



University of Pretoria

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

ANNUAL REPORT

1 JANUARY TO 31 DECEMBER 2006

**CENTRE FOR AUGMENTATIVE AND ALTERNATIVE
COMMUNICATION**

STAFF 2006



Front row: Miss Alecia Samuels, Prof Erna Alant (Director), Dr Shakila Dada, Miss Michal Harty.

Back row: Mr Martin Pistorius, Mrs Gloria Madiba, Dr Juan Bornman, Mrs Karen Vagle, Dr Kitty Uys, Mr Simon Mmakola, Mrs Liza Rossetti-Siefe

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**Centre for
Augmentative and
Alternative
Communication
&
INTERFACE**

**Sentrum vir
Aanvullende en
Alternatiewe
Kommunikasie**



- 2004 *T-Systems Age of Innovation & Sustainability Awards: Excellence in Innovation and Sustainability: Social*
- 2003 *National Science & Technology Awards: Corporate Organization over the last ten years.*
- 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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INTRODUCTION

For the first time in the history of South Africa, two young people who use AAC systems (Martin Pistorius and Zach Joubert) finished their studies in the Advanced Certificate in Education (ACE for inclusion of students with severe disabilities) at the CAAC. These two young people have proven that “*not being able to talk does not mean you cannot obtain a major qualification!*” In addition, Prof Lyle Lloyd (Purdue, USA) received an honorary doctoral degree from the University of Pretoria for his continued involvement in the program development of the CAAC. These are outstanding achievements by three remarkable people who have made a great contribution in the development of AAC in the country.

In 2006 the CAAC team was awarded a Laureate Award by the Telematic Learning and Education Innovation at the University of Pretoria for the FOFA program under the leadership of Dr C.J.E. Uys. This program endeavours to provide young adults with little or no speech with communication and leadership training to facilitate their role as advocates in the field of disability.

Also for the first time, one of the PhD students, Margi Lilienfeld, received the award for the “best student article” published in the AAC Journal in 2005. We are indeed proud to have PhD students of this quality that can compete on this level internationally.

Finally, we want to congratulate our staff on their achievements, i.e. Dr Juan Bornman with her promotion to associate professor from 2007, her award as exceptional achiever from the University of Pretoria, as well as obtaining an NRF rating as a young researcher and Gloria Madiba, who finished her Masters in AAC in 2006. Martin Pistorius who was elected president of Interface, South Africa and professor Alant who was elected as vice-president of the International Society for AAC for the period 2007-2009.

OVERVIEW: 2006 IN A NUTSHELL

A. Formal Training
<p><u>Objectives for 2006:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Graduation of 1 PhD student, 15 Master's students and 12 Honours students.• Finalisation of two new modules for the MA in AAC on AAC devices and positioning as well as a program on CD ROM to facilitate problem-solving of clinicians in AAC implementation. <p><u>Outcomes 2006:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• One PhD student graduated, 15 Master's students (11 in the M (ECI) program and 4 in the M (AAC) programme), as well as 9 Honours students (3 cum laude) and 21 of the 22 ACE students.• The two new modules were finalised to start in 2007. The pilot of the CD ROM program will be completed in 2007.
B. Research
<p><u>Objectives for 2006:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To maintain a high level of research outputs.• To publish one Special Edition of the Disability and Rehabilitation Journal on AAC based on the research seminar of the AAC in 2004.• To start a new project on Disability and Development funded by SANPAD.• To host an international research seminar on Positive Functioning and Intervention as a finalization of the collaborative research program between the CAAC and the Mälardalen University in Sweden. <p><u>Outcomes for 2006:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 Book chapter was completed, 7 articles in ISI accredited peer journals were published, and 8 in non-accredited journals. 7 Articles were accepted for publication, 5 of those in ISI accredited peer journals.• The Special Edition edited by Alant & Lloyd was published in January 2006.• The project on Disability and Development progressed well with one seminar in the Netherlands and subsequent interactions between the research team. The fieldwork of this study will be done in 2007.• A most successful research seminar was held with various international visitors from Sweden as well as from the USA.
C. Informal and Community Training
<p><u>Objectives for 2006:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To maintain current levels of involvement in community training.• To increase involvement in tenders in schools.• To continue with the FOFA training program for young adults with little or no functional speech. <p><u>Outcomes for 2006:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The CAAC has continued its training in the North-West school system by supporting teachers in accommodating children with disabilities in the classroom. This was the fourth year of involvement in this province.• The CAAC was involved tender training in schools through the Sisonke Tender of the Department of Education.• The Fofa training program was a major success with Dr Diane Bryen (Temple University, USA) participating in the week program. This is a first in Africa – and a major stride forward in leadership training for this population.
D. Funding
<p><u>Objectives for 2006:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To investigate the options of the CAAC associating with a broader network for research and training internationally.• To apply for a research chair from the NRF for the CAAC. <p><u>Outcomes for 2006:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prof Alant recently submitted an application for the CAAC to become part of the Association of University Centers on Disability (AUCD) in the USA.• The application for the NRF chair in AAC was not successful.

