
Committee for Accessibility and Accommodation Compliance (CAAC) Open Forum

Presented by
Jim Graham
Cris Koczera

March
2026



Definitions/Background

- **Accessibility:**
 - People with disabilities have equal access to the same programs, services, activities, and areas.
- **Accommodation:**
 - Adapting to allow individuals with disabilities to participate in programs, services, and activities.
- **Compliance:**
 - Being within criteria set by regulations / laws.
- **Barrier:**
 - Something that keeps people from accessing programs, services, activities, and areas.
- **California Building Code (CBC) 11B**
 - Regulations for **new buildings and major alterations** pertaining to accessibility.
- **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)**
 - Federal law that **prohibits discrimination** against people with disabilities in everyday activities.
- **ADA Title II**
 - Requires public institutions to provide access to **programs, services, and activities** to individuals with disabilities.
- **ADA 2010 Standards for Accessible Design (ADAS)**
 - Sets minimum for new construction and alterations.
 - Reference point for making programs physically accessible and not a measure of compliance.

Committee for Accessibility and Accommodation Compliance (CAAC)

- Cal Poly Humboldt Presidential Committee
- Duties:
 - Monitors and evaluates issues relating to compliance
 - Develops plans for services
 - Recommends priorities
 - Reviews barrier removal priorities
 - Develops timelines
 - Steering Committee for Accessible Technology Initiative (ATI)
- Meets once a month
- Reports to the President and Senate annually
- See the website for more information (www.humboldt.edu/caac)

CAAC Structure

Members

- Chairs: Jim Graham, Cris Koczera
- CDRC: Cassandra Tex
- Faculty fellows: Roxann Schroeder, Mari Sanchez, Suzanne Pasztor
- ARC/ATI: Jeanne Wielgus
- Student: Ernesto Cappuccio
- ODEI: Rosamel Benavides-Garb
- Staff: Ann Johnson-Cruz
- Facilities: Travis Fleming
- Student Services: Mitch Mitchell

Ex-Officios

- VPs: Shawna Young, Chrissy Holiday
- CIO/ATI: Bethany Gilden
- Budget/Finance: Sarah Long
- Human Resources: Michelle Caisse
- Parking/Transportation: Krista Paddock
- Procurement: Bethany: Tawny Fleming (intrim)
- CTL: Enoch Hale

Responsible Organizations

- CDRC
- Facilities Management
- ITS/ATI
- Transportation

Working Groups

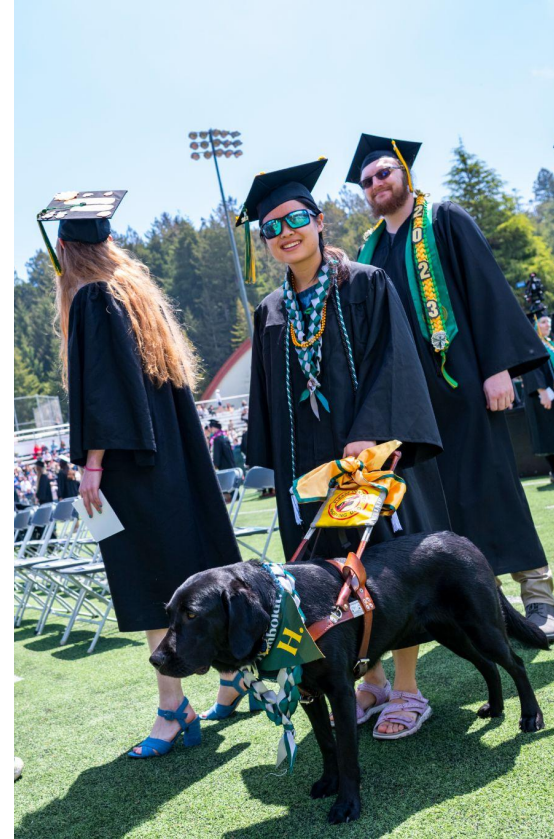
- CAAC Exec
- Communication
- Education and Culture
- Physical Access
- Project Prioritization Process

