CONFERENCES

The 17th Biennial Conference of the International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication

**When:** August 6th - 13th

**Where:** Westin Harbour Castle Hotel, Toronto, Canada

DISCOVER TORONTO!

Find information on amenities in the Toronto waterfront area here.

- Photo courtesy of Toronto Tourism

For full conference and registration information, visit the ISAAC 2016 website.
Introducing your Conference Co-Chairs

Shelley Deegan is currently Clinical Coordinator for the Technology Access Clinic, an AAC clinic at Hamilton Health Sciences in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. She has worked clinically in the field of AAC as a speech-language pathologist for 38 years. She is a Past Chair of the ISAAC Council.

Tracy Hunt is a speech-language pathologist and educator who has worked as an AAC clinician in a variety of clinical and educational settings. Tracy is currently working with the Children’s Treatment Network of Simcoe York (hosted through The Speech Clinic). As well, Tracy is President of ISAAC Canada.

Tracy Shepherd is a speech-language pathologist working in the Augmentative Communication Service at Thames Valley Children’s Centre in London, Ontario, and as a Clinical Education Coordinator at the Centralized Equipment Pool (operated by Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital) in Toronto. Tracy is currently VP of Conference Planning on the ISAAC Executive Board.

Thank you to our ISAAC 2016 co-chairs and the many volunteers whose time and talents have come together to ensure that conference delegates, presenters, sponsors, and exhibitors have a great experience in Toronto this August!
ISAAC Conference 2016: Dates and Details

AAC CAMP
AUGUST 6th – 7th
Programs and Workshops

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS
AUGUST 6th – 7th
Schedule, themes and presenters

MAIN CONFERENCE
AUGUST 8th – 11th
Schedules

ISAAC OUTSTANDING CONSUMER LECTURE
AUGUST 9th  14:00 - 15:30

RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM
AUGUST 12th – 13th
Provisional Proceedings

ISAAC Governance Meeting Schedule

AUGUST 5TH  Executive Board (EB) Meeting - Day One
09:00 to 17:00
AUGUST 6TH  EB Meeting - Day Two 09:00 to 17:00
AUGUST 7TH  Council Meeting 09:00 to 17:00
AUGUST 8TH  ISAAC Chapter Presidents 08:00 to 09:00
ISAAC LEAD (PWJUAC) Committee 12:45 to 14:00
La Francophonie  12:45 to 14:00
AAC Town Hall 15:00 to 17:00
AUGUST 9TH  Exhibitor and Sponsor Breakfast  08:00 to 09:00
Chapter Meetings  12:45 to 14:00
ISAAC-Australia
ISAAC-Brazil
ISAAC-Canada
ISAAC-Denmark
ISAAC-FSC (French-Speaking Countries)
ISAAC-India
ISAAC-USA (USSAAC)
Finland Meeting
EB Meet and Greet 16:00 to 17:30

AUGUST 10TH  Chapter Meetings  12:45 to 14:00
ISAAC-Israel
ISAAC-Italy
ISAAC-Netherlands and Flanders
ISAAC-Norway
ISAAC-Sweden
ISAAC-Taiwan
ISAAC-UK (Communication Matters)
Membership and Awards Meeting 14:15 to 15:45
Conference 2018 Meeting  16:00 to 17:00
Friends of ISAAC 16:00 to 17:00
AUGUST 11TH  AAC Associate Editors (AE) 08:00 to 09:00
Publications Committee 12:00 to 13:00
Research Committee12:30 to 13:30
BUILD Committee 12:45 to 14:00
Striving for Thriving: An Open Forum on Families of all Kinds -
hosted by Family Engagement Committee 12:45 to 14:00
AAC Reviewers13:00 to 14:00
Early Career Researchers13:30 to 14:30
Official Notification of Meetings

Important Notice: ISAAC Council Meeting 2016

In accordance with section 11.4 of the Bylaws of ISAAC, this is the official notification of the date, time, and location of the upcoming ISAAC Council Meeting, taking place at the 17th Biennial ISAAC Conference:

Date: Sunday, August 7, 2016
Time: 9:00 to 17:00
Location: Westin Harbour Castle, 1 Harbour Square
Toronto, Ontario M5J 1A6, Canada
Room: Pier 4 and 5

Called by the Chair of the Council,
Janice Murray
January 11, 2016

Important Notice: ISAAC Biennial Membership and Awards Meeting

In accordance with section 8.1.5 of the Bylaws of ISAAC, this is the official notification of the date, time, and location of the upcoming ISAAC Biennial Membership Meeting, taking place at the 17th Biennial Conference of ISAAC:

Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2016
Time: 14:15 to 15:45
Location: Westin Harbour Castle, 1 Harbour Square
Toronto, Ontario M5J 1A6, Canada
Room: Harbour A and B

Called by the Chair of the Council,
Janice Murray
January 11, 2016
Conference Accessibility Information
Check out the Conference Accessibility Information on the ISAAC website.

