Tracking Trends & Transferring Knowledge

Tools for Life: Georgia’s AT Act Program Can Help You

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With contributions by: Martha Rust

www.gatfl.org

GOTA in Savannah
September 21, 2013
Welcome to the Assistive Technology revolution! The world around us is evolving at an astounding rate. Assistive Technology developments have been foundational in this evolution and a catalyst producing positive life-changing results for individuals with disabilities. This course will present what’s new in AT and in the AT community as we explore where we were, where we are, and perhaps, where we are going. Possible solutions to expedite knowledge transfer from research journals to your clients whether they are school, at home, at work, or in the community will also be discussed.

For Handouts: [http://www.gatfl.gatech.edu/tflwiki](http://www.gatfl.gatech.edu/tflwiki)
Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this course You will be able to:

1. Summarize 2 current research studies or technology trends regarding applying specific AT in research studies or technology trends regarding applying specific AT in educational environments.

2. Summarize the evolution of one assistive technology solution.

3. Access and assess 3 resources to discover new AT solutions to support students.

For Handouts: http://www.gatfl.gatech.edu/tflwiki
Why I Here Today?

- Master Our Skills!
- Expand Our Knowledge and
- Build Stronger Schools to Create
Hope begins in the dark, the stubborn hope that if you just show up and try to do the right thing, the dawn will come.

~Anne Lamott
AMAC Accessibility is a social change organization on a mission to create affordable services for governmental, private and non-profits organization working with individuals with disabilities. Services include e-text, braille, captioning, assistive technology, office management software and consulting.
AMAC creates practical solutions that work, with a focus on utility, ease of use, and high quality.

- **Accessibility Consulting** focuses on organizational accessibility needs with evaluation, technical assistance, customer support, and website accessibility solutions.
- **Braille Services** produces customized projects from both print materials and electronic text including partial books and chapters or graphics only using cutting-edge technology.
- **Captioning Services** makes classrooms, meetings, labs and other audio environments fully accessible for deaf or hard-of-hearing.
- **Professional E-Text Producers** provide high-quality e-text in many formats such as PDF, DOC, DAISY, and HTML.
- **Certified Assistive Technology team** provides on-site and remote assessments, demonstrations, training and technical assistance for education, work, and daily living environments.

For more information, please visit our website at [www.amacusg.org](http://www.amacusg.org)
Tools for Life Mission

We’re here to help Georgians with disabilities gain access to and acquisition of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services so they can live, learn, work, and play independently in the communities of their choice.
Tools for Life
Georgia’s Federal AT Act Program

• TFL developed Georgia’s Plan for AT
• We serve individuals of all ages & all disabilities in Georgia
  • Over 50,000 thru various activities throughout the year
• TFL Network
  • Assistive Technology Resource Centers
  • Lending Libraries
  • Training and Demonstrations
  • AT Reuse
  • AT Funding Education/Assistance and Resources
• Online Resources
  • www.gatfl.org - 12,000 unique visitors a month
• AT Lending Library
• AT Evaluations & Training
• AT Demos
• Resource and Assistance
• AT Funding Assistance
• DME Reuse
Welcome to Tools for Life

Tools for Life, Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program, is dedicated to increasing access to and acquisition of assistive technology (AT) devices and services for Georgians of all ages and disabilities so they can live, learn, work and play independently and with greater freedom in communities of their choice.

Tools for Life and the TFL Network work collaboratively together to accomplish our mission through:

- AT Demonstration
- AT Evaluations and Assessments
- AT Funding Options & Education
- Access to the TFL AT Lending Libraries
- AT & Durable Medical Equipment Reuse
- AT Training (Individual)
- AT Training (Groups)

Please take our survey to help us gather information that will help better serve the community. The survey can be found at: [TFL Survey](#)
TFL AppFinder

Search by:
✓ App Name
✓ Categories
  – Book
  – Education
  – Environmental Adaptations
  – Hearing
  – Cognition, Learning, Developmental
  – Navigation
  – Personal Care and Safety
  – Productivity
  – Communication
  – Therapeutic Aids
  – Vision
Join us for Upcoming Webinars and Visit our Archives!

