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## Strategies for engaging with users

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# What next...

**Novilunio** is a no profit organization and a community of professionals that operates in the medical, technological, educational and assistive fields.

Its members work in the 'aid assistive technology' and promote a specific line of thought and design procedure in the field of computer aids.

Novilunio's object is to formulate protocols to define guidelines that may make effective the use of computer aids by disabled and elderly people.

Novilunio does not sell products





# NoviLunio

**SEE THE PERSON**

**NOT THE DEMENTIA**



# Marie Skłodowska- Curie Actions Work Programme

“.. Ensure excellent and innovative research training as well as attractive career and knowledge-exchange opportunities through cross-border and cross-sector mobility of researchers to best prepare them to face current and future societal challenges.”



REMIND



# Novilunio & Remind

- **Community-based enablement programmes**
- For individuals with dementia and their families, we provide **skill development settings** that promote their personal resources and nurture **opportunities for enablement, growth, learning, and mutual support.**
- For communities at large, our educational programs focus on **prevention, early diagnosis and intervention, as well as the development of communities** that respect the fundamental human rights of people with dementia and the principles and articles of the UN Convention on the rights of people with disabilities

# Novilunio and WPs

## Objectives:

- Use of everyday technology and motivation (WP1)
- Investigate what motivates people living with dementia to found and join online communities
- End user involvement (WP1)
- User engagement strategies (WP2)

## Methodology:

- Ethnographic methods, anthropological approach, participation-observation
- Online Focus groups



Int Psychogeriatr. 2016 May;28(5):787-800.

## A pilot randomized controlled trial of a self-management group intervention for people with early-stage dementia.

Quinn C<sup>1</sup>, Toms G<sup>2</sup>, Jones C<sup>3</sup>, Brand A<sup>4</sup>, Edwards RT<sup>3</sup>, Sanders F<sup>5</sup>, Clare L<sup>1</sup>.

### RESULTS:

Thirteen people with dementia were randomized to the intervention and 11 to TAU. Two groups were run, the first consisting of six people with dementia and the second of seven people with dementia. There was a small positive effect on self-efficacy with the intervention group showing gains in self-efficacy compared to the TAU group at three months ( $d = 0.35$ ), and this was maintained at six months ( $d = 0.23$ ). **In terms of intervention acceptability, attrition was minimal, adherence was good, and satisfaction ratings were high. Feedback from participants was analyzed with content analysis. The findings suggest the positive aspects of the intervention were that it fostered independence and reciprocity, promoted social support, offered information, and provided clinician support.**



# Social support group interventions in people with dementia and mild cognitive impairment: a systematic review of the literature

Leung P, Orrell M, Orgeta V.

## Results

A total of 546 studies were identified of which two met the inclusion criteria. We were not able to pool data for further analyses, as the interventions tested in the studies meeting the inclusion criteria were too dissimilar in content.

The first trial (n = 136) **showed a benefit of early-stage memory loss social support groups for depression and quality of life in people with dementia**. The second trial (n = 33) showed that post-treatment self-reported self-esteem was higher in the group receiving a multicomponent intervention of social support compared with that in the no intervention control group.



Res Gerontol Nurs. 2017; 10(1):35–51.]

# Effects of Support Groups for Individuals with Early-Stage Dementia and Mild Cognitive Impairment: An Integrative Review

Ying-Ling Jao, Fayron Epps, Caroline McDermott

18 eligible research articles were retrieved.

**Support groups showed positive impacts on:**

- participant acceptance of cognitive impairment;
- performance and satisfaction of meaningful activity;
- Resilience and self-help;
- care partner coping self-efficacy, perceived support, and preparation and task effectiveness.

Findings also revealed that support groups were well accepted by participants and care partners. Few studies included ethnic diversity, limiting the generalizability of findings.



