

March 2019

## From the Executive Director

Franklin Smith

Welcome to the March 2019 edition of *The ISAAC Communicator* (formerly *ISAAC E-News*). The ISAAC International office continues its work on behalf of the membership around the world and is pleased to advise on the following initiatives: *ISAAC Membership Renewal 2019*, *Conference 2020*, *ISAAC International Partnerships*, *ISAAC International Financial Audit 2018*, and *Webinars*.

### **ISAAC Membership Renewal 2019**

It's membership renewal time! If you are one of our valued Chapter members, please respond to your Chapter in a timely fashion to ensure that your membership is renewed for 2019.

For 2019 and 2020, the ISAAC Executive Board approved the continuation of a “no additional cost” subscription to ISAAC’s scientific journal, AAC, for all Institutional and Corporate members.

**\*\*NEW for 2019\*\*** In order to better meet the needs of our Chapters (current or future) in developing countries (as defined by the World Bank), the ISAAC Executive Board authorized the creation of a new group of Chapter membership rates specifically for these Chapters.

All of the above-noted 2019 Membership Renewal information has now been forwarded to members of the ISAAC Council.

ISAAC International sent membership renewal notices to all 2018 members of ISAAC International, ISAAC-Australia, ISAAC-Canada, and ISAAC-US (USSAAC). If you are a member of ISAAC through one of these chapters or an international member, please remember to renew your membership. You can do so directly through our membership renewal platform, available on the website by clicking [here](#).

Again for 2019, ISAAC is offering a “no additional cost” subscription to our scientific journal, AAC, for every new or renewed Corporate or Institutional membership.

## **Conference 2020**

Preparations for Conference 2020, to be held August 1<sup>st</sup> through August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019, on Mexico's beautiful Riviera Maya, are well underway. The [Conference 2020 Co-Chairs](#) and the Conference 2020 Leadership Team are getting ready for the next major milestone, which is the planned launch of the Conference 2020 Call for Papers, scheduled to occur during the coming few months.

In the meantime, we are working closely with our professional conference organizing (PCO) company, to finalize arrangements on our conference venue. Once we are able to, we will announce Conference 2020's location.

## **ISAAC International Partnerships**

I was able, last month, to attend the Assistive Technology Industry Association's annual conference, ATIA 2019, in Orlando, Florida. It was a tremendous opportunity to meet up with all of the major assistive technology vendors, particularly those who are strong supporters of ISAAC. I also had an opportunity to meet directly with ATIA's CEO and COO, David Dikter and Caroline Van Howe, to discuss future opportunities for collaboration between ISAAC and ATIA. We certainly look forward to moving this forward during 2019.

Our US Chapter, USSAAC, was also gracious enough to afford me the opportunity to speak at their Chapter meeting while at ATIA 2019, and I used the opportunity to [present](#) on behalf of ISAAC International and Conference 2020.

## **ISAAC International Financial Audit 2018**

The audit process for 2018 is now underway, and we continue to work closely with both the ISAAC Finance Committee and external auditors. Once completed, the fiscal year (FY) 2018 audit and tax filing information will be available in the Members Only area of the website.

## **Webinars**

The webinar schedule for 2019 is quickly filling up. Working with USSAAC, we have a number of interesting webinars already scheduled for this year. We are also engaging with others around the world to present webinars on a variety of AAC-related topics. A full schedule of upcoming webinars can be found on the ISAAC website, by clicking [here](#). Please make sure to check our webinar schedule frequently.

As always, I welcome your thoughts and feedback. Please do not hesitate to contact me directly, at [franklin@isaac-online.org](mailto:franklin@isaac-online.org), should you require any further information or assistance.

Regards and thanks,

[Franklin Smith](#)