

# AAIDD Interest Network Annual Plan & Yearly Report: 2021

Planning and reporting on Interest Network activities designed to fulfil their purpose. (See the *Interest Networks Leadership Manual* for the purpose of the Interest Networks.

<b>Interest Network: Technology</b>
<b>Lead Contact Person:</b> Shea Tanis
<b>Annual Report</b> <i>For the year that <b>just ended</b> (July 1-June 30), indicate objectives met, activities completed, and funds used.</i>  <b>Goal: Increase membership engagement in technology-related topics and activities.</b>  <b>Objective 1: Execute a manageable communication strategy.</b> The leadership team was able to research, identify, and establish a new Twitter account, which we have begun using to share research and practice. We developed a delivery schedule and are currently searching for additional members to support the execution. The team was also able to establish a list of potential partners and organizations outside the ID/DD field to build partnerships with and recruit new members of AAIDD. These partners include technology industry research and development teams, service provider organizations, and University programs focused on technology access.  <b>Objective 2: Expand outreach and dissemination of technology research</b> The leadership team curated new research related to ID/DD and cognitive accessibility and analyzed the research related to technology published through AAIDD journals in the past ten years. This research was highlighted at the 2021 AAIDD Virtual Conference. In that session, we also highlighted emerging research to be presented at the Conference. We were unable to solicit short videos from people with ID/DD due to the access challenges faced during the pandemic. To partner with non-traditional partners, we have begun to build partnerships to influence the R&D happening at technology start-ups and industry partners.  <b>Objective 3: Curate a vision of technology research goals</b> Our IN met with the Research IN to explore the idea of an annual research agenda template that could be used by the IN's in their dissemination and outreach. That work is ongoing and will support the development of a special issue on technology.
<b>Annual Plan: Goals, Objectives, Activities, and Strategies</b> <i>For the <b>coming year</b> (July 1-June 30), describe the planned objectives, activities, and proposed expenditure of funds.</i>  <b>Goal: Increase membership engagement in technology-related topics and activities.</b>  <b>Objective 1: Execute a manageable communication strategy.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Select social media platform(s) for communication delivery. The communication strategy must be reasonable and reflect the human resources of the Technology IN.</li></ul>

Due July 23, 2021

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- Partner with AAIDD for a social media takeover days through the year to highlight the INs activities
- Develop a content delivery schedule by October 2021
- Utilize social media platform(s) to connect with technology and disability organizations outside IDD.

### **Objective 2: Expand outreach and dissemination of technology research**

- Develop and implement a database to curate and share technology-related research and IDD.
- Highlight technology research proposed at the AAIDD 2019-2021 conferences
- Solicit and share short videos to highlight technology research and practical implementation from people in the IDD field to be shared at quarterly meetings
- Partner and formally invite non-traditional partners to share the latest research and practice at quarterly meetings

### **Objective 3: Curate a vision of technology research goals**

- Partner with other divisions to identify the latest trends in technology for their Interest Networks
- Develop a proposal for a special issue of *Inclusion* related to technology research and trends
- Identify timeline and team to implement special issue

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## **Annual Plan: Goals, Objectives, Activities, and Strategies**

For the **coming year** (July 1-June 30), describe the planned objectives, activities, and proposed expenditure of funds.

**Goal: Increase membership engagement in technology-related topics and activities.**

### **Objective 1: Increase membership in Technology Interest Network**

- Develop a shared document on the activities and benefits of engagement with the Tech IN
- Create a recruitment strategy to bring in new members to the Tech IN from within and outside the organization
- In collaboration with AAIDD staff, identify accessible modalities for Tech IN members to engage in ongoing communication (e.g., blogs, chats, and digital forums)

### **Objective 2: Expand outreach and dissemination of technology research**

- Distribute monthly research highlights from the curated research in cognitively accessible technology and technology used in research methods.
- Work with IN members to develop and deliver one webinar for AAIDD membership on relevant topics in technology and ID/DD
- Educate IN members about the 2022 Annual Conference and encourage them to participate through conference proposals and networking.
- Host quarterly IN meetings and advertise broadly to share new findings in technology research.

### **Objective 3: Curate a vision of technology research goals**

- Develop an annual technology research goals template for future IN leadership
- Construct a technology research goals document for 2022