



Gregor Renner
ISAAC President
October 2015 -
September 2018

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CONFERENCE EDITION

JULY 2018



The 18th Biennial Conference of the International Society for
Augmentative and Alternative Communication
Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia



VISIT QUEENSLAND!

Find information about travel in Queensland, Australia [here](#).

For ISAAC 2018 program details, visit the [ISAAC 2018 website](#).
For an overview of the conference and an introduction to the conference app
on video, [click here](#).



Conference 2018 Updates



 Thank You 

To our ISAAC 2018 Co-Chairs
(Top, L to R) Meredith Allan,
Kate Anderson, and Sally Clendon
(Bottom, L to R) Jane Farrall and
Gayle Porter, who have worked so
hard to ensure that conference
delegates, presenters, sponsors,
and exhibitors have a wonderful
experience at ISAAC 2018!

CONFERENCE 2018 APP

The ISAAC 2018 Conference Team is delighted to announce that the conference app is now available for download! **You can use the app to:**

- View the conference program
- Create your own custom schedule*
- Access session abstracts and author bios
- View the venue maps and accessibility information
- See the range of exhibitors and conference sponsors
- Find out what's happening in the social program
- Take notes on sessions and then email them*
- Check out what's happening in social media

*- features not available in the browser version

The ISAAC 2018 Conference app is available for Apple iOS, Android and for use in web browsers.

For detailed instructions on downloading and using the Conference 2018 App, please [follow this link](#).





Conference 2018 Updates *continued*

MUST-ATTEND EVENTS!

OPENING CEREMONY

Monday, July 23rd
@ 9:00

•

EXHIBIT HALL

SILENT AUCTION

Opening Monday, July 23rd
@10:15

•

ISAAC OUTSTANDING CONSUMER LECTURE

Tuesday, July 24th
@ 14:00

•

CLOSING CEREMONY

Thursday, July 26th
@ 16:00

AAC CAMP @ Currumbin Special School

Saturday/Sunday, July 21st / 22nd

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS @ Griffith U

Saturday/Sunday, July 21st / 22nd

[Overview \(includes updated parking instructions\)](#)

MAIN CONFERENCE @ GCCEC

Monday July 23rd to Thursday, July 26th

[Schedules](#)

WELCOME RECEPTION / FILM FESTIVAL @ GCCEC

Monday, July 23rd @18:00

PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION @ The Star Gold Coast

Tuesday, July 24th @19:00

SOCIAL EVENT @ Dreamworld [SOLD-OUT]

Wednesday, July 25th Board buses at GCCEC @ 17:45 p.m.

ISAAC Governance Meeting Schedule

Friday/Saturday July 20th / 21st

Executive Board (EB) Meeting 9:00 to 17:00

Sunday July 22nd Council Meeting 9:00 to 17:00

Monday, July 23rd

Chapter Presidents 8:00 to 9:00

LEAD (PWUAAC) Committee @ 12:45

Research Committee @ 12:45

Publications Committee Meeting @ 16:30

Tuesday July 24th

Chapter Meetings 12:45 to 13:45 p.m.

ISAAC-Australia

ISAAC-Brazil

ISAAC-Canada

ISAAC-Denmark

ISAAC-FSC (French-Speaking Countries)

ISAAC-India

ISAAC-Norway

USSAAC (ISAAC-US)

Wednesday, July 25th

AAC Associate Editors Meeting @ 8:00

Chapter Meetings 12:45 to 1:45 p.m.

ISAAC-Israel

ISAAC-Italy

ISAAC-Netherlands and Flanders

ISAAC-Poland

ISAAC-Sweden

ISAAC-Taiwan

Communication Matters (ISAAC-UK)

Membership & Awards Meeting @14:00

Friends of ISAAC @16:00

Thursday, July 26th

EB Meeting 2018-2020 @12:45

BUILD AAC Meeting @12:45

Family Engagement Open Forum @12:45



Conference 2018 Updates *continued*



Official Notification of Meetings

ISAAC Council Meeting 2018

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 18th Biennial ISAAC Conference.

