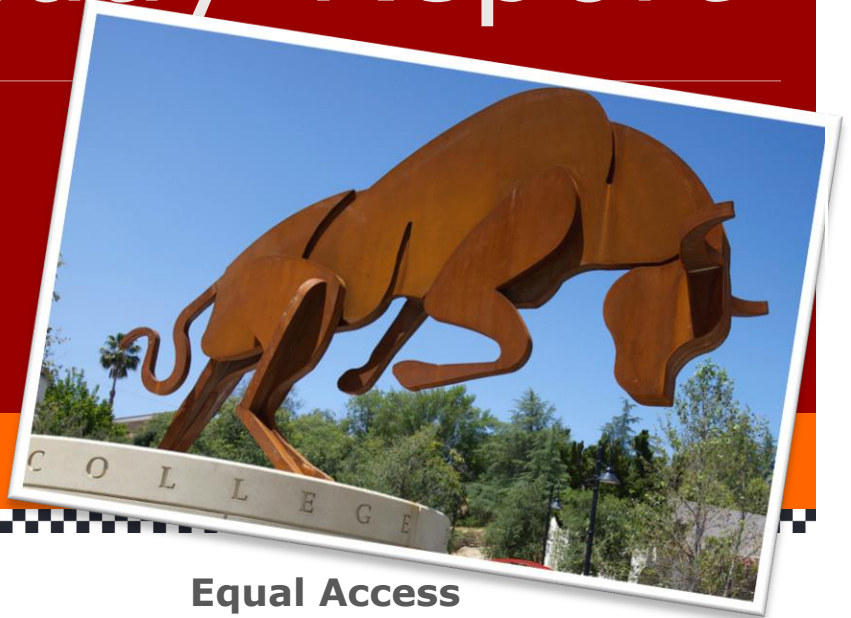


# First Monday Report

Focus on Compliance:  
ADA and Section 508

Issue 24, November 3, 2014



## Upcoming Events:

- Nov 4 Election Day
- Nov 5 Board of Trustees Meeting  
3:30 p.m.  
The Great Hall
- Nov 11 Veterans Day  
Campus Closed
- Nov 27-28 Thanksgiving  
Campus Closed

## Equal Access

*by Stephanie Schlatter*

Although many of you understand the legal requirements for providing accessibility to all students, there have been additional concerns and questions regarding 508 Compliance. It is the responsibility of administrators, faculty, and staff to provide equal access to all programs and activities for individuals with disabilities. All multimedia used or purchased by public agencies receiving federal/state funds must be accessible as mandated by Sections 504 and 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Acts of 2009. All media broadcasted or distributed must be captioned including webcast material, video broadcasts, video tapes, and DVDs.

This legal mandate applies **even if** you do not currently have a hearing-impaired or other disabled student in the course(s) for which you are showing the multimedia. However, closed captioning helps not only deaf or hard of hearing but is part of

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## Geography Department Gets Generous Gift *by Adrian Youhanna*

William "Bill" Russell, professor of geography and a LACCD family member since 1970, passed away on May 13, 2014 from a heart attack. Bill's friends, colleagues, and students were shocked and saddened by his sudden passing. Bill attributed his interest in the field of geography to reading early issues of National Geographic, which captured his imagination with the different landscapes and cultures

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## Sources for Compliance

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a universal design benefiting students with learning disabilities, acquired brain injuries, and ESL students.

There have been several training opportunities to learn more about 508 Compliance and future training sessions will be offered. Although we share the common goal of equal rights and better pedagogy, the process of captioning all videos has been arduous for some individuals and departments. I hope the following information will help mitigate any confusion with this requirement.

Currently, if you have videos/DVDs that necessitate captioning, here are the steps you need to take:

- 1) Identify videos that need captioning and create a list within your departments.
- 2) Check Films on Demand or Intelecom to see if the videos are available with captioning.

**Intelecom** – This is a great online repository with ADA compliant videos (All are already closed captioned!) you can use in your traditional and online courses and even embed them into your SoftChalk lectures! You can either link to the videos or embed them into your Moodle shell. To access Intelecom, go to <http://www.intelecomonline.net/> using the following login: Username: piercecollege (all lowercase)

Password: pierce (all lowercase)

If the media resources you seek to continue using are not available through Films on Demand or Intelecom, we will have to secure permission from the copyright holder to add captioning. The supervising deans will compile a single list of all copyright permissions we seek as a community of learners. Once permission is granted by the copyright holder or producer, the Distance Education Captioning and Transcription (DECT) grant will provide the resources to caption the media. Grant resources are available to support media materials used in online, hybrid, and web-enhanced courses.

It is possible that the copyright holder or publisher may deny permission to closed caption. If permission to caption is not granted and we are unable to purchase a professionally produced copy of the media with captioning embedded, you will no longer be able to use those materials in your course(s). In these rare cases, the administration will assist you by providing the fiscal resources to purchase comparable materials that are commercially available. By working cooperatively together, this project will benefit students, faculty, administration, and staff while ensuring the institution is not out of compliance with the law. Thank you for your support and attention to this important social justice issue and legal mandate.

### **Bill Russell**, *continued from page 1*

represented in the magazine. This led Bill to pursue a Master's Degree in Geography at Cal State Northridge. In 1984, Bill joined Pierce College and in 1985 he became the Director of the Pierce College Weather Station, which began operation in 1949 as a cooperative weather station for the National Weather Service. A generous gift in the amount of \$50,000 was left by Bill to the Pierce College Geography Department. This is a true testament of Bill's passion for geography and dedication to the Pierce Weather Station. A portion of this gift will be placed in an endowment, as well as establishing a scholarship in Bill's memory. California State University, Northridge also received \$50,000 from Bill.