Disability Services launched new software this fall. *Accommodate* is a system designed for managing accommodations, test requests, and all other disability-related information for our office.

After some initial growing pains, students and faculty are becoming accustomed to the software and how to engage with it. While there are still a few glitches, we are finding it to be extremely helpful in tracking our work, organizing test requests, and compiling important data.

If you need assistance with *Accommodate*, please contact Jan Foley or Chris Dallager at disability@carleton.edu.

Disability Services Peer Leader Cecily Conour and Director Chris Dallager will be presenting the research “Flourishing and Academic Success in College Students with Chronic Pain” as part of the Psi Chi program at the 91st Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, April 11-13 in Chicago.

**POLAR PICNIC PALOOZA**

Come hang out with Disability Services at the winter picnic of your dreams! There will be hot dogs (and smart dogs), games, drinks, desserts, and more. Everyone is welcome!

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>January 28</th>
<th>February 15</th>
<th>February 18-26</th>
<th>February 22</th>
<th>TBD</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019-2020 Peer Leader Applications available online</td>
<td>2nd five-week course drop/add deadline</td>
<td>Advising Days</td>
<td>Ten-week course late drop deadline and S/CR/NC deadline.</td>
<td>Celiac Disease Focus Group</td>
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<td>Polar Picnic Palooza</td>
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<td>2-4 pm, Great Hall. Enjoy regional hot dogs from around the country!</td>
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<td><strong>Disability Services Student Survey</strong></td>
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<td><strong>February 7</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Midterm Break</strong></td>
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Peer Leader applications for 2019-2020 are now live at go.carleton.edu/peerleaders. Applications are due April 8, 2019.

Students who are on an OCS program spring term should submit applications by March 5 and arrange interviews prior to the end of winter term.

All students are welcome to apply!

**PROFILE OF A PEER LEADER: CECILY CONOUR**

Where are you from? Oakland, CA

What attracted you to being a peer leader? “I really love working with students, and so the idea of the peer mentorship component was really attractive to me.”

What’s your favorite thing about being a peer leader? “I’ve really enjoyed working with all the peer leaders together from Disability Services. We have really wonderful meetings. It’s just been a wonderful component of my senior year.”

What’s next for you? “I’m planning on eventually pursuing a Ph.D. in clinical psychology, but I want to take a year or so off and focus on doing research full time for a little while and enjoying a little bit of life after Carleton before heading back into graduate school.”

Disability Services has been pleased with the addition of several peer leaders to our office staff this year. This group has been very active in planning events, volunteering in the community, and helping build a positive disability culture on campus by sharing information and building relationships with new students.

Our peer leaders serve as mentors to incoming students connected with Disability Services. Each peer leader is matched with a few new students, and is available to those students as a friendly, supportive presence on campus. Each of those relationships has evolved in its own way, with some students seeking less support as the year has progressed, and others still enjoying occasional get-togethers with their mentors. The hope is to deepen this program next year with the addition of some academic coaching.

Disability Services peer leaders have also reached out to the larger community, volunteering at a Laura Baker Services Halloween Party, and participating in an upcoming forum at Northfield High School for students with disabilities and their parents. We are also working on connecting with students at the Minnesota State Academy for the Blind.

Invisible Disabilities Awareness week was observed by our peer leaders in October with a poster campaign on mirrors all over campus, and a forum featuring students with disabilities sharing their stories with others. They hosted a game night early in fall semester, and are planning the upcoming Polar Picnic Palooza set for Saturday, February 2. Little did we know just how "polar" winter in Minnesota could be!

If you have ideas or suggestions for how to build a positive disability culture on campus, and help keep the entire community informed about disability-related issues, please contact us at disability@carleton.edu. We welcome your feedback!