Title: Finding Your Strategy: Understanding Assistive Technology Funding Resources
Date: Wednesday September 25 2013
 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm EST

Title: What's Your Script? Assistive Technology and Writing
Date: Thursday September 26 2013
 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm EST

Sign up to be on the TFL mailing list to receive our email announcements! Visit www.gatfl.org or send an email to Liz - liz.persaud@gatfl.gatech.edu
Welcome to Tools for Life

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2013 IDEAS CONFERENCE
2013 Institute Designed for Educating All Students Conference
June 3 - 6, 2013
Epworth by the Sea, St Simons Island

- Submit a Proposal
- Conference Website
- Exhibitor Details

WEBINARS

- APR 18
  Free for All Resources for Teachers and Students
- APR 24
  Assistive Technology and Adapted Recreation: A Perfect Match

Current Webinar Schedule
Webinar Archives

APP FINDER

...for Living, Learning, Working, and Playing.

AT ONLINE EXCHANGE

gTRADE, Georgia's Online Equipment Exchange,
encourages members to offer AT and DME for sale or donation to others who may benefit from using technology unneeded by others.
Get a Financial Loan to purchase AT

The CFII - The Center for Financial Independence & Innovation, Inc. (The CFII) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping individuals with disabilities and their family members advance their financial independence and security.

Obtain AT through our AT Cooperative Buying Program

The Georgia AT Depot is a state-wide buying Cooperative for Assistive Technology for customers in the state of Georgia. The Georgia AT Depot is modeled after the Maryland AT Co-op, which has operated a successful cooperative buying program since 1998. The Georgia AT Depot is a collaborating partner with the Maryland Co-op. In this way we can provide Georgia customers the best discounts possible.

Obtain Reused/Gently Used AT Devices

gTRADE. Georgia’s Online Equipment Exchange, encourages members to offer AT and DME for sale or donation to others who may benefit from using technology unneeded by others.

FODAC - Friends of Disabled Adults and Children (FODAC) is Georgia’s statewide provider of home health and durable medical equipment. FODAC has distributed 20,000 wheelchairs and thousands of other pieces of DME since 1986. Internationally, 65 countries have received some equipment over those years.
The Need for Alternative Funding

• Funding is the greatest barrier for individuals with disabilities to acquire assistive technology

• Third party funding sources are not increasing and their eligibility criteria are narrowing

• Traditional credit financing for assistive technology has not been available for individuals with disabilities
Direct AT Service Activities

• Web-based Funding Guide

• A resource for locating funding sources for AT devices and services. This guide was developed to make the funding process easier and to assist consumers in getting the assistive technology they need.

• New resources added frequently!
DOLLARS & SENSE
Navigating the AT Funding Stream

Please use the drop-down lists below to search...

Age Groups Served
- Show all ages

Geographic Areas Served
- Show all geographies

Serves People with the Following Disabilities
- Show all disabilities

Type of Funding Provided
- Show all funding sources

Types of Services Provided
- Show all services provided

Search
Dollars and Sense Homepage | Resource Center

AT Resource Center

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. How can I get funding to pay for home modifications?
There are a variety of different funding opportunities for home modifications. Listed below are a few:

- **Georgia Dream Homeownership Program**
- **Credit-Able** – Georgia’s Alternative Loan Program for Georgia’s with disabilities
- **Social Security PASS Plan**, allows for individuals to save money for a specific purchase
- **211** – United Way telephone number to find human service answers
- **Aldergate**, homes for developmental disabilities
- **Brain and Spinal Cord Trust Fund**
- **Joni Foundation**
- **USDA Rural Development Section 502 Rural Housing Loan Guarantee**- The purpose of this loan program is to enable eligible low- and moderate-income rural residents to acquire modestly priced housing for their own use as a primary residence. The program is available for the purchase and repair of existing and newly constructed dwelling. There is no required down payment, but families must be able to afford the mortgage payments, including taxes and insurance. In addition, applicants must be without adequate housing and be unable to obtain credit elsewhere, yet have acceptable credit histories.
Direct AT Service Activities

