The Center for Advanced Communications Policy (CACP) focuses on key issues that influence the development, implementation and adoption of cutting-edge, advanced communications technologies. CACP work includes assessment of policy issues and production of regulatory filings, identification of future options for innovation, and articulation of a clearer vision of the ever changing technology landscape. Research areas include wireless communications and platforms; technology use by vulnerable populations including people with disabilities; emergency alerts and communications; higher education policy and evaluation; new communications modes such as virtual worlds and social media; STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) education, and the impact of technology shifts. CACP collaborates with government, industry and academia at the national, as well as local, state, and international levels. In addition to a vigorous agenda of national level activities, CACP has participated in Ivan Allen college activities contributing to the goals of the Georgia Tech Strategic Plan Initiative Six to “expand and enhance the current programs dealing with technology and policy” and has provided funding to faculty and students at Georgia Tech.

Within this document CACP has encapsulated highlights of the past year’s efforts from our researchers and technical staff. The report is divided into six areas: Instruction and Appointments (pg. 2); Research and Creative Scholarship (pg. 3); Academic, Community Activities & Presentations (pg. 6); Sponsored Funding (pg. 12); Memberships, Board Memberships & National Recognition (pg. 13); CACP Website Analytics (pg. 16).

This year there were more than 20 publishing activities; 7 conference presentations; active participation on 24 academic committees; 9 student assistantships or advisory roles by faculty of CACP; and over 4000 website hits. Sponsored research was funded at $2,197,579.00. CACP staff/faculty exceeded 388 meetings with external/internal organizations and/or their representatives.
**INSTRUCTION & APPOINTMENTS**

**Helena Mitchell, Ph.D.:**
Principal Research Scientist, School of Public Policy, CACP

Visiting Professor, Amity University, London, England

Adjunct Faculty, Oklahoma State University, OK

Advising:
Dalton Nechanicky, undergraduate student, IE
DeeDee Bennett, Dissertation Committee, OSU, Ph.D. candidate (rec’d 7/13)
Vett Vandiver, Spring/Summer 2014 – SPP
Sean Kani, GSU undergraduate student
Robert Brown, CACP Intern, Grady High School

**James White, Ph.D.:**
Sr. Research Scientist, School of Public Policy, CACP

Visiting Professor, Journalism and Media Studies Center, University of Hong Kong

Senior Research Fellow, Center for International Strategy, Technology and Policy, the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs, Georgia Tech.

Adjunct Faculty, Institute for People and Technology (from 2011).

Advising
Daniel Castro, Ph.D. candidate, SPP
Victor Wanningen, Ph.D. candidate – Dissertation Committee, SPP
Braeden Benson, RPE Program, Emory University

Teaching
Fall 2013, Political Science 1101, Government of the United States of America

**Nathan W. Moon, Ph.D.:**
Research Scientist II, School of Public Policy, CACP

Teaching
Part-Time Lecturer, School of HTS

**DeeDee Bennett, Ph.D.:**
Research Scientist I, School of Public Policy, CACP
RESEARCH AND CREATIVE SCHOLARSHIP

Journal Articles and Conference Proceedings (refereed) (7)


Papers-refereed and Publications-non refereed (13)

LaForce, S. Editor, Technology & Disability Policy Highlights Newsletter (TDPH) (12 issues) produced by the Center for Advanced Communications Policy (CACP), Georgia Institute of Technology. TDPH provides a monthly report on national and local public policy events and recent wireless technological advances and political activities at the intersection of disabilities.

Filings on Rule Makings to the Federal Communications Commission, Washington, D.C. and other federal agencies (6)

Wireless RERC Recommends ASL Translation of Emergency Messages

May 2014 – The Wireless RERC filed comments regarding EAS Rules to Support Multilingual EAS and Emergency Information [EB Docket No. 04-296] corroborating the work of the Minority Media and Telecommunications Council (MMTC) in their efforts to increase access to emergency information for people whose native language is not English, specifically noting the need for the inclusion of American Sign Language (ASL). ASL is a distinct language used by individuals of the deaf community and is fundamentally unlike English; it is also the 3rd most used language in the U.S.

Wireless RERC Makes Text-to-911 Recommendations

May 2014 – The Wireless RERC filed reply comments to the FCC’s Second Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking regarding Facilitating the Deployment of Text-to-911 and Other Next Generation 911 Applications. In accord with Sprint’s comments, the Wireless RERC agreed that, while relay service providers perform a valuable role in providing telecommunications access for people with disabilities, within the context of 911 calls relay services are not ideal.