Other key individuals

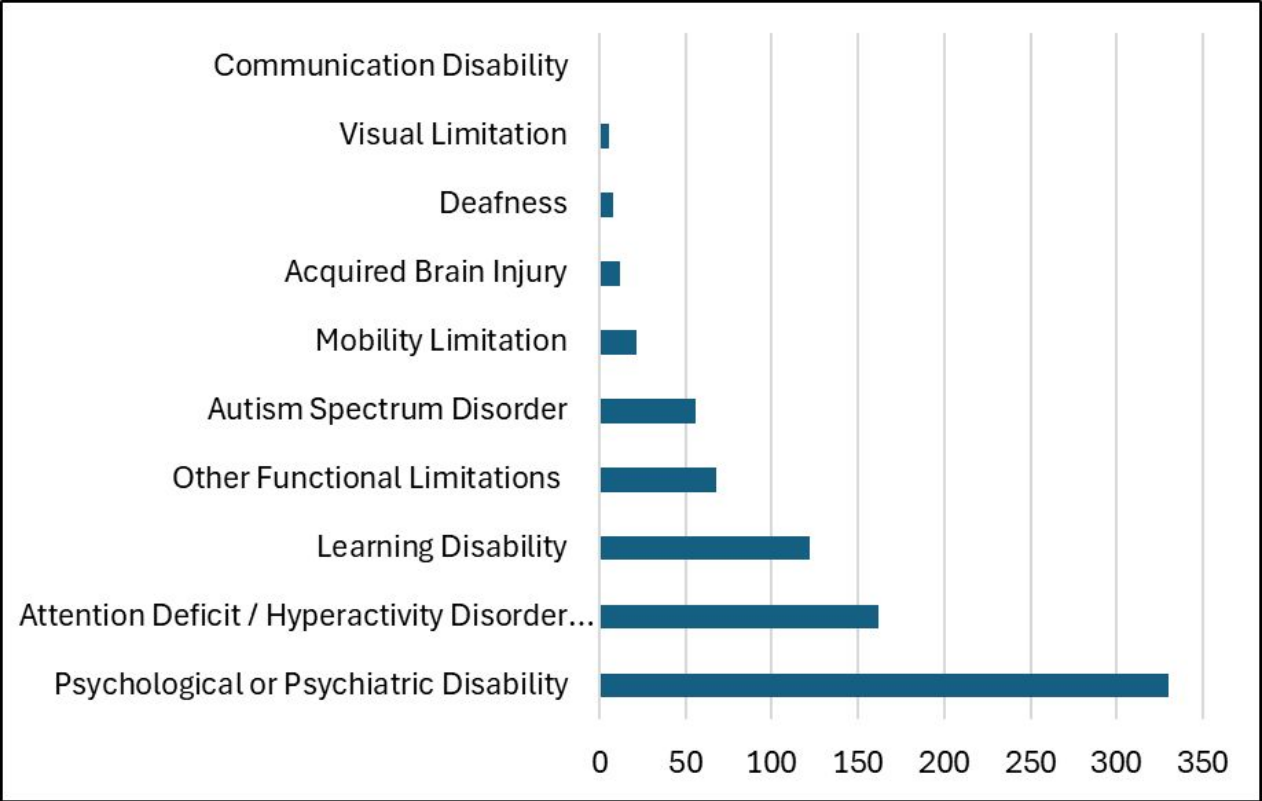
- Testing center: Amie Rodriguez
- A number of students with disabilities

Accessibility At Cal Poly Humboldt

- **Goal:** Our work is to make our campus accessible for everyone.
- **Challenges:** Pathways and buildings are inaccessible for many.
 - Some disabilities are not apparent.
 - [Statements](#) collected from individuals with disabilities.
- **Aim:** Share information, gather feedback from the campus community
- **Progress:** There has been a great deal of progress and this has increased in the last two years.
- We have a long way to go but everyone seems to be committed to making our campus accessible.