- FREE resource for finding and exchanging assistive technology (AT) devices online
- Place an ad requesting items for sale, donation, or needed
- gTRADE and Tools for Life encourages members to offer AT devices and information for sale or by donation to others who may benefit from using technology and equipment no longer in need by others
- This online equipment exchange program was developed to make AT devices and services available and accessible to Georgians with disabilities
- [www.gtradeonline.org](http://www.gtradeonline.org)
Items Listed as Available on Gtrade

Filter list by:
- Category: All Categories
  - Computers & Related
  - Daily Living Aids
  - Environmental Adaptations
  - Hearing
  - Learning, Cognitive, & Developmental
  - Mobility/ Seating & Positioning
  - Other
  - Recreation, Sports, & Leisure
  - Speech Communication
  - Vehicle Modification & Transportation
  - Vision

- Posted: All Postings
- Type: All Type

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<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>Daily Living Aids</td>
<td>Accessible sink with chrome faucet</td>
<td>$250</td>
<td>Marietta, GA</td>
</tr>
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</table>

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IOS 7 is here: A whole new iPhone experience

By Adrian Covert  @CNNMoneyTech  September 18, 2013: 8:31 AM ET
Google announces Calico, a new company focused on health and well-being

MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA – September 18, 2013 – Google today announced Calico, a new company that will focus on health and well-being, in particular the challenge of aging and associated diseases. Arthur D. Levinson, Chairman and former CEO of Genentech and Chairman of Apple, will be Chief Executive Officer and a founding investor.

Announcing this new investment, Larry Page, Google CEO said: “Illness and aging affect all our families. With some longer term, forward-thinking around healthcare and biotechnology, I believe we can improve millions of lives. It’s impossible to imagine anyone better than Art—one of the leading scientists, entrepreneurs and CEOs of our generation—to take this new venture forward.” Art said: “I’ve devoted much of my life to science and technology, with the goal of improving human health. Larry’s focus on outsized improvements has been an inspiration to me, and I’m tremendously excited about what’s next.”

Art Levinson will remain Chairman of Genentech and a director of Hoffmann-La Roche, as well as Chairman of Apple.

Commenting on Art’s new role, Franz Humer, Chairman of Hoffmann-La Roche, said: “Art’s track record at Genentech has been exceptional, and we see an interesting potential for our companies to work together going forward. We’re delighted he’ll stay on our board.”

Tim Cook, Chief Executive Officer of Apple, said: “For too many of our friends and family, life has been cut short or the quality of that life too often lacking. Art is one of the crazy ones who thinks it doesn’t have to be this way. There is no one better suited to lead this new company. I am excited to see the results.”

Contact
Leslie Miller
Google Corporate Communications
The Conversation
The Art of Listening, Learning, and Sharing

Brought to you by
Brian Solis and JESS3

Social Bookmarks
Comment & Reputation
Crowdsourced Content
Blog Platforms
Blogs/Conversations
Blog Communities
Micromedia
Lifetimes
Specific to Twitter
SMS/Voice
Social Networks
Niche Networks
Customers Service Networks
Location
Video Aggregation
Video
Documents
Events
Music
Wiki
LiveCasting - Video and Audio
Evidence for What Works in Education

We review the research on the different programs, products, practices, and policies in education.

Then, by focusing on the results from high-quality research, we try to answer the question “What works in education?”

Our goal is to provide educators with the information they need to make evidence-based decisions.
Mind & Brain News

Latest News

Disorders and Syndromes
- ADD and ADHD
- Alzheimer's
- Autism
- Bipolar Disorder
- Borderline Personality Disorder
- Brain Injury
- Dementia
- Depression
- Disorders and Syndromes

Top News

Health & Medicine

Mind & Brain

Social Networks

Dementia Care Directory
Alzheimers.locator.com
Quality Memory Care in Your Area. Call Today for a Free Consultation.

Browse News Stories
1 to 10 of 32,468 stories
E-Readers Can Make Reading Easier for Those With Dyslexia

Sep. 18, 2013 — As e-readers grow in popularity as convenient alternatives to traditional books, researchers at the Smithsonian have found that convenience may not be their only benefit. The team discovered that when e-readers are set up to display only a few words per line, some people with dyslexia can read more easily, quickly and with greater comprehension. Their findings are published in the Sept. 18 issue of the journal *PLOS ONE*.