REPORT-BACK ON ACTIVITIES DURING 2006

1. DEGREE TRAINING

1.1 Degree training specialising in AAC

DEGREE	NUMBER OF STUDENTS		OUTCOMES: SUCCESSFUL COMPLETIONS
Advanced Certificate in Education with Specialization in the Inclusion of Learners with Severe Disabilities (ACE)	Graduates:	21	21 out of 22 students graduated, with 4 obtaining their degrees cum laude. One student had to repeat all the modules in 2006. Of the 2 nd year students, 22 successfully completed their studies and will graduate in April 2007.
	2 nd year:	27	
	1 st year:	28	
BA Honours in Augmentative and Alternative Communication BA (Hons) (AAC)	Graduates:	9	9 out of 15 students graduated. 6 students repeated certain modules and as a result will graduate in 2007. Among the graduates, 3 students graduated cum laude.
	2 nd year:	22	
	1 st year:	14	
Masters in Augmentative and Alternative Communication MA (AAC)	Graduates:	4	4 Students graduated at the April 2006 ceremony, and 8 of the 10 2 nd years successfully completed their studies and will graduate April 2007.
	2 nd year:	10	
	1 st year:	5	
Masters in Early Childhood Intervention M (ECI)	Graduates:	11	Of the 21 students who registered at the beginning of 2006, 16 have progressed to the second year in 2007. All 14 second year students that registered at the beginning of 2006 graduate the end of the year.
	2 nd year:	14	
	1 st year:	21	
PhD in Augmentative and Alternative Communication PhD	Graduates:	1	One student graduated in 2006, and she was also awarded the Semantic Compaction Systems Student Award for the most outstanding research thesis in AAC.
	3 rd year:	4	
	2 nd year:	3	
	1 st year:	2	

1.2 CAAC involvement in degree training of other departments

DEPARTMENT	COURSE	NUMBER OF STUDENTS
Communication Pathology	KMP 311	40 students successfully completed this module
Communication Pathology	KMP 312	41 students successfully completed this module
Communication Pathology	D.Phil in Communication Pathology	1 student graduated
Occupational Therapy, University of Mauritius	BOT 3151	7 students trained on the Neuro-Developmental Techniques (2 – 7 October 2006)

2. PUBLICATIONS

2.1 Books and Chapters in books

Bornman, J. (2006). Understanding the ICF from an AAC perspective. Chapter accepted for publication in L.L. Lloyd, H.H. Arvidson & Fuller, D.R. *AAC from A to Z*. Academic Press: New York.

2.2 Papers in ISI accredited peer reviewed journals

Alant, E., & Lloyd, L. (2006). Editorial - Augmentative and alternative communication: Exploring basic issues. *Disability and Rehabilitation*, 28(3), 141.

- Alant, E., Bornman, J., & Lloyd, L.** (2006). Issues in AAC research: How much do we really understand? *Disability and Rehabilitation*, 28(3), 143-150.
- Bornman, J.** (2006). Using a narrative and drawing approach to investigate Grade 1 children's depictions of disability. *Social Work Practitioner-Researcher*, 18(2), 144-164.
- Bornman, J., & Murphy, J.** (2006). Using the ICF in goal setting: Clinical application using Talking Mats®. *Disability and Rehabilitation. Assistive Technology*, 1(3), 145-154.
- Emmett, T., & Alant, E.** (2006). Women and Disability: Exploring the interface of multiple disadvantage. *Development Southern Africa*, 23(4), 445-460.
- Solarsh, B., & Alant, E.** (2006). The challenge of cross cultural assessment - The test of ability to explain for Zulu-speaking children. *Journal of Communication Disorders*, 39(2), 109-138.
- Van der Bijl, C., Alant, E., & Lloyd, L.** (2006). A comparison of two strategies of sight word instruction in children with mental disabilities. *Research in Developmental Disabilities*, 27, 43-55.

2.3 Papers in other journals and newsletters

- Bornman, J.** (2006). How to teach pre-school children to enjoy books. *Free State libraries newsletter: Libraries: Learning better, living better.* (Jan – March Ed.), 28-29.
- Bornman, J.** (2006). Talking Mats® : A useful tool for determining intervention goals in occupational therapy. *Occupational Therapy News* 14(6), 28-29.
- Bornman, J.** (2006). Talking Mats®: A useful strategy for client-centred decision making in occupational therapy, *Focus* (1), 5.
- Bornman, J.** (2006). Kommunikasie 101. *Baba & Kleuter*, 83 (June), 67-69.
- Bornman, J.** (2006). Eerste geselsies. *Baba & Kleuter*, 84 (July), 46-48.
- Bornman, J.** (2006). Het sy "Mamma" gesê? *Baba & Kleuter*, 85 (August), 58-60.
- Bornman, J., & Launonen, K.** (2006). Monikulttuurinen kompetenssi ja sen vaikutukset puheterapiatyöhön [Multicultural competence: implications for the speech-language therapy field]. *Puhe ja kieli [Finnish Journal of Speech and Language]*, 25(4), 243-255.
- Pistorius, M.** (2006). An extraordinary graduation ceremony: Recognizing 3 remarkable men. *The ISAAC Bulletin*, August, 1, 3.

