TITLE: MOBILE TECHNOLOGY TO SUPPORT COMMUNICATION IN AUTISM.

Speaker: Ravi Nigam, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

Date: September 20, 2014

Location: 501 N Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Il 60601

**Instructor:**

Ravi Nigam is an Associate Professor of Communication Disorders at Governors State University. He earned his doctorate from Purdue University. He has working experience in diverse settings including private practice, hospitals, long-term residential settings and integrated school-settings. His areas of research interest are: assistive technology, early language intervention, and reading disabilities. He has over 30 publications and over 100 presentations at national and international scientific meetings. He is a consulting editor for *Augmentative and Alternative Communication*.

**Course Description:**

With the current availability of mobile technology (e.g., Apple *iPad*, Google *Android*) individuals with autism have many options available for communication. This course focused on visual support, accessibility, and language learning through mobile technology. Compared specialized AAC “apps” and assessed contemporary evidence for effective use of mobile technology by children with autism to enhance their communication skills.

**Learner’s Outcomes:**

As a result of this seminar, the participant will be able to:

1. summarize issues related to information processing, visual attention, and visual support in children with autism.
2. decide about accessibility of mobile technology by children with autism.
3. integrate language learning strategies using mobile technology for children with autism.
4. compare contemporary specialized AAC “apps” for children with autism.
5. assess contemporary evidence for effectiveness of mobile technology by children with autism.

**Time-Ordered Agenda:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Time** | **Topic** |
| 8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. | Registration and Coffee |
| 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. | Information Processing, visual attention, and visual support in children with autism |
| 10:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. | Accessibility issues related to use of mobile technology |
| 10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. | Break |
| 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon | Language learning strategies using mobile technology |
| 12:00 noon – 12:30 p.m. | Lunch |
| 12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. | Video presentations |
| 1:00 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. | Contemporary specialized AAC apps for children with autism |
| 1:45 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. | Break |
| 2:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. | Assessment of contemporary evidence for effectiveness of mobile technology |
| 2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. | Wrap up discussion, questions, and comments |