

***CENTRE FOR AUGMENTATIVE  
AND ALTERNATIVE COMMUNICATION  
UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA***

**ANNUAL REPORT:**  
*1 JANUARY TO 31 DECEMBER 2003*



**University of Pretoria**



**CENTRE FOR AUGMENTATIVE AND ALTERNATIVE COMMUNICATION,  
MAIN CAMPUS, LYNNWOOD ROAD, UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA**

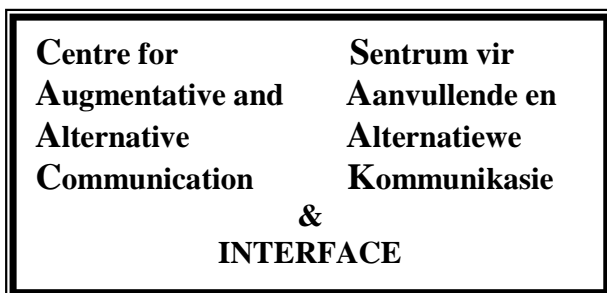


**CENTRE STAFF 2004**

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Middle row: Miss Maureen Casey, Mr Martin Pistorius, Prof Erna Alant (Director).  
Front row: Mrs Liza Human, Ms Shakila Dada and Miss Michal Harty (Insert: Mrs Munyane Mophosho).**

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- 2002: *Shirley McNaughton Award for Exemplary Communication received from the International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication*
- 1998: *Rolex Award for Enterprise: Associate Laureate*
- 1995: *Education Africa Presidential Award for Special Needs*

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## **CENTRE FOR AUGMENTATIVE AND ALTERNATIVE COMMUNICATION**

### **ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD: 1 JANUARY 2003 TO 31 DECEMBER 2003**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The year 2003 was once again a year of great activities in the CAAC. True to the nature of the CAAC, the activities were varied and included a broad mix of formal training, community involvement and research activities.

Four PhD graduates finished their studies, three in Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) and one in Communication Pathology. Three of these students are occupational therapists and one is a speech-language therapist. This reflects the increasing multi-professional expertise in the AAC field, which is particularly gratifying. This year also marked the graduation of the first masters' students in Early Childhood Intervention.

Three CAAC staff members were able to participate in research and training activities overseas and three staff members took study leave, two to further their own PhD studies and one to invest time in a book on AAC in poverty contexts which will probably be published in 2004. This orientation towards providing staff with necessary time off to invest in their own development is seen as pivotal to the success of the activities in the CAAC.

2003 also marked a sharp increase in tender training activities of the CAAC in schools as educators and managers become increasingly aware of the major role that AAC can play in facilitating learning in the classroom. In addition, the CAAC has been integrally involved with INTERFACE in planning the First Regional African AAC conference, which will take place in February 2004. This collaborative effort is undoubtedly one of the most important awareness and training events in AAC and severe disabilities ever in our country. It is anticipated that participants will include a broad variety of individuals who use AAC as well as parents and professionals who would like to expand their knowledge and understanding of the field.

We are indeed grateful for another year in which the CAAC could excel and receive the recognition to encourage staff and partners to continue to play this most vital role with INTERFACE in promoting research, training and community awareness on severe disability in South Africa and beyond.

## AN OVERVIEW: 2003 IN A NUTSHELL

### **A. Formal Training:**

#### **Objectives 2003:**

- To finalise 4 PhD students and to maintain and increase collaboration internationally in relation to the PhD program in the CAAC.
- To maintain a high quality in training in all programs offered in the CAAC by collaborative teaching and learning .
- To explore more formal academic links with the Faculty of Education (UP) by exploring an international student exchange program for pre-graduate students in Special Education in collaboration with Purdue University (USA) and to explore the introduction of a Special Needs module for all education students on a pre-graduate level at the University of Pretoria.

#### **Outcomes 2003:**

- Four PhD students qualified and international collaboration around this program was maintained.
- High quality training was maintained as staff sustains a high level of interactivity with students to monitor their progress in addition to staff peer interaction around curricula issues to ensure international competitiveness.
- A student exchange program between students in Special Needs, Faculty of Education and Purdue University (USA) was developed and will be implemented in August 2004. In addition, collaboration around the introduction of a special needs module for all education students was initiated. This will be followed through in 2004.

### **B. Research:**

#### **Objectives 2003**

- To explore issues surrounding the ICF (WHO's new classification on disability) and it's relevance for research in severe disabilities.
- To maintain high quality research outputs, both locally and internationally.
- To strengthen international collaboration, for example with Malardaren University, Sweden, particularly in relation to a parent / family training project.
- To increase research collaboration with Prof. Ronski and Prof. Sevcik (Georgia State University, USA)

#### **Outcomes 2003**

- The CAAC participated in a WHO workshop on the development of an ICF version for children. At least two new PhD students have expressed interest in using this classification to explore application within the disability context.
- A high publication profile was maintained by CAAC staff:
  - Published: 4 local and 3 international
  - Accepted for publication: 12 articles and book chapters
  - Submitted: 8 articles
- The CAAC/Marlardaren was awarded a three year grant to develop joint research initiatives between the institutions by the NRF/SIDA.
- Collaboration was strengthened as one CAAC staff member visited Georgia State University and various honours research projects were planned for 2004.

### **C. Informal and Community Training:**

#### **Objectives 2003**

- To increase tenders as a means of income generation for the CAAC as well as involvement in communities
- To maintain selected community projects that can be integrated within the training and research of the CAAC.
- To develop a project oriented to the empowerment of people with disabilities, and to invite Dr Diane Bryen from Temple State University to assist with this.
- To plan and organize the 2004 First Regional African Conference in Early Childhood Intervention, Human Rights, Severe Disabilities and AAC.

#### **Outcomes 2003**

- Tender training has increased this year (total 6) as the CAAC engages more consistently in educator training in special needs and severe disabilities.
- The CAAC has also embarked on two major community training projects
  - North West educator training project in special needs
  - Moloto project: Working with foster parents
- Two staff members were overseas to explore stronger ties with Temple University (Philadelphia) to investigate the introduction of a stronger research focus on self-determination and empowerment for people with severe disabilities. This is a major project and will be continued in 2004.
- The CAAC/INTERFACE affiliation invested major time in the planning and organising of the First Regional African AAC Conference. There is great national and international interest in this conference and planning is on schedule.

