



University of Guam CEDDERS
Guam System for Assistive Technology
Advisory Council
General Membership Meeting
Tuesday, July 19, 2011, 4:00-5:30pm
House 19 Deans Circle, UOG



-
- | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| () Evelyn Duenas, Chairperson | (X) Carla Torres (GSAT) |
| (X) Lou Mesa, Vice-Chairperson | () Dawn Maka (CILG) |
| (X) Lisa Ogo, Secretary | () Roseanne Ada (GDDC) |
| (X) Josephine Cortez, Member At Large | (X) Jesusa Contreras (GDDC) |
| () Linda Leon Guerrero | (X) Michelle Cruz (GLSC) |
| (X) Bill Fuppul | () Christine Rosario (GDOE) |
| () Noel Lazaga | () Greg Calvo (AHRD/ WIA) |
| () Haiki Lazaga | |
| () Tavita Faasualmalie | |

Minutes Of the Meeting

I. Call to Order / Introductions/ Sign-in

Lou Mesa called the meeting to order at 4:11pm. Conducted roll call and sign in sheets were passed around.

II. Review & Approval of Minutes

Reviewed the minutes for April 19, 2011. Lisa Ogo motioned to approve the minutes and it was seconded by Josephine Cortez.

III. New Members to Nominate:

- a. Deaf & Hard of Hearing
- b. Speech & Communication
- c. ADD/ADHD
- d. Emotional Disability
- e. Learning Disability
- f. Down Syndrome
- g. Autism

Lou asserted that from now until October, the council will search for new members and wants to make sure that candidates to nominate are willing to contribute and have the same mission and vision of GSAT. Carla added that there are no qualifications but want people who use assistive technology or who are proponents of assistive technology.

IV. New Devices (see List)

Lisa mentioned these devices are very beneficial for individuals with low vision, especially the digital voice recorder. Carla explained that the digital voice recorder has been developed by the National Federation for the Blind and that it talks, mainly for people that have no or low vision or dyslexia. 5 people are waiting to borrow. Carla shared that when the device first arrived, she had emailed consumers and had positive responses. Moreover, explained the functions of the newly received FM System, Zoomtext screen magnification software, and all terrain cane.

Carla shared that on the website 2 or 3 devices are featured at a time. Presently, under the "Product Spotlight" it highlights the Ipod Touch with applications such as the Looktel. On another note GSAT will need to work with UOG maintenance on parallel bars to see if this is something they can construct as the shipping costs exceed the cost of the device.



University of Guam CEDDERS
Guam System for Assistive Technology
Advisory Council
General Membership Meeting
Tuesday, July 19, 2011, 4:00-5:30pm
House 19 Deans Circle, UOG



*DISID Jaws

GSAT fulfilled its promise to DISID to install JAWS screen reading software (free) at its AT computer Center.

V. Reports

a. Quarterly Updates on GSAT

A GOAL-AT loan purchased an accessible van for \$11000. Carla shared with the council the touching story of a mother who has become the caregiver for her daughter and her daughter's 2 boys. Her daughter was born able-bodied. At 26 years old, an acute asthma attack left her in a vegetative state. For 6 years, her daughter could not leave the house unless with medical transport services. Having the accessible van will enable the mother to freely take her daughter wherever they please, including her sons' sporting and school events. She can now participate in family outings and their quality of life has dramatically increased. Carla added this shows the impact of GSAT/GOAL-AT/GGT and the difference Assistive Technology makes. This story will be featured in the August newsletter. Vocational Rehabilitation said that they can cover the securement for the van through their Independent Living Program. It's been 2 months and have yet to see that materialize. GOAL-AT may increase the loan amount to procure securement and avoid any further delay.

Bill Fuppul shared that his power plug for his computer is broken and wondered if he will be able to get a loan for that. Carla explained that the Loan program allows for the purchase of equipment new or used and the maintenance and repair of the devices. It can also cover an assistive technology assessment.

Carla shared: 26 hours of technical assistance was provided to the DOE. She worked with Michelle (GLSC) to help a student who is blind. DOE has provided her with an AT device but was not maximizing its potential such as affording her internet access and electronic access to reading/classroom materials. Parent and student attended a Tri-Agency/DOE parent training and connected with Carla and Michelle. After they got involved, services have improved. She's received electronic textbooks that can be read (independently) in Braille on her AT device. She's had a teacher aide read and write for her. Rather than provide materials through a thumb drive or via email that could be accessed in Braille on her device, DOE vision services would pick up the hard copies of materials, take it back to their office, manually Braille it and take it back to the school, which sometimes took 2-3 weeks. Lisa Ogo stated that in the summer of 2007-2008, CEDDERS through a grant helped purchase devices for DOE, so how come DOE is not giving her any of those devices? Carla answered that she has a device from that grant, but the problem was they weren't maximizing the potential of the device and fostering independence. Michelle Cruz added that DOE felt she had adequate education with someone sitting with her and reading/ writing for her. We know that it is not helping her with transition and that these are things she can do on her own with AT. Michelle was able to get a specific textbook (electronic format) that DOE couldn't get for 6 months by simply emailing Bookshare. Carla and Christine Rosario (DOE AT) established internet connection and helped the student create and use an email account. This student has a bright future ahead and is fascinated with stem cell research.



