



March 2020
Term 1

Presidents Report –
Sarah Lewis

Congratulations!

ICED – Registration
information

ICED – Leigh-Anne's
story

Upcoming professional
learning opportunities

AATD (SA) AGM

AATD (SA) Membership
reminder

Welcome to the first newsletter for 2020

Welcome to the first edition of the Newsletter for 2020.

For those of you who are new to AATD South Australia Branch, this newsletter comes out at the end of each school term.

The length of the newsletter is dependent on how many interesting articles are sent through to the editor, so please feel free to start sending your articles to

Leigh-Anne Edwards

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President's Report – January 2020

Welcome back to another year with AATDSA. As we get ready for our AGM, new committees, upcoming meetings with stakeholders and the ICED conference, I am feeling invigorated and looking forward to making connections between the field and our association this year. Remember, if you're a full member you can join our organizing committee and if you're an associate member that would like to help, you can join a sub-committee.

I look forward to seeing some faces at the AGM on March 18th.

Regards
Sarah Lewis

President

Congratulations!

The AATD(SA) committee would like to congratulate our fellow Teacher of the Deaf, Jasmine Darrie and her partner Matt on the safe arrival of their new daughter Kira Grace Darrie born on 31/1/2020 at 2.46pm weight 2380g and 45cm long.



ICED – International Congress on the Education of the Deaf

Registration for the International Congress on the Education of the Deaf are now open!

All persons intending to attend the Congress must complete a Registration Form. Please read the below registration information before you complete the registration form. Should you experience any difficulties please contact the Congress Managers via email: iced2020@arinex.com.au



Registration Fees

Registration Type	Early Bird Rate <i>Available til 6 April 2020</i>	Standard Rate <i>From 7 April 2020</i>	Onsite Rate <i>From 6 July 2020</i>
Member (NAATD) Registration	\$ 980.00	\$1,180.00	\$1,380.00
Non-member Registration	\$1,180.00	\$1,380.00	\$1,580.00
Student Member Registration	\$ 625.00	\$ 625.00	\$ 625.00
Developing Country Registration	\$ 980.00	\$1,180.00	\$1,580.00
Carer's Registration	\$ 625.00	\$ 625.00	\$ 625.00

Interpreter's Registration	\$ 625.00	\$ 625.00	\$ 625.00
Day Registration	\$ 350.00	\$ 450.00	\$ 550.00

Make sure you sign up.

ICED – SYDNEY 2000

On cold, wet rainy day in July 1999, a group of teachers of the deaf were visiting my high school at Robert Townsend High in South-Western Sydney, NSW to do a launch for 1 year to go until the International Congress on Education of the Deaf which was to be held in Sydney on 9 – 13 July, 2000. A fellow teacher signed to us, the Deaf students that she would be going along with other Teachers of the Deaf from the local primary school. With her hands, she explained through the language of Auslan that the ICED was the oldest educational congress in the world and that teachers of the deaf from all around the world were flying in for this very special conference.

What?!?! What did I hear??? A special conference for the teachers of the Deaf from all around the world. I began to fill with excitement, and I asked my Teacher of the Deaf “Are there school for the Deaf all over the world?”. My ToD signed “Yes, there are many schools for the Deaf all across the world and they do have ToDs just like me”. My eyes filled with happy tears as this was the first time, I actually realised that there are Deaf students attending a centre for the deaf across the world and they also have ToDs that support the education of the deaf students, just like me. I asked my ToD a silly question “So do they learn just like us?” My teacher’s eyes were tearing up and she signed “Not all of them receive the same level of education as you do. You are a one of a kind deaf student that has full access to education and you are so lucky”. I asked my ToD if I could register to attend the conference and she said she would contact the committee as the conference was in the middle of the school holidays. She went and made a phone call; I was standing by her classroom door feeling anxious, hoping that I would be able to attend the most wonderful conference and meet ToDs from all over the world. I began to daydream about all the wonderful things I may be able to do at the conference.

My ToD returned with a huge, beaming smile across her face as she signed really fast with excitement. “I am very pleased to let you know that you are approved to go to the conference and all of the deaf students are invited to go too”. I released a very loud squeal of excitement and jumped up and down with glee. I could not believe I was going to an international conference on education for the Deaf.

