

AccessAbility

DASS Newsletter

Disability Accommodations and Success Strategies

August 2024

Vol 17 Issue 1

WELCOME MUSTANGS!

For all our new DASS students to campus, our **AccessAbility** newsletter is meant to be a message board for our students. When it arrives in your inbox, take a few minutes to open and read so you are aware of DASS updates.

Meet the DASS Team

Alexa Taylor, Director of DASS Alexa supervises the other five fulltime staff, collaborates with departments and faculty members on accommodation issues, reviews and revises operational processes, and handles special projects for DASS. She has been with SMU for 23 years.

Michelle Bufkin, Senior Accommodations Coordinator

Michelle primarily reviews accommodation requests from students with LD or ADHD. She is also a certified academic language therapist and has been with SMU for 17 years.

Jeanna Turay, Accommodations Coordinator

Jeanna primarily reviews accommodation requests from students with medical and mobility conditions. She is the designated coordinator for graduate students, as well. She has been with SMU for 2 years.

Valiza Patterson, Accommodations Coordinator

Valiza primarily reviews accommodation requests from students with psychological conditions. She is our newest team member arriving last summer. She has just celebrated her 1 year with SMU!

David Tylicki, Senior Learning Specialist

David primarily provides academic counseling and coaching to students with learning and attention disorders, assisting them with goal setting, time management, self-awareness, and advocacy skills. He has been at SMU for 12 years.

Candy Brown, Administrative Assistant

Candy routes all accommodation requests and correspondence coming to DASS, along with making sure the team has what they need. She has been with SMU for 12 years.

Kelsey Bauer, Graduate Assistant

Kelsey will be providing academic coaching, assisting students with goal setting, time management, self-awareness, and advocacy skills. She is an SMU graduate, now working on her Masters in Counseling.

DASSapalooza!

Thursday, Aug. 29

4:00-5:30pm

A-LEC 202R

Join DASS staff members and students for *food* and *fun* while you learn about:

- ★ the benefits of coaching
- ★ a student's perspective from our Graduate Assistant
- ★ how to share accommodation letters with faculty
- ★ meet our DASS team

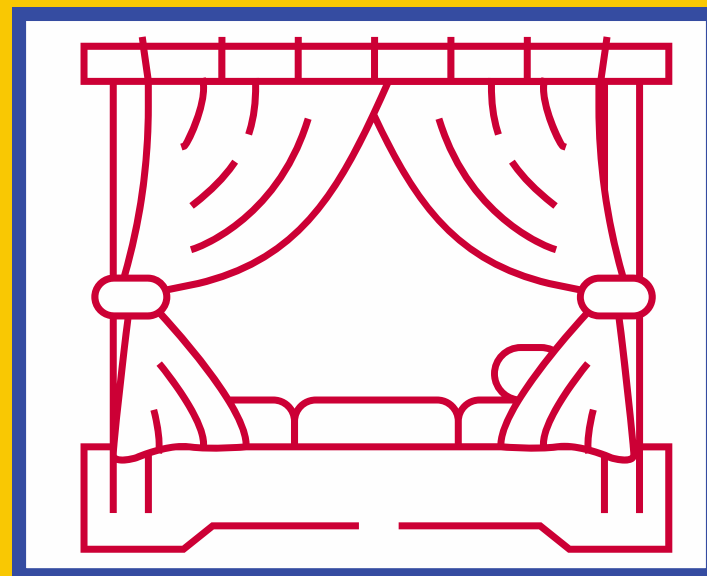


Have you met our new mascot? During DASSapalooza we will be taking name suggestions! Stop by and add yours!

Campus Canopy

Need a bit of private space? Your roommate is great but sometimes you need your personal space. Check this out!

CAMPUS CANOPIES creates "Seven Feet of Privacy" where you sleep, study and play.
<https://www.campuscanopies.com/>



Campus Canopies fulfills an unmet need on college campuses today. Students arrive on campus and are immediately put into a shared living space with a roommate they have never met before. Some roommates develop into life-long friends, but often the experience is awkward and stressful. Most students have different study habits and sleep schedules. One roommate might be an early riser, while another will study until 3 a.m. This is where Campus Canopies comes in. It is the perfect privacy solution. It is not only beautiful, it will last all four years of college and beyond. Check with RLSH before installing!

Semester Requests = Accommodations

If you haven't already submitted your semester request, NOW is the time before tests are scheduled.

Here is the DASS Link login that will take you to your home page: <https://shibboleth-smu-accommodate.symplicity.com/sso/>

This is very important: Review your request by scrolling through every approved accommodation listed and only have checked the classes you are going to be enrolled in for the fall. 2 reasons:
1) You only want a letter sent to the professors that will have you in their class.
2) It will expediate the approval of your letter being sent to you and your professors.
*** It is still the student's responsibility to reach out to their instructor and discuss their accommodation needs after sharing the letter in DASS Link.

The DASS Team ~ 214-768-1470

dass@smu.edu

DASS Link Student Log-In: <https://shibboleth-smu-accommodate.symplicity.com/sso/>