

Mainstream Tech News September 2023

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Wireless RERC Updates

Newly Accepted Poster Presentations

We are excited to share that the Wireless RERC team had three poster presentations accepted!

Assistive Technology Industry Association (ATIA) 2024 conference accepted posters:

- Knight T., Esquivel P., Morris L., Ding D., and Isenberg A. Development of an Interdisciplinary Mainstream Smart Technology Training Course. **Learn more about this presentation.**
- Faieta J., Esquivel P., Ding D., Cheng-Shiu C., and Gill K. Smart Speaker and Skill Use: What do We Know? **Learn more about this presentation.**

American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) 2024 conference accepted poster:

- Morris L., Knight T., Fairman-Lafferrier A., Ding D., Monterio N., and Foschi Walko P. Tech-Ready Therapists: Embracing Mainstream Technology for Enhanced Occupational Engagement. **Learn more about this conference.**



Wireless RERC Updates (continued)

Massachusetts Occupational Therapy Association (MAOT) Annual Conference

Nia Monteiro, OT/S and Andrea D. Fairman-Lafferier, PhD, OTR/L, CPRP, ATP from the **Wireless RERC's MoDAT** team will present a scoping review poster titled "Barriers Individuals with Disabilities Encounter When Using Their Smartphone" at the MAOT annual conference in Norwood, MA, on November 3. [Learn more about the MAOT 2023 Conference.](#)

FCC's Disability Advisory Committee (DAC) In-Person Meeting

Lindsey Morris, OTD, OTR/L, representing the Wireless RERC, attended the annual in-person DAC meeting in September at the FCC's headquarters in Washington, DC. The Wireless RERC is honored to play a role in supporting the FCC's efforts to enhance accessibility in modern communications, video programming, and emergency communications for people with disabilities across the nation. [Learn more about the DAC.](#)



M-Enabling Summit

The Wireless RERC team will be attending the **M-Enabling Summit** this October 10-12 in Washington, DC. Our team is excited to join disability advocates, corporations, government agencies, and accessibility executives at this conference dedicated to fostering innovations, solutions, and strategies for digital inclusion.

Teaming Up with the University's Center for Teaching and Learning on Digital Accessibility

The Wireless RERC is excited to collaborate with the University's Center for Teaching and Learning to promote digital accessibility efforts. Ali Kemmerer, the Wireless RERC Communication Specialist, co-presented "Introduction to Using Digital Accessibility Tools" alongside Instructional Technology Support Specialist Laura Staniland Trybus in September.

Tech News

Amazon's 2023 Product Launch Event

Amazon's fall product announcement event was packed with several new devices and ways they are making smart homes even smarter! [Read the full recap](#), or check out specific announcements below:

[Echo Show 8: smarter, speedier, and is now an Alexa smart home hub](#)

[Echo Hub: Amazon's new smart home controller](#)

[A Smarter Smart Home: Alexa with Generative AI](#)

[Echo Frames: Alexa-equipped audio glasses](#)

[Amazon Echo smart speakers soon to feature automatic lighting](#)

24 New Accessibility Features on Apple's iOS 17

iOS 17 includes 24 new accessibility features, including a new cognitive accessibility feature called Assistive Access, Point and Speak which makes it easier for people with low vision and blindness to interact with physical objects that have text labels, and more.



Apple Integrating Thread Radio into iPhone 15

Thread, the main protocol for Matter, is now in the [iPhone 15 Pro and Pro Max](#). Thread integration may help you control smart home devices faster with less power use, and may be Apple's first step in relying less on Bluetooth for connecting to devices like the Apple Watch.

Matter Support for Philips Hue

Matter support for Philips Hue can now be activated in the settings of the Hue app. The Matter integration of Philips Hue is done via the [Hue Bridge](#), making lamps, switches and sensors compatible with Matter.

Want even more Matter? [Review past editions of Tech Topics in the News](#).

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