## REPORT-BACK ON ACTIVITIES DURING 2003

### 1. DEGREE TRAINING

#### 1.1 Degree Training Specialising In AAC

DEGREE	NUMBER OF STUDENTS		OUTCOMES: SUCCESSFUL COMPLETIONS
ACE - Advanced Certificate in Education with Specialization in the Inclusion of Learners with Severe Disabilities	First year:	19	19 Students successfully completed the first year of the ACE. 2 students registered for non-certificate purposes and passed. 2 deregistered. 11 students successfully completed the ACE.
	Second year:	11	
BA Hons (AAC)	First year:	20	3 students deregistered and 17 wrote exams 1 student deregistered, and 1 graduated. 1 registered for non-degree purposes and 6 students to graduate in 2004.
	Accelerated	2	
	Second year:	7	
MA (AAC)	First year:	3	All 3 the first year students met the requirements to continue to the second year. Two-second year students were unable to complete their studies due to ill health, whilst one student who had been busy for an extended period deregistered. Of the remaining 7 second years, 2 students opted for the course work option (both successfully completed their studies) whilst 5 are in the final stages of their research. On completion of their studies, each of these students will also be expected to complete an article for an accredited journal as part of the fulfilment of the requirements for this degree.
	Second year:	10	
M (ECI)	Graduates:	24	24 students graduated in April 2003. 12 students enrolled for first year and passed all their modules for the year. 20 students enrolled for second year. 19 students passed the required modules and will graduate in April 2003. 1 student will repeat two modules in 2004.
	First year:	12	
	Second year:	20	
PhD	Graduates	3	3 students graduated in April 2003. 5 students are progressing well with their doctorates.
	First year:	1	
	Second year:	1	
	Fourth year:	3	

#### 1.2 CAAC Involvement In Degree Training Of Other Departments

DEPARTMENT	COURSE	NUMBER OF STUDENTS
Communication pathology	KMP 311	All 41 students successfully completed this course.
Communication pathology	KMP 312	All 43 students successfully completed this course. Mention was made of the high academic standard and practical application of the areas covered. Resulting from this, 4 students will continue in this field in 2004 by doing their pre-graduate research in this area.
Communication pathology	D.Phil in Communication Pathology	1 student graduated in September 2003.



## 2. TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

### 2.1 Training and Capacity Building In Research

DATE/ PLACE	NATURE OF CONTACT	STAFF MEMBER	CONTENT	OUTCOME EVALUATION
17 January HSRC Building, Pretoria	Strategic planning with members of the HSRC and Dept of Social Development	Mrs E.M. Mophosho Ms S. Dada	To plan the way forward for the development of the pilot project for testing the Care Dependency Grant (CDG) and the Disability Grant (DG).	Dates were set for the National and Regional workshops as well as for the training of the panels within the 3 selected provinces, namely North West Province, Free State and KZN.
January to August CAAC	Twelve Teleconferences	Prof E. Alant Mrs E.M. Mophosho Dr J. Bornman Miss M. Harty Miss M.A. Casey Dr C.J.E.Uys	To discuss the following steps in the disability grant project and plan for the future activities.	The teleconferences kept all participants abreast with activities in all the involved provinces and made working together in the team a positive experience.
February CSIR	Seminar presentation	Ms M. Geiger Ms S. Dada	Online group discussions for Masters in Early Childhood Intervention using Web CT Tool	The participants found the presentation useful as it provided practical ideas on facilitating online discussions with postgraduate students.
13 - 14 February CAAC	AAC research Seminar	Hosted by the CAAC	Individuals interested in exploring issues in the field of AAC and severe disabilities.7 presentations discussing current and completed research undertaken by postgraduate students at the CAAC. 3 presentations discussing current issues in the field of disability and research.	The participants enjoyed the discussions regarding key issues, which were facilitated by the presenters. In future more time should be allocated to small group discussions of methodological issues.
18 March Kempton Park	National Workshop (HSRC)	Dr J. Bornman Mrs E.M. Mophosho Miss M.A. Casey	To obtain feedback from all the stakeholders in the field of disability regarding both the positive and the negative aspects of the CDG and the DG.	The CAAC staff facilitated small group discussions, acted as scribes and compiled a report on the feedback offered by the delegates regarding the current status of the CDG and DG.
14 April CAAC	Early Childhood Intervention Presentation	Early Childhood Intervention lecturers and students.	Graduate students presented their portfolios to the lecturers and stakeholders in ECI and shared their experience of the course and its impact on the work environment. Prof J.D. Jansen addressed the students and congratulated them on their achievement.	The experience was positive, as students were able to share the impact of the course on their professional development and discuss the implications of change from the medical model to the more social model of intervention.
14 - 15 April Rustenburg	Regional Workshop (HSRC)	Dr J. Bornman Mrs E.M. Mophosho Miss M. Harty	To gain feedback from the local stakeholders (North West Province) about process of issuing CDG and DG in their province.	The CAAC staff facilitated the feedback of information from the local stakeholders and compiled a report to be incorporated with the feedback from the other 2 provinces.
17 - 19 June Zeerust	HSRC Training of the North West Province Panel 1	Mrs E.M. Mophosho Miss M.A. Casey	Training Panel 1 in the new tool developed to replace the CDG and DG Tool. Supporting Panel 1 in applying the tool. Obtaining feedback from the panel in how they experience the application of the draft tool.	The panel was not keen to make the move from the medical model to the social model, although they acquiesced as it was mandated that they do so. This information assisted with the training of the panels in the other provinces.

15 - 17 July Rustenburg	HSRC Training of the North West Province Panel 2	Mrs E.M. Mophosho Miss M.A. Casey	Training Panel 2 in the new tool. Supporting Panel 2 in applying the tool. Obtaining feedback form the panel in how they experience the application of the draft tool.	Members from the Limpopo province joined the panel. These panellists were more flexible in their outlook although the medical personnel dominated the proceedings.
10 September Pretoria	Workshop on Research at UP hosted by AIS and Research Support Services	Ms S. Dada was invited to participate in a workshop to determine students' experiences on doing research at the University of Pretoria.	A focus group was held in which the participants were asked to share their research experience at UP and also discuss some of the limitations experienced in conducting research at UP.	The focus group yielded some interesting outcomes. Participants generally found the experience positive but the issues of funding and information dissemination needed further attention.
29 October CAAC	Meeting with staff from UP Faculty of Education	CAAC staff and Faculty of Education staff were invited to attend the seminar on mainstream teaching and special needs.	To explore where the faculty is at present in terms of building a stronger body of educators in order to embrace the concept and to enhance the status of the educators.	All agreed that this was an excellent beginning and further meetings of this nature should be encouraged. A follow up meeting with the Hood's is to be organized by Ms Carol Gossman early in 2004.