## «The value of peer support on cognitive improvement amongst older people living with dementia»

*«It highlights the groups as a promising approach for:*

- *maintaining cognitive faculties,*
- *reducing social isolation,*
- *increasing social networks and improving overall wellbeing....*

*Participants also reported positive benefits of the groups on communication abilities, managing memory and managing their lives”*

# Evaluation report

Peer support groups to facilitate self-help coping strategies for people with dementia in extra care housing

Prepared by Lauren Chakkalackal from the Mental Health Foundation, and Dr Jayasree Kalathil from Survivor Research



# Objectives & Methodology

Self-funded by Novilunio

## Objectives:

- Investigate what motivates people living with dementia to found and join online communities
- Develop new support services in Italy based on these findings

## Methodology:

- Ethnographic methods, anthropological approach, participation-observation
- Data collected from June 2014 to October 2016



## About

- 2,500 members with dementia in 38 countries
- Founded in 2014
- Mission: “... seek to represent, support, and educate others living with the disease, and the wider dementia community.”

## Online activities for their members

- **Communication:** web site, social media, booklets, newsletters, blog, media releases, video chats, emails...
- **Support:** support groups, Café Le Brain, webinars, videos, special social gatherings

[www.dementiaallianceinternational.org](http://www.dementiaallianceinternational.org)







## About

- Private facebook groups collecting in total about **3,000 members** from across the world
- Founder: **Harry Urban** in 2013
- Managed by people with dementia
- Members are PLWD and those caring for them
- 4 groups to **different types of dementia**
- **Spanish + informational + Social** groups

*Look for «Harry Urban» or «Forget me not» groups on facebook*

# Commonalities & Peculiarities

## Commonalities

- Post-diagnostic support: positive, safe & empowering
- Social inclusion, friendship, intimacy
- Finding new role and purpose
- Agency & contested expertise: “Expert by experience”



## Peculiarities

- Global activism
- Mentorship
- Info exchange between PLWD and carers



**SEE THE PERSON  
NOT THE DEMENTIA**



# Added value!

- **Peer-to-peer support:**  
beyond stereotypes, stigma & **prejudice**
- **Self-organized** of PLWD
- **Usability** and accessibility:  
everyday technology
- **Identities**, roles, purposes:  
quality of life, **empowerment**
- **Activists** in the making that fight  
stigma and discrimination

*Come In!* WE'RE  
**NEVER CLOSED**







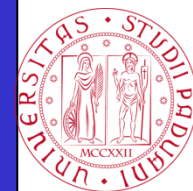
## Philosophy

perception – emotion – experience – movement –  
communication – autonomy

Novilunio community has closely observed reality  
and the disability phenomenon, and has tried to  
single out the fundamental moments in one's life.

This has shown that phenomena such as  
perception, emotion, experience, movement,  
communication and autonomy are fundamental to  
the human life.

Accordingly, we have outlined a “natural” path to  
develop our professional activities.



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# PERCEPTION

In order that a human being can perceive the reality surrounding him/her, he/she must be necessarily provided with perceptive organs.

Our senses – smell, hearing, sight, taste and touch – are human's instruments of sensorial perception.

Human can have other kinds of perception ....

perception  
emotion  
experience  
movement  
communication  
autonomy



# EMOTION

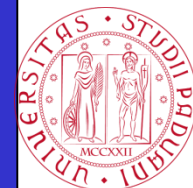
What we perceive is codified and transferred to our nervous system.

Each kind of perception makes us generate some affective answer.

We all generate emotional reactions which at times are even imperceptible.



perception  
emotion  
experience  
movement  
communication  
autonomy



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# EXPERIENCE

Having generated some kind of feeling, we live through an emotional experience that enables us to establish a connection between what we perceive and every other thing.

