



Jeffrey K. Riley,
ISAAC President

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Message from the President

Dear ISAAC Members:

When we think of the robust international organization that ISAAC has become, we sometimes forget that, like all great ideas, ISAAC had humble beginnings. In May 2013 ISAAC passed a new milestone... it was 30 years ago in May 1983 that a group of like-minded individuals from Australia, Canada, Israel, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the UK, and the USA met in East Lansing, Michigan, to create a fledging organization to address the interests of people who could not speak and the clinicians, teachers, researchers, academics, and families dedicated to helping them. While I cannot accurately pinpoint when the term AAC was first used, its true prominence came about through the establishment of the International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication - ISAAC - in 1983.

Recall that the late 1970s and the early 1980s witnessed people with disabilities of all types, in many countries, organizing to publicly claim their rights in society, and at the same time the microcomputer revolution was taking hold. It was in this context that the founding members met in 1982 at a Toronto restaurant appropriately named Le Rendezvous,

and planned for the first meeting in May 1983 that would create ISAAC. Here is a photo taken at that restaurant in 1982:



(Back row L-R) Howard Shane (USA), Shirley McNaughton (Canada), Lyle Lloyd (USA), Greg Vanderheiden (USA), Peter Lindsay (Canada), Gunnar Fagerberg (Sweden), Bob Faucas (UK), Lauren Junier (Switzerland) (Front row L-R) John Eulenberg (USA), Penny Parnes (Canada), Ron Smith (Guam), Judy Seligman Wine (Israel), Joan Hurren (Australia)

Much has changed and much has been achieved over the past three decades, but some themes remain constant; ISAAC members are still working to ensure the right to communication for all people, and we are still striving to employ the best knowledge and technology tools to help achieve communication for all.

As we spin our time machine forward to 2013 we see a multitude of ISAAC

Message from the President ... continued



[Click here to find this article in translation](#)

Chapter conferences taking place on all continents. In addition, there are now specific conferences dedicated exclusively to empowering people who use AAC, such as the recent ICE conference in Toronto. As a personal witness in April 2013, I had the good fortune of participating in the ISAAC-Norway Chapter conference, a lively event that attracted over 250 participants from all over Scandinavia. A quick check of the Upcoming Events page of the ISAAC website reveals many more Chapter and Regional ISAAC conferences coming over the next few months. These accomplishments are a testimony to 30 years of sharing, collaboration, communication, and let's face it, lots of hard work!

On the technology front, ISAAC members continue to thoughtfully address the massive technological change that is the hallmark of our era. The recent explosion of the tablet/app technology is bringing widespread changes to AAC science and practice. If you have not already seen it, I urge you to read the insightful editorial in the latest edition of the AAC Journal by our editors David McNaughton and Janice Light, where they review the tablet/app revolution. In many ways it seems we have come so far from the crude and clunky technology of the early 1980s and yet the issues surrounding technological support for human communication remain

essentially the same – how do we ensure that people come first?

In 30 years ISAAC has matured into a dynamic modern organization. The ISAAC Executive Board (EB) continues to work to ensure the viability, energy, and success of the organization and to enable ISAAC to meet its many strategic goals. The EB will be having its annual face-to-face meeting in Lisbon in July this year, along with the 2014 Co-Chairs, to advance preparations for a successful conference in 2014. Lisbon 2014 seems a long way from 1983 East Lansing, Michigan. On behalf of all of ISAAC I would like to salute the bright whiz-kids of 1983 for their foresight, creativity, efforts, and energy in creating a truly amazing international organization. Thank-you from all of us! And if any of you are up to it in Lisbon 2014, let's try to have at least one disco-dance 1983-style to recreate the aura and energy of that time.

All the best to ISAAC members and may you make the most of your respective summer or winter participating, communicating, and making good memories.

