AIM: Transitioning from K-12 to Post Secondary

Liz Persaud
Tools for Life
AMAC Accessibility Solutions and Research Center
College of Architecture
Georgia Institute of Technology

www.gatfl.gatech.edu
Session Description

• Beginning a path that leads to college or preparing for the workforce can be an overwhelming experience. This session will explore the collective role each of us play in promoting student success further through transition and the powerful role of assistive technology in this process. We will examine outcomes that can occur when universal learning design and appropriate assistive technology solutions are integrated into the lives of individuals with disabilities.

• During this session participants will learn about some of the strategies and solutions being used to assist students with disabilities prepare for life beyond high school and assist with smooth transitions into the workplace and community. Presenters will discuss technological trends and share examples of assistive technology, software, hardware, mobile technology and apps.

• Other resources shared will include information about AMAC Accessibility Solutions and Research Center at Georgia Tech and how their services for those with print related disabilities can help stay on the path to success.
Guiding Principles & Objectives

- Smooth Transitions Make The Difference!
- We Must Focus on Abilities!
- Assistive Technology is Key to Success
- Success Breeds Success (AT>School>Work>)
- You have the Power to make the Difference!
Tools for Life Mission

- Georgia Institute of Technology
- College of Architecture
- AMAC Accessibility Solutions and Research Center
- Tools for Life, Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program

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 & TFL Network

• 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/Outreach Sites
  • Lending Libraries
  • Training and Demonstrations
  • AT Reuse
  • AT Funding Education and Resources
• Online Resources
  • www.gatfl.org - 5,000 unique visitors a month
Join us for Webinars and Visit our Archives!

Tools for Life Online Professional Development

• Tools for Life offers online professional development to help you learn more about assistive technology strategies and solutions as well as the most recent information on AT devices and disability related issues and trends.

• Webinar content and materials are developed and presented by one of the Tools for Life team members along with other regional and national leaders in the assistive technology community.

• To join the TFL mailing list to receive our email announcements, visit [www.gatfl.gatech.edu](http://www.gatfl.gatech.edu)
Upcoming Conferences

• GATE Seminar
  • Friday, December 4, 2015
  • Georgia Tech Student Center
  • Workshops and educational sessions
  • Interactive Exhibit Hall! Experience hands-on AT demos
  • Volunteers needed!
  • Registration is $10 and can be accessed on the TFL website

• IDEAS Conference
  • Monday, June 6 - Friday, June 10, 2016
  • St. Simons Island, Epworth by the Sea
  • Over 120 workshops and educational sessions
  • Interactive Exhibit Hall! Experience hands-on AT demos
  • Volunteers needed!
  • More info coming soon!

For more information visit the TFL website: [www.gatfl.gatech.edu](http://www.gatfl.gatech.edu)
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...
What is Assistive Technology?

• Assistive Technology (AT) is any item or piece of equipment that is used to increase, maintain or improve the functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities in all aspects of life, including at school, at work, at home and in the community.

• Assistive Technology ranges from no/low/light tech to high tech devices or equipment.
Defining Universal Design

Universal Design makes things safer, easier and more convenient for everyone.

Universal Design involves designing products and spaces so that they can be used by the widest range of people possible.
In the Shadows - Mainstream

- Tim Cook, Apple Chief Executive
- 2013 speech at Auburn University
- …people with disabilities are "in a struggle to have their human dignity acknowledged."
- "They're frequently left in the shadows of technological advancements that are a source of empowerment and attainment for others."
Mainstream Example: Mobile/Smart Phones

• iPhone - mobile phone in the mainstream market
• Apple included a screen reader in the OS for every iPhone.
• Increased access for everyone – especially individuals with disabilities
• Decreased Cost – not as costly as it would be for a company specializing on screen readers
• Moved us out of the shadows, into the light!
AMAC History

AMAC creates practical solutions that work, with a focus on utility, ease of use, and high quality.