Indeed, this emotional reaction enables us to remember things better and build stable relational processes.



perception  
emotion  
**experience**  
movement  
communication  
autonomy



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# HOME

Honor Our Memories Everyday

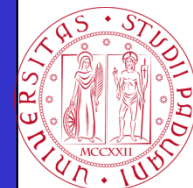


# MOVEMENT

Each kind of function effects a change from one state to another. The human locomotor system has underwent a long evolutionary process which has culminated in the present human motorial functions. Man is a bipedal being, has upper limbs free to move even during his walking, possesses an extraordinary forefinger-thumb pinch and an articulatory system for phonation...



perception  
emotion  
experience  
**movement**  
communication  
autonomy



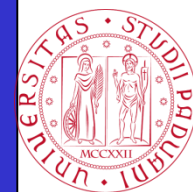
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# COMMUNICATION

Communication enables man to perceive reality, interact with it and establish relationships with his fellow creatures and the environment surrounding him. Man is a social being, thus communication is the founding element in any society. Through his intellect, man can conceive and effect several forms of communication, from mime expressions to words, from writing to several forms of art.



perception  
emotion  
experience  
movement  
**communication**  
autonomy



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# AUTONOMY

The capability to move and communicate enable man to maintain his own identity.

Man wants to be autonomous and, as a general rule, find his own place in society.

It may seem a paradox, but the fact is that man needs to feel he is totally independent from his fellow creatures and, at the same time, perfectly integrated to society.

It is necessary that everything that may define a single person as unique and special may come out.

At the same time, man needs to experience the awareness that he is interdependent not only with his fellow creatures but also with the other beings.