University of Guam CEDDERS
Guam System for Assistive Technology
Advisory Council
General Membership Meeting
Tuesday, July 19, 2011, 4:00-5:30pm
House 19 Deans Circle, UOG



Carla met with a DOE parent today who asked if her son could be assessed through GSAT. Carla explained that the GSAT grant specifies that we cannot supplant DOE's responsibilities. If the process is DOE led, GSAT can provide them technical assistance.

Bill asked if the GOAL-AT loan could pay for caregivers. Carla responded that for these particular grants, funding is solely for the purchase of tangible equipment and the only services covered under the loan are for service related to the equipment. Jesusa Contreras brought up the Individual Budgeting under DISID. Roseanne Ada (GDDC Director) is now working with Ben Servino (DISID Director) because Ben Servino mentioned that he is going to bring it back. Carla said that it will allow individuals to decide where to spend their money. If they wanted to pay for personal care attendants they could, and if they wanted to pay for AT they could, but the bottom-line is the choice is up to them. Individuals are given money through DISID and they decide what & where these services will be purchased. Bill Fuppul and Evelyn Duenas participated in a pilot project years ago. Jesusa mentioned that it really helped Evelyn in terms of getting personal care, insuring her transportation and all other necessities. Carla added that it allows one to opt for quality/private services, and not settle for a government agency that takes too long or that only allows 16 hours of personal care service per month. Lisa Ogo asserts that she hopes this time around they screen those who really need it and give a chance to others who never tried it at all. Lou Mesa asked if there are any regulations saying that you can only apply once or twice. Maybe the other individuals don't know about the program. Lisa responded this is why whoever is going to implement it and get it going, before they start issuing the cash or vouchers, should look through their list and see ok, who else hasn't tried? Instead of finishing the money fast and giving those who have already tried. Bill added that when they offer the money, they let the person with the disability apply. The amount they get from DISID is going to depend on how much income they have in the family or house. Bill received \$5000 for the first pilot whereas Lisa received \$1000 in the second one.

b. Chamber of Commerce Meeting

Michelle shared that she and Carla sat down with the president of the Chamber of Commerce, David Leddy, and the Chairman, Kaleo Moylan to get on their meeting agenda- hopefully in August. Carla added that they are taking the content covered within our AT conference in March to as many employers as possible as we didn't get as many employers in attendance as was anticipated.

c. FICCDAT Conference -Festival of International Conferences on Caregiving, Disability, Aging and Technology

Format: 6 conferences for the prices of one, most of the sessions attended were on mobility. Carla is trying to get certified as an Assistive Technology Practitioner and the exam is heavy on mobility.

VI. Open Discussion/ Announcements

a. ADA Celebration

Lou Mesa shared an email received from Albert San Agustin. ADA is celebrating their 21st anniversary at the DVR Conference room on Tuesday, July 26, 2011, 9am-130pm. They will also be sponsoring a potluck lunch for 12 noon. She added that during the State Rehabilitation Council quarterly meeting, they received approval from RSA to purchase food. It has been put it in writing.



University of Guam CEDDERS
Guam System for Assistive Technology
Advisory Council
General Membership Meeting
Tuesday, July 19, 2011, 4:00-5:30pm
House 19 Deans Circle, UOG



b. Liberation Celebration

Lisa Ogo announced that fix route and Paratransit for Thursday will continue. People participating in the parade must start to call in their schedule. Carla added regular transit is going to be running on Liberation Day. DISID was going to Charter a bus for everyone who wanted to participate in the festivities but now it isn't necessary. There is a tent in front of Kilroy's. Josephine said if you want to be on the float or walk on the parade, you have to be down at Anigua at 6am because the road closes at 7am.

c. Revised Bus Schedule

Lisa Ogo mentioned the revised schedule is Monday to Saturday from 5:30am to 10:30am. These are the morning runs and the last pick up for Para transit and Fixed route is 1030am. It begins again in the afternoon from 2:30pm to 6:30pm. On Sundays and Holidays there are no buses, but they made an exception for the Liberation Day.

Lou Mesa reviewed highlights of the meeting and the October Activities for the National Disabilities Employment Awareness Month and discussed that assistance from GSAT in providing AT for *A Day in the Life* was requested. They are also planning an employer/ employee workshop/ conference on October 7. They would like GSAT to have a display. Lisa Ogo requested we have the next GSAT meeting held at 3:30pm because the new bus schedule is at 2:30pm but in reality they don't pick up until 2:45pm.

VII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:10PM

*Next Meeting: October 18, 2011