Cal Poly Humboldt Students Registered with CDRC in 2023



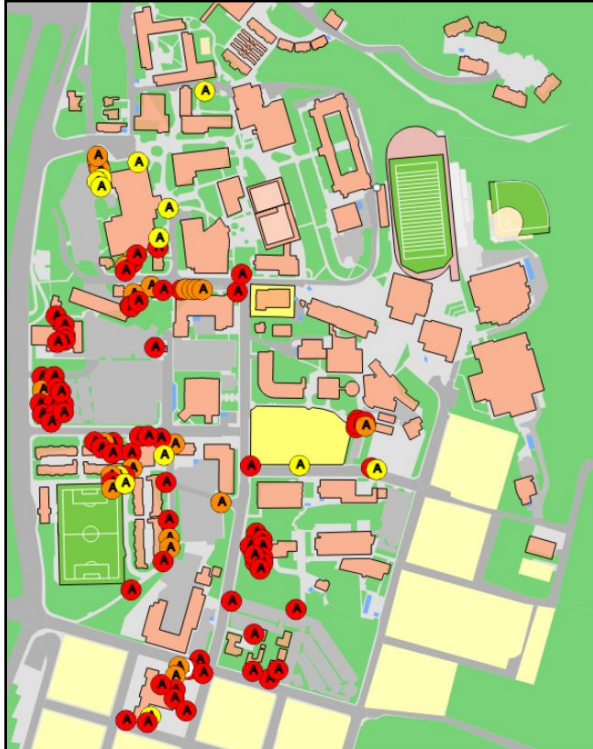
Some Initial Building Access Results

- Surveys based on Online Map Surveys (ADASAD) and the AMP
- Campus has about 120 buildings
 - Including College Creek, which has accessible dorm rooms, and other buildings with services, programs, and activities gives 50 buildings
- Scoring these from 0 to 3 based on accessible to a sidewalk, paths to parking, and at least one shuttle stop (not a measure of compliance):

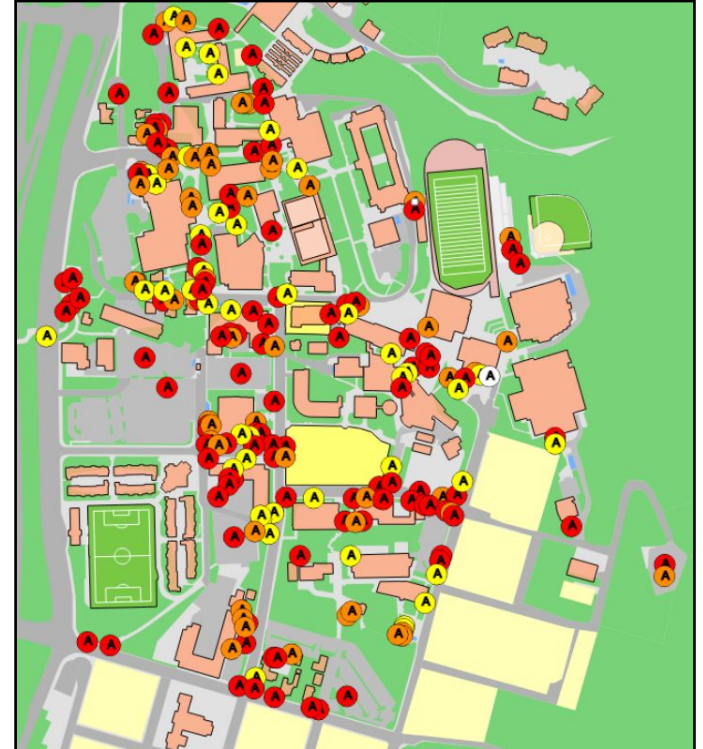
Category	Number of Buildings
3. Three means of access within ADASAD	8 (16%)
2. Two means of access within ADASAD	7 (15%)
1. One means of access within ADASAD	18 (36%)
0. No means of access within ADASAD	17 (34%)
Total	50

Islands of accessibility (based on 2008 AMP)