Date: Sunday, July 22, 2018
Time: 9:00 to 17:00
Location: Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre, 684-2690 Gold Coast Hwy, Broadbeach QLD 4218, Australia
Rooms: 5 & 6

*Called by the Chair of the Council,
Aldona Mysakowska-Adamczyk
February 9, 2018*

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 18th Biennial ISAAC Conference.

Date: Wednesday, July 25, 2018
Time: 14:00 to 15:30
Location: Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre, 684-2690 Gold Coast Hwy, Broadbeach QLD 4218, Australia
Room: Arena 1

*Called by the Chair of the Council,
Aldona Mysakowska-Adamczyk
February 9, 2018*



Conference 2018 Updates *continued*



ISAAC 2018
GOLD COAST

ASIA-PACIFIC NETWORKING, JULY 23RD @12:45

Conference delegates from the Asia-Pacific region are invited to meet to discuss and reflect on this special focus for ISAAC Conference 2018.

YARNING CIRCLE – TOWN HALL MEETING, JULY 23RD @14:30

People who use AAC from all over the world attending the ISAAC conference gather together for a “yarn.”

2018 SHORT FILM FESTIVAL, JULY 23RD DURING THE “WELCOME RECEPTION”

The Top 10 films submitted to the ISAAC Short Film Festival will be screened during the Welcome Reception. The winning entry will be awarded a one-year ISAAC membership, sponsored by ISAAC-Australia.



TOBII DYNVOX LEARNING LOUNGE, JULY 24TH/25TH

The Tobii Dynavox Learning Lounge is hosting mini-sessions on Tuesday, July 24th and Wednesday, July 25th. Topics range from eye tracking to Core First and PODD. Please [follow this link](#) to find a list of mini-sessions, along with dates and times. (Click on the plus signs for details about each specific session and to pre-register. Please note that there are individual sign-up links for every session.)

AAC LIGHTNING PITCH, JULY 25TH @16:00

This session gives researchers, clinicians, family members, and people who use AAC who have pre-submitted an approved “pitch” the opportunity to share their ideas for new technology to a large and diverse audience. The panel will be Susan Balandin (moderator), Lateef McLeod and Rolf Black (judges), with the prize for the winning pitch presented by Jordan Ngyuen. More information [here](#).

FEATURED SESSION: JORDAN NGUYEN, JULY 26TH @ 8:00

We are thrilled to have award-winning science communicator and innovator Dr Jordan Nguyen join us on the Gold Coast to share his ideas on the future of inclusive technologies. Don't miss this presentation on *The Future of Assistive Technology and AAC*.



Conference 2018 Updates *continued*



CONFERENCE ACCESSIBILITY INFORMATION

Check out the [Conference Accessibility Information](#) on the ISAAC website.

PARKING AT THE CONFERENCE VENUE

The GCCEC has 38 spaces marked as accessible parking on the upper level of the underground car park. Approximately half of these provide a wider space, while the remainder are more of a standard size parking space.

The underground car park has a height restriction of 2.1 metres. Please contact the accessibility committee accessibility@isaac-online.org if you require parking for a van that exceeds this height. Wheelchair access is available to all areas of the building, including lift access from the car park.

Note: For updated parking information at Griffith U for the *Pre-Conference Workshops*, please check out the link posted [here](#).

INFORMATION FOR VISITORS TO AUSTRALIA

Visit the ISAAC website for essential [information for visitors to Australia](#), and helpful links for [getting to and around the Gold Coast](#). Those travelling into Australia from other countries (except New Zealand, where special rules exist) are required to apply in advance for a visa. Please do not miss this step or you will be refused entry into the country. The online application process is easy and fast, through the [Government of Australia website](#).

