Elections Package

By the AAATE Nomination Committee:
Luc De Witte, Renzo Andrich and Klaus Miesenberger

Positions for election for the term 2024 – 2025, currently held by:

President:	Georgios Kouroupetroglou (GR)
President Elect:	Pedro Encarnação (P)
Past President:	Katerina Mavrou (CY)
Treasurer:	Silvio Marcello Pagliara (IT)
Secretary:	Tone Øderud, (SE)
Project Officer:	Dominique Archambault (FR)
External Communication and Information:	Siobhán Long (IE)

Candidates proposed by the board in office (following the election by-law enforced in 2014):

President:	Pedro Encarnação (P)
President Elect:	Dominique Archambault (FR)
Past President:	Georgios Kouroupetroglou (GR)

Candidates for four board positions (allocation of the Treasurer, Secretary, Project Officer, and External Communication/Information roles in the board will be agreed on by the new board)

Maurice Grinberg (BG) (new candidate)
Tone Øderud (NO) (re-candidate)
Silvio Marcello Pagliara (IT) (re-candidate)
Emma Smith (IE) (new candidate)

Two positions as auditors for the term 2022 – 2023, currently held by:

Jan Engelen (BE)
Susanne Dirks (DE)

Candidates for the two auditors

Susanne Dirks (DE) (re-candidate)
Jan Engelen (BE) (re-candidate)

Three positions in the Nomination Committee for the term 2022 – 2023, currently held by:

Renzo Andrich (IT)
Luc de Witte (NL)
Klaus Miesenberger (AT)

Candidates for the three positions in the Nomination Committee

Renzo Andrich (IT) (re-candidate)
Luc de Witte (NL) (re-candidate)
Klaus Miesenberger (AT) (re-candidate)

Nomination for Past President

Dr. Georgios Kouroupetroglou

Dr. **Georgios Kouroupetroglou** is Director of the "Speech and Accessibility Laboratory" (http://speech.di.uoa.gr) and Director of Postgraduate (MSc & PhD) Studies at the Department of Informatics & Telecommunications, as well as founder and Head of the "Accessibility Unit for Students with Disabilities" (http://access.uoa.gr), National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece. His current research interests focuses on the area of Computer Accessibility and Voice User Interfaces, as a part of the major domain of Human-Computer Interaction. Professor Kouroupetroglou has actively participated in more than 58 research projects funded by the European Union or the Greek Ministry of Research. He has been reviewer/evaluator and member of working groups/technical panels of various European Union's projects/ programs. He is author of more than 160 scientific papers (http://speech.di.uoa.gr/sppages/publications.html) in journals / conference proceedings and numerous books and technical reports in the fields of his interest. He teaches the following courses: "Speech and Natural Language Processing", "Real Time Digital Signal Processing Systems", "Speech-based Human Computer Interaction-Voice Technologies", "Computer and Web Accessibility", "Computer Systems for Students with Disabilities", "Computer-based Rehabilitation for persons with Disabilities" and "Advanced Computer-based Assistive Technologies for the Disabled". His is: member of the Editorial Board of the International Journal Universal Access in the Information Society, published by Springer and the Journal Technology and Disability, published by IOS Press as well as founder & vice president of the Hellenic Association of Assistive Technologies (HAAT) and founder & vice president of the Association for Visual Impairment Research (AVIR). He served as co-chairman of the IEEE Symposium on Computational Intelligence in Robotic Rehabilitation and Assistive Technologies (2014-2019), as General Chairman of the 16th ICCHP (International Conference on Computers Helping People with Special Needs), Linz, Austria, 2018 and General Chairman of the International Conference on Enabling Access for Persons with Visual Impairment (ICEAPVI), 2015, Athens, Greece