Presenter FAQ
Frequently asked questions on topics of interest to conference presenters can be found here.

Information for Visitors to Canada
Visit the ISAAC website for essential information for visitors to Canada, and helpful links for those arriving/departing Toronto via Pearson International Airport.

AAC Town Hall Meeting - August 8, 15:00 - 17:00
Theme: What Brings Us Together? Nola Millin and Jess Weber are the AAC Town Hall Co-Chairs. Click on the theme, above, for details.

Film Festival
The ISAAC Film Festival is a new event in 2016, designed to showcase our vision, Changing Lives. It will feature the remarkable people who use AAC and their communication partners around the world. Story ideas were submitted, and people were then invited to create and submit their films. The ISAAC Film Festival will take place during the Welcome Reception on August 8th at the Westin Harbour Castle’s Harbour Ballroom.

Code of Conduct
ISAAC International is committed to providing a safe and enjoyable Conference experience for all event participants and a welcoming environment for the free discussion of ideas. We do not tolerate harassment of event participants in any form. Any conference attendee found to be contravening this Code of Conduct in any way is subject to any action at the sole discretion of ISAAC International up to and including expulsion from the Conference with no refund or right of appeal. Instances of alleged harassment may also be reported to the relevant authorities, again at the sole discretion of ISAAC International. All conference registrants will be expected to sign a declaration at the time of check-in that will, among other things, require them to agree to abide by the Code of Conduct.

To find the full text of the code, in print, easy English, and audio formats, please click here.
SOCIAL ACTIVITIES
We are looking forward to hosting three different social evenings to welcome delegates to Canada, and to the beautiful City of Toronto: Welcome Reception (Monday, August 8th at 18:00, Westin Harbour Castle, Harbour Ballroom); Social Event (Tuesday, August 9th at 19:00, Steam Whistle Brewery @ The Roundhouse - ticketed event), and President’s Reception (Wednesday, August 10th at 19:00, Westin Harbour Castle, Metro Ballroom). Details here.

COMMUNICATION ACCESS SYMBOL
Conference participants may see this symbol as they travel around the ISAAC conference area in Toronto. This is the communication access symbol that was developed by CDAC and is used in Canada. Wherever you see this symbol, it means that the business or organization welcomes people who have communication disabilities and they will do their best to make their services accessible to you. CDAC would like to thank Tony Diamanti, Farrah Sattaur, and Alicia Palma, who have gone door-to-door to tell businesses how to make their services accessible for you during the ISAAC conference. Anyone, in any country, can use this symbol and CDAC resources, including various Toolkits.

DISCOVER TORONTO!
For Toronto waterfront amenities, as well as information for visitors to Canada and tourism information in many different languages, click here. For more tips on planning your Toronto experience, visit the ISAAC Conference 2016 page on the official website of Tourism Toronto.

ISAAC CONFERENCE 2016 SPONSORS AND EXHIBITORS
ISAAC gratefully acknowledges the support of our Conference 2016 Sponsors and Exhibitors. Please be sure to visit their websites by clicking on the logos on pages 8 through 11. For those attending the conference, be sure to stop by our Exhibit Hall often!
BUILD Book Donations
At ISAAC Conference 2016 we will once again be making books, resource manuals, and audio-visual materials available to ISAAC members from emerging AAC countries. Donated items will be distributed at the BUILD meeting on Thursday, August 11, 12:45 - 14:00 in Pier 9 at the Westin Harbour Castle.

If you have AAC books or other related material that you no longer use, this is your chance to clean off your shelves and make valuable resources available to others at the same time! By donating books you will be directly supporting the growth of AAC throughout the world.

You can either drop off your donations in person at the conference OR send us a list of the books or other materials that you are able to offer. Donated items will be distributed at the ISAAC BUILD meeting. If you prefer to send us a list, we will match you with a delegate from an emerging AAC country and ask you to mail the resources directly to that person, via surface mail.

If you have any questions, please contact Sarah Yong, Chair, BUILD spritevanilla@gmail.com or heather.stonehouse@isaac-online.org.

Click here for more information about BUILD.