perception  
emotion  
experience  
movement  
communication  
autonomy

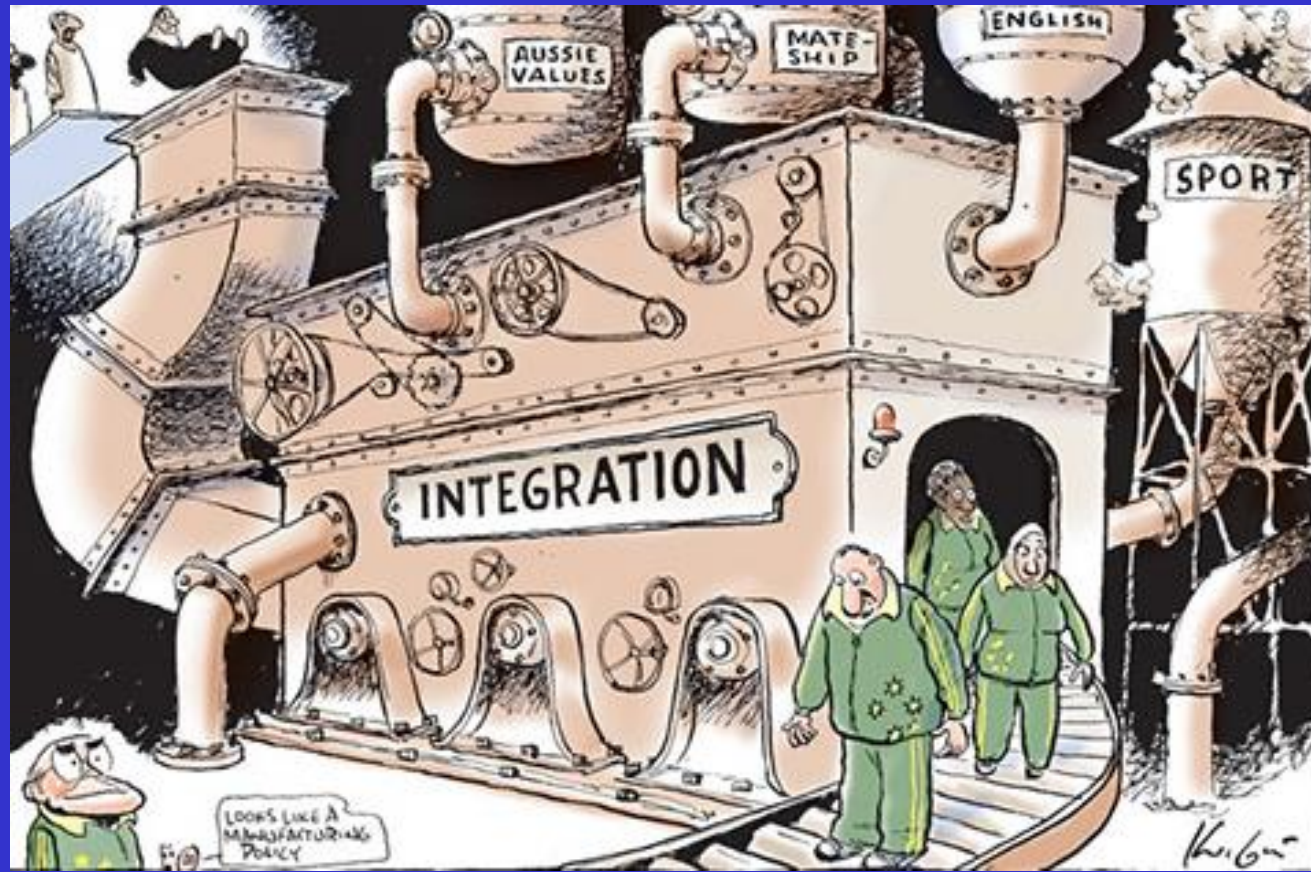




# INTEGRATION

Our path leads us to a final result.

Man can produce civilization on condition that he is enabled to perceive, elaborate and live through experiences, and move, communicate and be autonomous.



perception  
emotion  
experience  
movement  
communication  
autonomy

integration

movement



emotion



perception



communication



autonomy



experience



Novilunio

network  
community



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# Definition of AT device

Any item, piece of equipment,  
or product system  
whether acquired commercially off the shelf,  
modified or customized,  
that is used to increase, maintain, or improve  
functional capabilities of individuals with  
disabilities