An element in many cases of dyslexia is called a visual attention deficit. It is marked by an inability to concentrate on letters within words or words within lines of text. Another element is known as visual crowding—the failure to recognize letters when they are cluttered within the

In the paper condition students read passages from the Gates-MacGinitie Reading Tests and answered multiple choice questions as shown. In the iPod condition the reading passage was displayed on the iPod (scrolled vertically using a finger on the touchscreen) and questions were answered on
Neuroplasticity research has established, beyond doubt, that instead of being a static cell mass, our brain is actually a dynamic system of neural networks that has the capability of significant growth under favorable circumstances.

Rudraprosad Chakraborty, M.D.
The brain is an amazing thing. Most of us have no idea what’s really going on inside our heads. Yet brain scientists have uncovered details every business leader, parent, and teacher should know.

Dr. John Medina - Developmental Molecular Biologist
12 Brain Rules

1. Exercise boosts brain power
2. Human brain evolved
3. Every brain is wired differently
4. We don’t pay attention to boring things
5. Repeat to remember
6. Remember to repeat
12 Brain Rules

7. Sleep well, think well
8. Stressed brains don’t learn the same way
9. Stimulate more of the senses
10. VISION trumps all other senses
   WE SEE WITH OUR BRAINS
11. Male and female brains are different
12. We are powerful natural explorers
How Your Child Learns Best
How Your Child Learns Best

- Everything we learn comes to the brain through our senses.
- Brain can’t process billions of bits of info every sec.
- Equipped with filters to protect from overload & focus on the data most critical for survival.
How Your Child Learns Best

- When stress is high, amygdala diverts info to the reflex automatic system, non-thinking reactions (flight/fight)

- When amygdala is in a safe state and emotions are positive, info is passed on to the memory-making and thinking networks in the brain
How Your Child Learns Best

- Stress, boredom, frustration or confusion block the flow of info through amygdala to the thinking brain.
- When learning is associated with pleasure, the amygdala “stamps” that info with increased memory impact.
How Your Child Learns Best

You need brain-friendly strategies to empower your child to respond to the most useful sensory input from the environment and turn that data into retained knowledge.
Neuroplasticity

When the action is repeated, the more dendrites sprout to connect new memories to old ones, stronger the connections become, the more efficient the brain becomes at retrieving that memory or action.
Overview of the Human Factors and Aging Laboratory

Points of Excellence

- Our research advances both science and practice
- We aim to improve quality of life for adults of all ages
- Students graduating from our lab are very successful

Resources

- Senior-to-Senior Brochure

Sponsors
Below is a list of current projects in the HFA lab. To view a list of past or completed projects, please visit our archived projects page.

**Healthcare**

**Identifying Strategies to Keep Older Adults Healthy in Senior Living Communities**

Contact Person: **Sara McBride**

Many older adults choose to make the transition into senior living communities, such as independent living or assisted living. We are interested in understanding the types of strategies used and decisions made by staff in these types of communities that are aimed at supporting residents' health. By identifying these processes, we may be able to improve training or design decision support systems that could facilitate portions of the decision making process.
Presentation 2: Human-Robot Interaction: The Potential to Support Successful Aging

There is much potential for robots to support older adults in their goal of independent aging. However, for human-robot interactions to be successful, the robots must be designed with user needs in mind.

In the Human Factors and Aging Laboratory, Roger's lab is conducting research in the nascent field of older adult–robot interactions. In this presentation, Rogers will provide an overview of the needs, capabilities, preferences, and limitations of older adults. She will then discuss our current and planned research on the design of robots to support older adults and health care providers. Our focus is on understanding the interactions among user characteristics, robot characteristics, and the context of the interactions (e.g., task demands).