Barriers Removed Or In Process of Being Removed

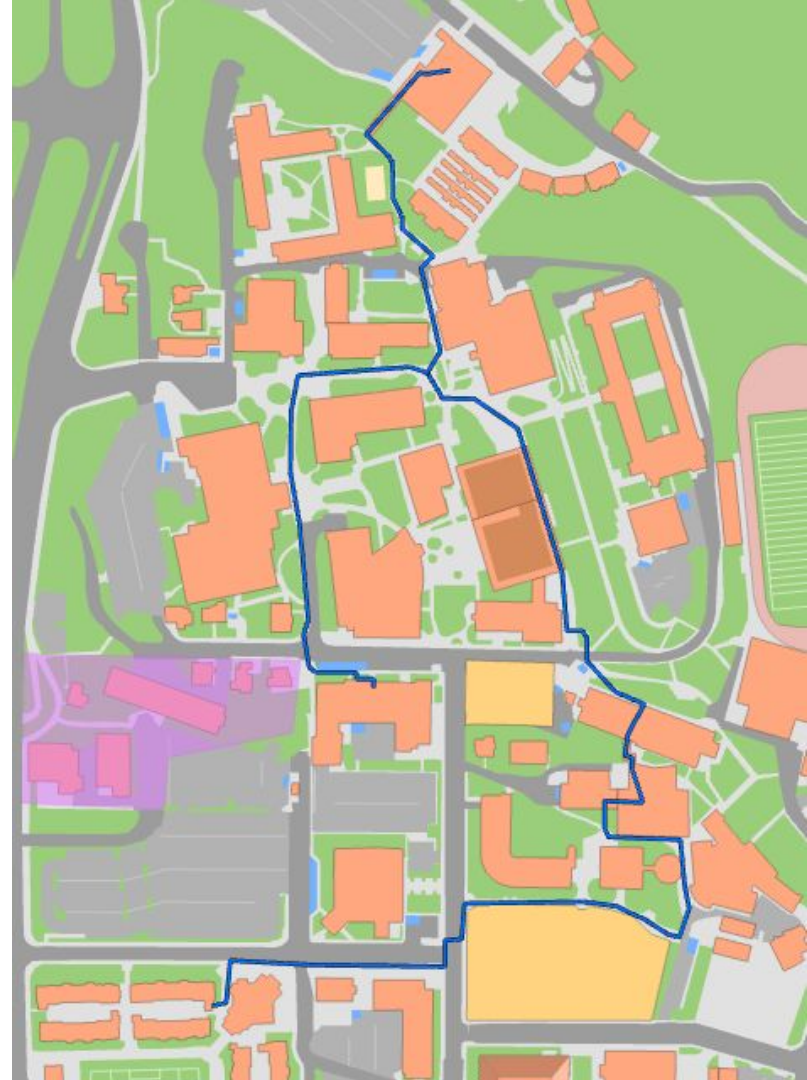


Remaining Physical Barriers



Physical barriers, shuttles and communication

- **Accessibility Issues**
 - **Navigating campus**
 - Accessible Pathway Map: College Creek Dorms to Jolly Giant Commons (J meal plan), including Gist Hall.
 - *Makes using shuttles a requirement.*
 - **Building Issues**
 - Students report elevator failures are common
- **Communication Issue**
 - Students not aware of food plan that includes College Creek



CAAC Progress in 2024 through fall 2026

- CAAC reestablished
 - All member positions filled
 - Monthly Meetings
 - Established Working groups
 - Meeting regularly
- CAAC website
- Data collected and evaluated
- Created list of accessibility barriers
- Progress on process documentation
- 2 Proposals received and 1 approved
- Annual report for 25/26
- Public forum held (another soon)



ATI/ARC

- Progress 2024-2025
 - Met with each College Council of Chairs - planning for Title II update deadline
 - Drop in days at library and weekly open zoom office hours
 - 15 direct requests for assistance due to barriers with instructional materials
 - **Remediation work:**
 - 2,825 documents (47,534 pages) - primarily PDFs plus also Word and Powerpoint
 - 98 Canvas courses; 14 other projects
 - Captioning videos, podcast transcripts
 - 135 videos; 46 podcasts/audio (87.5 hrs)
- Plans for 2025-2026
 - Seeking funding for assisted listening systems
 - Rollout new accessibility checker in Canvas (Summer 2025)
 - Increase instructional material remediation with additional funding from Chancellor's Office
 - Add audio descriptions to highly played videos in Panopto Media Library
 - Improve Campus websites and social media accessibility
 - See the [ATI Plan](#) for more details

Facilities Management Jan 1, 2023 - Apr 24, 2025

- Work Orders Related to Accessibility
 - 134 work orders relate to accessibility
 - 131 addressed; 3 that require significant investment:
 - FM prioritizing work orders that resolve an accessibility issue
- Barrier Removal
 - Trip Hazards: Repaired/mitigated over 300 trip hazards along B st and 17 st
 - Drinking Fountains: Installed 26 accessible drinking fountains with bottle fillers across campus
 - Bushes are being cut back from railings
 - Sign posted on access to Telonicher building
 - Parking space by Art A moved to accessible entrance
 - Repair sidewalk between Alistair McCrone Hall and Sci E Greenhouse
 - Upgrade Music B door operator with a more reliable unit
 - Installation of door operator at SH and Forestry

Planned Barrier Removal Projects

- Additional accessible drinking fountains with bottle fillers installed
- Complete project plans to request funding for accessibility improvements for Siemens Hall restrooms
- Complete project plans to request funding for barrier removal at intersection of Harpst and Rossow streets
- Replacement of (25) tub/shower to shower units only in Creekview residence hall
- Evaluate the potential installation of door operator at NR 1st floor south entrance
- Update bathroom signs

