

An International Symposium
Technology and Deaf Education



Exploring Instructional and Access Technologies

June 23-25, 2008

<http://www.rit.edu/ntid/vp/techsym/>

The National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID) co-hosted, with The Nippon Foundation of Japan and PEN-International, an international symposium entitled, “*Technology and Deaf Education: Exploring Instructional and Access Technologies*” June 23-25, 2008, at Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) in Rochester, New York. The primary goal of the Symposium was to provide a forum for educators supporting deaf and hard-of-hearing students to share information relative to current and future innovations in the use of educational media and technology within the teaching and learning process.

To accomplish this goal, the Symposium focused on practical applications of technology and showcased enduring technologies with respect to new developments, innovative applications, and research. Teachers, instructional technologists, researchers, technical support specialists, and administrators serving deaf people in K-12 and postsecondary education shared ideas through formal presentations and poster sessions.

The 2008 Symposium consisted of two plenary addresses, 45 formal concurrent presentations, 26 poster sessions, and 10 commercial exhibits. All of the plenary, formal, and poster sessions related to one of the four following strands: Using Technology to Support Learning; Assessing the Impact of Technology in the Teaching/Learning Process; Online and Distance Learning; and new this year, Access Technologies. A total of 222 educators representing more than 20 countries attended the three-day conference.

On June 23, RIT President William W. Destler provided opening remarks at the Symposium followed by Dr. Robert Frisina, Director, International Center for Hearing and Speech Research at RIT/NTID, who was the first plenary speaker. Dr. Frisina spoke to Symposium participants about his perspective on the use of instructional and access technologies within deaf education. On June 25, Dr. Antti Raike, Doctor of Arts and Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Art and



Gola Burton, Georgia School of the Deaf, Presents Formal Presentation Entitled “*Deaf Students at GSD Benefit from Interactive Technology!*”



Heaun Choi, KEPAD, Presents Poster Session Entitled “*Developing a Web-Based Training to Support Learning: A Specialized Course for Deaf in Korea*”

“I will be making changes to my curriculum based on the technology I learned at the conference. I will also be training other deaf educators about this technology.”

Symposium Participant

Design Helsinki, addressed the Symposium as the concluding plenary speaker. Dr. Raika's speech focused on Universal Design by Open Collaboration. Both plenary speakers were very well received.

"Thoughtful, stimulating, much to ponder and take home with me."
Symposium Participant

The formal presentations that were rated most favorably overall included:

- *"Using Current Technology to Support and Improve Mathematics Instruction—Parts I & II"* (T9X/T10X)
Presented by Sharron Webster
- *"Adapting Tablet PC Technology as a Support for Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing"* (T9B)
Presented by Lisa Elliot
- *"Utilizing Lifelike, 3D Animated Signing Avatar Characters for the Instruction of K-12 Deaf Learners"* (T10D)
Presented by Jason Hurdich
- *"Establishing an Infrastructure for a Successful Visual Communication Network"* (T9D)
Presented by David Coco
- *"Creating English-to-ASL Translation Using PowerPoint"* (M1D)
Presented by Sara Hansen
- *"Building a Community of ASL Signers with VoiceThread"* (M10C)
Presented by Rosemary Stifter
- *"Deaf Students at GSD Benefit from Interactive Technology!"* (T11B)
Presented by Gola Burton
- *"iTransition—a FREE PEPNet Online Resource!"* (T1B)
Presented by Pat Billies

An additional goal of the Symposium was to make the information presented available on its web site for worldwide dissemination. The formal concurrent presentations and poster sessions have been summarized and posted on the web site. Many of the corresponding papers, PowerPoint slide shows, handouts, and captioned files also have been included. The opening ceremony, led by E. William Clymer, Symposium Chair, and both of the plenary speeches have been videostreamed and captioned.

All of the Symposium information can be found on the main web page at <http://www.rit.edu/ntid/vp/techsym/>.

The complete symposium schedule of two plenary addresses, 45 formal presentations, and 26 poster sessions is available at <http://www.rit.edu/ntid/vp/techsym/schedule.html>. From this site, it is possible to link to full descriptions, presentation materials, handouts, video and caption displays of every session at the Symposium.

Program at a Glance (<http://www.rit.edu/ntid/vp/techsym/2008ProgramGlance.pdf>)

Program Book (<http://www.rit.edu/ntid/vp/techsym/2008Program.pdf>)

Abstracts of Presentations and Posters (<http://www.rit.edu/ntid/vp/techsym/2008AbstractBook.pdf>)

Exhibitor's Booklet (<http://www.rit.edu/ntid/vp/techsym/2008ExhibitorsBook.pdf>)

Captioned Videostream

Opening Ceremony (<https://connect.rit.edu/p70049359>)

Dr. Robert Frisina Plenary Address (<https://connect.rit.edu/p39896344>)

Dr. Antti Raika Plenary Address (<https://connect.rit.edu/p26579745>)