Presentation 3: Aware Home Technology to Support Aging-in-Place

Imagine if your home were “aware” of your activities so that it might help you remember what it was you went into the kitchen for or whether the visitor at the front door is someone you know or even what the proper procedure is for performing a recently learned home medical procedure. An aware home is not from the world of science fiction—it is within the realm of science. Such technological developments have the potential to enable older adults to maintain their functional independence and to “age-in-place.” They also have the potential to support families caring for children with developmental disabilities or individuals recovering from illness or injury. An innovative research program at Georgia Institute of Technology is focused on developing psychological and computer science to support home activities.

The presentation will include examples of health care technology, communication technology, and memory supports. These examples demonstrate the complexity of the issues involved in designing the computationally capable home of the future and provide direction for future research and development efforts.
Products and Services

VGo is an all-in-one solution that includes everything you need to establish your physical presence in a distant location.

With the VGo solution, an individual’s presence is replicated in a distant location such that they can interact and perform their job in ways not previously possible. Now they can see, be seen, hear, be heard and move around in any remote facility – just as if they were there. VGo will enable businesses to increase productivity of remote and travelling employees, healthcare providers to deliver lower cost services and improved quality of care, and homebound students to attend school – all with a great user experience and at an affordable price.

What is VGo?

How does it work?

How does it compare?
It was an ad seen by millions watching the Super Bowl. A sick student looking into the computer screen, while his face is projected on a monitor of a white robot — equipped with a camera — wheeling around the school hallways. It was an advertisement for Verizon, and many watching might have assumed that it represented the fanciful idea of what was to come. Few suspected that what they were watching represented the reality of at least one student in West Seneca, New York.
Introducing Beam
The premier remote presence solution.

Get Beam
Product Testing Network: Georgia Tech Launches HomeLab to Help Companies Evaluate In-Home Use of Emerging Health Technologies

Baby boomers have witnessed many technological innovations, and they expect technology to provide them with solutions to help maintain their independence for as long as possible. They are outfitting their homes with products to help them live healthy lifestyles, manage chronic conditions, remember to take medications and remain connected with their caregivers.

To help companies evaluate baby boomers’ perceptions, use and acceptance of home health and wellness technologies, the Georgia Institute of Technology has launched HomeLab. HomeLab is a statewide network of adults 50 years of age and older recruited to evaluate the in-home usability and effectiveness of consumer products designed for the aging adult population.

HomeLab currently consists of 100 homes distributed throughout the state of Georgia; the network is expected to grow to 150 homes later this year and 550 homes by 2014.
Picture of the Mealtime Partners Mounted on the Support Arm

Individuals who have limited range of upper body control or who fatigue easily from the effort of controlling their body movement should use the Partner mounted on the Support Arm. The Support Arm allows the Partner to be positioned so that the spoon, when extended out from the device, is positioned very close to the user’s bottom lip. With the Partner positioned this way, the user only has to lean forward slightly to take food off of the spoon, thus the user exerts very little effort.
Switch Access
Access - Joystick
Tongue Drive System

- Wireless device that enables people with high-level spinal cord injuries to operate a computer and maneuver an electrically powered wheelchair simply by moving their tongues
- Dental retainer embedded with sensors
- Detect movement of a tiny magnet attached to the tongue

Testing with iPods and iPhones

- Ga Tech
- Shepherd Center and Rehab Institute of Chicago
Products / New Products

ASL brings innovative products to our clients! We are here to help each client reach their full potential – our team creates products and designs as a direct result of the needs of those we serve. Our goal has always been independence and equal rights for those we work with....
App Factory (D1)

The overall purpose of this project is to advance universal design in the wireless community. The objectives of this project are development, deployment, and adoption of software applications ("apps") to enhance the utility and usability of wireless products and services for wireless customers with and without disabilities.

App Factory output will include apps designed specifically to address barriers to wireless access and use by people with cognitive, physical, sensory, and/or speech disabilities. Wherever practical, these apps will incorporate features useful to all customers, with or without disabilities.