2.4 Accepted papers (Papers in ISI accredited peer reviewed journals are marked with an asterisk *)

- ***Bornman, J., Alant, E., & Lloyd, L.L.** A beginning communication intervention protocol: In-service training of health workers. *Education and Training in Developmental Disabilities. Manuscript accepted for publication.*
- Bornman, J.** How to adapt books for children with visual impairments. *Free State Libraries newsletter: Libraries: Learning better, Living better. Manuscript accepted for publication.*
- ***Dada, S., Alant, E., & Granlund, M.** Activity based interventions: A niche perspective. *Child: Care, Health and Development. Manuscript accepted for publication.*
- ***Harty, M., Alant, E., & Uys, C.J.E.** Maternal self-efficacy and perception of child language competence in pre-school children with a communication disability. *Child: Care, Health and Development. Manuscript accepted for publication.*
- ***Campbell., N., Alant, E., & Bellis, T.** The Auditory Processing of children with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) in the medicated and non-medicated state. *International Journal of Audiology. Manuscript accepted for publication.*
- *Raghavendra, P., **Bornman, J.**, Granlund, M., & Björck-Åkesson, E. The World Health Organisation's International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health: Implications for clinical and research practice in the field of augmentative and alternative communication. *Augmentative and Alternative Communication. Manuscript accepted for publication.*
- Uys, C.J.E., Nel, L., & van der Westhuyzen, C.** Introducing a school-to-work transition model for youth with disabilities in South Africa. *Work. Manuscript accepted for publication.*

2.5 Submitted papers

- Uys, C.J.E.** Family support systems of foster parents in a community. *Manuscript submitted for publication.*
- Alant, E., & Harty, M.** Support-based augmentative and alternative communication intervention: A theoretical framework. *Manuscript submitted for publication.*

Stobbart, C., Alant, E., & Dada, S. Home-based literacy experiences of severely to profoundly deaf pre-schoolers and their hearing parents. *Manuscript submitted for publication.*

Goldblum, G., & Alant, E. Sales assistants serving customers with a traumatic brain injury. *Manuscript submitted for publication.*

Herold, M., Alant E., & Bornman, J. The use of word prediction to accelerate typing speed and increase spelling accuracy. *Manuscript submitted for publication.*

Bornman, J. Inclusion: A South African Perspective. *Manuscript submitted for publication.*

Alant, E., & Uys, C.J.E. Intervention and participation. *Manuscript submitted for publication.*

3. TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

3.1 Training and capacity building in research

DATE/ PLACE	NATURE OF CONTACT	PARTICIPANTS	PURPOSE	OUTCOME EVALUATION
26 - 30 June, Pretoria	Basic AAC Training Workshop	CAAC Staff	A week-long workshop that focused on aspects regarding the assessment and intervention of people with little or no functional speech.	Professionals were eager to share the knowledge gained through this program with their colleagues and to build an AAC support network.
3 – 7 July, Pretoria	Advanced AAC Training Workshop	CAAC Staff	A week long workshop that focused on issues affecting people with severe disabilities such as employment, legal issues, intervention, etc.	Honours students attended this course and were most positive. This course needs to be further promoted amongst teachers and therapists working in the field.

3.2 Community training & tender training

DATE/ PLACE	PARTICIPANTS	CONTENT	OUTCOME EVALUATION
22 – 26 May, Pretoria	6 Young adults with severe disabilities and their caregivers participated. The 4 participants of 2005 continued and 2 extra participants ie. Luvuyo Tyulu and Pat Monareng. Staff: Dr C.J.E. Uys, Miss N. Mazeka, Dr J. Bornman, Miss A. Samuels, Mrs G. Madiba Miss M. Harty	The empowerment of youth with disabilities: A self-advocacy and leadership programme.	It becomes increasingly difficult to house a group of people with disabilities on campus due to constraints in accessible accommodation. The training was most successful. Mrs Marina Herold assisted with short message system using the Grid. Mr Riaan Snyman introduced the SETA's learnerships. Data on self-efficacy was obtained for research objectives. The project won a Laureate Award for Education Innovation at the University of Pretoria.
30 - 31 May, Brits	Dr J. Bornman Miss M. Harty Miss A. Samuels Miss N. Mazeka	Application of AAC strategies to facilitate life-skills training within the national curriculum statement.	This workshop was well received. Educators stated after the two days of training that they felt much better equipped to include children with disabilities in their classrooms. In addition their knowledge increased regarding adaptations that can be made in order to facilitate participation in classroom activities.

