

Fall 2006

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Citizens With Disabilities

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UAAACT News

Utah Augmentative Alternative Assistive Communication and Technology Teams

Editor: Byron Villeverde
UAAACT Web Site: www.uaaact.org

2007 UAAACT Conference to Be Held In Ogden

Look at your calendars and set aside February 7th and 8th, 2007. Those two days are the dates for our biennial UAAACT Conference. This is a terrific opportunity for UAAACT Teams to share information with one another as well as attend training on the newest computer access tools and augmentative communication devices. As always, the UAAACT Conference is sponsored by the Utah State Office of Education and the Utah Augmentative Alternative Assistive Communication and Technology Teams. This year the conference will also be co-sponsored by the Utah Assistive Technology Program at Utah State University. Like the 2005 conference, we will be trying out a new conference center. This year the conference will be held at the Ogden Eccles Conference Center located in the heart of Ogden. If you want to take a look at the beautiful facility, check it out at their web site <http://oecenter.com/>.

The theme for this conference is "AT – Prioritize, Customize, Individualize". The keynote speakers will be **Judi Sweeney** on February 7th, and **Caroline Musselwhite** on February 8th. Judi Sweeney has been working in education since 1969 and is the founder of Onion Mountain Technology. She developed the LoTTIE Kits that examine low to mid tech assistive technology options for students with learning disabilities. Her website is www.onionmountaintech.com. Caroline Musselwhite is a specialist in assistive technology with more than 25 years of experience. She has authored many books on a variety of educational topics, including Don Johnston's Start-to-Finish Literacy Starters.

In preparation for the conference, there are four things you should do:

- 1) Get permission from your school or district administration to attend the conference.
- 2) Fill out and fax, email or mail the conference registration form to The Computer Center. The form is at the end of this newsletter.
- 3) Read all of the information on page two of this newsletter to determine if you should reserve a room at the Hampton Inn and Suites. Some UAAACT members may be eligible for up to three nights at the Hampton Inn. Read the next page carefully and determine which team member will be staying for the post conference activities on Friday, February 9th. And remember, you must reserve your hotel room by January 8th to get the UAAACT Conference rate.
- 4) Make copies of the registration form and share it with other educators, technology coordinators, parents and other interested individuals.

Continued on page 2

Augmentative Conference - Cont. from page 1

The UAAACT Conference will include 30 breakout sessions and a vendor hall. To encourage your participation, we are issuing a "Call for Presenters" and offering an equipment stipend of \$500 to teams selected to present. Please fill out the "Proposal Form for 2007 UAAACT Conference" on page six of this newsletter if you are willing to share your skills. Also, if you know of someone you would like to have present at the conference, please share the proposal form with them. Proposals forms must be turned in by December 7, 2006, because the UAAACT Leadership Council will be meeting on December 8th to select presenters and arrange the schedule of breakout sessions. Several teams have already submitted proposals.

Conference participants may choose to register for one semester credit hour with the University of Utah. University credit registration will take place on Wednesday morning, February 7th, at the conference registration table. The registration fee for university credit will be approximately \$60.00 at your own expense. Relicensure credit will also be offered at the conference.

The conference is limited to the first 350 participants who get their registration forms in to The Computer Center. UAAACT Team members should get their registrations in as soon as possible to allow us to begin registering other participants. The conference registration form is on page eight of this newsletter and is available at the UAAACT website, www.uaaact.org, under the 2007 UAAACT Conference link. For out of state individuals, the cost to register is \$100.00. The registration form needs to be turned in by January 19th 2007 in order to receive a confirmation of your registration.

Hotel Information: UAAACT members who live more than 50 miles away from the Hampton Inn and Suites in Ogden should consider making hotel reservations. Connected to the Eccles Conference Center, the Hampton Inn and Suites is offering a reduced UAAACT Conference rate of \$63.00 per night/double occupancy. To qualify for this rate

you need to reserve your room at 801-394-9400 by Monday, January 8th, 2007. Should UAAACT members register for one, two, or three nights at the Hampton Inn and Suites? Read the next article for the answer to that question.

Post Conference Training for UAAACT Team Members

The main UAAACT Conference activities will conclude about 1:00 pm on Thursday, February 8th with the luncheon and prize drawing. Beginning about 1:15 pm on Thursday, there will be two sessions for UAAACT members only. One session will be a three hour hands-on computer training on the Solo Suite of software by a Don Johnston trainer. This session will be limited to 25 participants, or one person from each UAAACT team. All other UAAACT members can attend an information packed three hour post conference session with Caroline Musselwhite.

