Auckland review 'Creating an inclusive teaching and learning environment for students with impairments' - Progress against Recommendations

as at April 2011

The following reports progress against the recommendations of the 2009 Review of Inclusive Teaching and Learning Practices for Students with Impairments.

1. Policy

Recom. No.	Review Recommendation	Progress Report
1.1	The Equity Office and the Registrar explore the appropriateness of including a reference to consideration of impairments and other equity issues within the University "Establishment of a Policy within the University of Auckland Procedure Document".	In progress. The next review of the Establishment of a Policy document is June 2012. The Equity Office is drafting appropriate wording to be included in the revised Policy.
1.2	The Teaching Learning and Quality Committee developing guidelines to support the learning needs of students with impairments. This would include responsibilities of faculties, service divisions, staff and students and reference to the process for student complaints and appeal.	Completed. TLQC has developed guidelines which have been approved by Education Committee and Senate for Council endorsement.

2. Access to buildings and facilities

2.1	The Equity Office and Property Services develop and promote guidelines to assist faculties, service divisions and departments reduce physical barriers for students with impairments as appropriate.	In Progress. Property Services are drafting guidelines
2.2	That the Equity Office and Property Services continue to monitor the accessibility of buildings and facilities for students with impairments to ensure they meet or exceed the standards identified in NZS 4121:2001: Design for Access and Mobility: Buildings and Associated Facilities.	Ongoing.
2.3	The Equity Office, Equity Committee and Faculty Equity Committees review and promote the provision of study and rest spaces for students with impairments.	Completed. A list of available study and resource spaces are on the Disability Services section of the Equity Office website.
2.4	The Equity Office and Property Services work together to ensure principles of inclusive design in the Grafton redevelopment.	In discussion between the Equity Office and Property Services.

3. Examinations and assessment

3.1	The Equity Office and Examinations Office provide "Alternative Arrangement for Examination and Assessment" guidelines to ensure consistency across the University of Auckland in areas such as the use of reader/writers (amanuenses), computers, additional time and managing oral exams, and provision of appropriate spaces for exams and assessments. Guidelines should include student responsibilities such as to provide early notification of test timetables to Disabilities Services.	Ongoing. The Manager, Examinations is to convene a working group to discuss drafting guidelines for consistency across The University of Auckland.
3.2	The Centre for Academic Development develops guidelines and training opportunities for academic staff to provide a range of assessment options across courses and, where appropriate, within particular assessment tasks.	In progress.

4. Access to general and specialist services

4.1	The Equity Office develops and promotes additional information for staff and students about the services available to support students with impairments including eligibility requirements.	Completed. Information for staff and students is on the Disability Services section of the Equity Website.
4.2	That each faculty nominate and publicise appropriate liaison person/s for students with impairments. This responsibility should be included formally in job descriptions.	Completed. Liaison contacts for all Faculties are listed on the Disability Services section of the Equity Website. Ongoing. The Equity Office provides updates of information to faculty contacts to support them in their role.
4.3	The Equity Office ensures adequate transcription, sign language interpreters and alternative print services within the resources available.	Ongoing. Weekly monitoring of demand.
4.4	The Equity Office ensures high standards of delivery from note takers and reader/writers.	Completed.
4.5	The Centre for Academic Development and the Equity Office monitor the demand for services from students with learning impairments and ensure support is available within the resources available.	Ongoing. Disability Services monitors demand. Regular meetings between the Equity Office and CAD ensures support provided.

4.6	The Equity Office provides information to students on all campuses about access to facilities and services across The University of Auckland and supports students to access those services.	Completed. Access information is on the Equity Office website under Disability Services.
4.7	The Faculty of Education review the current location of the Disability Office at the Epsom Campus.	Completed.

5. Teaching and learning

5.1	The Equity Office and the Centre for Academic Development explore with the Rūnanga appropriate strategies to support teaching and learning for Māori students with impairments.	In Progress.
5.2	The Equity Office and the Centre for Academic Development explore with the Pacific Reference Group appropriate strategies to support teaching and learning for Pacific students with impairments.	Ongoing.
5.3	The Equity Office and the Centre for Academic Development develop information and training/awareness raising opportunities for all staff (including academic staff on fixed term contracts) to promote inclusive teaching and learning practices.	Ongoing. The Centre for Academic Development has reviewed awareness training and includes discussion and a handout on inclusive teaching and learning practices during the 3day intensive teaching and learning workshop.
5.4	The Equity Office, Staff Advisory Committee, Human Resources and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) to consider the incorporation of inclusive teaching and learning strategies into academic staff performance review and promotion criteria.	Pending.
5.5	The Equity Committee explores appropriate ways to evaluate inclusive teaching and learning practices.	In Progress. The Planning and Quality Coordinator has met with the Equity Committee. It was agreed that the focus would be on evaluation of student learning outcomes. Supplemental questions on course evaluations and opportunities related to the University's internal teaching and learning survey will be discussed further with TLQC who hold overall responsibility.
5.6	The Teaching Learning and Quality Committee include inclusive teaching and learning competencies in the Teaching Excellence Awards.	Pending.

6. Disclosure of information about impairments

6.1	The Equity Office develops and promotes guidelines for staff and students regarding disclosure of information on impairments and disabilities.	Completed and on the Equity Office website. Disability Services- The University of Auckland
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