

Disability Resource Center and Purdue Testing Services

Dan Carpenter

Assistant Vice Provost for Student Success Innovations

Presentation to the Purdue University Senate

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Final Exams and Disability Accommodations

A Virtual Townhall for all Instructors

March 21, 2024, 10-11 am via Zoom

Presented by

- Disability Resource Center
- Center for Instructional Excellence
- Purdue Testing Services

Additional Panelists

- Faculty Advisory Committee to DRC
- Teaching and Learning Technologies (Brightspace)
- Office of Institutional Equity



<https://purdue-edu.zoom.us/j/92666815360?pwd=cmxuZHdTcW9lN3E5b1d4RFJjdU5ZQT09>

Disability Resource Center (DRC)

DRC Mission

The office designated by Purdue to provide services, resources, and programs to facilitate equal access for disabled students, resulting in their full participation in curricular and co-curricular offerings.

- Classroom
- Housing
- Dining
- Parking
- Other aspects of student life

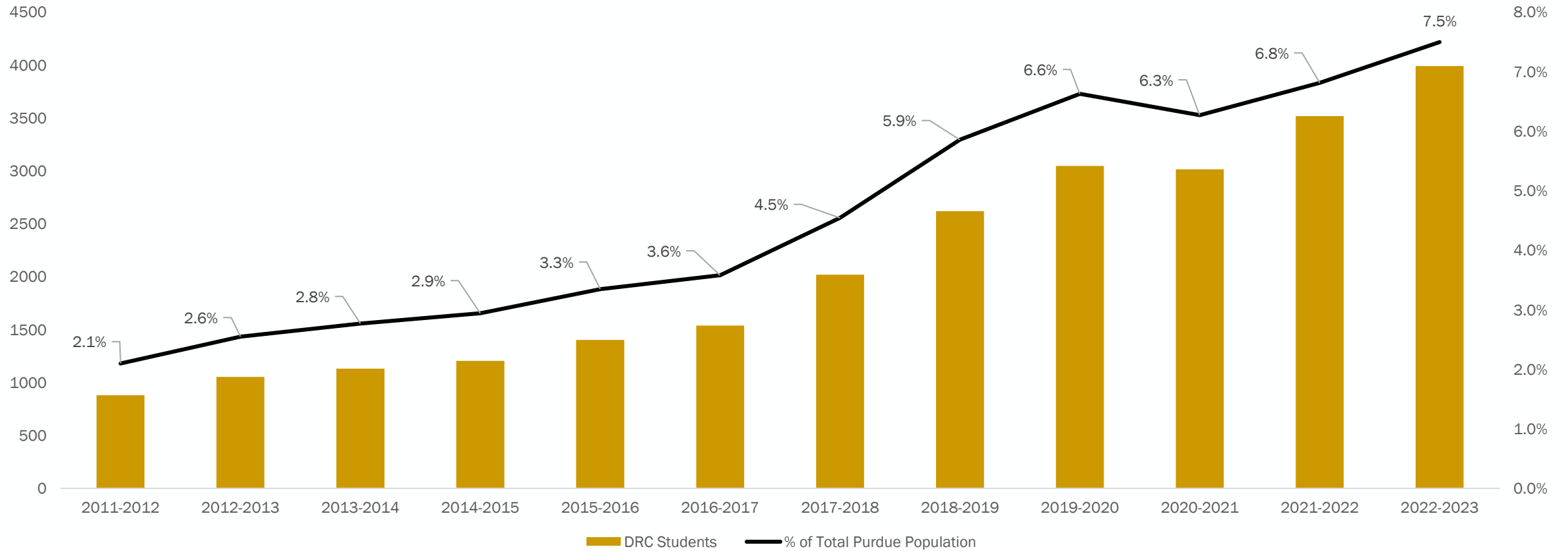
The DRC...