Wireless RERC Files Reply Comments on Accessibility of Devices for Video Programming

February 25, 2014 — The Wireless RERC submitted reply comment to the Federal Communication Commission’s (FCC) Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (FNPRM): In the Matter of Accessibility of User Interfaces, and Programming Guides and Menus and Accessible Emergency Information and Apparatus Requirements for Emergency Information and Video Description: Implementation of the Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010. The FNPRM requested input on defining the scope of Sections 204 and 205 of the Twenty First Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010 (CVAA) which require user interfaces and navigation devices for video programming to be accessible to people with vision loss.

Wireless RERC comments highlighted that despite the presence of accessibility features on many devices, consumers are often unaware of these features. Accordingly, in agreement with the Consumer Groups and Telecom RERC, the
Wireless RERC recommends implementation of “information, documentation and training requirements” in accessible formats for consumers with and without disabilities. The accessibility of the devices, equipment and services should be conceived as a continuum that includes the technology itself and any support for using/accessing the technology.

Regarding a mechanism for activating accessibility features, the Wireless RERC notes that “a minimal step accessibility button, key or icon” should be used to ensure ease of activating and inactivating accessibility features such as closed captioning and video description.” However, they acknowledged and concurred with the Consumer Groups and Telecom RERC that the minimal step accessibility activation and configuration recommended does not supplant the need for a single step activation/deactivation of closed captions.

Finally, Wireless RERC comments disagree with the National Cable and Telecommunications Association’s (NCTA) position that the FCC does not have the legal authority to require a mechanism by which may enable people with visual disabilities may access a secondary audio stream for emergency information. Instead, the Wireless RERC stresses that the FCC’s basic mission is to “provide for the safety of life and property of Americans,” and accommodations for people with disabilities must be made to the fullest extent possible, including providing emergency information in the most accessible and effective format for each individual.

**Wireless RERC Comments on Accessibility of Emergency Information**

August 22, 2013 - The Wireless RERC filed reply comments with the FCC in response to their Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking: In the Matter of Accessibility of Emergency Information and Apparatus Requirements for Emergency Information and Video Description: Implementation of the Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010 [MB Docket No. 12-107]. The FNPRM requested input on whether a multichannel video programming distributor (MVPD) service should be required to comply with rules to provide accessible aural emergency information when subscribers access linear video programming via alternative devices, and whether such entities should be required to assist individuals who are blind or visually impaired in traversing between main and secondary audio streams.

The Wireless RERC comments note that many content providers distribute programming via mobile, IP delivery, and consumers may expect emergency information to be present. In order to ensure that emergency information is relevant to the consumer, the Wireless RERC emphasized that the rules should apply only to “programming that is simultaneously being provided to the home television,” not on-demand programming. The Wireless RERC also agreed with AT&T and CTIA in that MVPDs should comply with the FCC rules “regardless of the devices that are accessing the video programming” and that the rules should apply to the “entities that control the technology in question.” In addressing accessible customer service options for people with vision loss, the Wireless RERC
challenged the statements of CEA and TIA noting that anecdotally, customer service representatives have been unable to adequately address the needs of people with vision loss due to insufficient knowledge on accessibility features. Accordingly, the Wireless RERC recommended specific accessibility training to be mandated for customer service representatives.

Submitted comments to CMS (Moon, N.W., & Mihailidis, A.) “Re: [CMS-1526-P] Medicare Program; End-Stage Renal Disease Prospective Payment System, Quality Incentive Program, and Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies,” Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, August 30, 2013.

**ACADEMIC, COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES & PRESENTATIONS**

**Institute Committees**

**Helena Mitchell (5)**

Member, President’s Committee on Disabilities and Access, National Best Practices Subcommittee Chair, 2013 – Present. 2014 Committee report to the President was submitted May 7, 2013.

Member, Georgia Tech Aging Task Force.

Faculty Senate – Member, Academic Services Committee, August 2012 – Present.

Faculty Senate - Committee on Use of Institute Facilities.

Policy@Tech - Executive Committee.

**Nathan Moon (6)**

Co-chair, Policy@Tech (Consortium of Policy Research Centers at Georgia Tech).

Member, Faculty Honors Committee, 2014-2015.

**James White (4)**

Member, Georgia Tech Aging Task Force.

Subject Matter Representative, President’s Committee on Disabilities and Access.

Senior Research Fellow, Center for International Strategy, Technology and Policy, the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs.
Advisory Council Member, Georgia Tech Center for International Business Education & Research (GT CIBER) (from 2010).

Jacqueline Herndon (1)

Subject Matter Representative, President’s Committee on Disabilities and Access.