Jeff Riley
ISAAC President 2012-2014
June 2013

Special thanks to our translators for their work in this and every issue of ISAAC E-

News:

*Ghislaine Picot
(French)*

*Cordula Birngruber
(German)*

*Elena Panigadi
(Italian)*

*Ana Saavedra
(Spanish)*

... From the Executive Director

Descobrir a Comunicação – Discover Communication!

Here at the ISAAC International office, we are certainly making many discoveries!

ISAAC International this week opened our 2014 Conference paper submission on-line system. Accessible directly from our website at <https://www.isaac-online.org/english/conference-2014/call-for-papers/>, it allows for registration of your paper and upload of a pdf abstract.

I would also encourage you to submit proposals for Pre-conference Workshops directly into the online submission system. Select the two-hour workshop as the type of presentation. In the comment field, you can indicate that your preference would be to have it presented as a “1-day pre-conference workshop”. Once you submit your proposal, our system will respond with a submission ID number. Feel free to send me an email directly with that submission ID number, and I will make sure it is flagged in our system as a pre-conference workshop proposal.

The system is open for submissions until 18:00 GMT on October 15th, 2013, after which time the system will close, to allow the review process to complete and have acceptance notifications sent by February 15th, 2014.

In a many number of different areas, Conference 2014 represents “new ground” for ISAAC International, in that the conference is now being managed directly out of our offices in Toronto, Canada. I am pleased to announce that Judy Shapiro has joined the Conference 2014 team as our Conference 2014 Sponsorship Specialist. With many years of fundraising and special event / conference sponsorship experience, she brings a strong professional background to our sponsorship efforts. Judy can be reached by email at judy@isaac-online.org.

In addition, we have hired Tony Needer to take charge of our Conference 2014 exhibitor sales efforts. Tony brings a wealth of sales experience to ISAAC, and he can be reached by email at tony@isaac-online.org. Both Judy and Tony will be working with us over the next six months, so please feel free to reach out to them with any ideas or suggestions.

While on the topic of our 2014 Conference, we are also working towards installing a conference registration and hotel reservation application on the ISAAC International website, in order to allow for online conference registration, hotel reservation, and payment by way of VISA or




Franklin Smith, ISAAC
Executive Director



The 16th Biennial
Conference of
ISAAC will be held
July 19 – 24, 2014
in Lisbon, Portugal.

◆
Pre-conference
Workshops &
*AAC Camp:
July 19-20
Research
Symposium:
July 25-26

* Final AAC Camp
dates to be confirmed

...continued on page 4




Find ISAAC 2014
on Facebook!



Follow us on
Twitter!



... From the Executive Director, continued

MasterCard. We expect to launch conference registrations in the September–October 2013 time-frame, so please keep watch on email, the Conference 2014 Facebook page, ISAAC's Twitter feed, and our website for updates on this and all Conference 2014 related news.

I am also pleased to advise that our 2012 financial audit has now been completed. ISAAC's Finance Committee has reviewed the financial statements, and has given its recommendation that they be accepted. These financial statements are posted in the Members Only section. If you are unsure of what your ISAAC member ID number and/or Members Only password might be, please get in touch directly with Nola Millin at nolamillin@isaac-online.org.

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

Franklin Smith
Executive Director

[Click here](#) to find this
article in translation

Lisboa Congress Centre



Belém Tower, Lisbon



Photos courtesy of [Visit Lisboa](#)



News & Events



[Connect to
ISAAC's
YouTube
Channel](#)

Facilitated Communication Review: Update

ISAAC would like to thank everyone who made additional submissions for the ISAAC Facilitated Communication review. All additional submissions have been forwarded to the FC Review Committee for their consideration. The ISAAC Executive Board is committed to ensuring that all members are kept apprised of progress, and in ensuring the full involvement of the ISAAC Council in moving this initiative forward. The FC Review Committee is scheduled to provide the ISAAC EB with a completed draft document by the target date of September 15th, 2013. For detailed information on the submission process and planned next steps please see the FC Committee information sheet [here](#).

