

ACCESSIBILITY COMMITTEE REPORT

Submitted by Ira Silver, Chair
Framingham State College

The Accessibility Committee convened in San Francisco on August 13, 2004. Present at this meeting were Lloyd Klein, Jennifer Wesely, Linda Morrison, and Ira Silver..

At this meeting, the following items were discussed:

1. Should this committee just be addressing requests for accessibility during the SSSP meetings or should its role be more activist? Given what SSSP stands for, discussion centered around why this committee has been doing just the bare minimum on the issue of making greater accommodations for those with disabilities.
2. This committee should sponsor a session at the 2005 meetings on disability.
3. Might we want to create a division within SSSP on disability-related issues?

Committee chair, Ira Silver, has organized a session entitled “Disability and Disability Activism” to be held at the Philadelphia meetings on Sunday August 14th at 10:30am. At that session, he will gage from participants and audience members what kinds of interest there would be in creating a new division within SSSP to address these matters. If there is substantial interest, he will solicit interest from other divisions that address kindred topics, such as health, mental health, social movements, etc. If interest appears strong, then he will be in contact with Michele after the meetings about working to build awareness about this new division-in-formation by, for example, publicizing it in the SSSP newsletter.