Conference Presentations (7)


Nathan Moon, Allison Arnold, Kris Biesinger and Lisa Townsley presented “MATH 1113 Precalculus Emporium; A Multi-Institutional Online Precalculus Course”. This was an overview of a University System of Georgia online precalculus course as part of USG’s Complete College Georgia efforts, April 5, 2014.

Nathan Moon presented “BreakThru: E-Mentoring to Support Students with Disabilities in STEM”, University of Georgia’s Regional Institute on STEM Education, April 5, 2014.


James White, Ph.D., presented a paper entitled, Social Media: Approaches to Defining an Ill-defined Phenomenon at HCI International 2013, July 23, 2013.

Dissemination Activities – Items in this section have not been counted in other categories.

Public Policy Luncheon series: Hosted by CACP and the Federal Communications Bar Association since 1996. It brings together regulators, legislators, telecom experts,
attorneys and diverse constituencies to discuss “hot topics” in telecom policy that affect Georgia and the nation. Events held in FY’14:

April 14, 2014. “Emergency Communications Alerts: Roles & Responsibilities of Industry”. Speakers: Antwane Johnson, Director, IPAWS, Department of Homeland Security, Art Rogers, Director of Programming, WSB TV, Cox Media Group, Keith Hayes, Sr. Vice President, Network Operations, Charter Communications and Bryson Koehler, Executive Vice President and CIO, The Weather Channel. The panel was moderated by Joiava Philpott, Vice President, Regulatory Affairs, Cox Communications, Inc.

Social Media

Accessible Technology Policy Group (ATPG), established in 2009 currently has 806 members. ATPG is focused on policy development and exchange of information related to e-accessibility and inclusive design.

The CACP Facebook page has 196 members. The page was designed to share CACP news and events, as well as, post relevant technology policy news items with a human interest appeal.

The CACP Twitter feed (@CACPGT) has 497 followers. The CACP Twitter feed’s purpose is to share CACP news and events, as well as, post relevant technology and policy news items.

6th Annual Healthy Environments & Active Lifestyles (HEAL) Open House
Georgia Tech hosted a successful 6th Annual Healthy Environment & Active Lifestyles (HEAL) Open House on Tuesday, April 22nd. The open house showcased demonstrations of student projects and research from Virginia Tech and several Georgia Tech organizations, including: The Aware Home Research Initiative (AHRI), Design and Technology for Healthy Aging, The Center for Assistive Technology and Environmental Access (CATEA), the Center for ACP’s, the Wireless Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center (Wireless RERC) and others.

BCS-The Chartered Institute for IT, U.S.A. Southeast Regional Group (SERG)
CACP is the U.S.A. Southeast Regional Group headquarters for BCS, an international organization with more than 70,000 members worldwide, 16 international sections and over 45 specialist groups including BCS women, young professionals, education, and IT security. The SERG is comprised of members from GA, FL, AL, TN, AR, NC and SC. CACP held a number of officer positions in the SERG including chair and secretary.

Collaborations and meetings with computer science and math faculty at Henry Grady High School were held in 2013 and 2014 to develop the Easy as Pi Youth Programmers pilot project. Easy as Pi Youth Programmers is an education and outreach activity piloted by BCS, the Chartered Institute for IT, USA Section, Southeast Regional Group (SERG). The goal of Easy as Pi is to engage local K-12
students in computer programming and stimulate an interest in pursuing computer science degrees and eventual careers. We will distribute Raspberry Pi programmable computers, development supplies and peripherals to fifteen Grady High School students participating in their after school Coding Club. They will work in teams of 2-5 students to program and develop projects.

Program goals:
1. To enable girls, minorities and socioeconomically disadvantaged youth the opportunity to discover and advance their computer science talents.
2. To educate students on components of computer programming in a way that engrosses their imaginations and enables them to develop technical solutions to real-world problems.
3. To engage students in a meaningful and fun computer science experience that incentivizes them to strive for all-around academic excellence.
4. To encourage students to pursue degrees and eventual careers in a computer science field.
5. To serve the community by preparing graduates with the problem solving skills needed for 21st century success.

At the end of the 2014-2015 school year the students will have the opportunity to showcase their work at a culminating event on Georgia Tech’s campus. SERG members will provide training, demonstrations and technical support to the faculty advisers and their teams throughout the course of the program. A Grady High School student worked for CACP the summer of 2014 to help in designing and programming proposed activities for the upcoming school year.

Collaborations & Meeting Presentations

Helena Mitchell

Collaborations and meetings with Georgia State University, Syracuse University, Oklahoma State University, University of Colorado-Boulder, SUNY at Brockport, Johnson C. Smith University, and Gallaudet University.