A complementary objective of this project is development of a practical model for consumer participation in the process of app development. This process engages the community of people with disabilities throughout the process of envisioning, designing, testing, refining, and disseminating applications.
Which One???
LET’S TAKE A LOOK AT SOME OPTIONS
SOME OF OUR FAVORITE APPS!
Darwin Wallet

- Uses the camera to determine the currency
- Hold the bill in front of the phone's camera and the app will speak its value
- Free
Magnify

- FREE
- Turns Android phone into a digital magnifying glass with built-in flashlight
- Can use gestures anywhere on the screen:
  - Double-tap: Zoom out/in
  - Single-tap: Focus
  - Long-press: Turn light on/off
Hearing Saver

- Operates in the background to protect your ears automatically
- Simple way to avoid accidentally hurting your ears when plugging in or unplugging your Android device's wired or bluetooth headset
- Does take time to set-up
- FREE
MyMedSchedule

- Keep track of medication
- Reminders
- Refill Reminders
- Healthcare Provider Profiles
- Insurance Information
- Allergies
- Works across Platforms
- Free
- www.mymedschedule.com
Ginger App

• Free
• Grammar and Spell checker
• Personal Assistant
• Use it to correct text messages, Whatsapp messages, Gmail and Outlook emails, and even social media apps such as Facebook
Pageonce

- Free
- Keep track of your cash and credit cards
- Pay your bills
- Real-time alerts and reminders about upcoming bills, overage charges, and suspicious transactions
- Understand your debt
Key Ring

• One Place to store all reward cards
• Organized
• Android & Apple version
• www.keyringapp.com
• Free!
Bump

• Use Bump™ to share contact information and photos by simply bumping two phones together.

• Just open Bump, hold your phones, and gently bump your hands together

• Free!

Demo
Dragon Dictation

- Voice Recognition
- Free
- Dictate notes, emails, Twitter, and Facebook
- Supports many languages
- Cut, Copy, Paste
- Android
  - Dragon Go!
  - Dragon Hands Free Assistant
AudioNote

- Records your notes, meetings or lectures
- Can take notes by typing, stylus, or drawing
- Time stamps so you can go directly to where you want to hear
- Highlights notes when read back
- $4.99
FBReader TTS+ Plugin

- Free
- eBook Reader
- Text-To-Speech plugin for FBReader for Android
- Can highlight whole sentences or paragraphs
- Change settings for voice and download voices
Perfect OCR

- $3.99
- Uses the built in camera to scan documents
  Edit, copy, store, email documents
- Upload to online storage is as Evernote
- Does take practice for picture
iHomework

- Keep up-to-date with your school work, grades, to-do's, teacher's information

- School organizer that can be with you anywhere you go, whether that be on your iPhone/iPod touch, iPad, or Mac
Reminders

• Built-in App
• Works with VoiceOver
• Organize your reminders
• Siri if have iPhone 4s or 5
• The new iPad
MyScript Calculator

- Use your handwriting to write any arithmetic formula
- Write and calculate mathematical expressions in with no keyboard
- Scratch-out gestures to easily delete symbols and numbers
- Portrait and landscape operation
- Redo and undo functions
Money Counter Calculator

- iPad only
- Enter amount of coins and dollars and total is provided
- Free
Picture Scheduler

- Create visual tasks with attached audio, video or picture
- Tasks can have alarms
- Alarms can be repeated daily, weekly, monthly or you can select specific weekdays
- Tasks can be organized into categories with a picture
- Can hide task and reveal later
Speak it!

- Copy emails, documents, web pages, PDF files, and more; paste them into Speak it!, and have the text spoken back to you.
- Email text to speech files
- Make announcements over PA system
- Endless phrases and possible uses
- $1.99
BrailleTouch

- Prototype app for touchscreen mobile devices
- FREE Open Source app
- 32 words per minute with 92% accuracy with the prototype app for the iPhone
- Use of the six-key configuration so that the keyboard fits on the screen and users keep their fingers in a relatively fixed position while texting
- GA Tech Researchers

- Type with screen facing away
- Braille like typing
LookTel Money Reader

• iOS App
• $1.99
• Uses camera
• Speaks out loud
• Do not need to hold bill steady or in entire frame
iZen Garden

- Choose from 100s of objects, plants and creatures to place in your garden
- Rake the sand and share your creations
- Helps you to center your mind, relax your psyche and relieve your stress
Talk with Us!

What are Your Technology Trends?
Our Question to You:
What have You Learned today?
Thank You!

thank you
Contact

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Disclaimer
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