On the day of the ICED conference, a group of deaf students met at Campbelltown train station with the ToDs. We were so excited about the conference and could not stop chatting about what we would see and who we would meet. Upon our arrival to the ICED conference, we walked along the Sydney Darling Harbour Wharf and reached the conference. As we walked into the entrance of the conference, I turned to look at my ToD’s face and she had an awestruck admiration showing on her face as she was so proud of being able to bring her deaf students to the conference. Our feet were pacing hard and fast towards the stairs and into the great hall for the opening ceremony. I was dumbfounded by how they had Auslan interpreters interpreting at the conference and I was in an out of body experience because that was the very first time, I ever actually saw a professional Auslan interpreter. At that very moment I was a young lady trying to figure things out and checking out the premier of the great hall to see how the interpreting worked.

At the end of the opening ceremony I was dumbfound with the number of deaf adults walking out among hearing adults greeting other ToDs, professionals and health allies. My ToD introduced me to a group of Deaf Teachers, I was shocked with how many Deaf Teachers there were, and they were discussing which seminar they would go and watch. I was mesmerised with how easy their conversation was and how they were planning on finding interpreters to translate for that seminar.

This Deaf teacher asked me if I want to sit at the seminar with them. I gladly accepted his invitation and sat with them. He asked me what I would like to do once I have finished high school. I signed “I do not really know”, as I was on a path to find a purpose in my life as I was completely lost and was not sure of what career I would like to do. I sat down and observed each Deaf ToD’s facial appearance and expression with taciturnity as they were watching the lecturer and the interpreter. They were all nodding in agreement and laughing at a comment mentioned by the lecturer. Then at the end of the seminar, I watched all of the Deaf ToDs discussing how they can apply their learning to deaf education. At that very moment I felt goosebumps rising on my skin as I had finally found my lifelong endeavour. I realised that I want to become a Teacher of the Deaf.

Written by

Leigh-Anne Edwards

UPCOMING PROFESSIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

D/HH MASTERCLASS SERIES 2020

Course Description

As part of our online series, we are happy to share details of the DHH Masterclass Series!

This series includes 7 seminars taking place live online, via Zoom, throughout the year, starting in March. All seminars are recorded, so you are able to rewatch or catch up after it's taken place.

Topics within this series include:

- Speech Acoustics
- Speech Remediation Strategies
- Current Level of Functioning
- Working with Families from an ESL background
- The team around the family

This series can be purchased as a bundle or individual topic - register now!

SOCIAL SKILL DEVELOPMENT: PHYSICAL AND MENTAL WELL-BEING FOR LIFE WHAT'S NOT TO LIKE ABOUT BEING ENGAGED WITH OTHERS?

Date: Thursday, 19 March, 2020 - Friday, 20 March, 2020

Time: 9:00am - 3:00pm

Presenters: Dr Karen Wolffe

In this session, Dr. Wolffe will describe the importance and need for structured social skills learning for children and youth who are blind or partially sighted. Socialization is a key element in an individual's physical and mental health. The impact that good, strong communication skills can have when applied to make individuals more resilient to stress factors will be discussed in detail. Strategies for working with parents and other caregivers of infants and toddlers to enhance bonding and early relationships will be described first and then Dr. Wolffe will share ideas for preparing youngsters socially and emotionally for school and community settings. Techniques for teaching school-aged children and youth positive communication skills to use with family, friends, and members of the community will be emphasised. Access to social support is critical to life success. How to facilitate networking and positive relationships will be described in this session. Finally, Dr. Wolffe will describe recent research that supports the notion that social motivation and contact with others can actually help to improve memory formation and recall, which protect the brain from neurodegenerative disease in later life. Having close friends and an active social support network can enhance both physical and mental health! Attendees will be encouraged to interact and share resources that they have found useful. Dr. Wolffe will, likewise, share resources with the group.