## 2.2 Training In Classroom Implementation / AAC

DATE/PLACE	TRAINERS INVOLVED	TRAINEES	CONTENT	OUTCOME EVALUATION
15 - 17 April Alberton	Ms S. Dada Dr C.J.E. Uys Miss M.A. Casey	60 educators and therapists in the D 6 District	Training educators in Special Education in Outcomes Based Education (OBE) and how it relates to educating learners with severe disabilities. To examine accountability issues within the present educational framework and to critically explore educators' ownership of accountability issues. To consider how OBE can improve the quality of the individual goals and objectives of each learner. To look at multi-age, multi-level and multi-lingual issues and how these learners with diverse needs can be successfully engaged in the classroom situation.	Although the trainers prepared for two full day workshops at the last minute it was changed to three afternoons, yet it still remained a successful workshop. The participants particularly enjoyed the practical aspects of the workshop.
19 - 21 May Cape Town	Ms S. Dada Dr C.J.E. Uys	70 participants including educators, speech language therapists, audiologists, occupational therapists, physiotherapists and care givers. CAAC invited by the Mfesane Project and UCT Division of Communication Sciences and Disorders.	A three day multi-professional workshop on Training Communication for Children with Severe Disabilities was held at the Red Cross Hospital. The areas covered included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction to AAC and symbols systems</li> <li>• Early childhood intervention, functional positioning, toys and play</li> <li>• Aided language stimulation</li> </ul>	Participants claimed that they obtained many ideas for implementation with persons with severe disabilities. This was the first workshop of this nature in Cape Town and the response for the workshop was phenomenal. Participants were keen to continue studying in the area and to find resources to facilitate implementation. There is a lack of skills in the field of AAC and severe disabilities in the area. The workshop therefore served as a good introduction to building skills in this geographical area.



22 - 23 May Cape Town	Ms S. Dada Dr C.J.E. Uys	138 final year students from the University of Cape Town and the University of Stellenbosch in the Depts of Speech therapy, audiology, physiotherapy and occupational therapy.	A two day workshop entitled: "Multi-professional Workshop: Training Communication for Children with Severe Disabilities" was held at the Red Cross Children's Hospital. The areas covered included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction to AAC and symbols systems</li> <li>• Functional positioning, toys and play</li> <li>• Aided language stimulation</li> </ul>	The students found the workshop useful and found the information practical for intervention purposes. Some were also interested in furthering their studies in the field.
4 - 5 September Nelspruit	Miss M.A. Casey Ms S. Dada	30 Educators, senior officials from the Dept of Education, therapists and psychologists attended the training.	This two day training workshop focussed on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An introduction to AAC</li> <li>• Making low technology resources to be used with learners with severe communication disabilities including schedules, communication boards, communication necklaces, and bracelets and remnant books.</li> </ul>	Training resulted from a tender application to train educators in the region on severe disabilities and AAC. This was the first training of this nature in the area. The participants were positive towards the training. Participants found the practical slant of the workshop useful and gained practical insights into developing resources for learners with severe communication disorders.
15 - 16 October Ga Rankuwa	Dr J. Bornman Miss M.A. Casey Ms S. Dada Dr C.J.E. Uys Miss M. Harty	119 educators and officials from ordinary and special schools in the Ga Rankuwa district.	2 <sup>nd</sup> phase of the Pilot Project sponsored by First Rand Foundation and Corporate Investment Gold Fields Limited to train educators which included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AAC classroom strategies</li> <li>• Aided language stimulation strategies</li> <li>• Keyword signing.</li> </ul>	Very positive feedback was obtained from the participants. Requests were made for more workshops of this nature. Some participants were keen to continue with formal studies (ACE) in this area.
20 October Ga Rankuwa Klipgat Neo Mathabe	Dr J. Bornman Miss M.A. Casey Miss M. Harty Ms S. Dada Dr C.J.E. Uys Miss K.M. Tönsing	6 mentor and 12 mentee educators	Team members from the CAAC began the process of training mentor educators to train mentee educators in the strategies of aided language stimulation.	The three teams had very successful interaction with the mentee educators. Commitment was high and the educators were motivated to implement song boards.
4 November Ga Rankuwa Klipgat Neo Mathabe	Mrs E.M. Mophosho Miss M.A. Casey Miss M. Harty Ms S. Dada Dr C.J.E. Uys	6 mentor educators and 12 mentee educators	Fine-tuning of the mentoring process was undertaken. Problem solving and reflective thinking was emphasized.	Educators commented that they enjoyed making their own song boards and implementing this in their classrooms. In addition they found the training assisted them in realising that every learner in their classroom can be educated.
17 November Ga Rankuwa Klipgat Neo Mathabe	Mrs E.M. Mophosho Miss M.A. Casey Miss M. Harty Ms S. Dada Dr C.J.E. Uys	6 mentor educators and 12 mentee educators	Video footage of the outcome of the training for purposes of accountability.	The overall project was extremely productive and the CAAC teams, mentor educators and mentee educators learned a lot from the experience.

2.3 Follow-Up Visits And Informal Training And Intervention  
(In Communities)

DATE/ PLACE	TRAINERS INVOLVED	NATURE OF WORK	TRAINEES	CONTENT	OUTCOME EVALUATION
February  Education & Law Building	Miss M.A. Casey Miss M. Harty	Recruitment of Law Students	1 <sup>st</sup> year law students	Lecture to law students on CAAC and the ACE module. Recruit students to enrol for AAK 401 (Introduction to Severe Disabilities).	One student enrolled for AAK 401 and was successful in the November exam.
27 May  Uitkoms Centre Mamelodi APD Tshegofatsong	Mrs E.M. Mophosho Dr D. Bryen Mr D. Poremba- Brumer	Networking with vocational training managers	Workshop managers	Discuss issues of empowerment and employability of adults with disabilities.	Managers exercised a need for community involvement in employing adults with disabilities.
13 June  Durban. INTERFACE, Westville, Durban	Miss M.A. Casey	Disseminate information regarding AAC Conference in 2004	Educators and Therapists	Information regarding registration processes the aims of the conferences as well as the target audience was shared.	A number of abstracts were received for the conference.
21-25 July  Cape Town	Miss M.A. Casey	Support Cape Town Interface	Thembeletu School Interface Committee members	Encourage membership. Recruit students and disseminate information regarding the AAC Conference in 2004.	2 Applications for the ACE and 2 abstracts for the Conference were received.
26 August  Reitz community	Miss M. Harty Dr C.J.E. Uys	Consultation at Reitz Community	Educators and caregivers of children with disabilities	Evaluation of adults and children with disabilities. Feasibility study for future involvement.	The community should draw up a portfolio of all the individuals with disabilities in the community.
4 September 7 October 13 November  Moloto community	Dr C.J.E. Uys Ms S. Dada Miss M. Harty Miss K. M. Tönsing	Group discussions and consultations	Foster parents of HIV/AIDS orphans and Care workers in Moloto	Building of a supportive community by discussing the use of an asset-based approach.	Participants responded well to the identifications of assets in their community and gave freely of themselves during the group discussions. This is an ongoing project.
5 September 18 September 23 October 20 November  CAAC	Dr C.J.E. Uys Ms S. Dada Miss M. Harty Dr J. Bornman	Hands-on training in the use of low technology AAC systems	Parents and their children who are AAC users	Building capacity of AAC users and their families so that they can participate at the AAC conference in 2004. Theory combined with hands-on exposure was the primary focus.	This is a slow process and is an ongoing project. Frequent repetition and practice of concepts are required. Participants are keen to demonstrate new skills.
8 December  Whizz Kids – Durban	Dr J. Bornman	Follow-up visit.	Educators and therapists	Discussion on high tech AAC solutions	The majority of the staff is graduates or students of the CAAC. Effective use of AAC strategies in all classes.