Collaborations with North Carolina Division of Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, GACHI-serving the deaf and hard-of-hearing, . Georgia Council on the Blind, State ADA Coordinator Office, Georgia Technology Authority, Wheeled
RERC, Workplace Accommodations RERC, RERC on Assistive Communications Technology, RERC on Aging.

Collaborations and/or meetings with Research In Motion (RIM) – Blackberry, CTIA-The Wireless Association, Nokia, Sprint, AT&T, Microsoft.

185 technical assistance/outreach meetings not reported already. Meetings included external and internal discussions on possible collaborations; grant opportunities; public safety issues for people with disabilities; vulnerable populations and wireless technology intersections; and topics regarding national public policy agendas in advanced technologies.

James White

Collaborations with international universities that included University of Hong Kong, Chinese University of Hong Kong, University of Shantou, Birkbeck, University of London, Toyo University, and University of Tokyo.

48 technical assistance/outreach meetings not reported already. Meetings included discussions on possible collaborations; grant opportunities; current research projects. Contacts occurred with both external and internal entities.

Nathan Moon

Collaborations and meetings with University of Georgia, Georgia State University, Columbus State University, University of West Georgia, Georgia College & State University, Georgia Southern University, Valdosta State University, Georgia Gwinnett College, Middle Georgia State College, Georgia Perimeter College, University of Toronto, and California State University.

Collaboration with the National Institute for Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR), National Science Foundation (NSF), U.S. Access Board, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (Centers for Medicare Services), National Council on Disability (NCD), and Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP), University System of Georgia (USG).


50 technical assistance/support/outreach activities not reported already: Student letters of recommendation, faculty letters of recommendation/support; external student advisement and research assistance; discussions on possible collaborations and grant opportunities. Contacts occurred with both external and internal.
Salimah LaForce

Collaborations and meetings with DeafLink on the accessibility of emergency alerts and information to people who are deaf and rely on ASL. The collaboration will result in a white paper, journal article, and workshop on the topic.

Collaboration with the Partnership on Employment and Accessible Technology on their project to review and synthesize NIDRR-sponsored research that focuses on the policy implications of accessible technologies in the workplace. This will result in a report to the Department of Labor’s Office of Disability Employment Policy.

56 technical assistance/outreach meetings not reported already. Meetings included discussions on possible collaborations; grant opportunities; public safety issues for people with disabilities; vulnerable populations and wireless technology intersections; and topics regarding national public policy agendas in advanced technologies.

DeeDee Bennett

Collaborations and meetings with Georgia State University, Oklahoma State University, University of South Florida, and Clemson University.


Collaborations and meetings with DeafLink, GACHI-serving the deaf and hard-of-hearing, State ADA Coordinator Office (Georgia).

49 technical assistance/outreach meetings not reported already. Meetings included discussions on possible collaborations; grant opportunities; disaster issues for people with disabilities; vulnerable populations and wireless technology intersections; topics regarding national public policy agendas in advanced technologies; as well as STEM initiatives for underrepresented minorities. Topics occurred with both internal and external entities.
**SPONSORED FUNDING**

**Active (7)**

Nathan W. Moon, Ph.D., PI. Phase III External Evaluation of the University System of Georgia STEM II Initiative, Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, 7/1/2014 - 6/30/2015, **$51,403**.

Nathan W. Moon, Ph.D., PI. Phase III External Evaluation of the University System of Georgia STEM II Initiative, Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, Borrowed Services Agreement, 7/1/2014 - 6/30/2015, **$13,607**.


Nathan W. Moon, PhD, Co-PI. Collaborative Research: Georgia STEM Accessibility Alliance (GSAA), National Science Foundation, Research in Disabilities Education (RDE), 10/1/2010-9/30/2015, **$22,239** for fiscal year 10/1/14 – 9/30/15).

Nathan Moon, Ph.D., Co-Investigator, Disability and Rehabilitation Research Project (DRRP) on Universal Design Practices to Enhance Work Outcomes, National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research, 60 months, 10/1/12 – 9/30/17, **$29,384** for fiscal year 10/1/14 – 9/30/2015.

**MEMBERSHIPS, BOARD MEMBERSHIPS AND NATIONAL RECOGNITION**

**Helena Mitchell (5)**

Member, Georgia Emergency Preparedness Coalition for Individuals with Disabilities and Older Adults, 2011- Present.

Member, Southeast Regional Group, USA Section, BCS-The Chartered Institute for IT, March 2010 – Present.