Nomination for President

Pedro Encarnação

Pedro Encarnação is a Senior Affiliate Professor at CATÓLICA-LISBON - Universidade Católica Portuguesa (UCP). He has received the B.Sc. degree in 1994, the M.Sc. degree in 1998, and the Ph.D. degree in 2002, all in Electrical and Computers Engineering from the Universidade de Lisboa, in Portugal. In the area of Rehabilitation Engineering, Pedro has been involved in research projects exploring the potential of robots as assistive technologies to support manipulation for children with neuromotor impairments, enabling these children to play and to participate in academic activities that require manipulation. He served as co-chair of the COST Action LUDI - Play for Children with Disabilities (2014-2018), a pan-European network of more than 100 multidisciplinary researchers and practitioners working towards enabling play for children with disabilities. Pedro co-edited the books "Guidelines for supporting children with disabilities' play. Methodologies, tools, and contexts." (DeGruyter Open Access, 2018) and "Robotic Assistive Technologies: Principles and Practice" (CRC Press: 2017). Recently, he joined Albert Cook and Janice Polgar for the 5th edition of the seminal book "Assistive Technologies. Principles and Practice" (Elsevier, 2020). He published several articles in the main Rehabilitation Engineering journals and conference proceedings. A member of AAATE since 2009, Pedro co-chaired the AAATE 2013 Conference in Lisbon, Portugal.

Nomination for President Elect

Pr. Dominique Archambault

Pr Dominique Archambault is Full Professor in Computer Sciences at Université Paris 8-Vincennes-Saint-Denis. He is leading the team THIM (Technologies, Disabilities, Interactions, Multimodalities), part of CHArt laboratory (EA 4004, Human and Artificial Cognition), where he is conducting research on non-visual human-computer interaction and accessibility to complex documents. The domains of application of his research works are multimodal access to mathematical expressions, allowing collaborative works between sighted and non-sighted persons and accessibility to multimedia games. He has been the director of the Master MIASHS "HANDI" (Mathematics and Computer Sciences Applied to Human and Social Sciences) since 2015, and of the speciality "Technologies and Disabilities" (http://master-handi.fr), where he teaches especially Computer Programming, Assistive Technologies and Software Accessibility. From 2011 to 2019 Pr Archambault has been the General secretary of IFRATH (http://ifrath.fr), an Institute which regroups French research teams working on Assistive Technologies. He is an elected member of the board of AAATE (Association for the Advancement of Assistive Technologies in Europe – http://aaate.net) since 2013 and he is Associate Editor of the Scientific Journal "Technology and Disability" since September 2015. Pr Archambault has about a hundred publications including papers in international journals and conferences (http://www.mendeley.com/profiles/dominique-archambault).

He started to work with students with disabilities in 1988 and he was one of the creators of the French national association of professionals supporting handicapped students in higher education and used to be its Vice-President. He participates in several working groups from the French ministry of higher education, including the organisation of vocational training for staff of support centres for students with disabilities.

Nomination for Board Positions

Maurice Grinberg

Professor Maurice Grinberg co-founded ASSIST— Assistive Technologies Foundation and has worked to promote and disseminate assistive technologies for augmentative and alternative communication in Bulgaria since 2014. He is a professor of psychology at the Research Center for Cognitive Science at the New Bulgarian University and has done research in high-tech assistive technology, social and moral dilemmas, cognitive modelling, and usability of e-learning systems. He teaches courses in high-tech AAC in the Bachelor program for SLP and the vocational training program "Ergotherapy for inclusive education". He has been coordinator of several projects related to the introduction and use of high-tech AAC and access to computer AT funded by UNICEF Bulgaria and ECARO, the European Social Fund, EASPD and others. He co-authored two books and several publications on augmentative and alternative communication. He has co-organized the Bulgarian Annual International Conference on AAC for five years. Maurice Grinberg is member of the BUILD AAC committee of the International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication (ISAAC) and is the national contact person for the Association for the Advancement of Assistive Technology in Europe (AAATE) for Bulgaria.

Nomination for Board Positions

Tone Øderud

My name is Tone Øderud and I am a senior researcher at SINTEF Digital, Department of Health in Oslo, Norway. My background is M Sc in Cybernetics, Norwegian University of Science and Technology and M Phil in International Community Health, University of Oslo, Norway. I have been working in the field of assistive technology (AT) and disability for 30 years, mainly in Norway, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, and Namibia.

I started as a young engineer participating in European projects in the field of robotics for persons with disabilities and European Activities in Rehabilitation Technology.