Access to this course:

Face to Face - \$300.00

Remote Access (livestream) - \$250.00

Digital Access (post event recording) - \$200.00

IMPROVING THE OUTCOMES OF STUDENTS WHO ARE DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING IN MAINSTREAM SCHOOLS

Date: Wednesday, 25 March, 2020

Time: 9:00am - 3:00pm

Presenters: RIDBC School Services (HI)

Mainstream teachers will benefit from this one-day workshop by gaining a deeper understanding of the characteristics and learning needs of students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing. They will also gain a heightened awareness of the important role teachers play in improving the educational outcomes of students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing. Suggested practical classroom measures will be augmented by exploration of wider perspectives that include the issues of communication, literacy development, the use of technology and the opportunities for the students' social inclusion both in and out of classroom. As well as gaining knowledge from practitioners and researchers in the field of educating students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing, participants will be able to engage in questioning, discussion and the exploration of typical scenarios.

Access to this course:

Face to Face - \$200.00

Remote Access (livestream) - \$150.00

Digital Access (post event recording) - \$100.00

IT'S MORE THAN LANGUAGE: (RE)POSITIONING THE ROLE OF PRAGMATICS IN LEARNING FOR DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Date: Friday 3 April 2020

Time: 9:00am - 3:00pm

Presenters: Assoc Professors Louise Paatsch and Dianne Toe

This one-day workshop will explore the links between pragmatics and social communication. Participants will build knowledge informed by the latest research in the field of pragmatics in deaf and hard of hearing (DHH) children and young people, and its application to a range of education settings. This workshop will also explore the link between pragmatic skills and other aspects of learning and development including theory of mind, cognition, literacy, executive function, social skills and pretend play. The concept of metapragmatic skills, involving DHH young people's explicit reflection upon pragmatic rules will be presented, with opportunities for participants to apply this lens to their own practice. A range of approaches used to assess pragmatic skills in deaf and hard of hearing children and young people will be explored, including considerations for practical applications. The workshop will present strategies for supporting pragmatic skills in DHH children and young people, including considerations for linking to curriculum and developing appropriate intervention.

Access to this course:

Face to Face - \$200.00

Remote Access (livestream) - \$150.00

Digital Access (post event recording) - \$100.00

AUSLAN 2 2020

Date: Monday, 4 May, 2020 - Wednesday, 6 May, 2020

Time: 9:00am - 3:00pm

Presenters: NSW Deaf Society

This interactive course provides participants with an opportunity to build on the foundations that they learned in Auslan 1. At the completion of this course participants will be able to: Talk in more detail about holidays, the weather and the seasons. Talk about everyday life including work and family. Talk about hobbies, interests and other activities. Use non-manual features to express yourself. Use more advanced visual-gestural communication strategies.

Please note that tea/coffee and morning-tea will be provided each day, participants will need to bring their own lunch. Monday and Tuesday's class goes to 3pm, and Wednesday's class wraps up at 12pm for Auslan Assessment.

For more information about the Auslan Assessment, please visit the following link:

<https://bit.ly/33nR64N>This course is being provided by the NSW Deaf Society.

Access to this course:

Face to Face - \$350.00

AUSLAN ASSESSMENT 2020

Date: Wednesday, 6 May, 2020

Time: 12:00pm - 5:00pm

Presenters: NSW Deaf Society

This assessment is offered to those participants that have completed the Auslan 2 course. The assessment is a practical and takes up to one hour to complete with an external assessor. You will have an opportunity to test your knowledge and understanding of what you have learnt in Auslan 2. Once all participants have registered you will be allocated a time for your assessment after the Auslan 2 course finishes (12pm). This assessment can be completed in person or online using web-based conferencing. Please select the modality you will be using (in-person or online) when you register. The online assessments will be conducted on the same day as the in-person assessments. These assessments will be conducted by the NSW Deaf Society.

Access to this course:

In - person assessment - \$75.00

Online assessment - \$75.00

AATD(SA) AGM

Hi everyone,

We would like to invite you all to the:

**AATD SA
Annual General Meeting
Wednesday 18th March
6pm -7pm
at the EDC**

We will be sharing our annual reports and selecting new committee members if anyone would like to join the Association.

Don't forget to get your memberships form in before the early bird rate finishes on 29th February!

Best Wishes,

Mandy Conner

Secretary

AATD (SA)

aatdsasecretary@gmail.com

AATD (SA) MEMBERSHIP

Don't forget to return your membership form in 2020.

****1 year & 2 year memberships available***

If you are a full-member of AATD and would like to support the work on the organisation, make sure you consider joining a committee. Nominations will be open at the AGM on Wednesday 18th March, 2020.

