

Building a Culture of Accessibility through A11y Idaho's Community of Practice

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University of Idaho

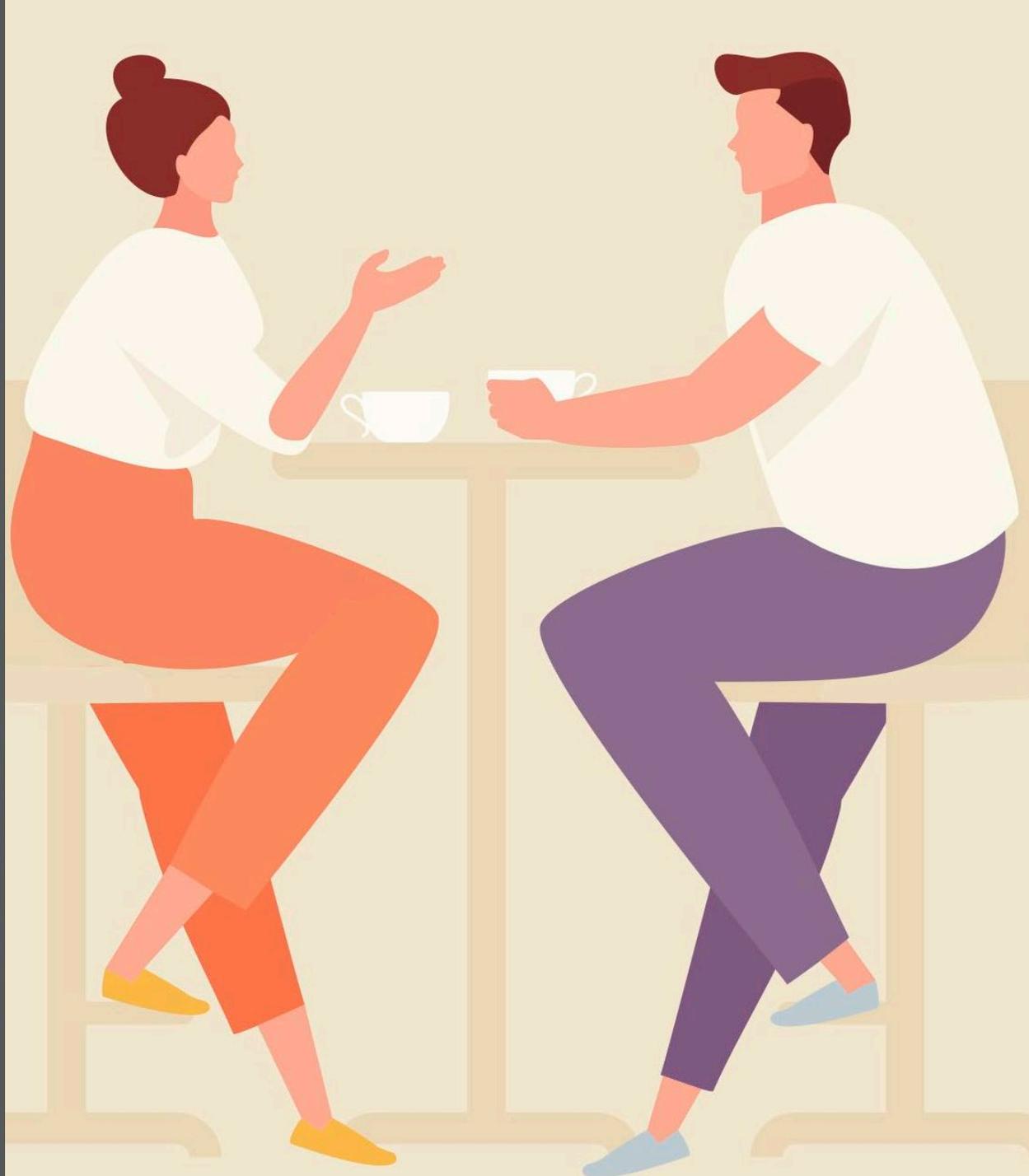
Center on Disabilities and Human Development

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Scene



Sukha Worob



Laurie Berry



Key Takeaways

- Build and sustain a community of practice that supports continuous learning and advocacy.
- Facilitate meaningful conversations about accessibility that center *both* compliance and user experience.
- Integrate accessibility into course design, instructional practices, and professional development.



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Background



Balancing compliance, user experience and capacity

Work with Impact

- 2016 Eagle Tower found unstable to weather and use
- Rebuilt Eagle Tower, opened in 2021 with 850-foot accessible ramp



60-foot-high Eagle Tower. 100 steps to top.



850-foot Eagle Tower canopy walk accessible ramp. Ramp never exceeds a 5% slope.



Arial view of 850-foot Eagle Tower canopy walk through tree line.



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**One Person
Can Make a
Difference**



Building the Community of Practice

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**Who is invited?
Who is it for?**

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Foundational Elements of the CoP



Education



Community



Space to share



Structure of A11y Idaho



Open Hours



Guided Training





Attendee Feedback



Shifting Culture Through Practice

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Accessibility in Mind Design



**Celebrate
Small Wins**

Advocacy and Modeling



Plus 1 approach



No need to wait!





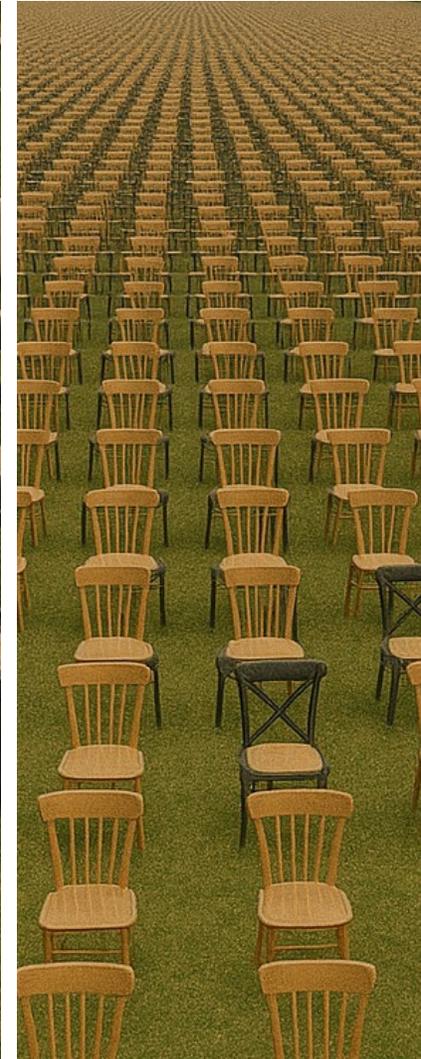
Building a Broader Impact

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Securing Buy-in



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Inviting Others to Attend and Participate

Open to all, not just University of Idaho employees

- Boise State University
- College of Southern Idaho
- Idaho Department of Labor
- Idaho Department of Health and Welfare



[A11y Idaho webpage](#)



The Role of Community

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Reflection

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Reflect and Personalize

- What resonated most with you from our session?
- How might you apply these ideas in your own work or organization?
- What challenges might you face, and who can support you?

Questions and/or Comments



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