### 3. INFORMATION DISSEMINATION ON THE USE OF AAC

DATE/PLACE	TRAINERS INVOLVED	PARTICIPANTS	CONTENT	OUTCOME
18 March Occupational Therapy Dept, University of Pretoria	Dr C.J.E. Uys Miss M. Harty	Final year occupational therapy students	An introduction to AAC was given, highlighting aided and unaided strategies. Using relevant case studies made specific application to the OT field.	Students found it enlightening and were enthusiastic to view the types of adaptive equipment and communication aides available through the CAAC. Mention was also made that this is a valuable resource when they start their careers.
5 - 9 May Bafokeng Palace Stadium, Rustenburg	Ms S. Dada Dr C.J.E. Uys	Educators and learners from schools for children with disabilities and mainstream schools.	Exhibition of low and high technology. AAC options in conjunction with the National Dept of Communications. Opportunities for hands-on experience were provided.	The educators and learners found the experience meaningful. It was successful in creating awareness of disability amongst the participants. In addition the technological options available to facilitate independence for persons with severe communication problems was met with keen interest.
16 May Nuwe Wending School, Pretoria	Miss K. M. Tönsing	4 parents 1 Occupational Therapist	Information on AAC low- and high technology systems as well as INTERFACE as a NGO and support group for people with complex communication needs and parents of such learners was given.	Parents found the information useful and requested information on AAC consultations offered at the Centre.
31 May Bafokeng Palace Stadium, Rustenburg	Miss M. A. Casey Dr D. Bryen	General public.	AAC Expo at the World Telecommunication Day, invited by Department of Communication.	This was a result of the successful visit to Bafokeng earlier in the month. The public were particularly interested in AAC and filled the CAAC stands to capacity. This was noted by and commented on by other exhibitors.
19 July Nuwe Wending School, Pretoria	Miss K. M. Tönsing	19 parents 2 Speech Therapists 1 Occupational Therapist	Basic introduction to the concept AAC, the purpose of AAC and who can benefit. Various low and high tech AAC systems were demonstrated.	Parents' indicated their interest in becoming more actively involved in a parent group to promote AAC implementation and advocacy.
8 October Faculty of Education, Groenkloof Campus	Ms S. Dada	First year B. Ed students	A two-hour lecture was provided to the students on the topic of babies and toddlers with special needs.	Students found the ideas on adapting the environment needed for young children with special needs and facilitating parent participation in intervention interesting.
10 October CAAC, University of Pretoria	Dr C.J.E. Uys	Third year occupational therapy students	A two-hour lecture on what AAC is, why it is important and who could benefit from was presented.	Students found it enlightening and were enthusiastic to become more involved as they could identify with the functions of the Centre. Many requested further information.

12 October Grace Hotel, Sandton	Dr J. Bornman Mr M. Pistorius	Discussion with Prof. Paul Blenkhorn (University of Manchester, UK), Prof Daan Wissing (University of Potchefstroom), Mr Dirk Lampbrecht (University of Witwatersrand).	The possibility of developing an Afrikaans speech synthesiser through gibbering an existing speech synthesizer that makes use of a Windows platform was discussed as a possible low cost solution.	Prof. Blenkhorn would like to collaborate further on this project, whilst Prof Wissing expressed concerns related to intellectual property. Explore possibility of working collaboratively with other UP departments, and the CSIR.
31 January 21 February 28 March 16 May 20 June 1 August 29 August 26 September and 31 October CAAC Open Days	Mr D. Poremba- Brumer Miss K. M. Tönsing Miss M.A. Casey Miss M. Harty Ms S. Dada Mr M. Pistorius	54 parents, therapists, educators and personal assistants visited the CAAC.	This power point presentation provides an overview of AAC. Participants are also able to view and operate devices, have software demonstrated and see the latest available AAC material.	All felt it was a worthwhile experience. New referrals for consultations, more people to attend workshops at the CAAC and prospective students were recruited. Resources were ordered from the CAAC.
13 September Nuwe Wending School, Pretoria	Miss K. M. Tönsing	3 parents 1 speech therapist 1 learner	Goals and aims of parent group were explored. The role that AAC can play to facilitate the learners going on awareness campaigns in the community was discussed.	Parents shared the prejudice, which they experienced as a result of having a child with a disability.
20 October Nuwe Wending School, Pretoria	Miss K. M. Tönsing Mr D. Poremba- Brumer	5 parents 1 speech therapist 3 learners	Goals and aims of INTERFACE as a support group for parents and people with complex communication needs were explored. Promotion for the conference was done.	Parents indicated their interest in becoming involved at the conference.
25 October CAAC	Miss K. M. Tönsing Mr D. Poremba- Brumer Mr M. Pistorius	8 parents	Programme of the Regional African AAC Conference 2004 was presented, and awareness rose of the importance of this conference for support and networking. Interface was promoted.	Parents indicated their interest in the conference and interest in becoming involved in INTERFACE.
3 November New Hope School, Pretoria	Miss K. M. Tönsing Mr D. Poremba- Brumer Mr M. Pistorius	1 parent	Give information of Interface and CAAC activities.	New referral for consultation.
22 November Gingindlovu, KZN	Miss M.A. Casey	International Disability Day	Dept of Communications invited CAAC.	It was successful in creating awareness of disability amongst the participants. Exhibiting technological options available to facilitate independence for persons with severe communication problems.

