FOREWORD



Computers, adaptive technology, and the Internet form a powerful combination for people with disabilities, opening opportunities for communication, learning and employment. The development of sophisticated multimedia resources, however, prevents some people from accessing critical information. These people include those who do not have the latest computer systems, those with slow network connections, and people with disabilities.

These materials provide the tools for developing a training program for library staff and volunteers to help them become more aware of the issues, needs and concerns of people with disabilities in accessing electronic resources. A presentation planning section and comprehensive script guide you through the presentation. Overhead transparency and handout templates and videotape presentations are included in the binder. An electronic presentation is available at DO-IT's World Wide Web site (http://weber.u.washington.edu/~doit/UA/) to aid the speaker.

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The materials have been tested and refined with educators and librarians. We would appreciate your input as well. Once you've reviewed the packet, please complete and return the evaluation form enclosed in the front pocket of the binder.

Designing library services and resources that are accessible to the broad constituencies libraries serve is an important endeavor. We hope these materials will stimulate discussion and cooperation at your library to ensure that people with a wide range of abilities have equal access to the electronic information you provide.

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