Member, NENA Accessibility Committee, 2010-Present.

Member, Broadcast Education Association, Judge, Law & Policy Division, 2009–Present.

James White (2)


Associate Member, Center for Global Media Studies, Edward R. Murrow School of Communications, Washington State University, 1998 – Present.

Nathan Moon (7)

Nathan Moon awarded “rookie award” by RESNA, the Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America. The award is given annually to recognize new members who have made significant contributions, provided leadership and made an impact to RESNA during their first several years of participation.

Reviewer, Management Research Review.

Reviewer, SAGE Open.

BCS: The Chartered Institute for IT. Young Professional Groups Representative, USA Section, 2011-present. Educational Liaison Officer, Southeast Regional Group of the USA Section, 2011- Present.

Member, American Association for the History of Medicine, 2004 – Present.

Member, American Evaluation Association, 2010 – Present.

Chair, Government Affairs Committee, RESNA, the Rehabilitation Engineering Society of North America, 2012-Present.

DeeDee Bennett (11)

Reviewer (peer reviewed journals): Western Journal of Emergency Medicine.

Reviewer (peer reviewed Journals): Natural Hazards Review.

Georgia Emergency Preparedness Coalition for Individuals with Disabilities & Older Adults, co-chair on the committee on Technical Assistance and Training.

Member, Georgia Emergency Preparedness Coalition for Individuals with Disabilities & Older Adults (EPC).
Feeder Council Member for the William Averette Anderson Fund for Hazard and Disaster Mitigation Education and Research.

Member, Society of Broadcast Engineers, (SBE).
Member, Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE).

FEMA Emergency Alerts and Symbology Working Group.

Member, International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM).

Member, Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society.

Atlanta Community Food Bank, Product Rescue Center, Volunteer.

Salimah LaForce (5)

Secretary, Southeast Regional Group, USA Section, BCS – The Chartered Institute for IT, March 2010 – Present.

BCS Women Coordinator, Southeast Regional Group, USA Section, BCS – The Chartered Institute for IT, 2011 – Present.

Member, GA Emergency Preparedness Coalition for Individuals with Disabilities and Older Adults, 2011- Present.

Henry Grady High School Writing Center, Volunteer, 2010 – Present.

Chair, Bolton Academy PTA Grant Committee, 2011 – Present.

Jacqueline Herndon (1)


Kenneth Bernard (2)

Alternate, Government Technology Advisory Board, 2012 – Present.

Young Professional Coordinator, Southeast Regional Group, USA Section, BCS- The Chartered Institute for IT, March 2010 – Present.

CACP AFFILIATES (10% to 25% paid by CACP)
Paul Baker, C21U
Frank Lucia, Consultant
Harley Hamilton, CoC
Ed Price, IPaT
Peter Presti – IMTC
Brian Jones, IMTC
Tiffany O’Quinn, IMTC
Zane Cochran, IMTC
Scott Gilleland, IMTC
Claudia Rebola, CoA
Carrie Bruce, CoA
Bruce Walker, Psychology
Shepherd Center (25% - 100% paid by CACP):
  Michael Jones
  Jim Mueller
  Ben Lippincott
  John Morris
  Mark Sweatman

PEOPLE INVOLVED IN CENTER ACTIVITIES
  Jessica Pater – GTRI
  Les Smee – GTRI
  Maureen Linden – COA
  Sara Endicott – COA
  Jon Sanford – COA
  Karen Milchus – COA
  Joiava Phillipott, Cox Communications
  Kennard Woods – Federal Communications Bar Association
  Carolyn Roddy – Federal Communications Bar Association
  Robert Todd – COA
  Chris Langston – COA
  Summer Ienuso – COA
  Technology Association of Georgia
  The Findings Group
  Burruss Institute, Kennesaw State University
  DeafLink, Inc., San Antonio, TX
The goals for 2014 – 2015 will include hiring more graduate students, faculty, and GT researchers. Achieving these goals will require expansion of sponsored research beyond emergency communications and disabilities into more advanced R&D ICT, educational innovative collaborations, developing cutting edge technology applications, expanding survey and focus group constituents, and external collaborations with entities involved in service to vulnerable populations. As of July 1st 2014, Dr. Paul Baker returned to CACP as Senior Director of Research and Strategic Innovation. In his new role he will specifically help researchers to identify funding outside of our current portfolio, encourage the continuation of cross campus synergies, grow more partnerships (domestic/international) and identify conferences that yield peer reviewed publications.
# Audience Overview

**Jul 1, 2013 - Jun 30, 2014**

### Overview

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### Language

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