

 **İstanbul Bilgi University**

 **LAURATE** INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITIES

**ANNUAL REPORT OF**

**UNIT FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY**

**FOR THE 2017-2018 ACADEMIC YEAR**

**(28 June 2018)**

**1. INTRODUCTION**

The 2017-2018 Academic Year Report, which covers the activities carried out by the Unit and Commission of Students with Disability, has been prepared in consideration of the issues set forth in the report for the 2016-2017 period, and explains the works carried out in this period and the suggestions for future.

Students with visual, physical disability, dyslexia, Asperger syndrome (learning difficulty), hearing disability, autism, chronic diseases and memory disorders were provided with support related to transportation, free car-park, attendant, dormitory, scholarship and special exam arrangements in the 2017-2018 academic year. Thus, the total number of students receiving support was 35.

**2. PHYSICAL ACCESS**

**The Works Completed**

* The deficiencies of the disability walkway in Santral campus whose construction was completed were continued to be corrected, and repair and improvement works were carried out for the walkway in the 2017-2018 academic year.
* The car park for persons with disability located inside **santralistanbul** campus was reorganized in a manner to make access easier for wheelchair users.

**Actions That Must Be Taken**

* The preliminary works carried out by the Technical Directorate for the construction of warning and tactile guiding blocks at the start of stairs in indoor areas for the visually-impaired in each of the three campuses as set forth in the 2016-2017 report must be assessed, and the works should be completed as soon as possible.
* Provision of audio warnings was not completed at the emergency exits of the buildings. Alternative works and inquiries should be made on the issue
* It should be stated that it is mandatory for businesses offering food and beverage services to prepare a menu in Braille, and these business should be made print these menus in Braille in the 2018-2019 academic year.
* Efforts should continue to ensure that classrooms are made more suitable for access by persons with disability. As there is no access for the wheelchair users especially in big lecture halls in **santralistanbul** campus, this problem should be solved as a result of the preliminary investigation and survey carried out by the Technical Directorate.

**3. EDUCATION, EXAMINATION CONDITIONS AND EDUCATION MATERIALS**

**The Works Completed**

* Special exam arrangements for students with disability, which were made available pursuant to the decisions of the Board of Faculties and High Schools, were continued to be monitored at the time of exams for each student individually.
* The directives and guiding principles on the Special Arrangements for Courses and Exams for Students with Disability have been defined, and have been posted on the website.

**Actions That Must Be Taken**

* Room should be made for the Braille printer purchased for the library of **santralistanbul** campus.
* An area should be allocated inside the library in **santralistanbul** campus for the education materials of students with disability,andsupporting tools such as notebook computers with screen reader and magnifying software installed for the visually-impaired should be made available in the library.
* The efforts spent for adding a course related to universal design to the curriculum of the Faculty of Architecture taking into consideration of the decisions of the Higher Education Board should be concluded successfully.
* Efforts spent for providing all faculty members (including mainly academic supervisors) and administrative staff with necessary information on students with disability should be continued, and completed successfully.

**4. WEB ACCESS**

**The Works Completed**

* The infrastructure of the Accessible Education website has been completed by the web management.
* The supervision of access by the visually-impaired to the university website is continued through regular meetings held with the visually-impaired, Accessible Education Officer and IT WEB management.

**Actions That Must Be Taken**

* The “Accessible Education” website must be ensured to be completed by July 2018 at the latest, with its content being uploaded.
* Efforts should be continued for ensuring access by the visually-impaired to all announcements posted on the website of the university in cooperation with the IT unit.

**5. WORKS ON THE PROTECTION OF PERSONS WITH DISABILTY IN CASE OF EMERGENCY**

**The Works Completed**

* The Occupational Safety Expert completed her report on how persons with disability should be prepared in case of emergency (earthquake, fire, etc.) and what they should do to protect themselves.

**Actions That Must Be Taken**

* Continuity of emergency information must be ensured, and this information shared must be posted on the Accessible Education website
* The report on “Works on the Protection of Persons with Disability in Case of Emergency” must be shared with all units.

**6. EVENTS**

* The university participated in the “Accessible Universities Seminar” held by the Ministry of Family and Social Policies on 7 November 2017.
* The university participated in the “ICT Accessibility Meeting” held by the Provincial Directorate of Family and Social Policies on 16 November 2017.
* The university participated in the “Meeting of Accessible Universities at the Local Level” held by Kadıköy Municipality on 29 November 2017.
* Participation was ensured on behalf of Bilgi University in the “12th Workshop on Accessible Universities” held at Hacettepe University on 10-11 May 2018.
* Participation was ensured in the “Accessible Education Workshop” and “Accessible Universities Award Ceremony” held by the Higher Education Board on 15 May 2018.

**Commission of Students with Disability**

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