AMAC was created in 2005, as an initiative of the Board of Regents University System of Georgia, to help post-secondary disability services offices provide complete, timely, and efficient accommodations to the students with print disabilities that they serve.
What is AMAC?
AMAC works with colleges and universities to provide students with textbooks in formats that best meet their needs, including: E-Text, Audiobooks, and Braille.

How does AMAC work?
Students meet with their disability services office to place an order for their textbooks in the preferred format.
• 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 the deaf or hard-of-hearing.

• For more information, please visit our website at [www.amacusg.org](http://www.amacusg.org)
AMAC Services

- AMAC creates practical solutions that work, with a focus on utility, ease of use, and high quality.
- **Audio Description Services** makes visual information present in multimedia accessible to persons who are blind or low vision.
- **Professional E-Text Producers** provide high-quality e-text in many formats such as PDF, DOC, DAISY, and HTML.
- **AMAC’s 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
What is Audio Description?

- Audio description, also known as video description or visual description, is an additional narration track intended primarily for consumers of visual media (including television and film, dance, opera, and visual art).

- It consists of a narrator talking through the presentation, describing what is happening on the screen or stage during the natural pauses.
What is Closed Captioning?

- Closed captioning (CC) is a process of displaying text on a television, video screen, or other visual display to provide additional or interpretive information.

- Closed captioning is typically used as a transcription of the audio portion of a program as it occurs (either verbatim or in edited form), sometimes including descriptions of non-speech elements.
What is Open Captioning?

- "Open", "burned-in", "baked on", or "hard-coded" captions are visible to all viewers.

- The term "closed" versus "open" indicates that the captions are not visible until activated by the viewer, usually via the remote control or menu option.
Closed Captioning: Quality Matters

Automated Captions: Human Eyes Need to Review

3. “That’s your special friend butterfly who came to say ‘hello’ to you”

What YouTube heard:
Begin with the End in Mind!
Find a College

Find and compare information about college programs for students with intellectual disabilities. Click "Start Your Search" to customize your options, or "View All Programs" to view all college programs included here. If you are searching for a specific program, click on "Find Your Program" and type in the program name.

- Start Your Search
- View All Programs
- Search by Name

This video will show you how to use this site to search for colleges.

Fill out this short form to let us know about a new program. If you would like to make changes to a current program listing, please email thinkcollege@umb.edu.

The information included here was submitted to Think College by the college programs. Being listed here does not indicate or imply a Think College endorsement. There also may be programs available that have not reported to us.
Finding Inclusive College Opportunities
Find a College

Search Results

Your search for initiatives that:

- are in Georgia.

You are viewing results 1 through 4 of 4. Click the check boxes next to a program’s name and then click the Compare button at the top or bottom of the list. Up to 4 programs can be compared at a time.

START NEW SEARCH

Compare College

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College</th>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Georgia Institute of Technology</td>
<td>Inclusive Postsecondary Academy at Georgia Tech</td>
<td>Atlanta, GA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbus State University</td>
<td>The GOALS Program at CSU</td>
<td>Columbus, GA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kennesaw State University</td>
<td>Academy for Inclusive Learning and Social Growth</td>
<td>Kennesaw, GA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Georgia State College</td>
<td>CHOICE Program for Inclusive Learning</td>
<td>Swainsboro, GA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Display # 20
## Compare Programs

**Question:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th><strong>Georgia Institute of Technology</strong></th>
<th><strong>Kennesaw State University</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program Name</td>
<td>Inclusive Postsecondary Academy at Georgia Tech</td>
<td>Academy for Inclusive Learning and Social Growth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College / University</td>
<td>Georgia Institute of Technology</td>
<td>Kennesaw State University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students can attend</td>
<td>Have graduated or exited from high school</td>
<td>Have graduated or exited from high school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>this program if they</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of students in this program</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top 3 Priority Areas:</td>
<td>1: Employment 2: Independent living 3: College course access</td>
<td>1: Employment 2: College course access 3: Self-determination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entrance Requirements</td>
<td>• High School diploma  • Other diploma (i.e. IEP diploma, certificate of attendance)  • Be able to safely navigate the campus independently  • Have basic safety skills in an unsupervised setting  • Have practical reading and writing skills</td>
<td>• High School diploma  • Other diploma (i.e. IEP diploma, certificate of attendance)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuition and fees per year</td>
<td>20,138 (subject to change)</td>
<td>$13,852.60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Transition Success:
Understanding the Assistive Technology Connection
Transition Success: Consider this

