

COD-DISABILITY

Led by and for disabled biological anthropologists.

COD-DISABILITY is open and welcoming to all disabled and disability-questioning people. Allies are welcome; however, we aim to be led by disabled biological anthropologists. We are oriented towards transforming the discipline and fostering belonging for disabled people in biological anthropology and beyond.

We use an expansive definition of disability and are not limited to people with professional or formal diagnoses. Disability is understood as inclusive of a range of identities and experiences, including but not limited to people with physical, sensory, cognitive, psychiatric, non-apparent, and non-visible disabilities; chronically ill, [neurodivergent](#), Deaf, Blind, [Autistic](#), and [Mad](#) people; and people with and without diagnosis-status.

Values and goals

Sense of [Belonging](#) for Biological Anthropologists

[Accountability](#) for discipline and biological anthropologists

[Accessibility](#) in fieldwork, teaching, research, grants, meetings

[Joy](#) and [Wellbeing](#) for disabled biological anthropologists

Disability experiences are [intersectional](#) and not homogenous

During the 2022-23 year, we implemented the following:

- Access room (low sensory stimulation space) for members needing quiet space for accessibility purposes (low auditory input, reduced visual stimulation, private space for medication administration, resting, etc.)
- Secured refrigeration in the conference area (for medications, foods, etc.)
- Access and accommodations request with abstract submission
- Establishment of COD-Disability
- COD-Disability workshop: Accessibility in Teaching (Saturday, 10am-12pm)

Future:

- Fieldwork accessibility guidelines and/or workshop
- Podium presentation and poster accessibility guide
- Academic jobs and accessibility guide for search committees
- Accessibility page for Annual Meetings (to encourage access requests)
- AABA sponsored Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training at Annual Meetings
- Teaching and pedagogy workshops
- Grant Writing and disability workshop (in collaboration with NSF, WG, NIH, etc.)
- Networking event (Annual Meeting, Virtual Meeting)

To join COD-DISABILITY or get more involved: <https://forms.gle/mkeX99KK1cw8JVmT7>

Dr. Katherine (Katie) Kinkopf, kmkinkopf@cpp.edu