



## Faculty Newsletter Spring 2018

Center for Accessible Resources

### Faculty Newsletter Spring 2018

Welcome to the Spring 2018 Term! CAR would like to thank you for helping make LCC accessible to all students, with or without disabilities, hidden or visible. This newsletter addresses common concerns and frequently asked questions. Contact CAR or visit our website for more information.

In this issue we cover:

- Feature: Working with Students with Mental Health Disabilities
- Working with Sign Language Interpreters & Students with Hearing Loss
- Consideration of Modified Attendance/Assignment Due Dates
- Reminders: Technology Workshops, Invisible Disabilities Support Group, and more!

### Feature: Working with Students with Mental Health Disabilities

In 2009, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) expanded the definition of disability to more clearly include any mental or psychological condition that substantially limits a major life activity. This broad scope coverage has greatly impacted the way disability is considered and accommodated in higher education. Over the past decade or so, higher education institutions have grown from primarily accommodating those with visible disabilities to inclusively accommodating those with non-visible disabilities as well. However, the stigma around mental health issues remains and many students go undiagnosed or choose not to disclose their condition. Below, we provide a snapshot of statistics as well as some practical strategies.

11% of students in higher education are individuals with disabilities. About one-quarter of these students experience a mental health disability and are the least understood and least supported group of students in higher education.

Faculty members play a crucial role in the college experience of students with mental health disabilities. Below are some strategies and tips to consider:

- These students may need to take breaks, or have food/water with them in the classroom (this will be noted in the student's Letter of Accommodation (LOA)).
- Discuss accommodations and any inappropriate classroom behavior with the student privately. Accommodation Specialists can assist with this conversation if necessary.
- Refer the student to the appropriate therapeutic resources if asked (i.e. Counseling Department on campus, or CAR Counselor Michele Barber).
- Be patient with the student. Sometimes communication can take a bit longer and you may have to repeat yourself.

- Listen carefully to the student and work with them to meet their needs when appropriate.
- Clearly outline course expectations.
- Summarize important points from the lecture at the end of class.
- Make yourself regularly available to meet with students during office hours and via telephone or email.
- Provide personal and meaningful feedback on academic performances.
- Approach each student with an open mind about their needs and strengths.

### ***Additional Resources***

Kognito:

<https://kognito.com/resources>

Working with Specific Disability Types:

<https://www.lanecc.edu/disability/strategies-working-students-disabilities>

### ***Support for Students***

LCC Counseling:

<https://www.lanecc.edu/cc>

College Guide for Students with Psychiatric Disabilities:

<http://www.bestcolleges.com/resources/college-planning-with-psychiatric-disabilities/>

NAMI:

<https://www.nami.org/collegeguide/download>

White Bird Clinic:

<http://whitebirdclinic.org/>

341 East 12th Eugene, Oregon 97401

Phone: (541) 342-8255

Crisis phone response is available 24 hours a day @ (541) 687-4000

Hourglass Community Crisis Center:

<http://www.columbiacare.org/hourglass-community-crisis-center.html>

71 Centennial Loop, Suite A, Eugene, OR 97401

(541) 505-8426

Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

National Suicide Prevention 24 Hour Hotline:

<https://www.linesforlife.org/>

## Working with Sign Language Interpreters & Students with Hearing Loss

Working with interpreters for the first time may involve a bit of a learning curve since their role is to act solely as a means of communication for the student. They do not participate in the class or in the discussion except for in the narrow scope of their role (i.e. asking for clarification) as a part of the student's approved accommodations. Below we offer tips to consider as you work with students with hearing loss and interpreters:

- Speak directly to the student, not to the interpreter. A common mistake is to say, "Tell her..." or "Ask him..." Instead, make eye contact with and speak directly to the student as though the interpreter is not present. This shows the person respect and helps develop the student/teacher relationship.
- Speak in your normal tone, at normal pace. The interpreter will tell you if there is a need to slow down, pause, or repeat.
- Interpreters must interpret everything being said. Refrain from asking the interpreter to leave out some of what you say.
- Interpreters cannot/should not be asked to recount their version, or what happened in a conversation. They are simply there to provide access to the student.
- Interpreters should not be asked to deliver or relay information back to CAR. Please contact CAR directly if you have questions or items to deliver.
- Interpreters cannot answer personal questions about the student, interject personal opinions, or assist a student with schoolwork. They are there strictly to translate what is being said. Address questions or comments regarding the deaf student directly to the student.

