

Assistive Technology: *Improving Lives Daily*

The Assistive Technology Access Partnership is pleased to present the 2007 RI Conference on assistive technology. As always, the conference promises to be filled with information and the newest and best assistive technologies for people with disabilities. The focus this year is on building the AT capacity of educators, rehabilitation counselors and other service providers to meet the growing AT needs in RI.

We are especially pleased to welcome Dr. Marcia Scherer as our Keynote Speaker! Dr. Scherer is President of the Institute for Matching Person & Technology, a Professor at the University of Rochester Medical Center, Editor of *Disability and Technology: Assistive Technology*, and author of several books including *Living in the State of Stuck: How Assistive Technology Impacts the Lives of People with Disabilities*. Dr. Scherer has important information to share about AT and the lives of people with disabilities. **Dr. Scherer is able to be with us due to the generous support of Rhodes to Independence.**

Continuing
Education Credits
Bradley Hospital is
approved by the
Continuing Education
Board of the American



Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) to provide continuing education activities in speech-language pathology and audiology. This program is offered for .4 CEUs (various levels; professional area). ASHA CEU Provider approval does not imply endorsement of course content, specific products, or clinical procedures.

RI Department of Education PDCs will be available.

Certified Rehabilitation Counselor Credits will be available.

Conference Schedule

7:30-8:30	Registration and Coffee
8:30-10:00	Session I
10:30-12:00	Session II
12:00-1:15	Lunch KEYNOTE Address
1:30-3:00	Session III

Exhibit Hall Open All Day 8:00 - 3:00

Registration Information

1. A sit down luncheon will be served at 12:00 noon.
2. Personal Attendants accompanying individuals may attend the conference at no charge; if they require a lunch, the cost is \$20.00
3. While every effort will be made to respond to **requests for accommodations**, none, including individual session interpreters, can be guaranteed if requested after **Friday, October 19th**
4. Scholarship help may be available; call TechACCESS at 401-463-0202.
5. Participants are requested to avoid wearing scents, in consideration of those having chemical sensitivity.
6. There will be a CART reporter and an ASL Interpreter available at the luncheon.

Conference sponsored by:

Assistive Technology Access Partnership (ATAP),
Office of Rehabilitation Services
RI Department of Education, Office of Special Needs
RI Department of Health, Disability & Health Program
RI Governor's Commission on Disabilities
The Paul V. Sherlock Center on Disabilities
at Rhode Island College
Rhode Island Rehabilitation Association
Emma Pendleton Bradley Hospital
TechACCESS of RI

Directions to the Crowne Plaza **Crowne Plaza at the Crossings** **Use Grand Ballroom Entrance** **at rear of building**

801 Greenwich Avenue, Warwick, RI
(401) 732-6000

95 North Bound (from New York) -
Exit 12A, bear right before light, hotel is on the right.

95 South Bound (from Boston) - Exit 12A, bear right
before light, hotel is on the right.

Bus Information: Bus #13 - East Greenwich

Presentations

Session I - 8:30AM - 10:00AM

A. *Putting Assistive Technology to Work: Session 1*

Session 1 of this three hour presentation will provide background on the theory and practice of the use of AT in employment, and the value of a good match between the person and technology in order to promote success.

Marcia Scherer, Institute for Matching Person & Technology, Inc., NY

B. *Teaching Literacy Skills to Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders*

This session will highlight the core deficits students with autism spectrum disorder have with learning to read and with comprehension. Low tech and high tech supports to teach literacy skills will be presented.

Sue Constable, Autism Support Center, RIDE, RI

C. *The Assistive Technology Decision Making Process: Evaluation, Consultation and Trial*

Participants will gain an understanding of the Assistive Technology decision making process. They will learn about evaluation, consultation and device trials and will be able to determine what approach is needed for an individual.

Amy Norton, NEAT Center at Oakhill, CT

D. *Zygo, Inc. : An overview of Zygo Communication Products*

Brian Weiss, Zygo representative, will provide an overview of Zygo communication devices. Zygo is one of the top three augmentative communication device manufacturers.

Brian Weiss, Zygo Inc., CT

Presentation by a product vendor

E. *Kurzweil 3000: Adaptability to the Universal Design for Learning Model*

Session will focus on this popular software product that supports inclusive learning for students with learning disabilities.

Nancy Avery, Kurzweil Educational Systems and IntelliTools, Cambium Learning Technologies Companies, MA

Presentation by a product vendor

Session II - 10:30AM - 12:00NOON

F. *Putting Assistive Technology to Work: Session 2*

Session two will focus on practical applications, case studies, and decision making about the most appropriate AT to select. Participants will be provided with the Assistive Technology Device Predisposition Assessment materials and will have practice in using them.