#### 4. VISITORS TO THE CAAC

DATE	VISITOR	NATURE OF CONTACT	OUTCOMES
24 - 28 February	Dr McKay Moore-Sohlberg Dept Communication Disorders & Sciences, University of Oregon.	Training of professionals.	Cognitive Rehabilitation Workshop was held that looked at issues of evidence based practice and promoting independence of people with Traumatic Brain Injury.
3 April	Ms Nonhlanhla Mahlangu, Manager of Broadcasting Projects, Dept of Communication.	Identifying ways of collaborating with the Dept of Communication.	Increased awareness of the needs of people with severe disability by joining the Dept of Communication's road shows and exhibition.
14 May	Prof Hans Nijhuis, Centre for Occupational Therapy, Hoensbroek, Netherlands & Dr B van Lierop, Program leader Occupational Therapy, Hoensbroek, Netherlands. Dr H. Schoeman, S A Association for the Blind.	Identifying ways of collaborating with the Netherlands.	Internal explorations of needs for collaborations were expressed for participants to feedback to organisations.
26 May - 6 June	Dr Diane Bryen Institute on Disabilities, Pennsylvania's University Centre for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, Temple University, Philadelphia, USA.	To work collaboratively in the development of an Empowerment Programme for Persons with Severe Disabilities.	The draft outlines have been documented and Dr Uys and Dr Bornman subsequently visited the USA to develop more capacity in this area. Dr Bryen will do a follow up training session at the First Regional African Conference in February of 2004.
2 June 2003	Prof Ronell Pretorius, Dept of Criminology, University of Pretoria & Prof Mariette de Ville, Dept of Gender Equity, University of Pretoria. Dr D. Bryen, Temple University, USA.	To explore collaboration with the CAAC and Temple University on issues of abuse.	Some ideas were exchanged about future collaborative research between the Gender Institute (UP) and the CAAC.
2 June - 8 August	Prof Lyle L. Lloyd, Dept. of Special Education and Speech Sciences and Audiology, Purdue University, USA.	Issues in research methodology were discussed with PhD students.	The students were grateful for the opportunities to finalize their methodologies. The students gained further insight into the issues of research.
20 June	Dr Lisa Armistead, Ms Frances Palin, Ms Gretchen Lindner University of Georgia, Atlanta, USA.	Visit CAAC.	Keen to continue and expand collaboration with CAAC regarding disability issues.
21 August	Dr Chris Stals Mr Kevin Dunne from Nedcor.	Visit CAAC.	Obtained an overview of the functions of the CAAC with regards to community projects, academic and community training and research.
24 September	Prof Rune Simeonsson Research Professor of Psychology, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.	Visit CAAC.	Explore the possibilities of future collaborations. regarding post graduate studies in early childhood intervention.
3 October	Prof Madan M. Kundu, Dept of Rehabilitation and Disability Studies, Los Angeles.	Information dissemination Discussions on post-graduate degree in Rehabilitation.	Use information in the development of Post-graduate School for Rehabilitation at University of Pretoria.
10 November & 1 December	Ms Marelle Davel Mrs Kagiso Chikane Dr Louis Coetzee.	Identifying ways of collaborating with the CSIR (Incomtek) and CAAC and Dept of Electronic Engineering, UP.	Discussion of collaboration between interested parties in order to develop local speech synthesizer for Zulu and Afrikaans. This project will be expanded in 2004.

## 5. CONSULTATIONS

A total of 33 individuals and their assessment teams were reached during consultations in 2003 comprising of 1 Medico Legal consultation; 26 assessments of children; 5 assessments of adults; 1 Hospital assessment;

## 6. PUBLICATIONS

**Alant, E., & Lloyd, L.L.** (book in preparation). (editors) *Augmentative and Alternative Communication: Beyond Poverty*. London: Whurr Publisher.

### Published:

**Alant, E.** (2003). AAC in developing countries: The centre for AAC (CAAC) at the University of Pretoria, South Africa.

Perspectives on Augmentative and Alternative Communication. *American Speech Hearing Association Division 12* (3), 6-8.

\***Alant, E., & Mophosho M.** (2003). Early childhood intervention: Web-based training for transformation. *South African Journal for Higher Education*, 17(1), 185-199.

**Bornman, J.** (2003). More than just immunisation: The role of nurses in early childhood intervention. *Nursing update*, 27(9), 62.

\***Bornman, J.** (2003). The World Health Organisation's terminology and classification: application to severe disability. *Disability and Rehabilitation*, 26(3) In Press.

\***Haupt, L., & Alant, E.** (2003). The iconicity of selected Picture Communication Symbols for rural Zulu-speaking children. *South African Journal of Communication Disorders*, 49, 40-49.

\***Opperman, S., & Alant, E.** (2003). The coping responses of adolescent siblings of children with severe disabilities. *Disability and Rehabilitation*, 25(9), 441-454.

\***Uys, C.J.E.** (2003). Operationalising theoretical constructs: A research basis for effective therapy. *South African Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 33(2), 15-18.

\***Van der Merwe, E., & Alant, E.** (2003). Associations with Minspeak Icons: A cross-cultural investigation. *Journal of Communication Disorders*, In Press.

### Accepted:

**Alant, E., & Harty, M.** (accepted for publication). Early childhood intervention. In E. Landsberg (Ed.), *Addressing barriers to Learning: A Southern African perspective*. Pretoria: Van Schaik.

**Bornman, J.** (accepted for publication). Augmentative and Alternative Communication. In E. Landsberg (Ed.), *Addressing barriers to learning: A Southern African perspective*. Pretoria: Van Schaik.

\***Bornman, J., & Alant, E.** (2003). Severe disability: Do community health nurses have a role to play? *Curationis*. Accepted for publication.

**Bornman, J., & Uys, C.J.E.** (accepted for publication). Multi-skilling in AAC. In E. Alant and L. Lloyd (Eds.), *Augmentative and Alternative Communication: Beyond Poverty*. London: Whurr Publisher

**Dada, S., & Alant, E.** (accepted for publication). Teacher training for AAC classroom implementation. In E. Alant & L. Lloyd (Eds.), *Augmentative and Alternative Communication: Beyond Poverty*. London: Whurr Publisher

**Granlund, M., Björck-Åkesson, E., & Alant, E.** (accepted for publication). Family-centered early childhood intervention: New perspectives. In E. Alant and L. Lloyd (Eds.), *Augmentative and Alternative Communication: Beyond Poverty*. London: Whurr Publisher.

\***Lilienfeld, M., & Alant, E.** (2003). The social interaction of an adolescent who uses AAC: The evaluation of a peer training programme. *Augmentative and Alternative Communication*. Manuscript accepted for publication.