CDRC

- Progress 2024-2025
 - **Reduced wait time to see an Accessibility Advisor from 4-6 weeks to 1-2 weeks**
 - Can be same day if needed
 - Successfully transitioned employee accommodations from Human Resources to the CDRC
 - Received extensive training and professional development from experts in the field
 - Website redesigned and updated
 - Implemented new leadership structure within the department
 - Maxient selected as the department's information system
- Progress for 2025-2026
 - Hiring of 3 new accommodations advisors
 - Continue streamlining processes for requesting accommodations and accessibility concerns
 - Implement Maxient with a phased-in approach: accessibility concerns, employees, students
 - Accommodation Memos distributed to students four weeks prior to start of the semester
 - Updated ESA protocol and procedures with housing

Communication Working Group

- Completed in 2024-2025
 - Reviewed accessibility websites
 - Worked on online maps, improved symbology
 - MarComm has new Social Media guidelines
- Next steps
 - High level accessibility web page and flyer being created
 - www.humboldt.edu/accessibility (launching 5/20)
 - [Accessible Humboldt Flyer](#)
 - Communicate accessibility responsibility to faculty through professional development, chairs, etc.
 - Workshops for faculty, other employees, students (clubs)
 - Creating web page and flyers with key information on accessibility and links to resources
- Plan for 2025-2026
 - More work on focused and effective communications

Culture & Education Working Group

- **Committee Charge:**
 - To cultivate a culture of accessibility through the strategic development and communication of resources designed to educate and serve university employees and students.
- **Progress this year:**
 - WebAIM course hosted by ATI office and currently available
 - Accessibility Summit
- **Plans for next year:**
 - Accessibility at spring professional development
 - Potentially developing a Disability Cultural Center
 - Evaluating Spring 2026 Accessibility course in CSU Learn

Navigation and Wayfinding Group

- Reviewing issues of navigating campus
 - Printable (PDF) maps
 - Physical signs: kiosks, outside and inside buildings
 - Online map(s)
 - Online information
 - ADA Transportation / Shuttles
 - Accessible Parking
 - Access to buildings
- Making improvements to the CPH Online Map (in beta testing)
 - Hope for an official introduction in the fall of 2026

Other Progress

- ADA Transportation / Shuttles: Created more effective communication
- Housing: Improvements to spaces, processes, handbooks, training materials.
- Evacuation training and drills

CAAC Plan for AY 25/26

- [Tracking projects](#), led by Chief of Staff Bethany Gilden
 - Created a plan for AY 25/26
- Key committed projects:
 - Parking: PD&C will scope all parking spaces and make a plan to add/remove/update spaces
 - Bathrooms: Evaluate accessibility & update signage
 - Navigation/Wayfinding:
 - Updated [Printable Disability Access Map \(PDF\)](#)
 - Dataset to define accessible paths: to be incorporated into maps & signage
 - Physical Barrier Removal: 10 projects (see slide 16)
 - Finish “ADA Transition Plan”, in draft form
 - Training: Professional development for faculty

Next Steps for CAAC

- Continued process improvement
- Monitor progress on committed plans
- Seek funding for barrier removal
- Survey campus community on accessibility & accommodation issues
 - Survey available March 23rd
- Have at least one open forum each year
- Update disability/accessibility policies
- Formalize regular physical surveys of campus

Support Needed

- Support administrators meeting regularly on solving access and compliance issues.
- Raise priority of accessibility at least to the level of other activities that are not mandated by federal regulations and/or causing students to be injured.
- At least maintain positions that are key for accessibility is critical to us providing continued service, unequivocally.
- **Funding for accessibility projects.**
- Support efforts to evaluate issues, create plans, obtain funding, and monitor results.
 - Including involving administrators, faculty, staff, students, volunteers, donors

CAAC Accessibility Barrier List

- Forty total active barriers
 - 28+ Open accessibility barriers
 - 12 barriers with proposals
 - 3 Resolved barriers
- Key outstanding barriers not mentioned elsewhere in this presentation:
 - 6. Accommodations for events
 - 30. Culture of isolation and discrimination
 - 38. Accessible field trips
 - 51. Faculty not receiving accommodation letters
 - 64. Jenkins is not planned to be on an accessible path (accommodated with shuttle stop)
 - 65. Faculty not accommodating students after they have been approved