



[uw.edu/doit/programs/accesserc](http://uw.edu/doit/programs/accesserc)  
accesserc@uw.edu



## AccessERC Leaders

### PI:

Rajesh Rao, Director of Center for Sensorimotor Neural Engineering (CSNE)

### Co-PI and Director:

Sheryl Burgstahler, Director of Disabilities, Opportunities, Internetworking, Technology (DO-IT) Diversity Director, CSNE

### Project Manager:

Scott Bellman, Program Manager, DO-IT Diversity Manager, CSNE

University of Washington



## Partners

AccessERC engages with ERCs and their partners nationwide.

[erc-assoc.org/content/current-centers-0](http://erc-assoc.org/content/current-centers-0)

## AccessERC

Promoting the engagement of people with disabilities in NSF-funded Engineering Research Centers (ERCs) and the development of ERC products, websites, facilities, activities, and events that are welcoming and accessible to everyone

## Funding

AccessERC is funded by the Engineering Research Center program of the National Science Foundation as a supplement to the Center for Sensorimotor Neural Engineering (Award Number EEC-1028725) at the University of Washington. The content of this brochure does not necessarily represent the policies of the NSF, and you should not assume their endorsement.

Copyright 2015





*AccessERC builds the capacity of ERC faculty, staff, and partners to fully include individuals with disabilities in all aspects of ERC endeavors.*

## Engagement of ERC Faculty, Staff, and Partners

ERCs nationwide can engage in AccessERC training, consultation, community building, recruitment, and activity and resource development.

- **Online Community of Practice**

Faculty, education directors, and diversity directors can join the community to discuss strategies and share resources for promoting the participation of people with disabilities in ERCs.

- **Capacity Building Institutes and Training**

ERC personnel can learn about best practices and resources at collaborative meetings and presentations sponsored by AccessERC.

- **Seed Grants**

ERCs can apply for a limited number of seed grants that provide funding for direct costs of activities that promote AccessERC objectives.

- **Consultation**

ERC personnel can consult with AccessERC staff regarding the creation of accessible websites, spaces, events, and products.

## Engagement of Students

*AccessERC staff members encourage students with disabilities to pursue opportunities at ERCs and careers in related fields.*

- **ERC Activities**

Students with disabilities can learn about opportunities through ERCs and AccessERC, such as Research Experiences for Undergraduates programs, accessibility reviews, engineering presentations, academic programs, and internships.

- **Online Mentor and Peer Support**

Students with disabilities can engage in an electronic community of peers and mentors to succeed in college studies and to prepare for research, graduate school, and engineering careers.

## Resources

*AccessERC shares resources.*

- **Searchable Knowledge Base** of questions and answers, case studies, and promising practices
- **Guidelines** for making engineering instruction, activities, facilities, documents, and departments welcoming and accessible to students with disabilities
- **Proceedings** of capacity building institutes exploring issues related to disability, ERCs, and engineering fields
- **Videos** featuring accessibility guidelines and students with disabilities pursuing engineering careers

## Impact of Our Work

*AccessERC outcomes benefit society by*

- Increasing the participation of people with disabilities in education and careers in engineering
- Improving engineering fields with the perspectives and expertise of individuals with disabilities

## An NSF Engineering Research Center: A Complex, Interdependent System