For many years I have been involved in developing AT appropriate for low- and middle-income countries (LMIC). This includes development of game-based tablet audiometry for screening of children's hearing and designing hearing services for children in Tanzania and developing wheelchairs services in Zimbabwe and Namibia. I am a Management Committee Member to EU COST Action CA19104 Advancing Social inclusion through Technology and Empowerment.
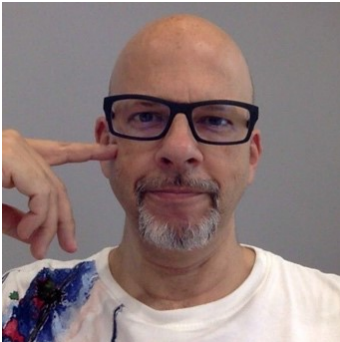
During recent years I have worked on implementing services using GPS for locating persons with dementia and exploring the use of wearable sensors measuring heart rate to detect pain in non-verbal persons with intellectual disabilities.

Innovation, user-centred design, and development of appropriate AT services for persons living in LMIC has become my main research interest. My experience is mainly within mobility, hearing and cognition.

I have been a member of AAATE since the beginning. I value and respect the work that AAATE is doing, and I am excited to experience that AAATE has taken a leading role in the advancement of AT also outside Europe in a global perspective collaborating with WHO and other international AT organisations. If I become part of the AAATE Board I will do my best to contribute to the enhancement of AT in both European and global contexts.

Nomination for Board Positions

Silvio Marcello Pagliara

I'm Assistant Professor, research fellow at the University of Cagliari and Senior Research Fellow at Warwick University.

My main focus is on the use of AT and ICT to design and build inclusive contexts.

My background in electronic and biomedical engineering, PhD on Special Pedagogy and Didactic about the use of ICT and Assistive Technology in learning environments. My main work, as senior researcher, has been focused on technology assessment in terms of accessibility, independent life and universal design.

Strong knowledge on home and building automation, automatic speech recognition and Human Computer Interaction. Continues to carry out research and study of innovative technology solutions at affordable cost and foster the autonomy and inclusion of persons with disabilities in their context with the use of technology. He is author of several publications on the use of ICT for the Inclusion in Italy and abroad. He is a consultant of various Public Entities and Institutions, national and international entities and companies operating in the field of the use of ICT for the quality of life. Keynote and invited speaker in several universities in Italy and abroad. I've been in AAATE since 2010 and after being active in different groups (AAATE Position Paper 2012, etc) I've been elected as Board Member at AAATE from 2020 – 2021 and 2022 – 2023 with the role of Treasurer.

I strongly believe in supporting the Association playing an important role to build a fully inclusive society.

I'm former Vice President and actual advisory of the Board of GLIC – The Italian Network of AT Centres.

Email: silvio.pagliara@centroausili.org

Nomination for Board Positions

Dr. Emma Smith, PhD, MScOT, ATP/SMS
Marie Sklowdowska-Curie Actions Research Fellow, Maynooth University, Ireland, RESNA Fellow

I, Emma M. Smith, am an occupational therapist, assistive technology professional, and researcher in assistive technology policies and systems, currently working as a Marie Sklowdowska-Curie Actions Research Fellow at Maynooth University in Ireland, and as an Assistive Technology Specialist for the WHO Regional Office for Europe. I have worked in a range of clinical practice settings prior to the completion of my PhD in Rehabilitation Science (2019) and have been engaged in evaluating and supporting assistive technology policy throughout Canada, Europe, and Africa in partnership with local governments and civil society organizations. I will bring a range of voluntary sector leadership and Board experience to AAATE, including experiences on the boards of the Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America (RESNA), Irish Association for Powerchair Football, and Vancouver Resource Society. Further, I have held roles as Editor in Chief of the Assistive Technology Journal, Chair of the RESNA Student Design Competition and Developers' Showcase, member of the Committee on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Education and Vice Chair of the RESNA Professional Standards Board. Through these and other experiences, I have extensive experience in conference planning and coordination, board governance, and strategic planning. I have been recognized for my contributions to the field of Assistive Technology with the award of RESNA Fellow. As both a clinician and researcher, I believe I am well positioned to represent multiple stakeholders in the field of assistive technology, and to help move the agenda of AAATE forward.