

Global Action on Assistive Technology



ARATA members David Hobbs, Rachel McDonald and Natasha Layton were among 200 invited AT leaders at the inaugural Global Research, Innovation, and Education in Assistive Technology (GREAT) Summit, on the 3rd - 4th August 2017 at WHO headquarters in Geneva.

The Summit brought together expert users, global researchers, innovators and educators to discuss service delivery, research education and training related to assistive technology policy, products, personnel, provision and use. The Summit focussed on:

- advancing the global priority research agenda
- establishing thematic research collaborations in:
 - effects, costs and economic impact of assistive technology
 - assistive technology policies, systems, service delivery models and best practices
 - high-quality and affordable assistive technology
 - human resources for the assistive technology sector
 - standards and methodologies: assessment of assistive technology needs and unmet needs
- identifying new research funding opportunities
- accelerating innovative education and certification
- working towards a common impact assessment tool and
- showcasing ground-breaking research and education.

ARATA members will find the proceedings including the Program, 92 accessible ePosters showcasing global innovation, and speaker slides now available

at http://www.who.int/phi/implementation/assistive_technology/great_summit/en/. The GREAT Summit Report and position papers on AT Provision, Policy, Personnel, People and Products, are coming soon.

- The Summit was an action of the Global Access to Assistive Technology or GATE community. GATE is open to anyone to join, and connects us into the global community (<https://mednet-communities.net/gate/>).