



Accessibility & Accommodations Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, September 9, 2024

Time: 2:00-3:00 PM ET

Attendance: Julia Huyck (Chair), Marina Kabirova, Patricia Aguiar, Ariel Hight, Rhiannon McNeely (Executive Office)

Minutes:

The committee convened with brief introductions.

The committee discussed the need for increased membership engagement and planned a coffee hour for January 22, 2025, at 12:00 PM EST. The committee will begin preparing content for the future coffee hour.

The committee reviewed the accessibility and accommodations resources available on the ARO website and discussed updates to improve user navigation and highlight accessibility templates. The executive office will update the Accessibility and Accommodations webpage by moving the templates section to the top and simplifying box titles.

Additionally, the committee discussed the plan to organize a podium session on accessibility for the 2026 MidWinter meeting. Committee members suggested reaching out to the local community in Puerto Rico, where the conference will be held, and the ARO community for potential speakers. Topics could include supporting people with disabilities or neurodiversity in education, visual accessibility, and hearing accessibility. The idea is to make the conference more accessible to everyone, including those who may not be able to attend certain sessions due to personal circumstances.