DIRECTOR’S LETTER:

For all returning students, welcome back to UT Austin! We hope you had an amazing summer and are ready for an exciting year! We also want to welcome those of you who are new to campus and SSD. We have had a very busy summer planning for the upcoming academic year, and we are looking forward to working with you. We hope that you find the 25th edition of our newsletter, The Insider, useful and informative. In this newsletter, you will find important dates and deadlines, information from our student organization, upcoming events for Disability Awareness Month in October, the introduction of new SSD interns and staff, and much more.

Since going live with our new database last year, we are continuing to roll out different features. This semester is the first fall in which the online testing reservation system is available. We have also initiated a volunteer notetaking program in which students can receive service hours for serving as a volunteer notetaker. You will find more information about the program in this newsletter.

Overall, the response to the new online features has been tremendously positive from both students and professors. We appreciate everyone’s patience as we make these changes and strive to improve the experiences of students using accommodations. Please continue to check your emails and our homepage for the latest updates about the SSD Web Portal and any changes made to our policies and procedures.

Once again, welcome back and best wishes for a successful semester!

Kelli Bradley, LMSW, MBA
Executive Director

EARN VOLUNTEER SERVICE HOURS IN CLASS!

BECOME A VOLUNTEER NOTE TAKER  Being a volunteer notetaker requires consistent class attendance and a willingness to share your notes after every class if there is a student with a disability who needs your notes. If your services are needed, you will be eligible for service hours for the time you spend taking notes. The identity of the notetakers and students with disabilities will remain confidential within the SSD office. For more information and to apply, visit the SSD website: http://diversity.utexas.edu/disability/student-notetakers/
MEET OUR NEWEST STAFF MEMBER:
STEPHANIE BULLICK

Stephanie Bullick joined the SSD team as a Disability Services Coordinator in September 2016. Stephanie is originally from New Orleans, LA and has lived in Texas since 2011. She earned a bachelor’s degree in Art Therapy from Spring Hill College in Mobile, AL. She attended graduate school at Texas A&M University where she obtained a Master of Science in Educational Psychology.

Following the completion of her graduate program she joined the staff in the Department of Disability Services at Texas A&M. She worked there for three years as an Access Coordinator where she worked with students who have disabilities while they pursued their academic goals. Stephanie met some of the UT SSD staff in the spring of 2016 while organizing an AHEAD in Texas conference on the UT campus. When a job became available at UT Austin she jumped at the chance to join the team.

Leaving College Station at the end of August and beginning at UT on September 1st has been a whirlwind but Stephanie has been enjoying her new role and is excited to learn more about UT and meet with students. She is looking forward to exploring the Austin area. In her free time, Stephanie enjoys spending time with her family and cats, baking, playing kickball and soccer, and creating art.
Hello!

The Disability Advocacy Student Coalition (DASC) is a sponsored student organization of SSD.

DASC is an organization at the University of Texas at Austin for all students. Our members do not have to have a disability of any sort but must have a passion for advocacy! Our organization hosts events to raise awareness about disabilities on UT’s campus. The Disability Advocacy Student Coalition is a student organization with the purpose of promoting awareness, advocacy and education about disabilities.

All meetings take place in the Student Services Building (SSB) room 4.212 from 5:00-6:00 p.m.

Meetings during October:
October 3, 2016
October 10, 2016
October 17, 2016
October 24, 2016

For more information or to get involved:
Email: dascatat@gmail.com
Facebook: disABILITY Advocacy Student Coalition (DASC)
Website: http://diversity.utexas.edu/disability/dasc/

We hope to see you there!
Mariah Ramirez
DASC President