DATE/ PLACE	PARTICIPANTS	CONTENT	OUTCOME EVALUATION
8 – 9 June, Randburg Sun	Miss G.Madiba Miss A Samuels	Sisonke Consortium Human Resource Development Tender on Inclusive Education for the Department of Education: Training of the Trainer on the Draft National Strategy on Screening, Identification, Assessment and Support Manual.	The aim of the workshop was to orientate the master trainers and the provincial coordinators of the 9 provinces on the participants and the facilitation manual. The manuals were to be used in the training of the trainers which was to be conducted in the Free State province on the 19 – 20 June.
19-20 June, Golden Gate	Miss G. Madiba Miss A. Samuels Miss N. Mazeka	Sisonke Consortium Human Resource Development Tender on Inclusive Education for the Department of Education: Training of the Trainer on the Draft National Strategy on Screening, Identification, Assessment and Support Manual.	30 personnel from the Free State Department of Education attended the training. Participants in this training consisted of principals, deputy principals and one HOD from the identified schools as well as the district officials. The training during this session was in preparation of the big training which was to be conducted at three districts.
26-28 June, Free State Province	Mrs G. Madiba Miss A. Samuels Miss N. Mazeka	Training district and personnel from schools identified as part of the inclusive education pilot project on the Draft National Strategy on Screening, Identification, Assessment and Support. Sisonke Consortium: Human Resource Development Tender on Inclusive Education for the National Department of Education.	Up to 100 participants per district were trained during this 3 day workshop. Feedback from the majority of participants as well as from the National Department of Education was that the workshop increased participants' knowledge of inclusive education with particular emphasis on practically supporting learners with barriers to learning.
28-31 August, Free State Province	Mrs G. Madiba Miss A. Samuels Miss N. Mazeka	Onsite visits to support districts and personnel from schools identified as part of the inclusive education pilot regarding the SIAS training manual. Sisonke Consortium: Human Resource Development Tender on Inclusive Education for the National Department of Education.	The educators from the Full Service Schools (FSS) as well as Special Schools as Resource Centers (SSRC) were very encouraged to receive one to one support in practically implementing Inclusive Education in their own classrooms. There is overall an increased awareness in all of the schools regarding barriers to learning and that inclusive education focuses broader than just learners with disabilities. More cohesive links were established between the District based support teams, FSS and SSRC.
29 August - 1 September, Brits	Miss M. Harty Miss N. Mazeka	Follow-up Northwest training: Baseline data.	Teachers were introduced to the aims of the training and video footage of the classroom and classroom instruction was recorded in order to facilitate planning of intervention materials for use with the same teachers. Teachers were enthusiastic regarding the upcoming training and expressed a need for such in-situ training.

DATE/ PLACE	PARTICIPANTS	CONTENT	OUTCOME EVALUATION
7-8 September, Braamfontein	Mrs G. Madiba Miss A. Samuels	Briefing Session re guidelines for Inclusive Learning Programmes Manual Sisonke Consortium: Human Resource Development Tender on Inclusive Education for the National Department of Education.	Provincial coordinators of the 9 provinces as well as the master trainers attended the briefing session re Guidelines for Inclusive Learning programme manual. The aim of the session was in preparation for the training of trainer's session which was to be conducted in the Free State province on the 12 and the 13 September.
12-13 September, Maluta Mountain Lodge	Miss G. Madiba Miss A. Samuels Miss N. Mazeka	Training of the trainer re guidelines for Inclusive Learning Programmes Manual. Sisonke Consortium Human Resource Development Tender on Inclusive Education for the Department of Education.	28 district officials from the three districts attended this workshop. The aim of the training was to engage all the DBST on the preparation of the big training to be conducted on the 27 – 29 September. In the feedback forms, the participants indicated that they feel considered as part of the future trainers. This was because preparation for the big training was planned in collaboration with them.
27 -29 September, Welkom & Qwa Qwa	Miss G. Madiba Miss N. Mazeka	Training of the teachers and the District officials., re Guidelines for Inclusive Learning Programme manual Sisonke Consortium Human Resource Development Tender on Inclusive Education for the Department of Education.	171 participants from the three districts attended the training for a period of three days. After the training it becomes clear that teachers as well as the district officials have learned a lot regarding the differentiation of curriculum to suit the needs of all their learners in the classroom.
11 October 18 October 25 October 1 November, Damonville, Central Primary, Morekolodi.	Miss G. Madiba Miss A. Samuels Miss N. Mazeka Miss M. Harty Dr C.J.E. Uys Dr J. Bornman	Training took place at 3 schools in the North West Province namely: Damonville, Central Primary, Morekolodi.	Teachers were introduced to aided language stimulation strategies which were applied to 3 life skills themes within the scope of the National Curriculum statement. After the training the teachers voice the fact that the ALS boards were useful in facilitating participation and interaction amongst all the learners in the classroom.

4. NEW PROJECTS

4.1 The Development of a Beginning Communication Package for the Department of Health:

The CAAC has developed a beginning augmentative and alternative communication package for the Department of Health. The package includes a training manual, communication boards, 2 communication devices, videos and adapted toys. Subject to approval from the Department of Health, healthcare workers will be trained on this package in 2007.

