S2018– R3 - Office of Disability Accommodation Rename

WHEREAS, since its inception in the late 1980s, the UNT Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) has been viewed as the campus resource that determined the eligibility for and reasonable accommodations of students with disabilities.

WHEREAS, mired in the medical model of disability services, some students are hesitant to utilize the ODA because of a misconception of its function and how its services can benefit them.

WHEREAS, students will self-identify if there is a clarity of purpose and services the office provides and the name reflects a feeling of acceptance and inclusion into the campus culture.

WHEREAS, there is a need to evolve the focus from the reactionary provision of accommodations with its focus on compliance to the proactive stance of facilitating access and inclusion of the student in the educational experience.

WHEREAS, the ODA implies a singular objective that is no longer reflective of the services it provides. This office provides accommodations and services such as:

- Access and Program Assistance
- Accommodated Testing Services
- Assistive and Instructional Technology Assistance
- Education and Outreach
- Interpreting and Transcription Services
- Physical Access
- Student Registration and Accommodation Services

LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT, in conjunction with the ODA Director, an effort to better reflect the services being provided by ODA as well as to give students a more accurate impression of the department’s services, this resolution recommends changing the name of the ODA to the Educational Access Center.

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, a copy of R3 be sent to the University President, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Vice President of Student Affairs, Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs and Director of the Office of Disability Accommodations.
Respectfully Submitted,
Barrett Cole
President

In Witness thereof, I hereby certify the Student Senate of the University of North Texas Student Government Association has approved this document and is referred to the office of the President.

Speaker of the Senate

Presidential Action:
☑ Approved

President of the Student Government Association

Vice President of Student Affairs

4/12/18

4/13/2018

4/12/18