• My Success relies on
  – Knowing Myself
    • Self-Exploration
      – Who Are You?
    • Learning Style
      – What is Your Learning Style?
  • Honestly Exploring –
    – What do I want to Do When I Grow Up?
    – What Assistive Technology do I need to accomplish my Goals?
Why Assistive Technology?

• For a person without a disability, technology makes life easier.

• For a person with a disability, technology makes life possible.

• TIP: USE AT. I have yet to meet a successful student who doesn’t use any AT.
"Research indicates that many of the emotional or social difficulties gifted students experience disappear when their educational climates are adapted to their level and pace of learning."

TIP: Differentiation in education can also include how a student shows that they have mastery of a concept. This could be through a research paper, role play, podcast, diagram, poster, etc.

TIP: The key to differentiation is finding how your students learn and displays their learning that meets their specific needs.
Moving from Information to Action

• Educational Psychological Evaluations
  – One to one assessment
  – Comprehensive battery of tests
  – Detailed report with recommendations for support in work and/or learning

• What did You learn in your Evaluation?

• Moving from Information to Action
  – Using your Evaluation results as an Action Plan for AT
The “FAST” Track

✓ Frustration
✓ Anxiety
✓ Stress
✓ Tension
Consider this

- My Success relies on
  - Failing
  - Dignity of Failure
    - I learned More from My “Failures” sometimes than my “successes”
    - Give yourself room to fail – and Grow from the experience
    - Learn to Laugh (a lot!)
    - Be Optimistic
    - Evaluate & Evolve!
Smooth Transitions: Making Informed Decisions
Ergonomics

- Inhibits blood flow
- Creates muscle shortening
- Stresses back muscles and compresses spine
- Can inhibit learning
- Compresses diaphragm
  - Affects breathing
  - Voice quality
LED Handheld Magnifier

- Handheld
- LED light provides natural bright lights
- Easy storage
- Reading
- Sewing
EyePal Ace

• Portable and easy-to-use reader for individuals who have difficulty reading printed text
• Large clock, set an alarm, and get an appointment reminder
• USB port to save files
Transformer

- Portable video magnifier
- Moveable camera to see items far away
- USB port connects its to a lab top
- Great for students and employees with low vision
- Can change background colors
Interpretype

- Allows individuals who are deaf and/or hard of hearing to communicate with a hearing individual by text
- Connect a braille display via Bluetooth
- Save conversations
Bookshare

• Online Accessible Library
• Free membership to qualified students and schools
• 208,769 titles
• Serves individuals with:
  – Vision disabilities
  – Physical disabilities
  – Learning disabilities
Audible.com

• Digital audiobooks
• Read by Hollywood stars, authors, and professional narrators
• Listen anywhere
• Over 150,000 titles
• Membership
  – $14.95 a month for one book
TextHelp

- Text-to-Speech software
- Helps improves reading skills
- Built in text and picture dictionaries
- Study skills highlighter
- Google Chrome version
Speech Recognition Software

- Turn spoken words into text
- Connect with the timing of your thoughts
- Dictation speed 70 to 100 words per minute
• Online grammar and spell checker
• Can see corrections as you type or use Ginger Proofreader to scan the entire document for mistakes
• Will read corrections out loud
• Has an mobile Android app
• Works inside Word and emails
• Text to Speech
  – Read emails and docs
  – Can choose voice and accent
• Ginger Demo
AMAC Student Download Center Access

How does the process work?