The third, and final post conference session, will be held on Friday morning, February 9th from 8:00 am to noon. One person from each team should plan to attend this final session. It will include a repeat of the Thursday afternoon Don Johnston training on Solo and one hour of training on the new Windows Vista operating system accessibility features. The team member who attends this session should not be the same person who attended the Solo training on Thursday afternoon. Each UAAACT team that has a team member in attendance at this final session will receive a new team laptop.

So, one team member may need to stay at the Hampton Inn and Suites on Thursday night to attend the final session and receive the new laptop on Friday. Most UAAACT members should plan on traveling home on Thursday afternoon when the post conference sessions conclude around 4:00 pm. Those UAAACT members who travel home to the far corners of the state may also feel a need to stay at the hotel on Thursday night for safety reasons. The UAAACT project will cover the full cost of this last hotel night even if your roommate may have gone home the day before. Teams will need to plan carefully and decide who will attend the various post conference sessions, especially the session on Friday morning.

Nominations Requested for the H. Kenton Reavis Distinguished Service Award

During the 2001 UAAACT Conference, the UAAACT Leadership Council presented the first H. Kenton Reavis Distinguished Service Awards in Augmentative Communication. Ken's wife, Ginger Rhode, and long time UAAACT member, Tricia Pearson, were the recipients of the awards. Lou Dwire (2003), Jim West (2005), and Linda Summers (2005) have also received this award.

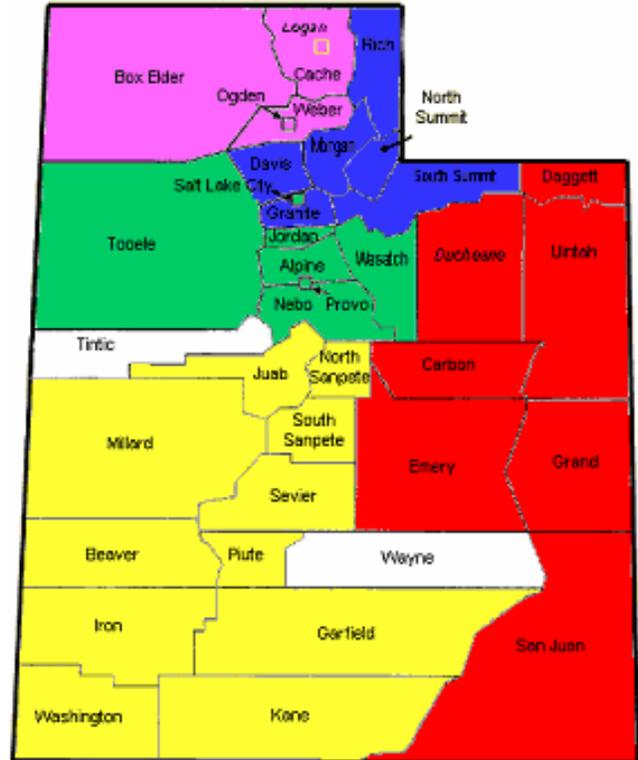
The H. KENTON REAVIS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD IN AUGMENTATIVE COMMUNICATION is established in honor of Ken's leadership and contribution to the field of augmentative communication services in the State of Utah. Ken was a pioneer in developing a statewide program for evaluating the technology needs of students who are limited in oral and written communication skills. The purpose of the award is to recognize an individual in the State of Utah whose outstanding service has enhanced communication skills of students with disabilities.

This award is open to persons who serve on Utah Augmentative Alternative Assistive Communication and Technology (UAAACT) teams or others who provide leadership or direct services to enhance the communication skills of students with disabilities. Please consider an individual you know who meets these criteria and nominate that person for this award.

In your nomination, please include the name of your nominee, a brief description of why he or she deserves the award, and your name and contact information. Please submit your nomination to the Computer Center by January 18, 2007. The award will be presented at the UAAACT Conference on February 7, 2007.

Mail or fax nominations to:
 Computer Center for Citizens With Disabilities
 Attn: UAAACT Leadership Council
 1595 West 500 South
 Salt Lake City, UT 84104
 Fax 801-887-9382

Leadership Council Assignments for 2006-2007 School Year



Gary Steineckert (Yellow section of Map) - Council Chair, Representative for the Kane/Garfield, Washington, Juab/Sanpete/Sevier/Piute, and Iron/Millard/Beaver teams.

Byron Villaverde (green) – Newsletter Editor, Representative for the Alpine/Wasatch, Salt Lake/Tooele, Both Jordan, Nebo, and Alpine/Provo teams.

Suzanne Anderson (blue) – Team Reports, Representative for Both Davis, Granite/Murray, Granite, and the Park City/Summit/ Morgan/Rich teams.

Teresa Gardner (red) – Conference Program, Representative for the Grand/San Juan, Carbon/Emery, and Duchesne/Uintah/ Daggett teams.

