



Quarterly Update

Mini-Grants for TAMU System Faculty The DTN provides one thousand dollar mini-grants to TAMU System faculty members who have found effective ways of teaching postsecondary students with disabilities and who are willing to share their expertise and experiences. The TAMU System Disability Services Offices and the DTN have invited selected faculty members who have developed a teaching innovation, a strategy for providing accommodations, or an effective method of evaluation to apply for a mini-grant that will be awarded this semester. To fulfill the requirements of the mini-grant, the recipients will submit a report detailing their effective methods of teaching university students who have disabilities. The information obtained from the reports will be used to provide trainings to faculty, administrators, and staff of the TAMU System. Over a three year period, the DTN expects to award a total of ninety thousand dollars in mini-grants.

Disability: Legally Defined

As defined in the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, a person with a disability has a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities, has a record of such impairment, or is regarded as having such an impairment. Physical or mental impairments include, but are not limited to: orthopedic, visual, speech and hearing impairments; cerebral palsy; epilepsy, muscular dystrophy; cancer; emotional illness; and specific learning disabilities.

Substantially limiting is defined as being unable to perform a major life activity, or significantly restricted as to the condition, manner, or duration under which a major life activity can be performed, in comparison to the average person. A major life activity is defined as caring for oneself, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, and working.

Summer Institute News

The DTN is making plans for its first Summer Institute to be held on July 31, 2006. The Summer Institute will provide comprehensive training on train-the-trainer techniques to TAMU System Disability Services staff members. Reimbursement for travel and lodging will be provided by the DTN.

Participating TAMU System Institutions

- ◆ Prairie View A&M University
- ◆ Tarleton State University
- ◆ Texas A&M International University
- ◆ Texas A&M University--College Station
- ◆ Texas A&M University--Commerce
- ◆ Texas A&M University--Corpus Christi
- ◆ Texas A&M University--Galveston
- ◆ Texas A&M University--Kingsville
- ◆ Texas A&M University--Texarkana
- ◆ West Texas A&M University