CODE OF CONDUCT

ISAAC International is committed to providing a safe and enjoyable experience for all Conference participants and a welcoming environment for the free discussion of ideas. Harassment of event participants in any form will not be tolerated. Any conference attendee found to be contravening the Conference 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 abide by the Code of Conduct.

To read the full text of the code, with a link to the Easy English version, please [click here](#).



Conference 2018 Updates *continued*



COMMUNICATION ACCESS SYMBOL

Look for this sign to identify communication-friendly businesses in the Broadbeach and Surfers Paradise areas of the Gold Coast. Wherever you see this symbol, it means that the business or organization welcomes people who have communication disabilities. They will do their best to make their services accessible to you.

Communication Access Training

ISAAC would like to thank Scope Australia for holding training workshops, in cooperation with ISAAC-Australia, on communication accessibility in preparation for ISAAC 2018. Here are some photos from the first of these sessions:





Conference 2018 Updates *continued*



BUILD DONATIONS

This is your chance to make valuable resources available to others and to support the growth of AAC throughout the world!

At ISAAC Conference 2018 we will once again be making resources available to ISAAC members from emerging AAC countries. Our preference for this conference is to receive donations of **digital resources** for distribution to people attending the BUILD meeting. We will also be grateful for hard copy materials, but we would ask that these be limited to up to five items maximum per donation.

Please send us your digital resources (in Adobe PDF format) by uploading them to the [Conference 2018 BUILD Donations](#) folder on Google Drive. Hard copy formats can be dropped off at the ISAAC booth for distribution at the BUILD meeting, scheduled for **Thursday, July 26th, 12:45 to 14:00 in Room 7.**

Questions? Please contact Sarah Yong, BUILD Chair spritevanilla@gmail.com. Please take a moment to view [this short video of Sarah](#) talking about what ISAAC and BUILD have meant to her. [Click here](#) for more information about BUILD.

SILENT AUCTION

Organized and led by the many friends of ISAAC from around the world, a Silent Auction is held at each ISAAC biennial conference. This year we are looking forward to hosting yet another successful auction on the Gold Coast, Australia. Through your generous donations of items to include in our Silent Auction, we hope to raise a significant amount for the ISAAC Conference Travel Assistance Grants in support of people who use AAC who wish to attend the next international conference.

When you get to the Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre, please bring your items to the ISAAC booth where you will be given a bid sheet to put on the display table with your item(s). We are asking everyone to take a few minutes to look over the articles on display and make a bid for one or more. There are usually some great gifts.

For more information, visit the [ISAAC website](#), or contact [Pat Politano](#) or [Karen Bloomberg](#).



CONFERENCE 2018 SPONSORS



ISAAC gratefully acknowledges the generous support of our
[Conference 2018 Sponsors](#)

ADVOCATE SPONSOR



In support of ISAAC Conference 2018

COMMUNICATOR SPONSORS



In support of the ISAAC 2018 President's Reception



Taylor & Francis Group
an informa business

In support of Associate Editors Travel Assistance Grants



In support of The Learning Lounge

VISIONARY SPONSORS



In support of Communication Access Training



In support of the ISAAC Conference 2018 Lawyers



In support of Travel Assistance Grants for People Who Use AAC and People from Emerging Countries

INVESTOR SPONSORS



In support of New Professionals Travel Assistance Grants



In support of International AAC Awareness Month 2018



PARTNERSHIPS



In support of Australian registrars for Conference 2018

CONTRIBUTORS



In support of the ISAAC 2018 Welcome Reception



In support of the ISAAC 2018 AAC Camp



In support of the ISAAC 2018 Pre-Conference Workshops



Donations in support of the Silent Auction and Closing Ceremonies, generously provided by:

- Scope Australia
- Scope Australia / Key Word Sign Australia



Donation of a Personalized Digital Voice



CONFERENCE 2018 EXHIBITORS



ISAAC gratefully acknowledges the generous support of our [Conference 2018 Exhibitors](#)





