

: Founded in Spring 2015, the Disability Caucus has big plans for the future. The Disability Caucus consists of faculty, staff, and graduate students who identify as disabled or as allies; it has been organized alongside a student-led Disability Alliance composed of undergraduate students. The Disability Caucus recognizes the diversity of disability itself and seeks inclusion of people with all sorts of disabilities (invisible, hidden, and visible; congenital and acquired; permanent, temporary, and intermittent; learning, physical, developmental, psychiatric, intellectual, congenital, illness-related, and potentially more), though we recognize that disability is itself a social, environmental, and cultural category.

The Disability Caucus recognizes that attitudinal stigmas and architectural barriers often discourage the full participation of disabled people in society. We, as an organization, seek to advocate for disability pride, to promote awareness of ableism and negative stereotypes of disabled people so that they may be recognized and avoided, and to promote the participation of disabled people in our community.

Partnered with the Disability Alliance and Intercultural Engagement Center, we are set to host a Welcome Event for Students with Disabilities on August 31st. We will also be having regular meetings (with the Disability Alliance) at 3pm on the second Sunday of each month during the 2015-2015 academic year. We are co-sponsoring three speakers this academic year on topics related to the American with Disabilities Act (celebrating 25 years). If you or someone you know wishes to join, please check our our Facebook Group or our Google Group & Listserv, both named "Disability Alliance & Caucus at Virginia Tech" or email shew@vt.edu. We are recruiting!