

# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL: REDUCED INEQUALITIES













## ACCESS SCHEMES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES SUCH AS MENTORING OR OTHER TARGETED SUPPORT

Saint Louis University (SLU) has established a robust, multi-layered framework for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI), positioning itself as a leader in fostering a truly accessible and supportive academic community. This strategic approach weaves together physical infrastructure, specialized resource centers, community programs, and external partnerships to create an ecosystem where every individual can thrive. The university's commitment is not a singular initiative but a continuous, evolving journey, as evidenced by its key milestones and facilities.

## THE FOUNDATION: INFRASTRUCTURE FOR ACCESS AND COMMUNICATION



The physical and communicative accessibility of a campus is the cornerstone of any inclusive environment. SLU's commitment to this principle is demonstrated through its dedicated Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Facilities, which include essential features like wheelchair ramps, accessible toilets, and parking spaces. This ensures unimpeded mobility and dignity for persons with physical disabilities.

Further breaking down communication barriers, the university provides a Sign Language Interpreter service. This critical resource ensures that Deaf and hard-of-hearing students, staff, and visitors have equal access to information and can participate fully in academic, co-curricular, and official university events





#### THE HUBS OF EMPOWERMENT: SPECIALIZED CENTERS AND PROGRAMS

Beyond infrastructure, SLU has invested in specialized centers that serve as hubs for targeted support. The SLU Inclusive Education Resource Center, accessible via its official Facebook page, acts as a dynamic platform for resources, advocacy, and community for individuals with diverse learning needs



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A landmark program, Project Sequoia, was notably launched with a historic face-to-face mentoring session on February 13, 2024. This program is designed to inspire unity and healing, connecting students with mentors for personal and academic growth. The initiative's dedicated website further outlines its structured mentoring program, showcasing a scalable model for building supportive peer and professional networks

### EXPANDING THE CIRCLE: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT



SLU's DEI vision extends beyond the student body to include families and the broader academic community. On September 18, 2024, the SLU Sunflower Pedagogical Development Center (PDC) conducted its first "Parenting Pathway Workshop," empowering parents and guardians with strategies to support their children's educational and personal development

The university's expertise in this area has also garnered recognition from institutions. On September 27, 2024, Bicol University benchmarked the Gender and Development (GAD) Program, a testament to the national relevance and effectiveness of SI U's models for targeted support and gender-sensitive policy.



Saint Louis University's strategy is a powerful, synergistic model. It moves seamlessly from providing essential physical and communication access to fostering empowerment through specialized centers like the Inclusive Education Resource Center and transformative programs like Project Sequoia. By engaging parents and sharing its expertise nationally, SLU demonstrates that its commitment to inclusion is both deep and wide. This comprehensive and chronological progression of initiatives—from February to September 2024—illustrates a university not just reacting to needs, but proactively building a more equitable and diverse future for all.