4.2 SANPAD:

Including disability within the context of development: opportunities, challenges, constraints and strategies. This is a collaborative project between the CAAC, Dept of Sociology, UP and **partners in the Netherlands**, which started in 2006 and will be finalised in 2008.

5. INFORMATION DISSEMINATION ON THE USE OF AAC

DATE/PLACE	TRAINERS INVOLVED	PARTICIPANTS	CONTENT	OUTCOME
31 January, Department of Human Nutrition, University of Pretoria	Dr C.J.E. Uys	Final year students	Nutritional issues in children with severe disabilities. An introduction to AAC with children with severe disabilities. Using relevant case studies made specific application to the field of human nutrition.	As these students have little or no experience with persons with severe disabilities, they found this seminar useful and they grasp the value of working in teams. The CAAC is a valuable resource for them to use when they start their careers.
8 April, Department of Occupational Therapy, University of Pretoria	Dr C.J.E. Uys	Third year students	The role of occupational therapy in the AAC realm.	This seminar was presented as part of their module on assistive technologies and was their first exposure to communication technologies. These students work with persons experiencing communication problems and therefore related to the content. The CAAC is a valuable resource and we already see an increase in post-graduate enrolments from that Department.
15 November, Riverfield Lodge, Johannesburg	Miss M. Harty Mr M. Pistorius	Rehabilitation therapy professionals, who focus on neuro-rehabilitation and intervention.	Workshop entitled Gadgets in rehabilitation, when and how to use them. Use of Technology for boosting communication	Participants stated they benefited from the lectures and verbalized a need for further training in the field of AAC technology.
30 November Browns' school, Kwa-Zulu Natal	Mr M. Pistorius	Staff and students of Browns' school	A PowerPoint presentation and speech about Mr M. Pistorius life story, his experiences of being employed and how AAC changed his life.	The audience was inspired and the learners saw him as a valuable example and role model.

6. VISITORS TO THE CAAC

DATE	NAME AND DESIGNATION	NATURE OF VISIT	OUTCOMES
29 March	Mrs Grace Candiru, Uganda Project Coordinator, Lecturer Inclusion and SNE, Faculty of Special Needs and Rehabilitation (FSN&R) Kyambogo University. Mr Stackus Okwaput, Deputy Uganda Project coordinator. Mrs Helen L. Aringo, Dr John B. Okech, Mr Vincent Paul Ojwang,	Sisonke project. Inclusion of all children in one classroom including children who for one reason or another meet barrier to learning.	Delegation from Uganda.

DATE	NAME AND DESIGNATION	NATURE OF VISIT	OUTCOMES
	Mrs Eseza Mirembe, Mr Dan Lenyo, Uganda National Examination Board Former lecturer at FSN & R.		
3 - 15 May	Prof Lyle L Lloyd, Purdue University, USA.	Attend Honorary Doctorate Graduation.	Prof Lyle Lloyd received his honorary doctorate from the University of Pretoria, in recognition of the key role that he has played in establishing the field in South Africa over the past 15 years, in a way that is not only internationally competitive, but also locally relevant to the people in this country. He has been a close collaborator of staff and students at the Centre for AAC (CAAC).
15 – 26 May	Dr Diane Bryen, Temple University	Dr Bryen participated in the FOFA project.	Dr Bryen was an integral part of the project. She presented various lectures and gave some practical input with the participants. Dr Bryen is also co-writing an article with Dr Uys on the outcome of this project.
5 July - 5 August	Prof Lyle Lloyd and students from Purdue University, USA.	Collaboration between education students from Purdue University students and the University of Pretoria.	Students enjoyed the exchange and gained new knowledge about the educational system in South Africa. Students donated stationery to a school in Atteridgeville that they visited.
18 August	Dr David Fulce, United Kingdom	Visiting South Africa from the "Institutional Association for Scientific studies of Intellectual Disabilities".	To explore what the CAAC is currently doing.
24 - 29 Sept	<i>Swedish delegation:</i> Mats Granlund, Einar Jakobsson, Regina Ylvèn, Anette Sandberg, Lena Almqvist, Lilly Eriksson, Martina Norling, Agneta Luttrup, Maria Karlsson, Pia Käcker and Madeleine Abrondt-Dalgren. Mary Anne Ronski and Rose Sevcik, <i>Georgia State University, USA.</i> Carl Dunst and Carol Trivette, <i>Orelena Hawks Puckett Institute, Asheville and Morganton, North Carolina, USA.</i>	Participated in the Research Symposium on Intervention and Positive Functioning.	This symposium was the culmination of a 3 year collaborative venture between the CAAC and the Childe program, Sweden. A special edition of the Scandinavian Disability Journal of Research will be published in July/August 2007 featuring the collaborative presentations.