- serves disabled undergraduate and graduate students enrolled at Purdue's West Lafayette (incl Indianapolis) campus and Purdue Polytechnic Institute Statewide Programs
- determines whether students are eligible for reasonable accommodation and, if so, the nature of the reasonable accommodation
- Provides auxiliary aids and services to students
- Produces Usable Materials for courses at the request of instructors

Disability Resource Center

DRC served 3,992 students in AY 22-23. DRC currently serves 4,253 students.

DRC Students as Percent of Purdue Student Population



About the DRC

Resources

- 20 staff plus student employees
- 12 Access Consultants with student caseloads
- 3-person team providing Auxiliary Aids and Services
 - Convert students' course materials to tactile formats
 - Arrange service providers students need for "access" (e.g., ASL Interpreters)
- 2-person Usable Materials Center
 - Convert instructors' course materials into accessible formats

Faculty Advisory Committee to the DRC

*Heather Servaty-Seib	VPTL	Kelly Blanchard	KRAN
*Mandie Greiwe	DRC	Rua Williams	PPI
Joshua Widhalm	AG	Jim McClure	SCI
Yan Ping Xin	EDUC	Kevin Hannon	VET
Larry Nies	ENGR	Liz Brite	HON
Nathan Wong	EXPL	Kevin Gibson	GRAD
AJ Schwichtenberg	HHS	Melissa Chomintra	LIB
Sheryl Briller	CLA	TBD	E&DC

Testing Accommodations

Most frequent accommodation type

Accommodations	Number of Accommodations	
	Spring 2023	Fall 2023
Housing	500	668
Campus Access (Housing Excluded)	567	665
Alternative Formats	573	680
Classroom Access	1970	2294
Communication Access	62	62
Notetaking Services	111	86
Testing Accommodations	2805	3194

Purdue Testing Services (PTS)

Combined resources of former DRC Accommodated Testing and Purdue Testing Center

PTS Mission

serve the Purdue community by providing testing services for undergraduate advancement, graduate development, disability accommodations and professional accreditation

The PTS provides...

Individuals:

- Advanced Credit Exams
- College Level Examination Program (CLEP) Exams
- Educational Testing Service (ETS) exams, including Praxis tests and GRE exams
- Pearson VUE Exams

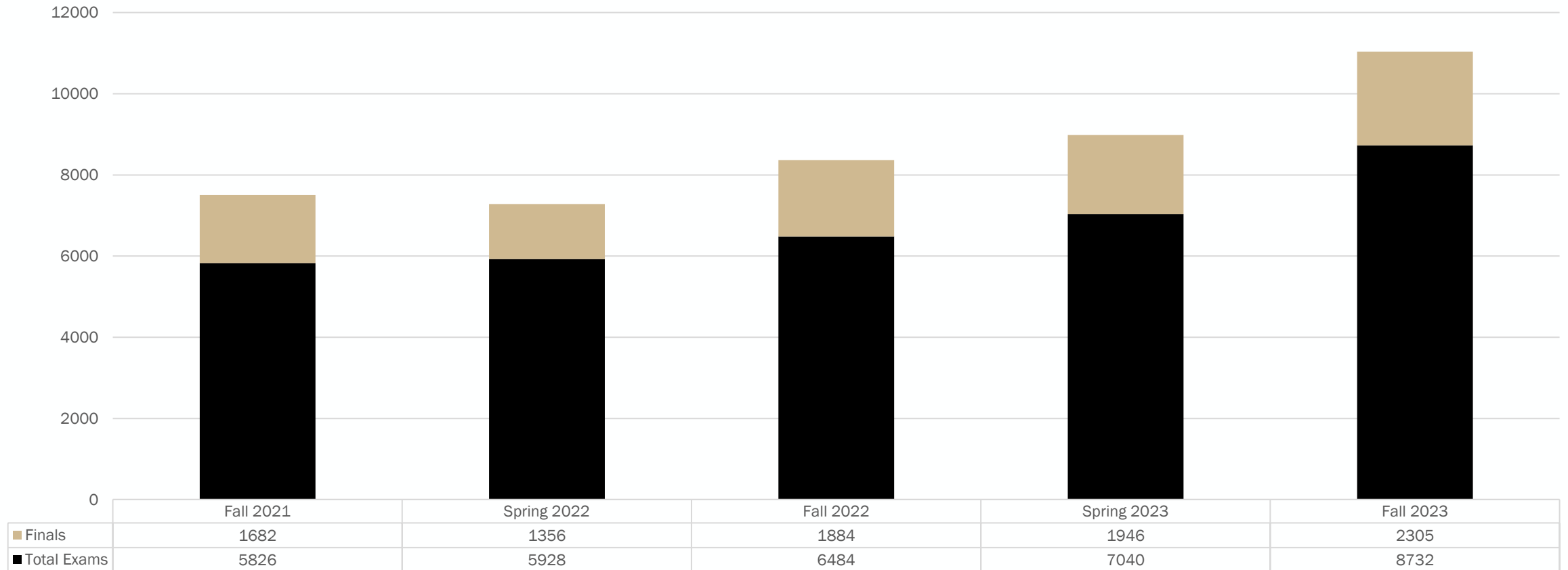
Instructors:

