The Blueprint for a Lifetime of Success

On October 23, 2013 our office held the 6th annual Access College Today, a campus visitation program for students with disabilities from high schools in the surrounding school districts. There were 57 students and 15 school personnel who attended this event. The 2013-2014 academic year looks like another busy year and the staff anticipates increases in the number of services provided by ODS.

2012-2013 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Served 489 students
- Provided 2,941 hours of interpreting services
- Provided 2,244 tests for students outside the classroom
- Provided 8,717 rides for students, faculty, and staff—a 50 percent increase from the previous year
- Student assistants spent 460 hours converting textbooks into audio books
- ODS students produced 7,331 credit hours

The goal of the Office of Disability Services (ODS) is to provide the appropriate services for students with disabilities so they have a true college experience. Students who wish to receive services from ODS must provide documentation of their disability to the director of ODS. The director and student discuss the impact of the student’s disability within an educational setting and then determine the services that would be appropriate while the student attends WSU. The student is the one who then chooses which of these services they will use in each class. ODS believes the student is responsible for using and advocating for services that will help them obtain a full college experience. Many people believe accommodations give students an unfair advantage in the class but ODS knows these services allow students with disabilities to participate alongside the other students in their classes. Success is never guaranteed, but ODS works hard to provide students complete access to the academic environment at WSU.

ODS worked with 489 students in the 2012-2013 academic year, which is an increase of 41 students from the previous year making this the largest number of students we have worked with in any previous academic year. Of the 489 students, 210 were students receiving services for the first time from our office.

ADOBE LCD—this machine has a camera and monitor that is used to enlarge print material for people with visual impairments. It can be used to view and enlarge objects from 2 feet to 50 feet from the camera. It is for both personal use or use in the classroom to enlarge writings on the blackboard.