Enrollment Process
- email notification with account information (username and PIN)
- link to the student download center
- email notifications when books are completed

Student Download Center
- Check the status of your book orders
- Download your electronic book files
- Download software to use with your books
- View video tutorials
AMAC’s AT Software

A Closer Look at Software

- ClaroRead
- Premier Literacy (including PDF Equalizer)
- Learning Ally
- Dolphin EasyReader
ClaroRead with MS Word

- For PC or Mac
- Reads aloud any print that is highlighted
- Floating toolbar
- Quickly and easily change the font size
- Change colors and spacing
- Check definition and meaning of words
ClaroRead with Adobe Acrobat

Claro Read

• Reads text that you highlight
• PDF, DOCX
• Separate tool bar
Premier Software

• Read documents in standard file formats such as Microsoft Word, Rich Text, text file format, HTML, and PDF

• Converted to audio files for use on a CD or MP3 player

• Scan and read documents

• Look up a word or definition in the integrated dictionary

• Create study notes and much more!
never again meet, Walton meets and loves Frankenstein, the Creature is reunited with Frankenstein, as a corpse; the Creature in the last scene meets Walton, and a message, of understanding if not love, passes between them. The plot of the last volume has taken a decisive turn in the direction of failure to breed, or to breed healthily.

When it comes to parenting, Frankenstein is himself a monster. He will not acknowledge his only child, the Being he chooses to call Monster, Fiend, and Demon, though no human father ever played so thorough-going a role in any birth. (The good reasons for the critic to avoid Frankenstein's harshest most unpatrial acts of naming should be apparent.) Frankenstein repeatedly illustrates, but ironically, Lawrence's scholarly observations about parenting—the medical mishaps to which the birth-process is subject; the one sure
PDF Equalizer with PDF File

PDF Equalizer

- open PDF inside the program
- text to speech, zoom, note taking, dictionary

Each atom that can share valence electrons has a bonding capacity corresponding to the number of covalent bonds the atom can form. When the bonds form, they give the atom a full complement of electrons in the valence shell. The bonding capacity of oxygen, for example, is 2. This bonding capacity is called the atom’s **valence** and usually equals the number of unpaired electrons required to complete the atom’s outermost (valence) shell. See if you can determine the valences of hydrogen, oxygen, nitrogen, and carbon by studying the electron distribution diagrams in Figure 2.9. You can see that the valence of hydrogen is 1; oxygen, 2; nitrogen, 3; and carbon, 4. However, the situation is more complicated for elements in the third row of the periodic table. Phosphorus, for example, can have a valence of 3, as we would predict from the presence of 3 unpaired electrons in its valence shell. In some molecules that are biologically important, however, phosphorus
Dolphin Easy Reader

- Read multiple formats including MathML, Daisy, HTML, and EPUB
- Highlights text and Speech
Learning Ally

- Audiobooks
- Requires Learning Ally software
- Requires first time activation
ClaroPDF for iPad

• Synchronous highlighting and text to speech for PDFs
• Navigate by page or headings
• Write notes, highlight text
• Customizable options
• Cannot read image PDFs
ClaroSpeak speaks back text with high-quality speech and highlighting so you can follow the words as they are spoken.

The text will be spoken from the start point with the highlighting and voice you have selected in Settings. To stop ClaroSpeak speaking, tap the Stop icon or tap anywhere in the ClaroSpeak title bar.

- Text-to-Speech
- import documents and PDFs into ClaroSpeak from apps such as Mail; or import PDF, Word, Pages and other files directly from Dropbox
- Change font and color
- Save text as an audio file
- Visual Tracking
- Send Text
Tracking Trends

• Increase in Universal Design in Mainstream
• Schools incorporate “Bring Your Own Technology”
• Customized reading levels
• Convergence
• The Future is Contextual
  – GPS in technology
  – Ads on Internet
  – Social Media
Environmental Controls - Vera

VeraLite
Smart Home Controller

YOUR NEW ASSISTANT

HOME CONTROL DOESN'T HAVE TO BE COMPLICATED OR EXPENSIVE, SO WE CAME UP WITH THE VERA LITE SMART CONTROLLER, WHICH IS SIMPLE AND INEXPENSIVE. IT MAY BE SMALL, BUT IT'S CAPABLE OF BIG THINGS!

