

MIT Diversity Story Milestone – People with disabilities

- 1991 – First student group for deaf students, Hands, started by Thomas R. Westcott '93 and Adam Skwersky '94 (source: The Tech, 02/22/91)
<http://tech.mit.edu/V111/N7/deaf.07n.html>
- Mid-1994 – Undergraduate Association pushes administration to address problems with compliance to the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. (Source: The Tech 06/07/96, <http://tech.mit.edu/V116/N27/ada.27n.html>); text of letter to administration available at <http://tech.mit.edu/V114/N17/tsao.17o.html> (The Tech 04/01/94)
- April 1995 – Barbara Roberts named new MIT Disabilities Services Coordinator. Post technically existed prior to Roberts' hire, but efforts to provide for disabled population at MIT were not centralized (source: The Tech 04/04/95)
<http://tech.mit.edu/V115/N15/ada.15n.html>
- 1995-1996 – Efforts to improve access for students (& staff?) with disabilities: translation of course materials into accessible format for students with vision & hearing impairment, repetitive stress injury; provision of interpreters for students with hearing impairment (source: Reports to the President 1995-1996)
<http://web.mit.edu/annualreports/pres96/19.html> [*some efforts had been made previously, but on more ad-hoc basis – see The Tech, 06/26/96, <http://tech.mit.edu/V116/N28/letter.28l.html>*]
- 1996 – Development of first “Policies and Procedures for MIT Students with Disabilities (Source: Reports to the President 1996-1997)
<http://web.mit.edu/annualreports/pres97/18.0.html#Heading4>
- 1998-1999 – Faculty Resource Series to help faculty understand individual disabilities and enhance classroom learning for the student; formation of working group (DART – Disability and Assessment and Review Team) including Disabilities Services Office, representatives from worker's comp, benefits, long term disability, and ADA compliance. Aims of working group were to provide training and improve coordination of efforts (source: Reports to the President 1998-1999)
<http://web.mit.edu/annualreports/pres99/19.00.html#Heading5>
- December 1999 – Handbook for Students with Disabilities published (Source: Reports to the President 1999-2000)
- 1999-2001 – Americans with Disabilities Act changes to MIT physical environment (Source: Reports to the President 1999-2001)