



Announcing ISAAC Conference 2020 Venue: Cancún International Convention Center, México, August 1 - 6, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Toronto, Canada – June 2019: ISAAC is excited to announce the venue for [ISAAC 2020](#), the 19th Biennial Conference of the International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication (ISAAC). The main conference will be held at the [Cancún International Convention Center](#) (ICC) in the beautiful city Cancún, situated on the Gulf of México and adjoining the Riviera Maya. Riviera Maya is a beautiful shoreline along the Caribbean that has grown in just a few decades into a major tourism destination, but also includes many small communities with a more local Maya-Mexicano character, and fascinating ancient Maya archaeological sites.

The conference theme is “Communication Beyond Borders/Comunicación Sin Fronteras.”

Surrounded by Mayan culture and with easy access to beautiful beaches, tours, shops, and restaurants in both Cancún and the Riviera Maya, the ISAAC conference will feature AAC events and perspectives; cutting-edge research and clinical innovations; workshops, seminars, exhibits, social events, and local entertainment. This context will bring with it a diverse and interesting group of participants serving the broader AAC community and including many traditionally underrepresented communities.

The theme *Communication Beyond Borders* will challenge the AAC community to think beyond their local work contexts to embrace broader global practices. The theme strives to move us towards more culturally and linguistically responsive approaches and evidence-based practices that promote multiculturalism, multilingualism, equitable service provision and the communication rights of individuals, locally and globally. The conference will provide a forum for engagement and collaboration among researchers and



practitioners from all over the world, recognizing the unique local practice contexts and the strengths and challenges those contexts can bring.

The conference represents ISAAC's efforts to:

- build AAC professional capacity in countries that are traditionally underserved, and to encourage manufacturers and professionals globally to take an active part in undertaking research that develops, expands and refines our evidence base and ensures a more rapid translation of research into practice;
- keep developing best practices and quality services for individuals who use AAC by staying informed and actively engaging with practice innovations and advances, as well as collecting the evidence needed to support assessment and intervention approaches, as well as being open to new possibilities; and
- foster partnerships and connections among and across communities, locally, nationally and internationally.

The conference program will be a mix of plenary sessions, research discussion panels, traditional seminars, short presentations and master classes, hands-on workshops and poster presentations. We hope you will join us to build on the theme *Communication Beyond Borders* by sharing your expertise with us.

"We are working hard to host a conference where the top leaders in the field have the opportunity to share their knowledge, be a part of quality and innovative research discussion, and help build a bridge between research and practice," said Dr. Gloria Soto, Conference Co-chair representing ISAAC's US Chapter, USSAAC. Delegates can look forward to experiencing a variety of conference activities, for example, Pre-Conference Workshops and an AAC Camp. Both of these events are held during the two days before the Main Conference.

According to Meredith Allan, ISAAC President, "We are looking forward to supporting the field of AAC in México at ISAAC Conference 2020, as well as opening wide the doors to the international Spanish-speaking community. In addition to providing an exciting conference experience for all, one of our key goals for the conference is to connect Spanish speakers from around the world who are interested in AAC."

"We are very excited to offer the international community an unforgettable, truly Mexican experience in our beautiful country," said Gabriela Berlanga, Conference Co-Chair, México.



AUGUST 1-2, 2020

AAC Camp, Pre-Conference Workshops
Executive and Council Meetings

AUGUST 3-6, 2020

Main Conference
Cancún International Convention Center

Mark your calendar today, and save the date for ISAAC 2020 in Cancún, México! For more information, visit us at <https://www.isaac-online.org/english/conference-2020/>.

ISAAC is an international membership organization with head offices in Toronto. ISAAC's goal is to create worldwide awareness about how AAC can help individuals without speech. ISAAC accomplishes this by sharing information and promoting innovative approaches to research, technology and literacy through AAC. Activities include hosting the ISAAC biennial conference, sponsoring projects, and offering awards and scholarships.

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