7. CONSULTATIONS

A total of **22** AAC consultations were undertaken in 2006 by staff of the CAAC which included **3** Medico legal consultations and **1** hospital assessment.

8. PAPERS AND POSTERS PRESENTED AT CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS

DATE & VENUE	NAME	PAPER PRESENTED
13 February	Dr J.Bornman & Dr C.J.E. Uys	14 th Multi-professional AAC Research Indaba. <i>Enhancing beginning communication skills in classrooms</i> . University of Pretoria.
14 February	Dr C.J.E. Uys & Miss M. Harty	14 th Multi-professional AAC Research Indaba. <i>Impact of Aided Language Stimulation training on teachers' practices in inclusive classrooms</i> . University of Pretoria.
27 - 28 February	Mr M. Pistorius	CSIR Research and Innovation Conference. <i>GNAApp - An Open Source augmentative and alternative communication framework</i> . CSIR Conference Centre, Pretoria
18 - 20 April	Miss A.E. Samuels	<i>SANPAD Workshop</i> . A Report on the Preliminary Scoping Exercise of the Disability Sector in South Africa. Leiden, Netherlands.
25 - 26 April	Prof E. Alant	Disability and Inclusive Development Conference 2006 - Sharing, learning and Building Alliances. <i>Social Inclusion and Quality of Life</i> . Gold Reef City Casino Hotel, Johannesburg.
17May	Dr J. Bornman	From Inclusion to Belonging Conference. <i>Peter's Magic Talking Machine: Pictures, Peers and Perceptions</i> . Nedbank, Sandton Auditorium and Conference Facility, Johannesburg.
18 May	Dr J. Bornman	From Inclusion to Belonging Conference. Pulling Together-Partnerships between families and schools to ensure successful inclusion parents workshop. <i>Just the Same on the Inside: How children view Disability</i> . Nedbank, Sandton Auditorium and Conference Facility, Johannesburg.
18 May	Mr M. Pistorius	From Inclusion to Belonging Conference. <i>How AAC Changed my Life</i> . Nedbank, Sandton Auditorium and Conference Facility, Johannesburg.
5 July	Prof E. Alant	Beit Issie Shapiro's 4 th International Conference on Developmental Disabilities: Policy, Practice and Research. <i>The impact of intervention: Dilemmas and strategies</i> . Tel Aviv, Israel.
5 July	Prof E. Alant & Mr M. Pistorius	Beit Issie Shapiro's 4 th International Conference on Developmental Disabilities: Policy, Practice and Research. <i>The Grid, a Dynamic AAC Solution To The Modern Communication Needs</i> . Tel Aviv, Israel.
6 July	Mr M. Pistorius	Beit Issie Shapiro's 4 th International Conference on Developmental Disabilities: Policy, Practice and Research. <i>Nothing About Us Without Us - Self Advocates Looking at the Future</i> . Tel Aviv, Israel.
31 July	Miss A.E. Samuels	12 th Biennial Conference of the International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication Conference. <i>AAC Training of South African Speech Pathologists: Changing Perceptions</i> . Düsseldorf, Germany.
1 August	Prof E. Alant	12 th Biennial Conference of the International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication Conference (ISAAC). <i>Communication as a Meaning-based Process: Implications for AAC</i> . Düsseldorf, Germany.
1 August	Dr J. Bornman	12 th Biennial Conference of the International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication Conference (ISAAC). <i>Teacher, Mom and Me: Enhancing Beginning Communication Skills in Classrooms</i> . Düsseldorf, Germany.
2 August	Dr. J Bornman Mrs. J. Murphy (University of Stirling, Scotland)	12 th Biennial Conference of the International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication (ISAAC) Conference. <i>The ICF, Talking Mats® and Goal Setting: A Workable Threesome</i> . Düsseldorf, Germany.
2 August	Dr C.J.E Uys & Mrs J. Loots	12 th Biennial Conference of the International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication Conference (ISAAC). <i>Empowerment of Youth With Severe Disabilities through AAC</i> . Düsseldorf, Germany
3 August	Dr C.J.E. Uys & Mrs J. Loots	12 th Biennial Conference of the International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication Conference (ISAAC). <i>South African Youth with little functional speech tell their stories (Poster)</i> . Düsseldorf, Germany

