

Contact Information:

Tools for Life – Georgia’s Assistive Technology Act Program

Georgia Institute of Technology | AMAC Accessibility Solutions

Carolyn P. Phillips, Director: Carolyn.Phillips@gatfl.gatech.edu

Liz Persaud, Training and Outreach Coordinator: Liz.Persaud@gatfl.gatech.edu

Georgia Project for Assistive Technology’s (GPAT) Team Wins the 2016 Tools for Life Excellence in Assistive Technology Team Award at the Institute Designed for Educating All Students (IDEAS) Conference

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

St. Simon’s, Georgia | June 2016 - Georgia Project for Assistive Technology’s (GPAT) Team was presented with the prestigious **2016 Tools for Life Excellence in Assistive Technology Team Award** on **June 7, 2016** for outstanding **Assistive Technology (AT) Services**. **The GPAT Team** won the hotly contested prize over other nominees throughout Georgia.

The **Tools for Life Assistive Technology Awards Ceremony** has been a tradition within Georgia for the last **20** years. The **Excellence in AT Team Award** recognizes an Assistive Technology Team, at the local or statewide level, that involves two or more professionals or entities that promote or facilitate the development of effective AT integration in a classroom, school, school system, workplace and/or community. Factors considered include coordination of services, networking and collaboration, innovation in development and implementation, and lasting impact of the service provided on person(s) served. This award honors excellence in the provision of effective AT services to Georgians.

The Tools for Life Excellence in AT Team Award was given to the Georgia Project for Assistive Technology’s Team. Gina Gelinas, Program Manager, DeeDee Bunn, Program Specialist, and Paula Gumpman, Program Specialist who **accepted the Excellence in Assistive Technology Team Award at IDEAS in front of 800 participants**.

The GPAT Team rose above the other nominees for a variety of reasons including their **implementation of effective AT services to overcome obstacles and promote student educational progress**.

The GPAT Team all received a unique hand-crafted bowl created exclusively for the Tools for Life AT Award Winners by Georgia artisans, In the Woods Studio, LLC. These beautiful pieces serve as a reminder of the knowledge, skills and abilities that overflow from their “bowl” as they assist students with disabilities in achieving their educational goals.

Tools for Life, Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program, is dedicated to increasing access to and acquisition of assistive technology (AT) devices and services for Georgians of all ages and disabilities so they can live, learn, work and play independently and with greater freedom in communities of their choice. Find out more at www.gatfl.gatech.edu.

###