New ISAAC Partnership

ISAAC is pleased to announce our newly formed partnership with the Central Coast Children's Foundation (CCCF). A detailed description of CCCF, its goals and activities, can be

CCCF's latest [ACWN Newsletter](#), Issue #1-2013, features articles and information about AAC activities in Russia, Ghana, Poland, and India.

ISAAC is on YouTube! New Uploads...

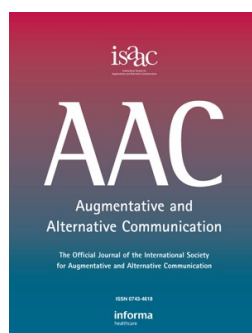
[Lisa Lehmann's Words+ Lecture at ISAAC 2012](#)

Lisa Lehmann, Australia, presents the Words+/ISAAC Outstanding Consumer Lecture, *Intimacy as a Human Need*, at the ISAAC Biennial Conference in Pittsburgh, USA, on July 31, 2012.

[ISAAC 2012 Opening Ceremonies](#)

Opening Ceremonies for the 15th Biennial Conference of ISAAC, Pittsburgh, USA, on July 30, 2012. Featuring keynote speaker Al Condeluci, it concludes with a Parade of Flags, representing participating nations, with musical accompaniment by Snoopi Botten.

[VIEW ISAAC'S CALENDAR OF
UPCOMING EVENTS ON OUR WEBSITE](#)



Now available! The June 2013 edition of AAC journal

This issue's editorial by co-editors David McNaughton and Janice Light is titled, "The iPad and Mobile Technology Revolution: Benefits and Challenges for Individuals who require AAC."

View the full AAC June 2013 Table of Contents [here](#).



News & Events ... continued

Interested in taking on a leadership role in ISAAC? We are looking for a volunteer to Chair our Translations Committee.

Contact [Franklin Smith](#) for details.

ISAAC 2014 Call for Papers now open for submissions

The ISAAC 2014 Paper Submission Guidelines can be downloaded in both [English](#) and in [Portuguese](#). Abstracts can be submitted online [here](#).

Applicants will be notified of acceptance by February 15, 2014.

2014 Research Symposium July 25-26, 2014

A specific call for proposed seminar topics to be developed for the Research Symposium will be sent out later this year.

CAAC Annual Report - 2012

Find out what's new at the Centre for Augmentative and Alternative Communication at the University of Pretoria, South Africa, in this just released [Annual Report](#).

UK Debate on AAC Services

AAC took centre stage in the British House of Commons on June 6, 2013, with Paul Maynard MP leading a debate in the House of Commons on the "Future commissioning arrangements of augmentative and alternative communication services". Read the Hansard transcript [here](#).

AAC Glossary of 150 Terms Available Online

A team of students working with ISAAC-Australia has compiled 150 AAC terms to create a new resource. The [ISAAC Glossary of Terms and Definitions for AAC](#) is now available for free download from the ISAAC-Australia website.

You are invited to download and use the terms and definitions. The published source and a page number for each quote in the document is provided so that you can properly cite the original source.

[Dr. Bronwyn Hemsley](#) is continuing to collect translations of the 150 terms and definitions on Augmentative and Alternative Communication. ISAAC members are invited to assist in updating and translating the Glossary. Details on how to help are included in the document.

Members of ISAAC-Australia worked on this project with non-members in Australia and the ISAAC Translations Committee. The project was a collaborative effort headed by a Project Team that included Bronwyn Hemsley (then at University of Queensland), Kaylie Bastock (Cerebral Palsy Alliance, QLD), Paul Andres (Germany). Thanks to the student volunteers who helped on this project – all named on the document – for their time and efforts to increase awareness of AAC around the world.



Brazilian ISAAC Conference



Report by
Adriana
Peres.
English
translation by
Nadia
Browning.