- Easily manages up to 70 devices
- Plug and play with your Internet connection
- Controls over 750 smart products of all kinds
- Custom text and email alerts for any situation

VeraLite gives you easy control over lights, cameras, thermostats, door locks alarm systems and more. Plus you easily can add intelligence to almost anything electronic in your home, and VeraLite can control them too. All the smart home benefits you've been looking for are right here in this easy, inexpensive add-on to your home network.
Tasker is a phone automation application that allows you to really unleash your android device’s capabilities.

Tasker in a nutshell is a program that tells your device “When this happens, do this!”

- “When something is plugged into the headphone jack, open my music app”
- “When I open the navigation app, turn GPS on”
- “When my phone is connected to this cell tower, turn on wifi and connect to my home wifi”
Chris Ciccitelli has been a fan of Star Trek and was fascinated by the idea of a computer listening to you and taking any action requested. Sometimes it was just retrieving information, other times it controlled different ship functions.

Chris worked for years creating a system for home automation/control that emulated the computer on Star Trek.

Castle OS and Castle Hub are able to control all other EC devices regardless of what protocol it uses.

This system operates using the microphone array in the Kinect camera to listen to you from anywhere in the room.
Google Now

Introducing Google Now

The right information at just the right time

From knowing the weather before you start your day, to planning the best route to avoid traffic, or even checking your favorite team's score while they're playing, Google Now brings you the information you want, when you need it.

Assistance around the clock
Google Glass

Ten days with Google Glass

By Wil Shanklin

December 23, 2013

Gizmag shares some more thoughts about being part of the Google Glass Explorer program

Image Gallery (7 images)

Here at Gizmag, we're very interested in the present and future of wearable tech. So we thought it was fitting to sign up for the Google Glass Explorer program, to give you a better idea of what Sergey Brin and company are cooking up in Mountain View. Though we aren't quite ready to dish a proper Google Glass review, we want to share some more thoughts on our first ten days with Glass.
Mindrdr for Google Glass
LEAP Computer Input
Reading Finger Device

MIT Finger Device Reads to the Blind in Real Time

By RODRIQUE NGOWI
Associated Press
2014-06-26 3:22 AM

In this Thursday, June 26, 2014 photo, a model wears a FingerReader ring at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Media Lab in Cambridge, Mass. Researchers designed and developed the instrument, which enables people with visual disabilities to read text printed on paper or electronic devices. (AP Photo/Stephan Savoia)
Nod

- Controls devices remotely
- Change presentation slides
- Type notes
- Environmental Control Units
- $149
- https://hellonod.com
VGo Telepresence Robot

- Enables individuals to replicate themselves in a distant location and have the freedom to move around as if they were physically there
- Reduces travel costs
- School
- Hospital
- Work from home
Transition Success

• My Success relies on
  – Building win-win-WIN relationships
    • Establishing a solid circle of support
      – Receiving and providing support
    • Diversify your Circle of Friends and Acquaintances
    • It sometimes is “Who you know”
    • BALANCE - Social Life and Studies
Successful Transitions Help Create a Successful Life Journey

Teach Students to:
• Get to Know Yourself
• Plan for Your Success – in school, work, Life!
• Begin with the End in Mind
• Be able to tell Your Story
• Listen & Learn
• Try – Fail & Try again...
• When things get off track - Evaluate and Evolve
• Explore & USE Assistive Technology
• Laugh Much!
• Celebrate your Successes!!
Questions?
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Disclaimer
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