

The Universal Design/Disability Access Program (UD/DA) for Advanced Computational Infrastructure project contributes to PACI progress by assisting the PACI partners in applying Universal Design practices by facilitating the inclusion of people with disabilities in all aspects of the PACI program.

The program advances these two goals by five kinds of activities: Education and Awareness, Resources, Tools, Assistance and New Techniques through Synergy. This five-fold strategy persists over the five year life of the program and is developed in more detail in the project home page at <<http://trace.wisc.edu/world/paci/>>.

All five of these strategies have produced results in GFY '99:

Education and Awareness: UD/DA also conducted research demonstrations in the EOT-PACI Booth at SC'98. The Trace center also presented PACI and other NSF-funded accessible educational technology to the assistive technology and disability access community in it CurbCuts Room at the CSUN Conference. Additional educational opportunities were found through participation in a conference on reacing senior citizens with health information via the WWW and a workshop on future Home Care Technologies sponsored by the NIDRR RERC on TeleRehabilitation, among others. Collaboration with the TeleRehabilitation researchers promises to be a productive strategy for the achievement of robust and educational Interaction Environments.

Resources: The UD/DA team contributed to the development by the EOT-PACI Team of the "Touch the Future" outreach volume for the SC'98 Conference and an overhaul of the team website at that time. The [Web Content Accessibility Guidelines](#) (from the W3C have gained a great deal in both comprehensibility and authority during this period. As of April 30, 1999 they have achieved the status of a Proposed Recommendation and are under review by the W3C member companies.

Tools: A module that prompts accessible practices for inclusion in Web editors, and a tool to speed the creation of captions and related access aids for multimedia are under development and have demonstrable prototype versions.

Assistance: The UD/DA team has helped NPACI articulate "common application needs for Interaction Environments" and approaches to the use of XML in client/server communication. This is just begun and is to be continued. Contact has been made with the Instructional Management System project of EDUCAUSE and accessibility approaches for that Learning Technologies standards project are under discussion. It was helpful to the Home Care Technologies workshop that we were able to inform them of the developments underway in Immersive Environments and Interaction Environments in PACI.