September 2, 3, and 4, 2013

V Brazilian ISAAC Conference: V Congresso Brasileiro de Comunicação Alternativa, Gramado RS, Brazil.

Nos dias 2, 3 e 4 de setembro acontecerá o “V Congresso Brasileiro de Comunicação Alternativa” em Porto Alegre, na bela cidade de Gramado. Este evento é promovido pela ISAAC Brasil e organizado pela Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS) em parceria com a Universidade Federal de Ciências da Saúde de Porto Alegre (UFCSPA).

A temática deste ano é “Comunicar para Incluir”. Teremos duas conferências internacionais, nove minicursos e diversas mesas-redondas com a participação de conceituados profissionais brasileiros. Entre os assuntos abordados teremos:

- Linguagem e Comunicação Alternativa (CA)
- Sistemas gráficos de CA
- A CA na vida adulta
- CA e inclusão escolar/ Formação de professores
- Tecnologia Assistiva: desenvolvimento e uso
- O uso do IPAD
- CA no contexto Familiar
- O papel da CA no espectro autista
- CA e deficiência múltipla
- CA e a formação nas universidades

Para saber mais, acesse o site:

www.isaac.org.br ou envie e-mail para isaacbrasil.ca@gmail.com

On September 2, 3, and 4 the "V Brazilian Congress of Alternative Communication" will be held in Porto Alegre, in the beautiful city of Gramado. This event is sponsored and organized by ISAAC Brazil and organized by the Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS) in partnership with the Federal University of Health Sciences of Porto Alegre (UFCSPA).

The theme this year is "Communicate to Include". We will have two international conferences, nine small workshops and several round tables with the participation of renowned Brazilian professionals. Several topics will be discussed, such as:

- Language and Alternative Communication
- Graphic Systems in AAC
- AAC in Adulthood
- AAC and School Inclusion / Training of Teachers
- Assistive Technology: Development and Use
- Use of the iPad
- AAC within the Family Context
- Role of AAC on the Autistic Spectrum
- AAC and Multiple Disabilities
- AAC and Training in Universities

To learn more, visit www.isaac.org.br or email isaacbrasil.ca@gmail.com .



What's happening...

In Social Media

A draft ISAAC Governance Policy for Social Media has been posted in the Members Only section of the ISAAC website. Please note that this draft will not be an official ISAAC policy until it has been reviewed and passed by the ISAAC Council.

In the meantime, these standards will be used to guide our organization's social media activities. Your comments and feedback are welcome, and will be considered in the compilation of the final document for Council approval. Please take a look and send your comments and/or questions to Franklin Smith.

DIGITAL DIGEST

Speak Up! is a new weekly digital news digest distributed by USSAAC. Read it online or subscribe.



At the UN

STATE OF THE WORLD'S CHILDREN 2013 - CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

A new edition of UNICEF's The State of the World's Children focuses on children with disabilities and their communities. This 154-page report was published in May 2013.

In Education

NEW POSTGRADUATE DEGREE IN AAC AT DUNDEE UNIVERSITY

The School of Psychology and School of Computing at the University of Dundee are proud to announce a new MSc program starting in September 2013. The aims of this interdisciplinary course are to provide individuals with a psychology, computing, industry or clinical care backgrounds with a better understanding of developments in:

- The psychology of the development of language and communication;
- The design ethnography of AAC solutions;
- The engineering of AAC solutions;
- The effective evaluation of AAC solutions on an individual and group basis.

However, the over-arching aim of the course is to provide individuals with sufficient research training to allow them to become effective scientist-practitioners. For more information on this 12-month full-time course, check the course information page.

- Submitted by Annalu Waller

ADVICE TO TEACHERS FROM PEOPLE WHO USE AAC

This video by Gail Van Tatenhove offers advice for teachers about supporting students who use AAC in general education classrooms.



