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***Indianapolis attorney and Ball State alum to address ‘The Politics of Disability’ as part of Disability Awareness Month***

INDIANAPOLIS—Indianapolis attorney and accessibility consultant Gregory S. Fehribach will speak to Ball State University students on the topic of “The Politics of Disability” as part of Disability Awareness Month activities.

The presentation is scheduled for **Monday, March 24 at 4 p.m. in Teachers’ College, Room 005** and is sponsored by Disabled Student Development and Disabled Students in Action.

Fehribach first became involved in the political process as a student at Ball State when he was elected student body president in 1979, marking the first time in the school’s history a disabled student served in that position. He graduated in 1981, earned his master’s degree in 1983, and currently practices law with Stark, Doninger & Smith, LLP of Indianapolis.

“It’s an honor to return to Ball State and talk to students about how important it is to be engaged and involved in the political process,” said Fehribach. “The only way we can affect positive change for people with disabilities and the people who care for them, is to understand that there is a role for us in the political process.”

Inspired by longtime professor Ray Scheele to make a difference in his community, Fehribach went on to Ohio Northern University Law School. As an attorney engaged in the political process, he has dedicated a significant part of his legal career to create designs that benefit all involved, especially individuals with disabilities and members of the aging population.

Fehribach’s company, The Fehribach Group, has advised several high-profile universal design projects in the last six years, enhancing accessibility through use of ramps, elevators, and proper signage. Recent Fehribach Group projects include the Lucas Oil Stadium, the Midfield Terminal at the Indianapolis International Airport, and the Indiana Convention Center expansion.

“I have long been inspired by Professor Scheele’s book about Indiana political legend Larry Conrad,” Fehribach continued, “and the passage that invokes Larry Conrad’s belief that to ‘do

something' that is meaningful and purposeful breaks down barriers and connects people in a most profound way. I hope to share some of my experiences in breaking down barriers and encourage these students to do the same."

Fehribach has also served as a member of the Governor's Residence Commission, where working with former Indiana First Ladies Judy O'Bannon and Maggie Kernan, the Governor's Residence was made accessible for people with disabilities. The entire project was funded through private donations and was completed in 2004. Fehribach also recently completed his term as a Ball State University Trustee, a position he was appointed to by Gov. Joseph Kernan.

*For more information on Disability Awareness Month programming at Ball State, please call (765) 285-5293 or email [dsd@bsu.edu](mailto:dsd@bsu.edu).*