Silent Auction
Organized by the Friends of ISAAC, the Silent Auction is held at each ISAAC Biennial Conference to raise funds to support people who use AAC who wish to attend the next international conference. In past years we have had items representing a culture, country or region; art; crafts; store-purchased items … anything you can fit into a suitcase and bring to Toronto, and that someone else can easily pack and take home. Products from companies in the exhibit area have been especially popular in previous years. When you get to Toronto, please bring your items to the ISAAC booth in the Exhibit Hall. Payment for Silent Auction items will be accepted by credit card (VISA or MasterCard) only; there will be a minimum $10 credit card charge. If you have any questions, please contact Pat Politano politano@uic.edu or heather.stonehouse@isaac-online.org.
CONFERENCE 2016
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Canada

Financial support for French language translation at ISAAC Conference 2016 provided by the Government of Canada through the Department of Canadian Heritage

Holland Bloorview
Kids Rehabilitation Hospital

Supporting the ISAAC Conference 2016 Scientific Paper Presentations

ISAAC 2016 Sponsorship Information here.
CONFERENCE 2016
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Oregon Health & Science University
Supporting the People from Emerging AAC Countries Travel Assistance Grant

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prentrom.com
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STEAM WHISTLE

SUPPORTER SPONSORS

Attainment Company
In Support of the Keynote Speaker of the ISAAC Conference 2016 Research Symposium
Chapter News

ISAAC Denmark

ISAAC Denmark has been part of the PINE-D project during 2015 and recently attended the final conference in Graz, Austria.

The Europe for Citizens project PINE-D engages with people with intellectual and complex disabilities to understand how they can become more involved in European democratic processes, and therefore play a more active role in society.

Great Britain, Poland, Austria, Italy and Denmark are the five participating countries. Denmark is the only country aiming at AAC users mainly with physical disabilities. The other countries participated via organizations working with people with intellectual and social disabilities.

ISAAC Denmark used one day at our annual AAC User Assembly to discuss European questions and gathered important views, experiences and ideas from the target group.

Central questions for the discussions were:
- How can Europe better communicate European issues and values to the target group?
- What are the opinions of target group members towards the current European challenges and concerns?
- What are the needs of the target group for improved conditions of democratic participation in Europe?

The AAC users identified the following important issues:
- participation and inclusion in society
- openness and visibility of AAC users in everyday life
- responsibility amongst AAC users to express their wishes and needs
- increasing awareness by writing articles and lecture at schools
- remembering to tell positive stories from everyday life
- the importance of society considering all persons as unique with their own abilities and qualities, instead of dividing people into two groups – with and without disabilities
- the need to have personal assistance in daily life
- the importance of equal access to leisure activities for AAC users staying in special homes for people with disabilities
- the importance of technological aids and devices for communication

...continued on page 13
Chapter News continued

- accessibility (physical access, communication, and information)
- access to education and work
- the need of more knowledge about people with disabilities (politicians and society)

Suggestions and ideas for the future were given via reports and workshops at the final conference.

The PINE-D project is preparing a petition for the European Parliament with the main statements from the five countries.

### AAC JOURNAL UPDATE

With an impact factor of 2.96 (2015), *Augmentative and Alternative Communication* is ranked second among all of the rehabilitation journals and top among major communication disability journals.

"It is exciting to see the reach of the journal and its impact on advancing knowledge and ultimately improving outcomes for individuals with complex communication needs. With the increasing focus on evidence-based practice, the journal is critical as a repository of the state of the science in the field," according to Janice Light and David McNaughton, former AAC co-editors. The current editor of the journal is Martine Smith, and you can contact her directly at aaceditor2015@gmail.com.

You are invited to view all volumes and issues and information on subscribing is available on the ISAAC website. You can also recommend AAC to the librarian at your local university library here.

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**Communication Support World Network (CSWN) News**

Communication Support World Network News focuses on emerging AAC nations. We are pleased to share with you CSWN’s June 2016 edition, which features, among other topics, information about the limited number of early intervention programs for children with special needs that exist in developing nations. Also included are articles about Malawi, Ghana, Mexico, Egypt, and several European countries, a resource section, and highlights for ISAAC 2016 in Toronto.
AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

Congratulations to Bronwyn Hemsley, recently honoured with the Speech Pathology Australia Fellowship in recognition of outstanding, significant and sustained contribution to the profession.

ISAAC was thrilled to receive the Leaders Circle Recognition Award at the organization’s June 16th gala for bringing ISAAC Conference 2016 to Toronto. The Leaders Circle is Toronto’s official Ambassador Program supported by Tourism Toronto and the Metro Toronto Convention Centre (MTCC). The gala drew together members of the tourism, business, and higher education communities, who each had a hand in bringing their respective global colleagues to the city. Franklin Smith, ISAAC Executive Director, accepted the award on ISAAC’s behalf.

