

Office For Students With Disabilities

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Who We Are

Welcome to the Office for Students with Disabilities Newsletter. The staff at OSD are dedicated to opening the doors of equal opportunity to students with disabilities. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 prohibit discrimination against people with disabilities.

As Disability Service Providers, it is our goal to assure equal access for all people. Just as important is the need for awareness and understanding by the campus community. To accomplish this, we are initiating a campus wide awareness campaign. We will be publishing this newsletter with useful information each term, we

will be conducting disability awareness workshops on campus on a regular basis and we will be conducting an ADA compliance campus assessment. We welcome the involvement of any person on campus interested in helping. If you would like to serve on a program assessment committee, contact the OSD office with that information.

The OSD staff team includes:

Rachel Tate/Student worker and adaptive technology technician.

Daniel Varnell/ Student worker, adaptive technology technician and tutor.

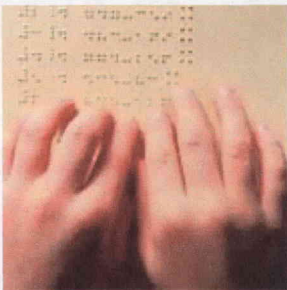
Dot Garland/ Student Services

Coordinator. If you have any questions regarding test proctoring or accommodations call 425-2202.

Christie Parris/Acting Adaptive Technology Coordinator. If you have questions regarding alternate formatting or adaptive technology, call 425-4006.

Michelle Rigler/Manager. If you have referrals, general questions or concerns regarding accommodations call 425-4008.

Dr. Nancy Badger/Director. For questions regarding the function of this office, call 425-4438.



Breaking Down Barriers:

- Yes, parking in a designated handicap spot for "just a second" is wrong. It is illegal, you could take the spot from someone who truly needs it and it is a \$150 ticket.
- If you see a person with a guide dog on harness, don't call the dog to you or try to interact with the dog. They are trained professionals.

What You Might Not Know

Louis Braille was born in Coupvray, France in 1809. The son of a saddle-maker, Louis injured his eye at age 3 while playing with his father's tools. Although several physicians treated Louis, the wound became infected and spread to his other eye. A year later, Louis had lost all vision.

Despite Louis's vision impairment, the local schoolmaster allowed the young boy to attend regular school, a revolutionary idea at the time. Louis excelled in his studies and became the youngest person, at age 10, to be accepted in the Royal Institution for Blind Children in Paris.

Meanwhile, Charles Barbier de la Serre, a soldier in Napoleon's army, was developing a tactile system for maintaining communications in the dark during combat. Barbier called his code sonography. Though this would end up having a huge impact on the development of Braille as we know it, sonography was never actually used in the military because of its complexity.

As fate would have it, Barbier was introduced to the Royal Institution, where Louis Braille was still a young student. Braille quickly learned the sonography code, but also was quick in seeing its shortcomings. Braille, who later became a teacher at the school, devoted the rest of his life to developing a simplified form of sonography for regular print and for music notation.

Other teachers (all sighted) had developed a cumbersome method of imprinting letters of the alphabet, and resented the new code, with its implied demand that they learn something so alien. Louis Braille, however, triumphed over them.

The Braille system spread through France, then around the world, and today has been translated into virtually every language on the planet.

This information was taken from www.brailleur.com. Please visit their website for a more complete history of the development of Braille