World News



Submitted by
Meng-Ju Tsai,
ISAAC-Taiwan

ISAAC-TAIWAN

On April 1, 2018, Chung Shan Medical University in Taiwan; Taichung City Speech and Language Therapists Union; Maria Social Welfare Foundation; ISAAC-TAIWAN; and BOYANG Medical Technology held a conference, “Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) for Individuals with Little or No Speech.” Professor Stephen von Tetzchner from University of Oslo gave a presentation on “AAC Communication systems and intervention strategies for individuals with intellectual disability, motor impairment and autism spectrum disorders.” Dr. Kristine Stadsleiv from University of Oslo talked about “AAC assessment and vocabulary selection”.



NEWS FROM RUSSIA

Having had ongoing collaboration with Russia, Aldona Mysakowska-Adamczyk, Chair of the ISAAC Council, was invited in May to Novosibirsk in Siberia to provide AAC training sessions for 75 participants, parents, and professionals. Aldona felt privileged to work in Novosibirsk in tandem with Irina Tekotskaya, an AAC specialist from *Caritas Educational Centre for Social Service* in St. Petersburg, a leading Russian organization in AAC field. Irina is also the president of the newly registered Russian AAC national association.

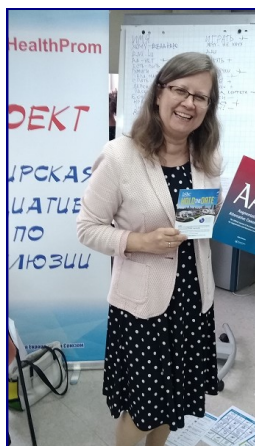
The request for AAC trainings came from community members; they were teachers and parents who had heard about “some other than speech forms of communication,” but didn’t have any knowledge and experience of AAC. A few professionals from Siberia had the opportunity to attend the AAC conference in St. Petersburg and they were the first in the region to share information.

The sessions were organized by a regional non-governmental organization, *Centre for Community*

...continued on page 12



World News *continued*



Aldona Mysakowska-Adamczyk, Chair of the ISAAC Council, providing AAC training in Novosibirsk, Siberia, in May 2018.

Partnership “*Сотрудничество*,” from Krasnoyarsk in international collaboration with charity organization *HealthProm* from London, UK. The main goals of Centre “*Сотрудничество*” are to disseminate ideas about civic society, community education, and community schools; to develop and introduce new educational programs and technologies about community education. *HealthProm* works to ensure that vulnerable children have the best start in life. Its projects are located in Eastern Europe, Central Asia, and Afghanistan. The AAC training in Novosibirsk was a part of international partnership project “*Siberian Initiative for Inclusion – Building Local Partnership for the Development of Inclusion of Children with Disabilities in Siberia.*” The project was implemented with the financial support of the *European Commission*.

AAC seminars and workshops in Novosibirsk were a great example of effective collaborative work on international, national, and regional levels. The project involved representatives of local and international organizations, which focus on slightly different areas: Tanya Buynovskaya from *HealthProm*,

Elena Fomina and Nadiezhda Maksimenko from *Сотрудничество*, Irina Tekotskaya from *Caritas*, and Aldona from ISAAC. The partners managed to match known local needs and organizational capacities with national and international sources of AAC information and experience, and with international funds. Harmonizing the efforts of all contributing partners brought meaningful results to community members and benefits to each individual organization involved in the project. The partnership of Russian and foreign trainers on the content of the seminar and workshops allowed for the coordination of information better suited to local needs and at the same time inspired participants by showing examples of practices in other countries.

The event provided an excellent opportunity to meet with parents and professionals from a distant place in Russia, with the Russian AAC leader and ISAAC International representative to discuss perspectives for future collaborative projects. The need



World News *continued*



Article submitted by Aldona Mysakowska-Adamczyk, Chair of the ISAAC Council

for building a network of contacts to work locally, nationally, and internationally to implement change was recognized and clearly expressed.

