Article from **RERC on Communication Enhancement eNews**
(http://www.imakenews.com/aac-rerc/e_article000584609.cfm?x=b11,0,w)

May 16, 2006
Announcing….
Want to know what's new in our world? Check out what we've recently participated in, produced, published, and posted, as well as what's new with personnel happenings.

Dissemination through Participation

AAC Webcasts
The **webcasts** on various AAC and communication-related topics, which began on February 1, 2005, have been very successful! The first three webcasts, Supporting Successful Transition for Individuals who use AAC (David McNaughton), AAC Interventions to Maximize Language Development for Young Children (Janice Light), and AAC and Aphasia: A Review of Visual Scenes Display Project (David Beukelman) are still available for viewing. The most recently produced topic is:

- An Overview of the Health-based Funding Programs that Cover SGDs (Lew Golinker)

To view the webcasts, go to the AAC-RERC website and follow the links for Webcasts.

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Publications Hot Off the Press

The partners and staff of the AAC-RERC have been busy spreading the word through journal and newsletter articles. Here's a list of some of our recent publications. Check the Pubs & Presentations section our website for a complete bibliography.

- **Comment on school experiences across four decades.** Blackstone, S., Baster, L., Chapple, D., Geluso, B., Merchen, M.A., and Schwartz, J. (2005). *Augmentative Communication News*, 17:3, 5-6.

- **Augmentative and Alternative Communication Use and Acceptance by Adults with Traumatic Brain Injury.** Fager, S., Huxa, K., Beukelman, D.R., & Karantounis, R. *Augmentative and Alternative Communication*, March 2006 Vol. 22 (1), pp. 37 – 47.

- **Job-related social networks and communication technology.** Bryen, D.N. (2006) *Augmentative and Alternative Communication*, 22:1, 1-9

- **Using Visual Scene Displays to Improve Communication and Communication Instruction in Persons With Autism Spectrum Disorders.** Shane, H.C. (2006) ASHA Division 12 Newsletter, Spring, 2006.

- **Key Principles in AAC: Blackstone, Williams, and Wilkins.** Blackstone, S. (2006). *Augmentative Communication News*, 18:1, 1-4.

- **Access to AAC: Past, Present, and Future: Shane, Higginbotham, Russell, and Caves.** Blackstone, S. (2006). *Augmentative Communication News*, 18:1, 5-6.

- **Interconnectivity: Enhancing AAC Connections: DeRuyter and Caves.** Blackstone, S (2006). *Augmentative Communication News*, 18:1, 6-8.
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  Beginning Communicators: Improving AAC Outcomes: Light

and Drager. Blackstone, S. (2006). *Augmentative Communication News*, 18:1, 8-10.

- **Adolescents/Adults with DD: Enhancing Participation & Access to Meaningful Roles: McNaughton and Bryen.** Blackstone, S. (2006). *Augmentative Communication News*, 18:1, 10-12.

- **Adults with Acquired Disabilities: Use of AAC to Enhance Social Participation: Beukelman, Fager, and Ball.** Blackstone, S. (2006). *Augmentative Communication News*, 18:1, 12-14.

- **Teaching Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders Using Electronic Screen Media.** Kim, M. & Schwartz, J. (2006). The ConnSENSE Bulletin, May 25, 2006. http://www.connsensebulletin.com/wbshane.html

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Postings from ACOLUG

What's an SGD? What's on the horizon for students who rely on AAC? Want to hear about the AAC-RERC's State of the Science Conference?

ACOLUG is a LISTSERV created to exchange ideas, information, and experiences on augmentative communication by people from all over the world. By using e-mail, people who use augmentative communication and their friends and families discuss issues related to augmentative communication, such as equipment, funding, learning techniques, and supports. Recently, ACOLUG discussions revolved around:

- Access and Rate (4/10/06)

- Engendering Digital Independence in Students that Rely on AAC: The Promise, Issues, Ideas and Suggested Next Steps (Re-summarized) (3/6/06)

- State of the Science Conference (2/6/06)

- Engendering Digital Independence in Students that Rely on AAC: The Promise, Issues, Ideas and Suggested Next Steps (12/5/05)

- Published Article (11/21/05)

- AAC / SGD (10/31/05)

- New Web Links on AAC-RERC Web Site (12/17/05)

The AAC-RERC provides support to ACOLUG. All you need to join is internet access and an email address. To check it out, visit ACOLUG on the web.

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Personnel Happenings

Congratulations to the newest members of the AAC-RERC Writers Brigade. We are pleased to announce that Lauren Baxter, Mick Joyce, Matthew Kim, and Lateef McLeod have joined the Brigade. These folks, along with veteran member David Chapple, will work under the mentorship of Johana Schwartz, project manager. Check out the personal statements from WB members in this issue.

Our best wishes are extended to Ami Profeta, who has completed his internship with ACOLUG. Keep watching - a new ACOLUG intern should be announced soon!

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