DATE & VENUE	NAME	PAPER PRESENTED
3 August	Miss M. Harty	12 th Biennial Conference of the International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication Conference (ISAAC). <i>Facilitating Play in Rural Pre-schools through Augmented Language Stimulation</i> . Düsseldorf, Germany.
10 August	Prof E. Alant	<i>Not being able to speak does not mean you have nothing to say</i> . Sandton Rotary.
23 August	Mr M. Pistorius	Workshop: The School-To-Work Transition Program. <i>Finding a voice: The value of access to competitive employment - a personal experience</i> . Pretoria School for Cerebral Palsy, Pretoria.
28 August	Dr J. Bornman	Workshop to teachers and therapists. <i>Challenging Behaviour</i> . Dundee, KwaZulu Natal.
28 August	Dr C.J.E. Uys	New York State Occupational Therapy Association Annual Conference: Building Partnerships Beyond Borders. <i>Less me, more we</i> . New York, USA.
30 August	Dr C.J.E. Uys	New York State Occupational Therapy Association Annual Conference: Building Partnerships Beyond Borders. <i>Sustainable intervention – Is it possible?</i> New York, USA.
25 September	Mr M. Pistorius	INSITE – International Science, Innovation and Technology Exhibition, <i>“Not being able to speak does not mean you have nothing to say”- Overcoming Physical Challenges Through Technology</i> . Sandton Convention Centre.
27 September	Miss J. Wilder, Mrs L. Joseph, Miss M Harty & Miss P. Rajaram	Research Symposium on Intervention and Positive Functioning. <i>Social Networks, Social Support and Positive Functioning of Families of Children with Disabilities: A Discussion Paper</i> . University of Pretoria.
28 September	Prof E. Alant	Research Symposium on Intervention and Positive Functioning. <i>Participation and Intervention</i> . University of Pretoria.
28 September	Dr J. Bornman	Research Symposium on Intervention and Positive Functioning. <i>Exploring the construct “change” from a systems theory perspective</i> . University of Pretoria.
28 September	Dr C.J.E. Uys, Mrs L. Almqvist, & Dr A. Sandberg	Research Symposium on Intervention and Positive Functioning. <i>The relationship between flow, participation and engagement for young children</i> . University of Pretoria.
6 October	Prof E. Alant	NRF roundtable discussion. <i>Disability Research</i> . Constitution Hill, Parktown, Johannesburg.
29 October - 1 November	Prof E. Alant (Attendance)	2006 Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) Annual Meeting and Conference: Forging new partnerships for new challenges through research, education and service, Washington, DC. USA.
31 October	Dr. J. Bornman	2 nd World Autism Conference and Exhibition. <i>Challenging behavior in children with autism</i> . Cape Town International Convention Centre, Cape Town.
15 November	Miss. M. Harty Mr M. Pistorius	Life Rehabilitation workshop. <i>Technologies in boosting communication</i> . Life Riverfield Lodge, Johannesburg.
16 - 18 November	Prof E. Alant	2006 American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) Annual Conference. <i>AAC Intervention: How do we become more inclusive?</i> Miami, Florida.

9. STAFF/CAAC ACHIEVEMENT: SPECIAL INVOLVEMENTS/AWARDS

CAAC Team – Laureate Award, Education Innovation for the Fofa Project, University of Pretoria.

Prof E. Alant received an exceptional achiever award from the University of Pretoria.

Prof E. Alant and Dr M. Lilienfeld awarded best student paper published in the AAC Journal.

Prof E. Alant was appointed Vice-President for ISAAC 2007-2008.

Dr J. Bornman was awarded Exceptional Young Researcher from the University of Pretoria.

Dr J. Bornman received an Y2-Rating as researcher from the National Research Foundation (NRF)

Dr J. Bornman received a Thuthuka Award (2004-2007).

Mr M. Pistorius received a Merit award from University of Pretoria's SRC.
 Mr M. Pistorius received the Best Poster award - CSIR Research and Innovation Conference (*GNApp - An Open Source Augmentative and Alternative Communication Framework*).
 Mr M. Pistorius obtained a certificate in Internet and Web Design (Cum laude) from UNISA
 Mr M. Pistorius was appointed as a technical advisor for the ISAAC Emerging AAC Nations committee.
 Mr M. Pistorius was elected chairperson of Interface South Africa.
 Prof Lyle L. Lloyd received an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Pretoria.
 Miss A. Samuels was appointed as full time staff member.
 Dr C.J.E. Uys received the Thutuka award (2006 – 2008).

10. EXTERNAL EXAMINATIONS / REVIEWERS

Dr J. Bornman acted as external examiner for the University of Limpopo: Medunsa Campus, Department of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, Research reports.

Dr S. Dada acted as external examiner for the University of Kwa Zulu Natal, Speech and Hearing Therapy Department, Severe Communication Disorders & Early Childhood Intervention modules.

11. ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Prof Erna Alant (Director: CAAC)
 Mr Graham Clarke (AAC User)
 Prof Isabel Uys (Professor Emeritus: University of Pretoria)
 Prof Jonathan D. Jansen (Dean: Faculty of Education, University of Pretoria: Chairperson)
 Mrs Kagiso Chikane (Manager: Strategic Relationship, CSIR)
 Mr Maluta Tshivhase (Acting Director-General: Department of Health)
 Mrs Matsebula Sebenzile (Executive Director: African Access Holding (Pty) Ltd)
 Prof Michael Samuel (Professor: Faculty of Education, University of KwaZulu-Natal)
 Prof Chabani N. Manganyi (Vice-Principal: University of Pretoria)
 Mr Rodney Pistorius (Chairperson: INTERFACE, South Africa)

12. CAAC STAFF

12.1 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.
Senior Lecturer: M (ECI) co-ordinator: Dr C.J.E. Uys: 40 hours per week.
Lecturer: Researcher & trainer: Dr S. Dada: 40 hours per week. (Until 30 September 2006).
Administrator: Mrs E.J.C. Rossetti-Siefe: 40 hours per week.