- Accommodated Testing support

Purdue Testing Services

50% increase in total exams & 37% increase in final exams administered from Fall 2021 to Fall 2023

Exams Proctored by PTS



About Purdue Testing Services (PTS)

Resources

- Staff
 - 6 Full-Time PTS Staff
 - 22 undergrad and 5 grad student staff
- Space
 - 71 Distraction Reduced Environment seats w/54 with computers
 - 8 Private Exam Rooms
 - STEW 314 & 320 (72 seats) M-Th evenings

152 seats across 14 testing rooms staffed by a pool of 33

Finals Week Expansion

- STEW 3rd floor = Additional 264 total seats
- Center for Career Opportunities (CCO) = Additional 20 Private Exam Locations
- 40+ volunteers from campus partners
- 20+ paid proctors through the IDP Graduate Student Proctor Pool

436 seats across 36 testing rooms staffed by a pool of 80 administering 400+ unique exams and supporting 49 types of test accommodations

Accommodated Testing

Accommodated Testing Responsibilities

Student

- Request accommodations
- Release course accommodation letter to instructors
- Follow instructor's guidance about scheduling exams
- Be responsive to Instructors, DRC and PTS

DRC

- Determine accommodations necessary for “access”
- Coach students to meet with their instructors (cannot be required)
- Be responsive to instructors and students
- Augment PTS staff during Finals Week

Instructor

- Contact DRC when they believe accommodations fundamentally alter course outcomes
- Ensure exams are administered with accommodations
- Be prepared to support last minute situations
- Be responsive to DRC and PTS “in the moment”

Purdue Testing Services

- Administer course-based exams at the request of instructors (within capacity)
- Clearly communicate processes and continuously improve

2 Approaches for Final Exams

Self-Administered

- Instructor/Department controls all aspects of the process
- Flexibility available
- Instructors on-site for student questions and corrections
- Results more immediately available
- Reserve and manage testing space as needed
- Provide staffing

MATH and CHEM are exemplars

Purdue Testing Services

- PTS manages process, space, time and provides staffing and security
- Instructors must follow PTS processes and deadlines
- Limited flexibility (esp. Finals Week)
- Instructors must be reachable
- Corrections not easily disseminated
- Capacity is finite

No foreseeable future where PTS can handle all exam needs

Faculty Accessibility Consultant

Dr. Leslie Miller, Center for Instructional Excellence (CIE)

Support available to instructors:

- Designing accessible learning environments
- Creative solutions to supporting students
- Assist with coordinating individual spaces and proctors if PTS is at capacity

Note – concerns about specific student situations should be directed to DRC

Access is a Shared Responsibility – Partners in Providing Access



Mandie Greiwe

*Director
Disability Resource Center
drc@purdue.edu*



Dr. Leslie Miller

*Faculty Accessibility Consultant
Center for Instructional Excellence
mill3160@purdue.edu*



Kelsey Jordan

*Director
Purdue Testing Services
testingservices@purdue.edu*

Questions?



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