ATI Newsletter  Vol. 1, Issue 7

September 12, 2008

ATI Regional Meetings – CSU San Marcos is the first on September 26

If you haven’t yet heard about the ATI Regional Meetings that will take place on 6 CSU campuses this fall, where have you been? The Regional Meetings will be one-day events for people involved in ATI implementation to come together across a geographic region to hear about ATI Best Practices and to share with each other ideas, frustrations, accomplishments, strategies, and get inspired. We hope that more regional collaboration will also result. You can see the schedule of Regional Meetings and register for the one of your choice at http://www.calstate.edu/accessibility/events/RegMtgs.shtml.

Master Captioning Agreement is Now in Operation

The ATI has secured a significant 30% discount for all CSU campus captioning needs through an agreement with Automatic Sync Technologies. It is hoped that this discount will allow campuses to expand their libraries of captioned media. The service provides caption files that can be used with up to 40 varieties of media players, including DVD’s. The caption files are obtained by uploading a transcript and an audio file to Automatic Sync. Within approximately 10 minutes, caption files in all 40 formats are returned to you. If you do not have a transcript, Automatic Sync will provide one from your audio file; that process takes approximately 3 days. Everything is automated for you in this process and the web service is quite simple to use.

An Administrator for your campus account will receive your request for an account when you sign up and will grant approval for your account. Each campus is designing its own method for using this service so if you want to know more about the service contact your campus administrator (names are listed below). Charges for this service will come to you from your administrator semi-annually in December and early June.

If your department is interested in using the service, you can create an account by visiting http://www.automaticsync.com/caption/csu_sign_up.php

A Webinar on how to use the service is scheduled for September 21 at 2 PM. If you are interested in attending, you must have an account with Automatic Sync. Your Administrator will give you the Webinar information.

We hope this inspires all people engaged in media production or dissemination in the CSU system to bring accessibility to the many students affected by inaccessible media content.
Automatic Sync Administrators @ CSU’s

Chancellor's Office, Jean Wells
Bakersfield, Clarke Sanford
Channel Islands, Tom Emens
Chico, Sandy Parsons
Dominguez Hills, Declined
East Bay, Terry Smith,
Fresno, Martha Rodriguez
Fullerton, Pam Drummond
Humboldt, Jeremy Ketelsen
Long Beach, Dave Sanfilippo
Los Angeles, Sal Membreno
Maritime Academy, Greg Crum
Monterey Bay, Marc Oehlman
Northridge, Kate Berggren
Pomona, Carol Gonzales
Sacramento, Ken Forsyth
San Bernardino, Keith Castillos
San Diego, Carol Redding
San Francisco, Geoff Brown
San Jose, Chris Laxton
San Luis Obispo, Dan Mull
San Marcos, Robert Erichsen
Sonoma, Bruce Carpe
Stanislaus, Dina Ericksen

UC campuses are Trained in How to Use CAM

Mark Turner, Director of the Center for Accessible Media, has held two training sessions for all the UC campuses, except for Berkeley, at UCLA and UC Merced. In the process, he has updated CAM documentation and developed a CAM operations curriculum. This will be a valuable resource for CSU campuses when new staff will need to be trained. Now that this major milestone has been achieved, Mark has taken a well-deserved vacation with his family in Hawaii, and the UC campuses have begun to add titles to the CAM database.

Phase 2 of the ATI: From Policy to Enabling Implementation

Now that the ATI has moved beyond an initial policy settling stage into the various aspects of implementation, we have begun to devise a new organizational framework for the ATI that will help us achieve our goals and objectives and give all stakeholders confidence in the ATI going forward. To read the document that describes this new phase, go to

YouTube Now Supports Captions!
YouTube has now provided users the option of embedding captions in video’s. Caption files that have the text dialogue synced up to the appropriate timestamps can be uploaded at the same time as the video file or afterward the video has been uploaded. For complete information about this new feature, go to:

http://help.youtube.com/support/youtube/bin/answer.py?answer=100077

Apple Announces that iTunes Works with (Some) Screenreaders

Apple just announced that iTunes can now be used with a screenreader. For Apple, this is a continuation of good news about iTunes and accessibility. The screenreaders are VoiceOver in Mac OS X Leopard and Window-Eyes 7.0 for Windows, however, and not JAWS. For many CSU students who use JAWS, iTunes is still not fully accessible. Apple is working with a CSU team headed up by Mark Turner of the ATI to address additional accessibility problems that still exist. The ATI will issue a more complete update about iTunes U and accessibility later in September. For more about this new development:


Paralympics News

Here are some interesting stories about the Paralympics, which are going on in Beijing now. For a story about a lawsuit that U.S. Paralympic Athletes have filed against the U.S.O.C., see

http://www.nytimes.com/2008/09/06/sports/othersports/06paralympics.html?pagewanted=1&_r=1&partner=rssnyt&emc=rss

For an article about the effect of the Paralympics on life for people with disabilities in China:


Federal ADA Legislation Passes Out of the Senate Unanimously

On Wednesday September 10, Senate bill S.3406, the ADA Amendments Act of 2008, was brought to the Senate floor for a voice vote. Shortly before 5:00 PM, it passed by unanimous consent. In June, the House approved the ADA Amendments Act of 2008 (H.R. 3195) by an impressive vote of 402:17. Before the bill can head to the White House, the Senate bill must first be sent back to the House. If the House accepts the Senate version of the bill, it could arrive on the President's desk with a veto-proof majority.