Proposal
To create a network of resource persons for faculties and services in order to help members become familiar with the University of Ottawa’s obligations under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) and the Ontario Human Rights Code along with all related issues.

Background
The Access Network was created under the initiatives developed to implement the University of Ottawa’s strategic plan, Destination 20/20. One of the goals of this plan is to enhance the student experience, including the experience of students with a disability.

Mandate
The Network will bring together key individuals from faculties and services to share information and ideas and to develop best practices.

Objectives
• To become familiar with AODA in order to help develop best practices for their unit.
• To create a community of practice (CoP) for issues related to accessibility in order to create an inclusive and welcoming culture.

Role
• Provide advice and information to colleagues and students on accessibility standards and the Human Rights Code; participate in developing inclusive policies and procedures.
• Help raise awareness of and communicate the University of Ottawa’s accessibility policy and the efforts it has made in the area of accessibility.
• Be familiar with accessibility resources available at the University in order to direct fellow staff members and students to the appropriate services.

Members’ responsibilities
• Ensure students with disabilities have access to the University’s resources and facilities.
• Direct students and colleagues to the resources and services that best meet their accessibility needs.
• Review complaints and problems that arise in order to provide feedback and contribute to improving accessibility to University services.
• Take part in Access Network meetings and training sessions in order to better understand the issues related to the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act and the Ontario Human Rights Code.
Training
Access Network members will complete training on AODA and the Ontario *Human Rights Code* as well as the University’s policy and procedures. This training will provide Network members with the tools they need in order to act as a resource person for fellow staff and students.

Implementation of Access Network
- Each faculty and service assigns to a staff member the responsibility of participating in the Access Network, completing the necessary training and attending meetings.
- The senior policy officer chairs the meetings and submits reports to the accessibility subcommittee.
- The Network calls upon outside resource persons as necessary.

Membership
- Senior Policy Officer, Accessibility
- Director of Access Service
- Faculty and Service representatives

Meetings
- Members meet monthly for the first year while the Network is being established.
- Subsequently, members meet a minimum of four times a year (twice per session).

Progress reports
The Access Network chair submits an annual progress report on the Network’s activities to the accessibility subcommittee.
2013 Network members

RUEL, Yolaine  Senior Policy Officer, Accessibility

Suzanne BIAGE  Faculty of Health Sciences
Jasmine BOUCHARD  Library
Chantale FORE  Faculty of Engineering
Amy GRUMBERG  Access Service (SASS)
Vivianne KHAYAT  InfoService
Julie LAMOTHE  Faculty of Science
Pierre LAROCHE  Housing
Raymond LEBLANC  Faculty of Education
Isabelle MAYRAND  Faculty of Arts
Charles MULCAHY  Faculty of Medicine
Geneviève SARAZIN  Faculty of Social Sciences
Jessica SIMON  Faculty of Law
François THIBEAULT  FGPS