Tobey Fields (fuchsia) – Conference Details, Representative for the Weber, Ogden, Box Elder, Cache, Logan, and USDB teams.

WELCOME New Team Members!!

as of Oct. 27, 2006

Team C- Doris Jung
Team D- Brett McCabe, Melanie Hansen, Sandy Averett
Team G- Trudy Crow
Team I- Carrie Fisher
Team J- Pam Tiede
Team L- Heather Thornton and Rachel Troughton
Team N- Christina Oliekan
Team P- Nathan Platt and Chad Fletcher
Team Q- Page Goodall
Team S- Ann Lovell
Team T- Dee Duncan
Team U- Dave Makin
Team V- Kellie Ercanbrack
Team W- Meredyth Grover and Jonathon Lindberg

--Approvals **pending** Letter of Support (As of UAAACT meeting on October 27, 2006)

Team Q – Joni Herrera

Team V- Brita Moe

New Equipment in CI

Following are brief descriptions of new equipment items that have been added to the UAAACT Central Inventory (CI).

IRIS Pen Executive - This is a USB device that allows the user to scan lines of text and have the text read back to them by a computer. The text can also be inserted into a word processor as it is scanned.

Cyrano Communicator – PDA Sized Communication device with built in digital camera. A programmer can easily associate a digital image of an actual item. It can also perform independent text to speech writing across the entire screen.

Omni Page 15 – Quick, easy and relatively cheap optical character recognition software. This may help students with print access difficulties.

Wireless Switch Interface – Computer switch interface that keeps cords out of the way. This can be attached to a wheel chair or other device and access the computer without direct line of site. *If your team would like a Wireless Switch Interface please contact Lynn at The Computer Center either at lmarcoux@utah.gov or 801-887-9380 to request one.*

Paletto Plus – Mid tech communication device with large spaced out access buttons. It can be programmed for multiple levels and can even come with motivators like animal sounds.

L*E*O* LEOSKT (Language and ECU in One) – This is a framed communication device that can be set up with hotspots on a picture to allow a user to touch areas of a picture to get either ECU access (turn on a TV) or auditory feedback.

Erika Eye Gaze System – Improved eye gaze system. The Erika still requires the user to keep their head still as possible. It also requires the user to be a certain distance from the monitor. The Erika includes communication software, but can be customized with software that might be more appropriate for your student.

Miscellaneous Items

1. Team Leaders – Please e-mail to Lynn all current e-mail addresses of team members
2. A change was made to the travel policy. For UAAACT members rooming by themselves or with their families, the UAAACT Project will reimburse 25% of the hotel room rate instead of 50%. This will become effective July 1, 2007.
3. Free Assistive Technology Downloads – The Ohio assistive technology project has put together what they believe to be the most comprehensive, up-to-date, online library of **FREE** assistive technology applications. There are over 200 products. You can download many helpful software programs and utilities. For example, you may want to try ReadPlease, a program that will read any document you open. The web site is:

<http://www.onlineconferencingsystems.com/at.htm>

UAAACT Calendar of Events

Training classes will be occurring at The Computer Center, 1595 W. 500 S. SLC, UT. To register for these workshops, please Call Lynn Marcoux @ 1-888-866-5550.

Making Curriculum Accessible by Scott Baggaley	Nov. 2, 1-3 PM
Noon- Intro to Dynavox Series 4 by Tanya Turner	Nov. 9, 9 AM
Dynavox Series 4 Advanced by Tanya Turner	Nov. 9, 1-4 PM
Free Cause & Effect, & Early Learning Software by Craig Boogaard	Dec. 7, 1-3 PM
UAAACT Leadership Council Meeting	Dec. 8, 11 AM – 3 PM
Noon- Intro to Dynavox Series 4 by Tanya Turner	Dec. 18, 9 AM
Dynavox Series 4 Advanced by Tanya Turner	Dec. 19, 1-4 PM
Noon- Dynavox Qualification Training by Tanya Turner	Dec. 21, 9 AM
Dynavox Funding Manager Training by Tanya Turner	Dec. 21, 1-2 PM
Intro to Dynavox Series 4 by Tanya Turner	Dec. 21, 2-5 PM
Math Ideas	Jan. 12, 1-3 PM
UAAACT Leadership Council Meeting	Jan, 19, 11 AM – 3 PM
UAAACT Leadership Council Meeting	Feb. 6, 6:00 PM
UAAACT Conference	Feb. 7-9
Assessment and Legal Issues	Mar. 8, 1-3 PM
Assistive Technology by Joy Zabala (more info coming)	Mar. 14-15
High Tech AAC Options	April 13, 1-3 PM
Writing & the Windows Vista Speech Recognition Engine	May 3, 1-3 PM

**PROPOSAL FORM FOR 2007 UAACT CONFERENCE
BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

The 2007 UAACT Conference will be held at the Eccles Conference Center (2415 Washington Blvd., Ogden Utah 84401) on February 7 and 8, 2006. Approximately 350 individuals will attend the conference. Session attendance may vary from 30 to 100 participants.