## Consideration of Modified Attendance/ Assignment Due Dates

Students who are eligible for this accommodation have disabilities which are episodic in nature with random or cyclical acute episodes. As a result, the disability may occasionally impact the students' ability to attend class, complete an assignment or take an exam at the scheduled time. After an eligible student requests this accommodation through CAR, their faculty will receive an electronic link to fill out the accommodation agreement.

For examples of completed agreements, please click the following links:

- **Example 1:**  
[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1nx3cyGXc6pCnjUV\\_NLR1q2mTYZcpmQpG/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1nx3cyGXc6pCnjUV_NLR1q2mTYZcpmQpG/view?usp=sharing)
- **Example 2:**  
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1KLFWvPM5-GdFno2yMLXhvQUTaYJ8iGTC/view?usp=sharing>
- **Example 3:**  
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wbxtSfIljr8fER4FIYIb1OuAnucC0m4/view?usp=sharing>

CAR staff are committed to supporting faculty members in providing this accommodation and in protecting the integrity and learning outcomes of your courses. We encourage faculty to reach out with any questions or concerns about completing this agreement.

### Reminders!

#### Coffee with CAR

Faculty are invited to join us on the last Thursday of each month for a round table discussion over coffee. This is a great place to come with any questions you have! Please click the link below for more information:

<https://www.lanec.edu/sites/default/files/disability/coffeewithcar.pdf>

#### Invisible Disabilities Support Group

CAR will continue to offer a support group for students who are impacted by an invisible disability. Please help us spread the word about this resource for students. To find out more about this, please contact Michele Barber, CAR counselor, at (541) 463-5150 or email her at [barberm@lanec.edu](mailto:barberm@lanec.edu). These will be held on **Thursdays from 12:00 – 1:00 PM in Building 1, Room 212.**

#### CAR Technology Lab

During the Spring 2018 term, CAR students are welcome to come to CAR's Technology Center. No appointment necessary! The CAR Technology Lab provides assistance with accessible technology items such as audio recorders, SmartPens, text-to-speech software, screen readers, and more! Please spread the word about this resource for students and please feel free to contact us if you have any questions. **Drop in hours are Monday – Friday, from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM in Building 19, Room 263B.**

#### Counseling for CAR Students

As a reminder, CAR has been offering students who utilize our services access to a counselor in our office. The CAR counselor assists our students with a wide variety of topics such as test anxiety, time management, organization, and anxiety from past situations. If you have any questions regarding counseling for CAR students, please feel free to contact Michele Barber at [barberm@lanec.edu](mailto:barberm@lanec.edu) or call us at (541) 463-5150.

#### Navigating an LOA

The Letter of Accommodation (LOA) is confirmation for faculty members that the student has completed the qualification/registration process with CAR. LOAs are sent out electronically every term by CAR and state the student is qualified to receive the specific accommodations identified in the student's letter. For more information about the LOA please visit our website: <https://www.lanec.edu/disability/letter-accommodation-loa>

## The CAR Website

### ***Please visit our website often!***

We update our website frequently; see: [www.lanecc.edu/disability/](http://www.lanecc.edu/disability/) Click the "Faculty" link on the left where you will find accessibility statements, LOA information, and more.

## CAR Tips in the Lane Weekly

Do you read the *Lane Weekly* emailed each Tuesday? If so, you have probably read some of our tips. Keep watching for upcoming tips that could be helpful to you. Below is an important one:

### **Testing Security**

When students test with CAR, maintaining test security is very important to our department. Here are some of the security measures we take when testing:

- All tests are held in a secure, locked location.
- During testing, students are monitored at all times by trained CAR staff.
- If a student is witnessed using unauthorized material, or breaking any other established procedures, an incident report form will be completed and sent to the faculty member to determine consequences.

## Contest

We want to hear from you! Once you have read this newsletter, please email [AccessibleResources@lanecc.edu](mailto:AccessibleResources@lanecc.edu) with your feedback. When you do, you will be entered into a prize drawing. The winner will be announced in the *Lane Weekly* on April 17. All entries are due by 5:00 pm on April 13.

## How to Contact CAR Staff

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have questions or concerns. We are here to offer any support, coaching or guidance that you may be seeking.

Phone: Voice, (541) 463-5150

TTY: 711

FAX: (541) 463-4739

Email: [AccessibleResources@lanecc.edu](mailto:AccessibleResources@lanecc.edu)

Terrie Minner, Associate Dean of Accessibility and Support

Phone: (541) 463-3010

Email: [minnert@lancc.edu](mailto:minnert@lancc.edu)

To request this information in an alternate format please contact the Center for Accessible Resources at (541) 463-5150 or [AccessibleResources@lanecc.edu](mailto:AccessibleResources@lanecc.edu)