Marcia Scherer, Institute for Matching Person & Technology, Inc., NY

G. *Cause & Effect Software with Mission Control*

Get experience with a wide array of software programs and the new Mission Control access device built to foster interactive responses from students. Skills building activities will be explored. Software giveaways.

Erin Lavin, Tool Factory/AT KidSystems, VT
Presentation by a product vendor

H. *Assistive Technology Implementation Strategies*

Implementing assistive technology requires planning, shared responsibility, accountability, and documentation. Participants will discuss the implementation process and learn several frameworks for implementation.

Amy Norton, NEAT Center at Oakhill, CT

I. *DynaVox Technologies: An overview of DynaVox Communication Products*

DynaVox representative will present an overview of their products, including communication devices, the new (InterAACT) software, and the new Vmax device. Available funding options will be presented. DynaVox is one of the top three augmentative communication device manufacturers.

Jennifer Della Ruffa, CT

Presentation by a product vendor

J. *Technology Options for People with Hearing Loss in the Workplace*

Hearing accommodation technology for the workplace can be intimidating. This workshop will explore four areas of technology and help you decide what will work for you and your employer.

Christine Thompson, Hearing Loss Association of Rhode Island, RI

Session III - 1:30PM - 3:00PM

K. *Assistive Technology: Making It Work*

A five person panel of rehabilitation counselors will discuss the use of assistive technology as an aide in achieving successful employment outcomes for persons with disabilities.

Linda Deschenes, RI Office of Rehabilitation Services, RI

L. *Reading Tracts for the Inclusive Classroom: Special Education ESL and Under-achievers*

Explore an English/Spanish screen reader using the new access device Mission Control. Explore the building blocks of reading up to fluency. Explore other interactive activities.

Erin Lavin, Tool Factory/AT KidSystems, VT
Presentation by a product vendor



M. Keys to Successful AAC Device Trial

Implementing a successful trial period for an AAC device can be overwhelming. This presentation will provide strategies for making the most of your trial period.

Matthew Provost, TechACCESS of RI

N. Prentke Romich Company: An overview of Prentke Romich Communication Devices

See the unique features of UNITY, the most powerful language system in AAC devices today. Area representative for Prentke Romich will provide product demonstration. Prentke Romich is one of the top three augmentative communication device manufacturers.

Shawn Malcolmson, Prentke Romich Company, OH Presentation by a product vendor

O. Deciding to Have a Cochlear Implant: The Experience of Two Adults

Two recent adult cochlear implant recipients will present information about the cochlear implant surgery and share their own personal experience with the process.

Marie Younkin-Waldman, Tea with Marie, COX, RI James Litvack, PARI, RI

Presentation of products or content does not imply endorsement by the Conference or its sponsors.

Partial List of Exhibitors: (as of this printing)

- Assistive Technology Access Partnership
- AbilityPLUS Inc.
- Accessing Community Transportation, Inc.
- Adaptive Technology Consulting, Inc.
- Custom Specialty Products
- Dynavox Technologies
- Easter Seals MA
- EVAS
- Freedom Scientific
- Hudson Home Health Care
- Kurzweil Ed. Systems/Cambium Learning Companies
- Lift & Care Systems, Inc.
- National Federation of the Blind of RI
- New England Assistive Technology Center (NEAT)
- Patient Lifts of New England
- Prentke Romich Company
- Recordings for the Blind and Dyslexic
- Rhode Island Parent Information Network
- Rhodes to Independence
- Ride-Away Handicap Equipment Corporation
- Texthelp Systems, Inc.
- Vision Dynamics
- Zygo, Inc.

Registration Form

Fee:

- Pre-registration, exhibits, lunch \$70.00
- Student fee (full-time undergraduate) \$40.00
- Exhibit Hall Only \$20.00
- Lunch Only \$20.00
- Donation to support scholarships \$ _____
- Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Pre-registration must be received by November 9, 2007. Walk-in registration is \$85.00 (Walk-in registrations cannot be assured lunch).

Make check payable to:

TechACCESS of Rhode Island
110 Jefferson Blvd., Ste. 1
Warwick, RI 02888-3854
(401)463-0202 (Voice/TDD), Fax (401)463-3433
(800) 916-TECH (8324) in state

Name as it will appear on nametag:

Agency/School: _____

Address: _____ home work

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

I am attending the conference as a: (check all that apply)

- person with a disability
- family member
- professional
- student

Accommodations requested: (must be received by October 19, 2007)

- Large Print
- Braille
- CD
- Vegetarian Lunch
- ASL
- Sighted Guide
- FM System (workshops only)

We regret we are unable to process refunds.