PRESENTER #1:

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Day Phone: _____ FAX: _____

Email: _____

CO:PRESENTER/S

Name and Day Phone : _____

TITLE OF PRESENTATION:

Please write a 1-2 sentence summary (about 25 words) that could be printed in the PROGRAM if the presentation is accepted:

This session would best be presented in: ____60 minutes or ____90 minutes

EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS - NO CHANGES AFTER FEBRUARY 1, 2005

Equipment you are requesting for your presentation:

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| ___ (1) Projection Screen | ___ (1) 1/2" VHS VCR |
| ___ (1) 35mm Slide Projector | ___ (1) Easel, Pad & Markers |
| ___ (1) Overhead Projector (for transparencies) | ___ (1) Computer Projector |

Equipment you are bringing for your presentation:

It is expressly understood that any equipment not checked off is the responsibility of the presenter, unless otherwise listed.

_____ Date _____

(Signature)

Please return this proposal form by December 7, 2006 to:

The Computer Center for Citizens With Disabilities
CALL FOR PRESENTERS
1595 W. 500 South
Salt Lake City, UT 84104

For more information, contact Lynn Marcoux, Scott Baggaley or Craig Boogaard

Phone: 801-887-9380 or toll free in Utah at 888-866-5550

FAX: 801-887-9382

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2007 UTAH AUGMENTATIVE CONFERENCE

Registration Form and Information

Wednesday February 7th and Thursday February 8th, 2007

At the Ogden Eccles Conference Center, 2415 Washington Blvd, Ogden, UT 84401 and Hampton Inn and Suites, 2401 Washington Blvd, Ogden, UT 84401, 801-394-9400, \$63/ night single and double occupancy

The 2007 Utah Augmentative Conference is sponsored by the Utah State Office of Education and the Utah Augmentative Alternative Assistive Communication and Technology Teams (UAAACT). Judi Sweeney (February 7th) of Onion Mountain Technology, Inc. and Caroline Musselwhite (February 8th) of AAC Intervention.com will be keynote speakers at the conference. Other sessions will be presented by UAAACT teams, assistive technology experts, and vendors who develop and sell technology tools.

There is no fee for Utah residents to attend the conference, but registration is limited to the first 350 individuals who mail in or fax the registration form. Conference participants may choose to register for one semester credit hour from the University of Utah on Wednesday morning, February 7th, at the conference registration table. The registration fee for university credit will be approximately \$60.00 at your own expense. Relicensure credit will also be offered at the conference.

Conference registration and a continental breakfast will begin at 7:45 a.m. on Wednesday, February 7th and the conference will conclude at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 8th. A confirmation notice will be mailed to conference participants who register by January 19st. If you will be staying at the Hampton Inn and Suites, please call the phone number above to reserve a room at the special conference rate of \$63.00 per night, double or single occupancy. You must reserve your room by Monday, January 8, 2007 to get the conference rate.

To register for the conference, please complete the form below and mail or fax to:

The Computer Center for Citizens With Disabilities (CCCD)

Attn: UAAACT Conference

1595 West 500 South

FAX: 801-887-9382

Salt Lake City, UT 84104

For more information call 887-9380 or 888-866-5550 - toll free in Utah

2007 Utah Augmentative Conference Registration Form

Please print neatly as this information will be used to mail your conference confirmation notice.

Name _____
Address _____
City, State ZIP _____
Daytime phone _____

Please mark all that apply:

_____ I am a UAAACT Team member and plan to attend the Wednesday evening UAAACT dinner.(no cost to UAAACT Members).

_____ I need a vegetarian meal for the Wednesday evening Dinner (UAAACT Team members only).

_____ I am a UAAACT Team member and plan to attend the Thursday luncheon and prize drawing (no cost to UAAACT Members).

_____ I am not a UAAACT Team member and plan to attend the Thursday luncheon and prize drawing (Please enclose a check for \$12 payable to the "UAAACT Project" for your lunch).

_____ I do not plan to attend the Thursday luncheon but realize I will miss the drawing of vendor products to be given away at the conclusion of the conference.

_____ I need a vegetarian meal for the Thursday luncheon.

_____ I need accommodations (sign language interpreter, large print program, etc.) to fully enjoy and participate in the conference. Please specify _____