
DDA update

The Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (DDA) was amended by the Special Educational Needs and Discrimination Act 2001 (SENDA) to make it illegal to discriminate against disabled students. A three-stage introduction was started with the following key dates:

Sep 2002 - Unlawful to treat disabled students less favourably in policies and procedures

Sep 2003 - Universities required to make reasonable adjustments to auxiliary aids and services eg notetakers

Sep 2005 - Physical adjustments must be made where facilities put disabled students at substantial disadvantage.

Bringing together Mathematics support and dyslexia support tutors...

The Dyslexia and Dyscalculia Interest Group, established in January 2003, is a local interest group, based in the Midlands area of the UK. The group brings together both Mathematics support and dyslexia support tutors, from higher education. We meet several times a year to share experiences and ideas, to exchange information and create a pool of resources. There are also plans to hold a series of events such as seminars, workshops and exhibitions, which aim to promote examples of good practice. More info at <http://ddig.lboro.ac.uk>

The National Centre for Tactile Diagrams

The National Centre for Tactile Diagrams delivers a variety of courses on supporting blind and visually impaired students in higher education. Also we are happy to provide advice via e-mail, telephone or face-to-face about supporting blind and visually impaired students in all areas of university life.

We give professional consultancy advice on selecting graphics for tactile production, for staff responsible for any forms of documentation. If you have any further questions, please contact:

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Techshare 2003: 20-21 Nov 2003 (from the Techshare team)

Techshare 2003 will be held: 20 - 21 November at Jury's Inn, Birmingham UK.

The Techshare 2003 Conference is an important event for professionals who are interested in technology and the role it plays in learning, work and society for people with sight problems.

Organised by the Royal National Institute of the Blind, Techshare is a fantastic opportunity to meet in a friendly atmosphere with experts and other professionals in your field.

Over 40 presentations last year included: E-learning, website accessibility, mobile communications, Java, electronic orientation and the latest access technology software and hardware developments.

Successful speakers will be offered a reduced rate on their conference fee of £120 for the full conference or £85 for one day.

Tel: In UK 0870 013 9555
Tel: Outside UK +44 (0)121 665 4230
Email: techshare@rnib.org.uk
Web: www.techshare.org.uk

Further information about the conference is at:

<http://www.techshare.org.uk>

Good Start for Disability Project

The latest HEFCE funded project aimed at widening participation for disabled students is well underway at the University College Worcester.

The project, entitled Academic Standards and Benchmark Descriptors: Developing Strategies for Inclusivity aims to develop a more inclusive approach to the design of Higher Education programmes.

More info at:

<http://www.worc.ac.uk/services/equalopps/benchmark>

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED....We need more similar articles, case studies and suggestions. Are you or any of your students disabled in ANY way? Do you or a colleague want to share your experience in *MSOR Connections* of supporting teaching and learning maths, stats and operational research where some students have special needs? Email your suggestions to the editors at info@mathstore.ac.uk - ALSO you may wish to join our email discussion list at:

<http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/lists/DDA-LTSNMSOR.html>