

Holt and Simonsmeier Present AUCD Poster

Sue Reeves

12/04/2014



This poster, presented by Judith Holt and Vicki Simonsmeier at AUCD, can be viewed in the CPD's southwest hallway.

Two staff members at Utah State University's Center for Persons with Disabilities presented a poster at the recent Association of University Centers on Disability (AUCD) conference in Washington, D.C. Judith Holt and Vicki Simonsmeier presented a poster entitled "Technology Use in the PacWest LEND Programs." Holt and Simonsmeier were joined in the research by colleagues S. Heimerl from New Mexico and K. Ward from Alaska.

The purpose of the research project featured in the poster was to explore the use of technologies within each of the PacWest Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND) programs and to assess the pros and cons of an array of technological tools and applications.

Seven different types of technology were surveyed: recorded video, ePortfolio, Web-based video such as Skype, phone conferences, social media, room-to-room video such as Polycom, and Web-based learning platform such as Blackboard. The survey found that all of the PacWest LEND programs used technology for some component of their training program, and overall, the Hawaii program used technology more than any of the other programs, followed by the Utah Regional program (housed at the CPD), Nevada and Arizona.

Consistent with the findings of other authors, half of the LEND training programs reported that trainees could more easily grasp and use a variety of technology, but faculty members were sometimes hesitant in accepting its use.