12.2 CAAC Staff funded from private funding

Junior Lecturer: Miss M. Harty (40 hours per week).
Junior Lecturer: Mrs G. Madiba (40 hours per week).
Junior Lecturer: Miss A. Samuels (40 hours per week).
Disability Consultant: Mr M. Pistorius (25 hours per week).
Disability Consultant Assistant: Mr S. Mmakola (15 hours per week from 22 March 2006).
Research Assistant: Mrs K. Vagle (from 1 March to 31 October 2006, 12 hours per week).

12.3 External examiners

Miss G. Jager, Valley Trust (MECI – second years).
 Mrs L. Moodley, University of KwaZulu Natal (MECI – first years).
 Miss L. Nel, Pretoria CP School (AAC Honours – 708).
 Mr E. Fourie, University of the Witwatersrand (AAC Honours – 707).
 Mrs M. Janse v. Rensburg, Department of Justice (AAC Honours 707).
 Mrs J. Rose, Private Practice (Masters in AAC – Coursework).

Mrs E. Moolman, New Hope School (Masters in AAC – Coursework).
 Miss K. Tönsing, Private Practice (Masters in AAC – Coursework, AAC Honours).
 Mrs E.B.M. Mophosho, University of the Witwatersrand (ACE in severe disabilities).
 Dr F. Loncke, University of Virginia (AAC 890 / Research thesis).
 Professor McKay Moore Sohlberg, University of Oregon (AAC 990 & 900 / PhD thesis and oral defence).
 Prof M Ylvisaker, School of Education, College of Saint Rose, Albany, New York. (AAC 990 & 900 / PhD thesis and oral defence).
 Prof Ralf W. Schlosser, Northeastern University, Boston (AAC 890 / Research thesis).

13. VISITS TO OTHER UNIVERSITIES AND CENTRA

Prof E. Alant was on sabbatical from 1 June – 30 November 2006. During this period she visited the following institutions:

- Schieffebush Institute of Lifespan Studies, Kansas University, USA
- Georgia State University, USA (extended visit)

14. MEDIA

Press:

Beeld: *2 wat stom is, kan nou gestremdes leer - 11 May 2006.*
Rapport: *Kan nie praat, tog kry Tukkie's graad - 14 May 2006.*
Pretoria News: *Tuks students make history - 10 May 2006.*
Tukkievaria: *Prof Erna Alant - Academic Achievers Award - 23 (3) - 31 May 2006.*
Tukkievaria: *Fofa-program gee gestremdes vlerke - 23 (4), 31 July 2006.*
Vrouekeur: *Te veel terapie – 7 Julie 2006.*
Vrouekeur: *Stom slimkoppe vertel hul stories - 14 Julie 2006.*

Radio interviews:

Mrs Gloria Madiba and Miss Ncamy Mazeka were interviewed by *Radio Harmony* on 27 April 2006.
 Prof Erna Alant was interviewed by *Radio Pretoria* on 10 May 2006.

15. STUDENT AWARDS

Mayer-Johnson Company Award for the outstanding BA Hons (AAC) student was presented to Miss D. Stehr

Kagisano Financial Services Award for the best progress in BA Hons (AAC) student was presented to Miss C. le Roux and Mr R. B. Chemane.

Semantic Compaction Systems Student Award for the most outstanding research thesis in Augmentative and Alternative Communication was presented to Miss N.A. Visser.

AAC journal best student article for 2005 was awarded to Margi Lilienfeld.

16. OBJECTIVES FOR 2007

A. Formal Training
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduation of 2 PhD students, 15 Masters Students and 12 Honours students. • Introduction of new modules and finalisation of the CD ROMs for training.
B. Research
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To maintain a high level of research outputs. • To edit one Special Edition of the Scandinavian Journal of Disability as the culmination of the CAAC/Sweden research collaboration.
C. Informal and Community Training
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To maintain current levels of involvement in community training. • To increase involvement in tenders in schools. • To extend training with in the Health context in the country.
D. Funding
To investigate further collaborative funding opportunities inside and outside the country.

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 2006 are also gratefully acknowledged.

**FIRST RAND FOUNDATION
MAY & STANLEY SMITH TRUST**

Appreciation is also expressed towards the following companies for donating the 3 cash prizes awarded to students:

**MAYER-JOHNSON COMPANY
KAGISANO FINANCIAL SERVICES
SEMANTIC COMPACTION SYSTEMS**

The following associations and institutions are 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 Sociology
Department of Statistics
Telematic Learning and Education Innovation
Department of Information Technology
Video Production Unit, Tuks
Academic Information Services (Library)**

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



University of Pretoria