**McConkey, R., & Alant, E.** (accepted for publication). Leadership and advocacy issues in developing countries. In E. Alant and L. Lloyd (Eds.), *Augmentative and Alternative Communication: Beyond Poverty*. London: Whurr Publisher

**Rose, J. & Bornman, J.** (in press). Low technology. In R.W. Quist & L.L. Lloyd (Eds.), *Assistive technology: Principles and applications for communication disorders and special education*. San Diego, CA: Academic Press.

**Tönsing, K.M., Alant, E., & Lloyd, L.L.** (2003) (accepted for publication). Alternative and Augmentative Communication. In E. Alant and L. Lloyd (Eds.), *Augmentative and Alternative Communication: Beyond Poverty*. London: Whurr Publisher.

**Tönsing, K.M., & Alant, E.** (2003). Topics of social conversation: A South African Perspective. *Augmentative and Alternative Communication*. Manuscript accepted for publication.

\***Uys, C.J.E., Alant, E., & Lloyd, L.L.** (2003). A play package for children with severe disabilities: A validation. *International Journal of Rehabilitation Research*. Manuscript accepted for publication.

**Uys, C.J.E.** (accepted for publication). Multiply Handicapped. In E. Landsberg (Ed.), *Addressing barriers to learning: A Southern African perspective*. Pretoria: Van Schaik.

### Submitted:

\***Alant, E., & Geiger, M.** Observation of child-rearing practices and children's communicative interactions in a village in Botswana: Implications for early childhood intervention. *Early Years*. Manuscript submitted for publication.

\***Boshoff, K., & Alant, E.** Perceptions of challenges faced in early intervention service delivery in South Australia. *Australian Journal of Occupational Therapy*. Manuscript submitted for publication.

\*Casey, M., Alant, E., & Lloyd, L.L. Testing accommodations for learners with disabilities. *Perspectives in Education*. Manuscript submitted for publication.

\*Dada, S., & Alant, E. Group learning on the web. *International Journal of Educational Development*. Manuscript submitted for publication.

\*Harty, M., Alant, E., & Opperman, S. A comparison between adolescent's perception of siblings with and without severe disabilities: An exploratory study. *Journal of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities*. Manuscript submitted for publication.

\*Life, H., Alant, E., & Harty, M. A comparison of the learnability and retention between Blissymbolics and Cyberglyphs. *International Journal of Language and Communication Disorders*. Manuscript submitted for publication.

\*Solarsh, B., & Alant, E. The test of ability to explain for Zulu-speaking children (TATE-ZC) facing the challenge of cross cultural assessment. *South African Journal of Communication Disorders*. Manuscript submitted for publication.

\* Articles in accredited journals

## 7. CREATIVE WORK

Interface Newsletter published during March, August and December 2003 (Edited by Miss K.M. Tönsing).

Aided language stimulation. What is it and whom can it be used for? (2003). *Communiphon*, Vol 334, 26-27. (Ms S. Dada)

8 September – 11 September. Taking video footage to be used during the BA Hons (AAC) block courses, of learners on the Vocational Rehabilitation Programme. In collaboration with Leonora Nel from Pretoria School for Cerebral Palsied Children. (Dr C.J.E. Uys)

20 September: Develop video clips for Introduction to AAC presentations (Ms S. Dada)

23 September: Develop video clips for AAC web page for recruitment of students for the MECI course. (Prof E. Alant, Dr C.J.E. Uys, Ms S. Dada & Miss M. Harty).

## 8. REPORTS

### SANPAD

A final report was written for SANPAD in relation to the outputs of the three year project.

## 9. MEDIA COVERAGE

Prof E. Alant, AAC in South Africa, New beginnings - The ISAAC Bulletin, February 2003.

Prof E. Alant, University of Pretoria Achievers Award 2003 - *Tukkie Varia*, Volume 20(3), 12 May 2003.

Prof E. Alant & E. M. Mophosho Prize Winning Centre- *Tukkie Varia*, Volume 11(1), June 2003.

Dr J. Bornman Radio talk on 20 August 2003 on "Dou voor dag" with Mr Jan van Vreden (Radio Pretoria)

Dr J. Bornman Radio talk 27 March 2003 on Vrouerubriek with Ms Jacqui January (Radio Sonder Grense)

Dr J. Bornman Radio talk 17 April 2003 on Tjailatyd with Ms Jacqui January (Radio Sonder Grense)

Dr J. Bornman and Mr M. Pistorius Rapport article "Hulp vir mense wie se spraak gestrem is". 3 August 2003.

Mr D. Poremba-Brumer "Morning Live" (SABC 2) on 30 April 2003.

Mr M. Pistorius. Rooi Rose article "Vry om te leef" Year 61 (1), 11 January 2004.

Mr M. Pistorius. *Communication Matters* (December 2003)

Dr J. Bornman Edupost Tuks article. "Early childhood intervention: A postgraduate achievement. The postgraduate newsletter of the Education Faculty at the University of Pretoria, Issue 7, October 2003

Mr M. Pistorius, " 'n Nuwe Ferrari op Kampus" - *Tukkie Varia*, Volume 20 (6), December 2003.

Prof E. Alant, Lending a hand - *Tukkie Varia*, Volume 20 (6), December 2003.



