



NEWSLETTER

NEURODIVERSITY COMMITTEE

N° 1 - JULY, 2026

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- Presentation of our members.
- A Shared Global Message of Neurodiversity.
- Our Mission and Vision.

OUR TEAM



GRACE HAO
CHAIR



SUMA SUSWARAM
DEPUTY CHAIR



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MEMBER



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MEMBER



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MEMBER



LETTER FROM OUR CHAIR

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

It is my great honor to welcome you to the inaugural newsletter of the Neurodiversity Committee of the International Association of Communication Sciences and Disorders (IACP).

The establishment of this new committee marks an exciting milestone for IACP and reflects our shared commitment to advancing understanding, inclusion, and support for neurodivergent individuals worldwide. As communication sciences and disorders professionals, we recognize that neurodiversity is a natural part of human diversity and that communication is a basic human right. Every individual deserves the opportunity to communicate, participate, connect with others, and have their voice heard.

As a newly established committee, we bring together 11 members from diverse countries and professional backgrounds who are committed to advancing understanding of neurodiversity through research, clinical practice, education, advocacy, and policy. Through this newsletter, we hope to foster global dialogue, share knowledge and innovative practices, and inspire collaborative efforts that promote inclusion, participation, and quality of life for neurodivergent individuals across the lifespan.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to our committee members and the IACP Executive Committee for their support and vision in launching this exciting initiative. We invite you to join us as we learn from one another and work together to build a world that respects neurodiversity and values every voice.

With best wishes,

Grace Hao, PhD, CCC-SLP.

ASHA Fellow, Distinguished
Fellow of NAP SLP

Chair, Neurodiversity Committee
International Association of
Communication Sciences and Disorders
(IACP).



A SHARED GLOBAL MESSAGE OF

Neurodiversity



Communication is a basic human right.

Every person has the right to express themselves, connect with others, participate in their communities, and be heard. Communication may occur through speech, writing, sign language, augmentative and alternative communication (AAC), technology, gestures, facial expressions, or other forms of expression. Every form of communication deserves recognition, respect, and support.

Neurodiversity reminds us that neurological differences are a natural part of human diversity. Autistic individuals, people who have ADHD, developmental language disorder, intellectual and developmental disabilities, specific learning disorders (i.e. dyslexia, dysgraphia, dyscalculia), and other forms of neurodivergence contribute valuable perspectives, talents, and experiences to our communities.

As a global society, we must move beyond awareness toward meaningful inclusion. This includes creating environments that respect communication differences, reduce barriers to participation, promote self-determination, and ensure access to appropriate supports across the lifespan.

We believe that all individuals deserve opportunities to communicate, learn, work, build relationships, and participate fully in society. Respect for neurodiversity is not only about accepting differences—it is about recognizing human dignity, protecting communication rights, and valuing every person's voice.

Different Minds.

Different Ways of Communicating.

Equal Human Worth.



OUR MISSION

Promoting understanding, inclusion, communication, and participation for neurodivergent individuals across cultures, communities, and the lifespan.

OUR VISION

To advance global collaboration in research, education, clinical practice, advocacy, and policy that supports communication as a human right, well-being, and meaningful participation of neurodivergent individuals and their families.



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES!

Stay tuned to our newsletter, as we have some very interesting activities and events coming soon.

CONTACT US!

Be informed. Be involved. Be inspired!

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"DIFFERENT MINDS. SHARED HUMANITY.
STRONGER COMMUNITIES
EMPOWERING COMMUNICATION".