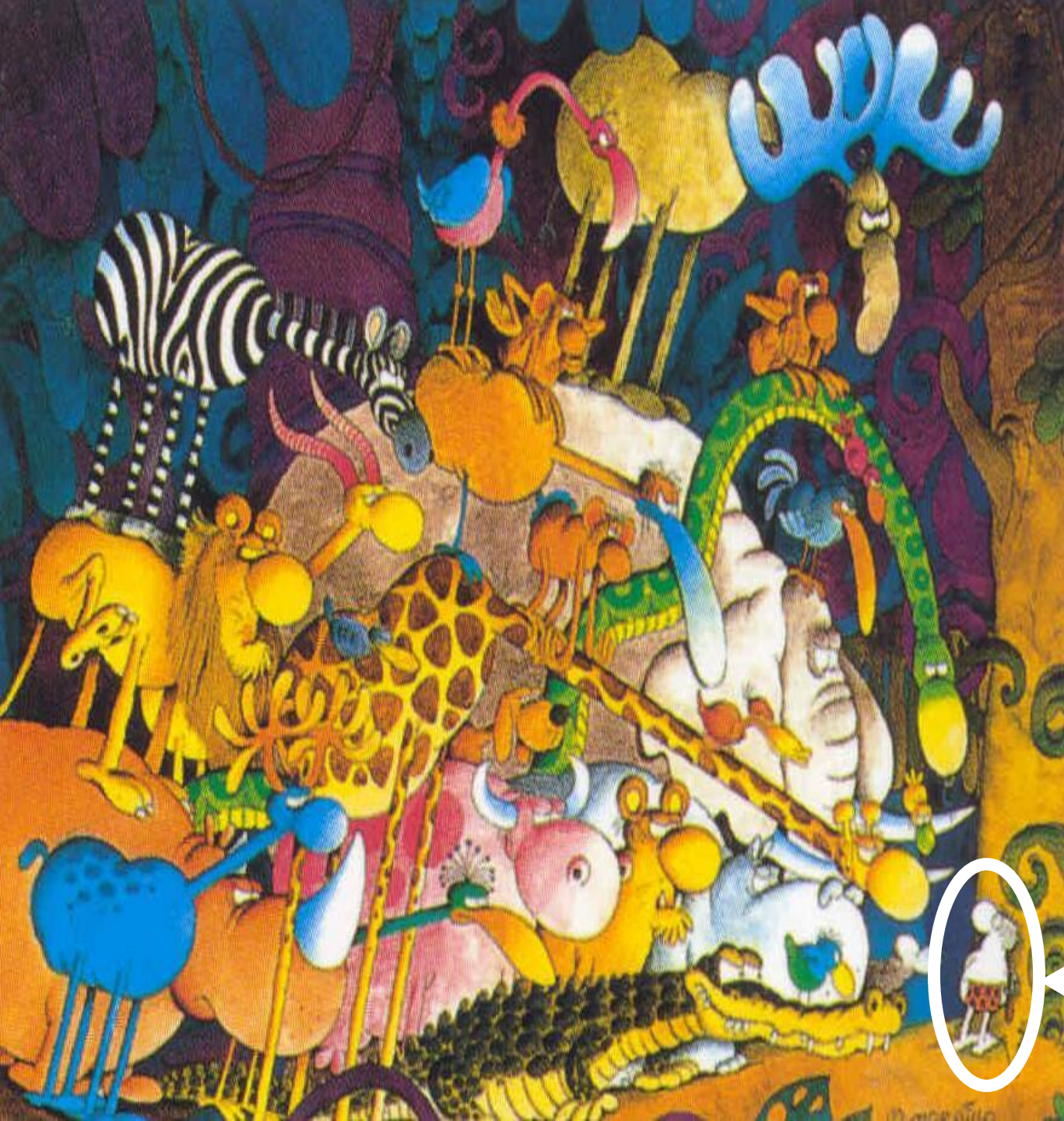




# ASSESSMENT

A review of the patient's history as provided by parents, teachers, therapists and care givers

An individualized evaluation by a multidisciplinary team. This most often occurs at A.T. Labs.



← **USER**

# Matching person and technology

## Matching Person and Technology ASSESSMENT PROCESS

[HOME](#) :: March 9, 2016

### Matching Person and Technology (MPT) Assessment Process

Continued advances in technologies have created a wide range of options in technology functions and features. As a result, consumers and providers often report feeling overwhelmed and confused when faced with decisions regarding device selection and use. In response to this, and in hopes of providing a more personal approach to matching individuals with the most appropriate technologies for their use, the Matching Person and Technology (MPT) assessment process was developed.

The MPT process contains a series of instruments (self-report checklists about consumer predispositions to and outcomes of technology use) which take into account

- the environments in which the person uses the technology,
- the individual's characteristics and preferences, and
- the technology's functions and features.

Characteristics within these three components can each contribute either a positive or a negative influence on technology use. If there are too many negative influences, the chance of the technology being successfully used is greatly reduced. In fact, the technology itself can appear perfect for a given need, but if the user does not possess the appropriate personal characteristics or does not receive needed support, that perfect technology may go unused or be used inappropriately.

The MPT process contains a series of instruments:

- For persons considering any kind of technology, but believe there may be a general reluctance to use technology, the *Survey of Technology Use (SOTU)* helps identify technologies an individual feels comfortable or successful in using so that a new technology can be built around existing comfort or success.
- Technology-specific forms are:

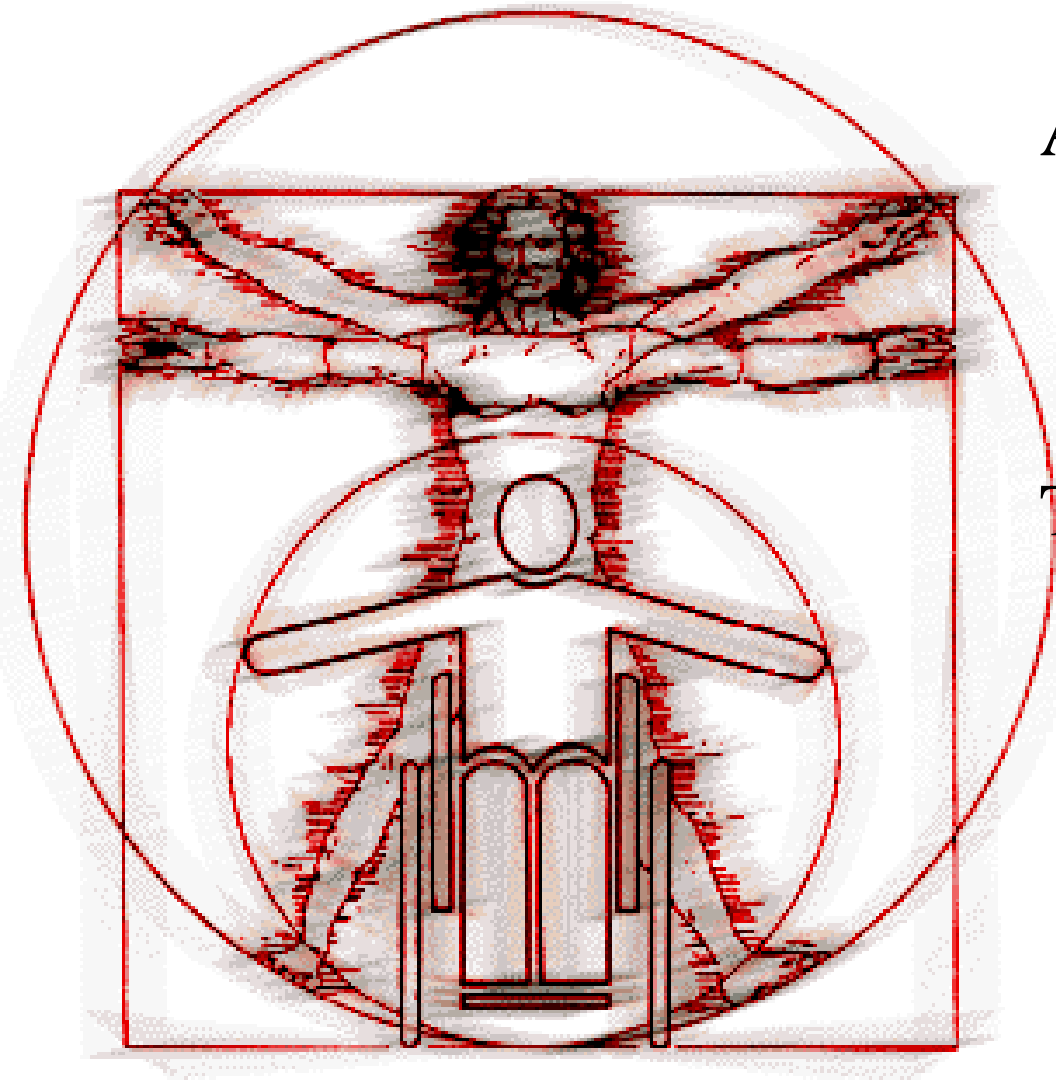
<http://www.matchingpersonandtechnology.com/>



# PLANNING

A written report with recommendations for assistive technology implementation.

The report provides specific product information in order to assist the school district, community center, agency or parent in implementing recommendations expeditiously.





Combine the Grace of  
Macintosh with  
the Power of UNIX



# DEVELOPMENT

The Computer Aid  
Lab supervises the  
development of  
the Life and  
Technology  
Project and  
training



# FOLLOW-UP

Keep in touch with  
the patient!

How the A.T. aid is  
going?

Update...

# Thank you!

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