## 10. PAPERS PRESENTED AT CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS

DATE OF CONFERENCE & VENUE	NAME	PAPER PRESENTED
14 January Georgia, USA	Prof E. Alant	<i>Augmentative and Alternative Communication in South Africa.</i> The Center for Research on Typical Development and Learning (CRADL); Georgia State University, USA
13 February Pretoria	Prof E. Alant	<i>Research issues in AAC.</i> Paper presented at the 11 <sup>th</sup> Multi-professional AAC Research Indaba, CAAC, Pretoria.
13 February Pretoria	Miss M.A. Casey	<i>A comparison of a spoken and non-spoken response mode in a test of phonological awareness in typically developing Grade 1 children.</i> Paper present at the 11 <sup>th</sup> Multi-professional AAC Research Indaba, CAAC, Pretoria.
13 February Pretoria	Dr C.J.E. Uys	<i>The influence of the application of a play package on the performance of children with intellectual disabilities.</i> Paper present at the 11 <sup>th</sup> Multi-professional AAC Research Indaba, CAAC, Pretoria.
14 February Pretoria	Mrs E.M. Mophosho	<i>The impact of choice-provision training of parents o their young adult children with intellectual disabilities, with reference to problem-solving, goal-setting and self-esteem: Pilot study.</i> Paper present at the 11 <sup>th</sup> Multi-professional AAC Research Indaba, CAAC, Pretoria.
14 April Pretoria	Dr C.J.E. Uys	<i>Validation of a play package to facilitate the development of communication-related skills.</i> Alma School, Teacher training workshop. Alma School Pretoria.
27 May Boksburg	Dr J. Bornman Dr C.J.E. Uys	<i>Augmentative and Alternative communication skills for people with cerebral palsy.</i> Paper presented at the 2003 conference of the National Association for persons with cerebral palsy in South Africa, Birchwood Executive Hotel, Boksburg.
5 June Krugersdorp	Prof E. Alant	<i>University of Pretoria Leaders program.</i> Paper presented at the University of Pretoria Leadership program on the MECI.
7 August Atlanta, USA	Dr J. Bornman	<i>Delivering early childhood communication intervention services within a rural South African community context.</i> Georgia State University, The Centre for Research on Atypical Development and Learning (CRADL).
12 August Kenya	Dr C.J.E. Uys	<i>Early childhood intervention: Guidelines for practice.</i> OTAR Congress (Occupational Therapy Africa Region), Mombasa, Kenya.
16 - 18 September Johannesburg	Miss M. A. Casey Mrs E.M. Mophosho	<i>Training Educators in North West Province.</i> Paper presented at the 4 <sup>th</sup> National Learner Support and Development Conference 2003 GDE. Johannesburg
1 October Pretoria	Miss M. Harty	<i>Maternal self-efficacy beliefs and maternal perception of child language abilities.</i> Paper presented at Postgraduate Research Indaba 2003, Faculty of Education, University of Pretoria, Pretoria.
1 October Pretoria	Miss K..M. Tönsing	<i>Social Conversation at the work place.</i> Paper presented at Postgraduate Research Indaba 2003, Faculty of Education, University of Pretoria, Pretoria.
1 October Pretoria	Dr J. Bornman	<i>The development of a primary level communication intervention protocol for children with severe disabilities.</i> Paper presented at Postgraduate Research Indaba 2003, Faculty of Education, University of Pretoria, Pretoria.
1 - 3 October Durban	Prof. E. Alant	<i>Intervention for change.</i> Paper presented at RI Africa Regional Conference, Durban
1 - 3 October Durban	Mrs E. M. Mophosho	<i>Choice-based training programme for parents of young adults with intellectual disabilities.</i> Paper presented at RI Africa Regional Conference, Durban.
1 - 3 October Durban	Ms S. Dada	<i>Breaking the silence barrier.</i> Paper presented at RI African Regional Conference, Durban.
9 October Bedfordview	Dr J. Bornman	<i>Augmentative and Alternative communication: What, who and how?</i> Talk given at Golden City Toastmasters, St. Giles, Bedfordview.
21 October Pretoria	Prof E. Alant Dr A.B. Emmett	<i>Women and Disability: Exploring the interface of multiple disadvantage.</i> Paper present at Gender Resource Centre, University of Pretoria.
27 - 29 October Rustenburg	Dr J. Bornman	<i>Beginning communicators: Where does AAC intervention start?</i> Paper presented at the South African Speech-Language-Hearing Association (SASHLA) conference, Sun City.
13 - 14 November Johannesburg	Mrs E. M. Mophosho Mr M. Pistorius	<i>Empowering persons with Disabilities.</i> Paper presented at Dept Social Services and Population Development and Gauteng Forum for Persons with Disabilities. Turffontein, Johannesburg.

## 11. CONFERENCES / SEMINARS ATTENDED

DATE	NAME	CONFERENCE
24 - 27 January	Prof E. Alant	Fourth Annual Leadership Conference of Division 12 Special Group on AAC of the American Speech-Language and Hearing Association (ASHA)
13 May	Dr C.J.E. Uys	Positioning the person with physical disabilities. New Hope School, Pretoria.
28 - 29 May	Prof E. Alant, Dr J. Bornman Dr C.J.E. Uys Miss M. A. Casey Mrs E. M. Mophosho Mrs S Dada Miss M. Harty Miss K.M. Tönsing Mr D. Poremba-Brumer	Workshop presented by Dr Diane Bryen (Temple University, USA) Supporting empowerment of people with disabilities. CAAC, Faculty of Education, University of Pretoria.
21 July - 1 August	Dr C.J.E. Uys	ACES training program (AAC and Empowerment Supports), Temple University, Philadelphia, USA.
25 - 26 July.	Dr J. Bornman Miss K.M. Tönsing	Workshop: The blind and visually impaired child. Presented by the Centre for Blind and Visually Impaired Children, TMI, (University of Witwatersrand).
8 - 10 August	Dr J. Bornman	Biennial Pittsburg Employment Conference for Augmented Communicators, Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, USA.
7 August	Dr J. Bornman	Symposium on AAC Evidence-based practice and performance measurement, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA.
25 August	Prof E. Alant Dr J. Bornman Miss M.A. Casey Ms S. Dada Miss M. Harty Mrs L. Human Mr D. Poremba-Brumer Mr M. Pistorius Miss K. M. Tönsing Dr C.J.E. Uys	Thinking for success. The self-management programme. 1 day course presented by Ms Mollie Lyons, (Faculty of Arts, University of Pretoria, Pretoria).
12 September	Dr J. Bornman Dr C.J.E. Uys	Computer support for children with learning, cognitive and/or physical challenges, Forest Town School, Johannesburg.
22 - 23 September	Dr J. Bornman Miss K. M. Tönsing	The TEACCH approach to autism. Workshop presented by Autism South Africa, Johannesburg, General Hospital, Johannesburg.
18 November	Dr J. Bornman Dr C.J.E. Uys	Community service learning workshop, presented by Prof. T Stanton (Stanford University, USA), University of Pretoria, Pretoria.

## 12. STAFF/CAAC ACHIEVEMENT: SPECIAL INVOLVEMENTS/AWARDS

Ms S. Dada received a renewal of the Mellon Postgraduate Mentoring Program award for 2003.

Dr J. Bornman received a renewal of the Research Development Program award for 2003.

Dr J. Bornman was selected on the Standards Generating Body of the Health Professional Council of South Africa: Professional Board for Speech-language and Hearing professions.

Dr C.J.E. Uys completed her PhD.

Dr C.J.E. Uys was the vice president of the Association of Occupational Therapists of South Africa.

Dr C.J.E. Uys was a committee member on Assistive Technologies for Occupational Therapists.

Dr C.J.E. Uys was a committee member of the Perspectives in Education Journal Committee.

Prof E. Alant: Reviewer for Economic & Social Research Council, Swindon, United Kingdom.

Prof E. Alant received a Rotary award for Vocational Service Recognition on 7 November 2003.

Prof E. Alant: appointed on NRF rating panel for Scientists: Health Sciences.