In March 2018 over 20 individuals from Russia joined ISAAC through the “5 + 5” program. Russian ISAAC members have been recently recognized by the Executive Board as a regional non-Chapter group and Irina Tekotskaya was

First steps in using AAC, Novosibirsk, Siberia, May 2018



Communication Support World Network (CSWN) News

Communication Support World Network News, published twice yearly by ISAAC, focuses on emerging AAC nations. A wealth of information on AAC around the world is contained in its pages. We are pleased to share with you [CSWN's most recent edition](#).

elected as Russian representative on the ISAAC Council.

“Increasing Awareness and Knowledge of the Use of Augmentative and Alternative Communication Strategies Worldwide” is one of the five objectives of ISAAC’s Strategic Plan. Hopefully, with the support of ISAAC and in accordance with the new ISAAC Strategic Plan, more collaborative projects could be implemented in other regions in Russia.

New CDAC Database

Communication Disabilities Access Canada recently launched the [Communication Assistance Database](#).

Two categories of communication assistance can be searched on this innovative website:

- General communication assistance (i.e., personal support workers, attendants) in the community.
- Communication intermediary assistance for police, legal and justice settings. Communication Intermediaries are qualified Speech-Language Pathologists with additional training from CDAC to work in police, legal and justice situations.



ISAAC Projects and Activities



ISAAC BUILD MEETING

Date: Thursday, July 26th, 2018
Time/Place: 12:45 - 14:00 in Rm. 7

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. Items donated by ISAAC Members for participants from Emerging AAC Nations will be distributed at the meeting.

- Sarah Yong, Vice-President for BUILD

ISAAC LEAD MEETING

Date: Monday, July 23rd, 2018
Time/Place: 12:45 - 14:00 in Rm. 6

You are invited to attend the [ISAAC LEAD \(PWUAAC\) Committee](#) meeting for people who use AAC and their supporters. The Dare to Lead workshop is being held on Thursday @ 12 noon.

- Lateef McLeod, Vice-President for LEAD

ISAAC FAMILY ENGAGEMENT OPEN FORUM

Date: Thursday, July 26th, 2018
Time/Place: 12:45 - 14:00 in Rm. 5

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 2018 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, Family Engagement Committee Chair



ISAAC has Chapters in 15 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.isaacbrasil.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)

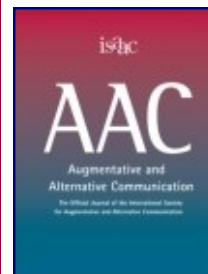
[ISAAC-Poland](#)

ISAAC-Sweden
(www.isaac-sverige.se)

ISAAC-Taiwan
(twsaac.blogspot.tw/)

Communication Matters (ISAAC-UK)
(www.communicationmatters.org.uk)

USSAAC (ISAAC-US)
(www.ussaac.org)



AAC JOURNAL NEWS

The AAC Editors have selected 20 journal articles to be available FREE for 12 months. If you are a clinician, individual who uses AAC or a family member, or a researcher in the AAC field, please download and share this link!

If you are a current member, you can renew your membership through your national or regional Chapters. Members of ISAAC International, ISAAC-Australia, ISAAC-Canada, and USSAAC [may renew their membership online](#).

**INTERNATIONAL
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www.isaac-online.org

ISAAC Chapters and members worldwide are invited to submit items of interest from your country or region. News, AAC practice tips, research, personal essays, in article format or as a link to online articles or resources, will be reviewed and made available on the ISAAC website as appropriate. Please send articles and photos to [Nola Millin](#).

ISAAC E-News is published four times each year. Comments on this issue are welcome. Please contact [Heather Stonehouse](#).



**ISAAC 2018
GOLD COAST**

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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[Lateef McLeod](#)
VP for LEAD, USA

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