News from Canada



New Government Funding for AAC Services in BC

CAYA, Communication Assistance for Youth and Adults located in British Columbia (BC), Canada, has received a grant of \$1.5M from the province of BC, in addition to previous funding committed by the government to help support the CAYA program.

According to Jeff Riley, Manager of CAYA, the additional funding “will ensure that at least 60 more people with severe communication disabilities in BC will have their own voice.” Jeff has conveyed his thanks to ISAAC and ISAAC-Canada for supporting CAYA in its efforts to gain the ear of government decision makers.

CAYA provides equipment and services to adults and youth aged 19 or older with complex communication disabilities.

ISAAC Canada Update

Figuratively Speaking is ISAAC Canada’s newsletter. Along with updates from across Canada and a number of ISAAC 2012 reports, this issue introduces the new ISAAC Canada Executive Committee, in effect from January 1, 2013, to December 31, 2016.

Toronto ICE Conference Attracts National Media

Breaking the ICE (Independence, Community and Empowerment) was held in Toronto on the weekend of June 7, 8, and 9, 2013. This biennial conference is created by and for individuals who use AAC, their families., and anyone else interested in AAC.

This year’s event attracted national media, with an entire page in the front section of the Globe & Mail, Canada’s national newspaper, devoted to interviews and participants’ perspectives. You can view the article here.

According to Nora Rothschild, one of the conference organizers, such media attention “really does raise public awareness of people who use AAC - and that is what we were hoping for.”

Notable quotes:

“Show people your sense of humour. Be patient. Tell people you are there and not invisible.”– *Tien Hoang*

“When you ask people here what they want most of all, the message is simple: Get to know me.”– *Gail Fisher-Taylor*

“We are all just a moment away from having our lives changed – to having a life-long disability.”– *Paul Marshall*

ISAAC has 15 Chapters and more than 3,000 members worldwide. For information about how you can participate in your country or region, contact the organizations listed below, or ISAAC International for areas not listed.

ISAAC Chapters

ISAAC Australia
(www.isaacaustralia.com)

ISAAC Brazil

ISAAC Canada
(www.isaac-canada.org)

ISAAC Denmark
(www.isaac.dk)

ISAAC Suomi Finland
(www.papunet.net/isaac)

ISAAC French-speaking countries and regions
(www.isaac-fr.org)

ISAAC German-speaking countries and regions
(www.isaac-online.de)

ISAAC India
(www.ayjnihh.nic.in)

ISAAC Israel
(www.isaac.org.il)

ISAAC Italy
(www.isaacitaly.it)

ISAAC Netherlands/Flanders
(www.isaac-nf.nl)

ISAAC Norway
(www.isaac.no)

ISAAC Sweden
(www.isaac-sverige.se)

ISAAC United Kingdom
(www.communicationmatters.org.uk)

USSAAC
(www.ussaac.org)



Have you renewed your
Membership for 2013?

⋮
(...not yet?)
⋮

Please contact your
local Chapter to renew. For
ISAAC International and
ISAAC-Canada members,
please renew an existing or
lapsed membership here.

(Thank you!)

**INTERNATIONAL
SOCIETY FOR
AUGMENTATIVE &
ALTERNATIVE
COMMUNICATION**

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Fax: 905-850-6852
Email:
info@isaac-online.org



Visit us at
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'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

Executive Board 2012-2014

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[Bronwyn Hemsley](#),
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[Vic Valentic](#)
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[India Ochs](#)
VP Without Portfolio, USA

[Rajul Padmanabhan](#)
VP Without Portfolio, India

[Chih-Kang Yang](#)
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Manager, Communications

[Judy Shapiro](#), Conference 2014
Sponsorship Specialist

[Tony Needer](#), Conference 2014
Exhibitor Sales Specialist

[Nola Millin](#), Editor, ISAAC Website

[Janice Light, Ph.D.](#), and [David McNaughton, Ph.D.](#), AAC Co-editors

[Jackie Brown](#), AAC Editorial Assistant