Mrs E.M. Mophosho received the Researcher-in-Training (Thuthuka) grant from the National Research Foundation.

### 13. EXTERNAL EXAMINATIONS

- Dr J. Bornman - External examiner at University of Durban Westville, Dept of Speech and Hearing Therapy, Module (PS 4537: Severe Developmental Communication Disorders, Oral).
- Mrs E.M. Mophosho - External examiner for one MSc (Speech, Language and Pathology) dissertation for Dept of Speech Pathology at University of Cape Town.
- Dr C.J.E. Uys - External examiner at MEDUNSA - Dept of Occupational Therapy; Fundamentals of Occupational Therapy 401; IV years; written paper & research article.
- Dr C.J.E. Uys - University of Witwatersrand - Dept of Occupational Therapy; Science of Occupation 325, III years; written paper.
- Dr C.J.E. Uys - External examiner at University of Pretoria - Dept of Occupational Therapy; Research and Professional Development 218; II years; written paper.

### 14. CAAC STAFF

#### 14.1 CAAC Staff Funded By The University

- Director: Prof E. Alant : 40 hours per week
- Senior Lecturer: CAAC co-ordinator: Dr J. Bornman: 40 hours per week (from 1 March 2003)
- Lecturer: Community consultant: Mrs E.M. Mophosho: 40 hours per week
- Lecturer: Researcher & trainer: Ms S. Dada: 40 hours per week
- Lecturer: M(ECI) co-ordinator: Dr C.J.E. Uys: 40 hours per week. (from 1 April 2003)
- Secretary: Mrs F van Greunen (till January 2003)
- Secretary: Mrs E Human: 40 hours per week. (from February 2003)
- Junior lecturer: (temporary replacement position) Miss K. M. Tönsing: 25 hours per week
- External lecturer: Mrs Glen Jager: 20 hours

#### 14.2 CAAC Staff Funded From Private Funding

- Speech Pathologist: (Miss M. Harty): 40 hours per week
- Teacher: (Miss M.A. Casey): 40 hours per week
- Disability Consultant: (Mr M. Pistorius): 8 hours per week (from 1 September)
- Research Assistant: (Mr D. Poremba-Brumer): 10 hours per week
- External lecturers: involved in Honours degree in AAC:
- Advocate Morne van der Linde- Centre for Human rights, UP.
  - Guest lecturer Mrs Unathi Mguye Dept. of Social Development
- External examiners
- Adv D. Bakker, Unisa.
  - Mrs N. Potgieter, Private Practice.
  - Prof L. Lloyd, Purdue University, USA.
  - Prof S. von Tetzchner, University of Oslo, Norway.
  - Prof. R. Osman, University of the Witwatersrand, College of Education.
  - Mrs Enid Moolman, New Hope School, Pretoria.
  - Dr R. Schlosser, North Eastern University, Boston, USA.
  - Dr M. Ronski, University of Georgia, USA.
  - Mrs Thabisile Levin, Department of Education.

### 15. VISITS TO OTHER UNIVERSITIES AND CENTRA

- |                   |   |  |
|-------------------|---|--|
| January 2003      | - | Prof E Alant: Georgia State University, Purdue University, USA.  |
| 31 July 2003      | - | Dr C.J.E. Uys: Pennsylvania's Initiative on Assistive Technology (PIAT)<br>The Institute on Disabilities, Temple University, Contact person: Amy Goldman |
| 1 August 2003     | - | Dr C.J.E. Uys: Disabilities Resources and Services, Temple University,<br>Contact person: Director: Dorothy Cebula                                       |
| 3 - 6 August 2003 | - | Dr J. Bornman: Georgia State University, Atlanta, USA  |
| 11 August 2003    | - | Dr J. Bornman: Dynavox Systems Inc., Pittsburgh, USA   |
| 14 August 2003    | - | Dr J. Bornman: United Cerebral Palsy of New York City, New York, USA.  |

16. OBJECTIVES FOR 2004

<b>A. Formal Training:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To increase the number and quality of post-graduate students in all of the post –graduate programs in the CAAC</li><li>• To qualify at least 80% of students enrolled in final year degree courses: ACE, Honours, MA in AAC and M (ECI)</li><li>• To qualify 1-2 PhD students in AAC</li><li>• To implement a collaborative training venture with Purdue University (USA) in the Faculty of Education, University of Pretoria</li></ul>
<b>B. Research:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To start the collaborative research program between Marladanen University (Sweden) and the CAAC</li><li>• To facilitate research development of staff by facilitating more integrated research plans in the CAAC</li><li>• To maintain the publication outputs of the CAAC whilst increasing the quality in local and international journals</li><li>• To use the AAC Research Seminar in February 2004 which is held in conjunction with the Regional Conference as a major opportunity to promote more international collaboration between the CAAC and other research collaborators.</li><li>• To publish the book: <i>Augmentative and Alternative Communication :Beyond Poverty</i> edited by Alant, E &amp; Lloyd, L.L. contracted by Whurr Publishers, UK.</li></ul>
<b>C. Informal and Community Training:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To have a successful “First Regional African AAC Conference” in February 2004 by using this event not only as a major awareness raising and networking event, but also as a way to strengthen long-term commitments to training, research and intervention in the field.</li><li>• To continue with tender training in schools</li><li>• To continue with community projects in North West and Moloto</li><li>• To develop a program with Temple State University (Philadelphia) and INTERFACE, SOUTH AFRICA to facilitate the empowerment of people with severe disabilities to increase self-representation and self-determination</li></ul>

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Director would like to express her sincere appreciation to Prof J.D. Jansen for his guidance and leadership. The following foundations that supported the activities of the CAAC during 2003 are also gratefully acknowledged.

**FIRST RAND FOUNDATION  
CORPORATE SOCIAL INVESTMENT GOLD FIELDS LIMITED  
NATIONAL LOTTERIES BOARD  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

Appreciation is also expressed towards the **MAYER-JOHNSON COMPANY** for donating a cash prize for the most outstanding BA Hons (AAC) student.

*Input of the following associations and institutions is acknowledged with gratitude:*

**INTERFACE, SOUTH AFRICA  
PRESIDENCY: OFFICE ON THE STATUS OF DISABLED PERSONS**

*A word of gratitude to the following departments at the University of Pretoria for their support:*

**Department of Communication Pathology  
Department of Occupational Therapy  
Department of Educational Psychology  
Department of Statistics  
Telematic Education  
Video Production Unit, Tuks  
Academic Information Services (Library)**

**Finally the commitment and dedication of the CAAC staff  
is warmly acknowledged.  
Thank you**



University of Pretoria