To: All Faculty
From: Cliff Zimmerman
Re: Accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act
Date: February 2015

Chances are good that one or more of your students have registered with the AccessibleNU Center (ANU) and provided documentation to them regarding disability and functional limitations. The purpose of providing ADA and Section 504 accommodations is to ensure that students have an equal opportunity to participate in the same academic and extracurricular programs as their non-disabled peers. Students registered with AccessibleNU are required to meet the same academic and technical standards as their non-disabled peers with or without accommodations, including our admission standards. Some ADA and Section 504 accommodations are to address matters that are visible, such as a physical condition; others are invisible and unknown to anyone absent disclosure by the student.

To determine if an accommodation is appropriate, ANU reviews the documents presented and, if supported, recommends accommodations to the Dean of Students to implement. At times, ANU and the Dean of Students will discuss the proposed accommodations to better understand the intention of the accommodation, the reasonableness of its implementation, both, or any other related issue. If the student wants to discuss implementation of accommodations, then he or she must contact the Dean of Students and is always welcome to contact ANU. Under the ADA, however, the University is not required to fundamentally alter any essential learning requirements in the program of instruction.

No student should be contacting a faculty member to register for or implement an ADA accommodation. That said, it is the student’s prerogative to share specifics about their condition. If she or he chooses to do so, please respect the student’s right to confidentiality, and limit your discussion to private conversations with the student regarding implementation of accommodations. Any student who expresses interest in seeking an ADA accommodation should be referred to AccessibleNU at 312-503-4042 (or to the Dean of Students to do so).

All accommodations are customized to the individual student. Here is a list of some common accommodations:

- Testing accommodations, such as extended time (50% additional time is the standard) and alternative test environment
- Class note-taking services
- Class materials in e-text and audio format
- Access to adaptive equipment and software
- Assistance in activity relocation and/or in obtaining elevator and lift keys

In the Law School, Student Services proctors all accommodated exams. To the greatest degree possible, accommodated exams are proctored at the same time and in the same manner as the exam is taken by other students. Any exam issue on an accommodated exam is reported to the faculty member in the same way as any other exam issue. Once completed, accommodated
exams are provided to the Registration and Records team, or to the faculty assistant in a scheduled upper division exam, and merged with all other exams. In all instances, the accommodation is not revealed to the faculty member unless necessary in reporting an exam issue.