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January 5, 2005

Upcoming Staff Presentations

AAC-RERC partners and staff are gearing up for a busy 2005 as they prepare to lead numerous sessions at Assistive Technology Industry Association (ATIA) 2005 Conference and Exhibition, the Center on Disabilities at California State University, Northridge (CSUN) Technology and Persons with Disabilities Conference, and the United States Society for Alternative and Augmentative Communication (USSAAC) Biennial Conference.

ATIA 2005 is scheduled for January 19 – 22 in Orlando, Florida. Frank DeRuyter will present an educational session, RERC on Communication Enhancement – Activity Update.

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CSUN's 20th anniversary conference takes place in Los Angeles from March 14th through 19th. Several AAC-RERC partners will be presenting on various AAC-related topics. Some of the topics are listed below. Click on the link to view the presentation abstract and presenter contact information.

- AAC-RERC Activity Update (Frank DeRuyter, Kevin Caves)
- Platform-Independent and Web-Based AT Outcome Data Collection Tools (Frank DeRuyter, Dan Saldana, Jeff Jutai)
- Social Networks in Assessment, Treatment and Measurement: A Report on International Activities (Sarah Blackstone)
- The AAC-RERC Writers Brigade: A Year of Outcomes (Sarah Blackstone, Johana Schwartz, Joe Hemphill, Tom Younkerman, Tracy Rackensperger, Bill Geluso)
- The FrameTalker Project: Building an Utterance-Based Communication Device (Jeff Higginbotham, Gregory W. Lesher, Bryan J. Moulton, Kimberly Adams, David Wilkins)
- Using Web Content to Enhance Augmentative Communication (Jeff Higginbotham and Gregory W. Lesher)
- Why I Use More Than One Communication Device (Michael Williams)

In addition to the presentations by partners, the AAC-RERC will also be hosting an **exhibit booth**. If you're at the conference, please make sure you stop by **Booth 149** in the Hilton Los Angeles Airport to say hello and pick up copies of our literature.

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The 2005 USSAAC Biennial Conference will be held in Los Angeles, CA fully integrated with the CSUN conference. The conference dates are March 17-19, 2005. The USSAAC tract will offer three session rooms paralleling the CSUN agenda to offer uninterrupted Exhibit Hall opportunities. AAC-RERC partners will be presenting the following sessions:

- AAC Use by Persons with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) & Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) (David Beukelman)
- Emerging AAC Interfaces for Persons with Severe Language or Motor Limitations (David Beukelman)
- The AAC-RERC Writers Brigade: A Year of Outcomes (Sarah Blackstone, Johana

Schwartz, Joe Hemphill, and Tracy Rackensperger)
- Social Networks in Assessment, Treatment and Measurement: A Report on International Activities (Sarah Blackstone)
- AAC In Action: A New Model for Understanding AAC Performance (Jeffrey Higginbotham & David P. Wilkins)
- Electronic Screen Media and Intelligent Agents for Persons with Autism Spectrum Disorders: Results of a Survey (Howard Shane)
- The Value of Video Technology in Teaching Children with ASD (Howard Shane)
- Why I Use More Than One Communication Device (Michael Williams)

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Looking Ahead.............

The Federal Lab Consortium for Technology Transfer will hold their annual conference, FLC 2005, Mission Driven Partnerships on May 1-6, 2005 in Orlando, Florida. Frank DeRuyter, Joe Lane, and Howard Shane will present "Assistive Technology: Challenges to the Federal Labs." This panel will provide 1) updates within the field of assistive technology; 2) collaborations between regional/individual federal labs and the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR); and 3) accommodation and employment considerations for individuals with disabilities within the FLC.

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Check out the ATIA, CSUN, USSAAC, and FLC conference websites for complete conference information.

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