Getting to Know OARS
Tina Vires, Sidney Fletcher, Rusty Rogers, Shane Byerley, & Tami Rich
Office of Accessibility Resources and Services
OARS@UNCG.EDU  OARS.UNCG.EDU
MISSION: OARS collaborates with UNCG's diverse community to promote accessibility in all aspects of campus life. This includes the removal of barriers to access, whenever possible, and assessment/implementation support for reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. OARS provides the institution with resources, education, and direct services promoting equitable and inclusive access and inherent acknowledgment of disability as a part of diversity.
OARS envisions a campus that is inherently equitable, accessible, & inclusive.
Why Does OARS Exist?

Congress passed Section 504 Rehabilitation Act in 1973. This law ensured that individuals with disabilities would not be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance. 29USC§794

In 2008, the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendment Act (ADAAA) provided a broader definition of who is an individual with a disability. ADAAA focuses on “major life activities”. Major life activities include, but are not limited to caring for oneself, performing manual tasks, seeing, hearing, eating, sleeping, walking, standing, lifting, bending, speaking, breathing, learning, reading, concentrating, and working, etc. (Keenan, 2009)
Visiting OARS Website – oars.uncg.edu
Connecting with OARS

Schedule a virtual or in-person consultation:
- Call 336/334-5440, or
- Email oars@uncg.edu, or
- Walk in (EUC 215), or
- Complete our Welcome Form at https://oars.uncg.edu/student-services/register/

At the Welcome Meeting:
- What’s going on and how does it impact you?
- Brainstorm what reasonable accommodations would remove barriers.

Any accommodations needed will be in a letter available to your instructors. Any concerns they you have can be resolved by contacting OARS.
Documentation Is A Good Thing!

1. May include:
   - an IEP or 504 Plan.
   - Letter from a doctor or therapist who has a history with you.
   - Some medical records.

2. Comes on professional letterhead.
   - Includes professional title and license or certification info.
   - Indicates diagnoses & potential impact.

3. Is the information current or the condition stable.
   - Lack of documentation may result in interim provisional accommodations.
What Are Accommodations?

Reasonable actions to remove barriers and ensure equitable access, such as:

- Extended time on tests/exams
- Distraction reduced testing
- Preferential seating
- Accessible technology
- Early registration
- Accessible housing needs such as first-floor rooms, emotional support animals, etc.
- Etc.
We Are Here to Serve You!

OARS believes in working together to ensure all students have equitable access to the university. We support reasonable accommodations that do not alter fundamental objectives. We encourage student engagement to ensure accommodations are implemented.
Communicating with OARS

- Office phone: 336-334-5440
- Email: oars@uncg.edu
- Location: 215 Elliott University Center
- Hours: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. daily (other times by appointment)
- Virtual and In-person consultations available
QUESTIONS?

TEXT YFY: 1-336-541-6939