

# ACOLUG

# MORE than an Online International Forum for People with Complex Communication Needs!

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## Augmentative Communication Online Users' Group

An international Internet listserv established in 1995. Its primary purpose is to provide a forum for people who use AAC to communicate with each other. In its 15th year, ACOLOG is a vibrant community of 800 subscribers. Information is exchanged, friendships forged, college students studying AAC learn from individuals who use AAC, wisdom and advice shared, and research from the AAC-RERC disseminated.

ACOLUG joined the RERC on Communication Enhancement in 1999. Since then thousands of messages have been posted. In an average month, about 250 messages are posted. ACOLOG has had a consistent membership of AAC users and parents of children who rely on AAC. Other members include manufacturers, researchers, practitioners, allies and university students.



**BELOW IS A SAMPLING OF WHY STUDENTS JOINED ACOLOG,  
WHAT THEY HOPED TO LEARN, AND WHAT THEY LEARNED  
BY LISTENING TO THE VOICES OF THOSE WHO USE AAC TECHNOLOGIES.**

**TO SUBSCRIBE TO ACOLOG, GO TO  
<http://listserv.temple.edu/archives/acolog.html>  
OR FOLLOW THESE STEPS:**

### WHY I JOINED ACOLOG:

- › Course requirement
- › Gain better insight into how users of AAC feel about it and their [AAC] devices
- › Recommended as a good resource
- › Recommended by the professor in the course on AT
- › Recommended by ASHA

### MY GOALS FROM BEING A MEMBER OF ACOLOG:

- › Learn more about AAC—benefits/disadvantages
- › Learn how I can be a better SLP for AAC users
- › Learn from other AAC users
- › Learn about devices from a person who uses them, not just a company brochure
- › Gain an understanding of the concerns, challenges, abilities of AAC users

### WHAT I GAINED FROM ACOLOG:


- › *Insight* into the world of AAC and its impact
- › *Understanding* of the complexity and importance of a good person/device match
- › *Information* from AAC users about their systems and work/life
- › *Learning* about International AAC Month
- › *How* ACOLOG encouraged the philosophy of the Communication Bill of Rights
- › *Understanding* of how diverse the [AAC] population is; that individuals with communication disabilities are no different than those without disabilities
- › *Insight* into the power of the internet; how it probably saves these people's lives
- › *Being* in Guam, ACOLOG will continue to be a great resource; I plan to share it with others
- › *Learning* that ACOLOG is a method of advocating, giving all a "voice"
- › *Awareness* within me of how much we take our communication for granted

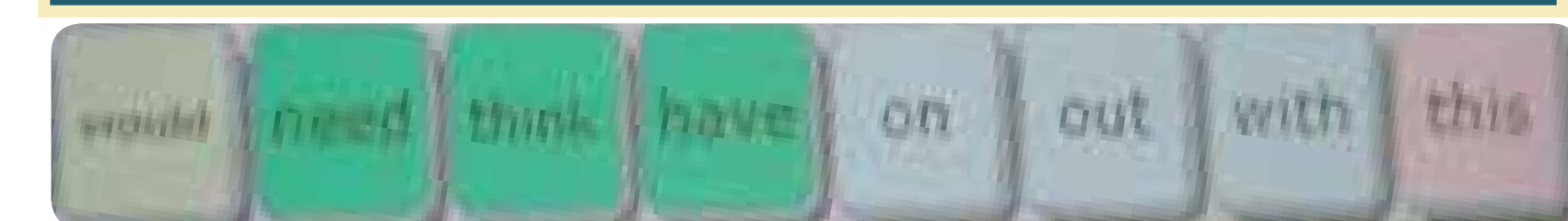


1. Send an email to [listserv@temple.edu](mailto:listserv@temple.edu).
2. Leave the subject blank.
3. In the message type: **Subscribe acolog yourfirstname yourlast name** (example: subscribe mary smith).
4. Send message.
5. Use the reply function to the Command Confirmation Request, leave the subject the same and in the body of the message, type the word "ok".
6. You are now subscribed, so introduce yourself.



**STUDENTS FROM 21 UNIVERSITIES THAT PREPARE PERSONNEL IN AAC-RELATED FIELDS HAVE SPENT UP TO ONE SEMESTER LISTENING TO AND LEARNING FROM THE DISCUSSIONS ON ACOLOG. UNIVERSITIES INCLUDE:**

Arcadia		Temple University
Assumption		University of Georgia
Augustana		University of Guam
Kean College		University of Illinois
Latrobe University Australia		University of Kansas
Minnesota State University		University of Nevada Medical School
Old Dominion University		University of New Mexico
Purdue		University of Queensland Australia
Rockhurst University		University of Rhode Island
Saint Rose College (NY)		University of South Dakota
		Whichita State University



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