On June 1, 2016, Communication Disabilities Access Canada (CDAC) received the David C. Onley Leadership in Accessibility Award for promoting communication access for people who have speech and language disabilities. This award is shared with everyone in the AAC community as we continue to advocate for stronger, more meaningful legislation so that people who use AAC can have full and equal access to goods and services in their communities. For information on CDAC’s work in the area of communication access, visit their website.

Photo (L to R): Hon. Helena Jaczek, Ontario Minister of Community and Social Services; Hon. David C. Onley, Special Advisor to the Minister on Accessibility; Barbara Collier of CDAC; and Hon. Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario.

Photo courtesy of the Metro Toronto Convention Centre.
ISAAC Projects and Activities

ISAAC BUILD MEETING
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016
Time: 12:45 - 14:00
Location: Pier 9, Westin Harbour Castle, Toronto, Canada

BUILD is a committee that focuses on the work of the AAC Emerging Countries, finding practical ways to offer them support. The objective of the meeting is to connect countries attempting to build up their AAC resources with other Emerging Countries and also with the larger ISAAC membership where AAC is more established.

The meeting is a wonderful opportunity to
• hear the exciting development in these countries
• meet new people/ network and collaborate
• find out how you can use your expertise and knowledge to develop AAC resources in countries that need help.

We warmly invite anyone interested in the work we are doing in Emerging Countries to attend this meeting. There will be a book/resource table of items donated by ISAAC Members for participants from Emerging AAC Nations to take away with them.

- Sarah Yong, ISAAC VP without Portfolio and BUILD AAC Chair

ISAAC LEAD MEETING
Date: Monday, August 8, 2016
Time: 12:45 - 14:00
Location: Yonge Room, Westin Harbour Castle, Toronto, Canada

You are invited to attend the ISAAC LEAD (PWUAAC) Committee meeting for people who use AAC and their supporters.

- Vic Valentic, Leadership Chair for People who Use AAC

ISAAC FAMILY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2016
Time: 12:45 - 14:00
Location: Pier 8, Westin Harbour Castle, Toronto, Canada

The goal of this Committee is to encourage family-to-family exchange to support families of people with communication disabilities around the world. The Family Engagement Committee will host a session at ISAAC Conference 2016 called “Striving for Thriving: An Open Forum on Families of All Kinds.”

For those unable to attend this meeting in person, please join Family Engagement on Facebook.

- India Ochs, ISAAC VP without Portfolio and Family Engagement Committee Chair
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No matter where you are travelling from, the Star Alliance™ network offers you a wide choice of flights to ISAAC Conference 2016 in Toronto, Canada.

And with over 19,500 flights a day to 1,321 destinations across 193 countries, our 27 member airlines extend the same choice to any future conferences you are planning to attend.

You can also save money when you book your flights. Simply quote the Convention Code AC01516 and you plus one travelling companion will receive a special discount. Better still, no matter which Star Alliance member airline’s frequent flyer programme you belong to, you can earn and redeem miles across all 27 airlines.

For more information, or to join the airline network that offers you more choice wherever your conferences take you, simply go to www.staralliance.com/conventionplus

www.staralliance.com
Information correct as of 05/2016
ISAAC has Chapters in 14 countries or regions worldwide. For information about how you can participate, contact the organizations listed below, or ISAAC International for areas not listed.

ISAAC Chapters

ISAAC-Australia (www.isaacaustralia.com)
ISAAC-Brazil (www.isaac.org.br)
ISAAC-Canada (www.isaac-canada.org)
ISAAC-Denmark (www.isaac.dk)
ISAAC-Francophone (French-Speaking Countries and Regions) (www.isaac-fr.org)
ISAAC-India (isaac.org.in)
ISAAC-Israel (www.isaac.org.il)
ISAAC-Italy (www.isaacitaly.it)
ISAAC-NF (Netherlands and Flanders) (www.isaac-nf.nl)

ISAAC-Norway (www.isaac.no)
ISAAC-Sweden (www.isaac-sverige.se)
ISAAC-Taiwan (twsaac.blogspot.tw/)
ISAAC-UK (Communication Matters) (www.communicationmatters.org.uk)
ISAAC-US (USSAAC) (www.ussaac.org)

ISAAC members qualify for reduced conference registration rates! If you are a current member, you can renew your membership through your national or regional Chapters. Members of ISAAC International, ISAAC Canada, and USSAAC may renew their membership online.
ISAAC’s Vision is that AAC will be recognized, valued and used throughout the world.

ISAAC’s Mission is to promote the best possible communication for people with complex communication needs.

ISAAC is a Non-Governmental Organization in consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

Contact Us

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