



CSUCI Seeks Math Transcribers for Blind Student

Camarillo, Calif., January 18, 2006 - Disability Accommodation Services at California State University Channel Islands is actively recruiting mathematicians and others who are proficient in writing LaTeX code to transcribe textbooks for a blind student who is pursuing a master's degree in mathematics at the University.

Transcribers are needed for the spring 2006 semester, which begins January 23 and continues until the end of May. While some pay is involved, participation is an ideal form of community service for those who want to keep their LaTeX skills fresh.

Electronic copies of textbooks will be provided to transcribers who will re-write all equations in LaTeX and return the materials to the Disability Accommodation Services office to be distributed to the student. Assignments for transcribers may require a time commitment of 5-20 hours per week. They may work in their own homes, according to their own schedules, returning materials in a timely manner based on a pre-determined timeline.

"This is a vital service that allows a student who is blind to fully participate in the education process," says Terri Goldstein, CSUCI coordinator for Disability Accommodation Services. "Special screen-reader software reads linearly and can't handle the math notations. This student is able to understand the LaTeX code directly. This is an ongoing need, so a pool will be developed for future semesters as well."

For more information or to add your name to the pool of transcribers, call Terri Goldstein, coordinator for Disability Accommodation Services, at (805) 437-8528.