



Accessibility In Transition

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Accessibility...



... directly affects people with disabilities, but benefits everyone

... must be integrated into the digital environment to succeed

... can spark innovation, not stifle it

Accessibility Frameworks

- **Legal** requirements not to discriminate on basis of disability
- **Technology** creates new opportunities, and new barriers
- **Social** perceptions and stigmas affect access
- **Educational** mandate to teach all students



Information Communication Technology



- Information and Communications Technology (ICT) is an umbrella term that includes any communication device or application, encompassing:
 - Radio
 - Television
 - Cellular phones
 - Computer and network hardware and software
 - Satellite systems
- ... as well as associated services and applications, such as videoconferencing and distance learning.

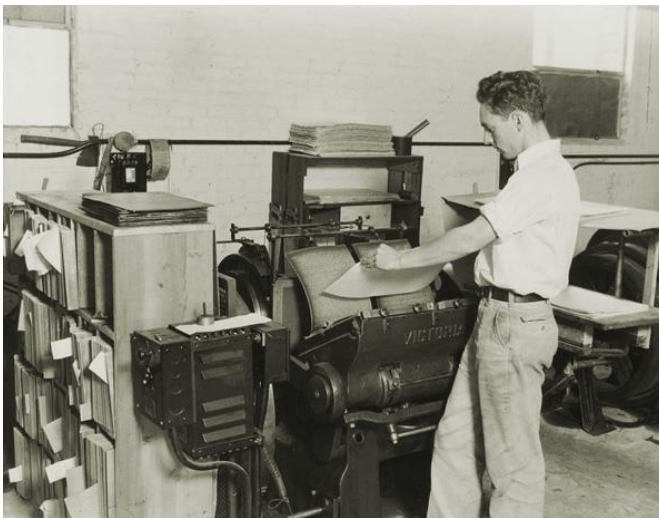
Accessible Media Producers



- **Government** provides funding for K-12 materials, but not higher-ed
- **Non-profit agencies** are important, but constrained by capacity
- **Academic institutions** have many responsibilities, but limited resources
- **Publishers** are becoming more aware of the issues, and of their role
- **Students** have access to powerful tools, but most content is protected

The Analog Era

- Clear distinction between input (print) and output (braille, audio)
- Production requires skilled transcribers and narrators
- Limiting factor is capacity



Analog to Digital



- Analog inputs are still primarily print, but digital outputs multiply (ASCII, HTML, RTF, PDF, XML, etc)
- Students with disabilities are early adopters of assistive technologies
- College staff trained to convert printed books to electronic texts
- Limiting factors are capacity and complexity

The Digital Domain



- Powerful portable devices and internet access are commonplace
- Cultural shifts affecting all areas of life, impacting accessibility definitions and frameworks
- Conversion between formats simpler, theoretically, but many challenges remain
- Limiting factors are complexity and compatibility

Challenges...



Challenges



- Technology barriers remain in STEM and other complex materials
- Existing producers of accessible materials are unable to meet the demand
- Administration must support accessibility throughout the institution
- Staff needs to push vendors to address accessibility issues
- Faculty and staff must work together to evaluate new products
- Students with disabilities face additional layers of technology and administration

Innovations



- AMAC Accessibility Solutions
- AccessGA Accessibility Services
- The AccessText Network
- Accessible Textbook Finder
- Student E-rent Pilot Project
- Center for Accessible Materials Innovation
- Coming in 2015: ICT Accessibility MOOC

AMAC Accessibility Solutions



- Developed by the University System of Georgia in 2005, now at Georgia Tech
- Mission is to help students with disabilities succeed in school and beyond
- Services include etext, braille, captioning, research, A/T evaluations, Tools for Life, SAM
- Members throughout Georgia and the US
- Estimated cost savings for Georgia:
 - FY12: \$1,987,196
 - FY13: \$2,373,292
 - FY14: \$2,661,486

AccessGA Accessibility Services



- AccessGA provides state agencies with assistance and resources through phone, electronic ticketing, informational wiki, webinars, electronic newsletters and in-person trainings.
- Accessibility services include:
 - Document Content Remediation Training
 - Web and Application Evaluations
 - Assistive Technology Quality Assurance Testing
 - Procurement Consultation
 - Policy Development

The AccessText Network (ATN)



ACCESSTEXT NETWORK

- Publishing industry launched ATN in 2009 to streamline process
- Currently, there are over 2,200 college and 16 publisher members
- Over 80,000 requests for files were made in 2013 (~95k expected this year)

Accessible Textbook Finder



- Developed by AMAC for the AccessText Network
- Federated search for accessible materials
 - ATN
 - AMAC
 - Bookshare
 - Learning Ally
 - NLS
 - Project Gutenberg
 - VitalSource/CourseSmart

Student E-rent Pilot Project (STEPP)



- Grant project to reduce costs of textbooks through rentals
- AMAC partnered with CourseSmart to pioneer accessible etextbooks
- Challenges identified in remediating PDFs

Center for Accessible Materials Innovation




- Four year US Department of Education First in the World grant
- AMAC will develop label to show the accessibility of instructional content (and other materials) and promote it to commercial and OER publishers
- Supports student-centric model to drive publishers to transition to accessible products
- Research on issues affecting minority-serving institutions (MSI)

Center for Accessible Materials Innovation







ACCESSIBILITY Profile

Human Resource Management, 14th Edition




14th edition
Robert L. Mathis, John H. Jackson,
Sean Valentine
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Format: Cengage MindTap ebook.
[Text-to-Speech](#) is enabled.
Images are described.
Does not contain audio or video files.
Compatible with screen-reader technology.

Contact accessibility@cengage.com with questions or comments about the accessibility of this product.

Terms in [Blue](#) can be found in Glossary

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2015: ICT MOOC



- Modules:
 - ICT Accessibility Overview
 - ICT Accessibility Design
 - Mainstream and Assistive Technology
 - Engineering Accessible Content
 - Web Accessibility Evaluation and Design
 - Starting and Maintaining an Enterprise Accessibility Operation

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... benefits everyone

... must be integrated

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Thank You!

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