Assistive Technology

What are the common assistive technologies offered?
Students with disabilities use a variety of different types of assistive technologies to be successful and accomplish their academic goals. Here are some commonly used assistive technologies in the classroom.

Livescribe Pen
The Livescribe pen is a smart pen that uses unique micro dot paper to record lecture audio that is synced with the student's handwritten notes. It allows the student to go back and review the recording of incomplete or missed notes by simply tapping on the notes with the pen.

Kurzweil 3000
Kurzweil 3000 is text-to-speech software that reads and highlights text as the text is read. It helps to increase comprehension and memory retention for those who have learning and cognitive disabilities.

JAWS
JAWS is a screen reader software designed to run on the Windows platform and is commonly used by blind and low vison students. Students can access the computer and many of its applications using a variety of keyboard commands. JAWS is also used to navigate websites and other web-based applications.

ZoomText
ZoomText is a screen magnification software that can magnify the computer screen at different levels to accommodate many degrees of vision loss. It can be used with many applications, including popular internet browsers. Magnified text may be read aloud as well. The mouse pointer color and the screen contrast can be adjusted to meet different users' needs.

UbiDuo
This device is a pair of screens with an integrated keyboard belonging to each half. It is used by deaf & hard of hearing individuals and those

with speech impairments to communicate. The UbiDuo can be used to communicate on a one-to-one basis and in group study sessions. Think of "texting," but where each user is able to see what the other is typing in real-time.

Personal FM System
This transmitter/receiver system is used by individuals who are hard of hearing to enhance the lecturer's voice (volume). A typical setup includes the professor and a student in the classroom. The professor wears the transmitter and the student wears the receiver.

Glean
This is an online, browser-based note taking platform that allows the user to record audio from course lectures and synchronize the notes taken with the audio recorded. It also allows the user to import slides and images. Audio transcription is possible on this platform.

BookShare
This is an online platform where the user can request for textbooks to be sent in a certain format that is compatible with screen readers.

Optelec
This physical text reader is used during examination for individuals who have learning and cognitive disabilities. This technology scans the text given to it and reads it our from beginning to end. There are settings allowing the user to modify the reading speed, volume, and section of the text being read.