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Library hosts "Meeting the assistive technology challenge" - press release

Northeastern University Libraries

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Libraries

Media Advisory

For Immediate Release

March 10, 2004

Contact: Lee Bracken, 617-373-2748 (l.bracken@neu.edu)

**Library hosts “Meeting the Assistive Technology Challenge”
Presenter, Joe Lazzaro, Project Director, Massachusetts Commission
for the Blind**

Date: April 1, 2004

Time: 12:00-1:00pm

Location: 120 Snell Library (first floor)

Free and open to the public

On Thursday, April 1, Northeastern University Libraries will host a special program on assistive technology in education. The program will focus on the rapidly changing field of information technology and its impact on educators, librarians and other professionals, all who must provide a level playing field for individuals with disabilities.

The American Disabilities Act and Sections 508 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act mandate accessibility within the public and private sectors. These increasingly complex laws and regulations are forcing institutions to create and deploy accessible technology in a cost effective manner. The good news is that embracing the challenges of universal design may help create a new generation of accessible information technology.

Debra H. Mandel, Head of the Library Media Center, states, “This program will be helpful for educators and community members who need guidance in providing equal access to all.”

Following Mr. Lazzaro’s presentation, members of the Library’s Assistive Technology Committee will be on-hand to provide brief demonstrations of the software and equipment purchased with Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds received through a Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners grant. There will also be a Q&A.

Northeastern University’s Snell Library is located at 360 Huntington Avenue in Boston. The event location is wheelchair accessible. This event will be sign-language interpreted.

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