# Identifying the Barriers of Inclusion within your Organization

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## **Disability Defined**

#### Medical Model:

- centered on "personal tragedy", perpetuates negative perceptions of disability
- treats disability as a flaw residing in individuals to be normalized or segregated.
- places the burden for learning accommodation on individual students, or disability support services

## **Disability Defined**

#### Social Model:

- promotes positive perception
- views impairments as innate, but disabling barriers as arising from the interaction between an individual and the physical environment
- views barriers to accessibility as arising from the context of the social environment

# Social Ability Theory

- Disability is largely an artifact of social construction
- All individuals fall within a spectrum of distinct, dynamic ability
- Impairment and disability interact and play key roles in identity
- Rejects personal tragedy, based on benefits of life experiences as impaired/disabled
- Focus on the benefits rather than "inability"
  - Diverse abilities are a valuable and socially situated aspect of diversity

#### Universal Design – What is it?

"...the design of products and environments to be usable by all people, to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaptation or specialized design..."

- Ron Mace, Center for Universal Design



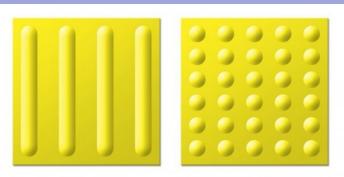
# Universal Design (UD)

- Architectural philosophy pioneered by Ron Mace
- The design of products and environments to be usable by all people, to the greatest extent without the need for further modification
- 7 basic principles:

equability in use	simple and intuitive
flexibility in use	tolerance for error
perceptible information	size and space for use
low physical effort	

#### **Barrier Brainstorm**

#### 1. Equitable use



Block indicates "Go"

Block indicates "Stop"





- 1. Equitable use
- 2. Flexibility in use



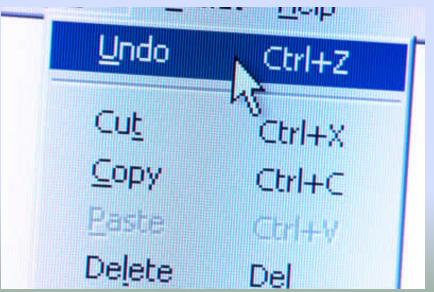
- 1. Equitable use
- 2. Flexibility in use
- 3. Simple and intuitive



- 1. Equitable use
- 2. Flexibility in use
- 3. Simple and intuitive
- 4. Perceptible information



- 1. Equitable use
- 2. Flexibility in use
- 3. Simple and intuitive
- 4. Perceptible information
- 5. Tolerance for error



- 1. Equitable use
- 2. Flexibility in use
- 3. Simple and intuitive
- 4. Perceptible information
- 5. Tolerance for error
- 6. Optional physical effort





- 1. Equitable use
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7. Size and space for approach and use



# **Universal Design for Learning**

- Adapts UD to learning environments, adding 2 additional principles:
  - community of learners
  - instructional climate
- Framework for the design of learning environments to be maximally inclusive for diverse learners through 3 overarching guidelines:
  - multiple means of representation
  - multiple means of action/expression
  - multiple means of engagement
- Recognizes that some learners will not be fully included by design, so awareness and plans for accommodation are built in

#### **Designing Inclusive Collaboration**

 A community of learners - design promotes purposeful collaboration and fosters meaningful learning

 Instructional climate - design is positive, promotes interaction and supports learning on a variety of levels

## **IDL** Guidelines

- Multiple Means of Representation: The "what" of learning
- Multiple means of engagement: the "why" of learning
- Multiple means of action and expression: the "how" of learning

# Inclusive Design for Learning (IDL)\*

- Avoids the "one size fits all" connotation with the word universal
- Clear goals and flexible framework for a range of customizations
- Explicitly builds in plans for accommodation

