Towards Access for All – Inclusion through Multisensory Interactions

17 OCTOBER 2022

UNIVERSITY OF BORÅS

ALLÉGATAN 1, BORÅS, SWEDEN

ROOM VESTINDIEN B

ZOOM LINK: HTTPS://HB-SE.ZOOM.US/J/66391943194

SYMPOSIUM PROGRAMME

Workshop

09:00-09:15 Registration
09:15-09:30 Introduction to the workshop and round the table quick intros.
09:30-10:20 Idea presentations (Albert Merono Penuela, Sándor Darányi & Andy Augousti, Anna Lundh, Myrthe Plaisier, Astrid Kappers)
10:20-10:35 Break
10:35-11:20 Idea presentations (Femke Krijger, Raymond Holt, Maria Guadalupe Alvarez, Damien Faux)
11:20-11:40 Open discussions, exploring potential collaborations, formulating action plans and workshop conclusion

12:00-13:00 Lunch

Afternoon session

13:00-13:10 **Welcome and Symposium opening**
Professor Kim Bolton (Pro-Vice-Chancellor at the University of Borås)

13:10-13:45 **Introduction to INCLUDE – Centre for Inclusive Studies and the MuseIT project**
Dr. Nasrine Olson is the Director of the research centre INCLUDE, and the Coordinator of the MuseIT project.
Dr. Krishna Chandramouli holds a doctorate degree from University of London in machine learning and computer vision. His research interests include neural network design, content augmentation and style transfer. He is also an advisor to the MuseIT project.

13:45- 14:05 **June Lowery-Kingston** – **United in Inclusion**
June Lowery is Head of Unit Accessibility, Multilingualism & Safer Internet, and Deputy to the Director for Data at the European Commission's Directorate General for Communications Networks, Content & Technology (DG CNECT). She has worked for the EU institutions in Luxembourg for over 25 years in a wide variety of fields including publications, finance, logistics, and digital inclusion. Her current responsibilities include web accessibility, language technology and online safety for children. Her work aims to promote a better internet for children by protecting and empowering children online, under the new BIK+ Strategy. As Equality Coordinator in DG CNECT, she also maintains an overview of the implementation of the Union of Equality within the DG. She is passionate about her job, and about making the digital world safer for children, and more accessible, inclusive and multilingual for all.

14:05-14:20 **Malin Ekman Alden** – **A matter of course for equality**
Malin Ekman Alden is Director General of the Swedish agency for participation, MFD. Based on the national disability policy the agency has the governments mandate to promote the development towards equality in living conditions for persons with disabilities in Sweden. For a long time, the challenges persons with disabilities face have been referred to their varying functionality. However, a sustainable solution must

balance a society starting from the diversity of its members, a systematic work to identify and remove existing barriers and an innovative and individualised support to the individual. The right to communication is a fundamental right as well as prerequisite for human life. Still there is a fundamental lack of knowledge and understanding as well preparedness to meet the needs of sign language users or persons using alternative communication.

14:20-14:40 **Professor John Clarkson** – **Improving Improvement: inclusive design as a foundation of systems practice**

John Clarkson is a professor of Engineering Design at the University of Cambridge and of Healthcare Systems at Technische Universiteit Delft. John's team at Cambridge have a track record of developing toolkits to address specific design issues. The first of these was the Inclusive Design Toolkit, launched over a decade ago following an extensive period of research with the Royal College of Art in London. More recently, they have launched Improving Improvement, a toolkit for health and care design and continuous improvement.

This talk will briefly present the Inclusive Design Toolkit and then describe how this has directly influenced the narrative of Improving Improvement. John will then reflect on the lessons learned in trying to influence design education and practice, and the delivery of approaches to design that encourage both inclusivity and sustainability.

14:40-15:00 Break

15:00-15:20 **Femke Krijger** – **Sensory awareness: balancing loss and potential**

Femke Krijger is a holistic shiatsu therapist and (international) researcher on sensory (tactile) processing within acquired deafblind people, with a special interest in the supportive potential of newest technological knowledge and applications.

She explores new ground by challenging and connecting different perspectives and expertise and create something truly innovative that can help many in daily life.

15:20-15:40 **Andrea Lipps** – **Displaying sensory design: Multisensory exhibitions as inherently inclusive**

Andrea Lipps is a writer, editor, and Associate Curator of Contemporary Design at Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum, New York, where she conceives, develops, and organizes major award-winning exhibitions and books including Nature—Cooper Hewitt Design Triennial (2019), The Senses: Design Beyond Vision (2018), Joris Laarman Lab: Design in the Digital Age (2017), and Beauty—Cooper Hewitt Design Triennial (2016). Her work has appeared in The New York Times, Wall Street Journal, NPR: All Things Considered, The New Yorker, Vogue, WWD, Architectural Digest, W, Financial Times, and much more. Lipps also heads the museum's young Digital Design collection, overseeing the collection and care of new media types and innovating scholarship in the field. She is a regular visiting critic, lecturer, and thesis advisor, and a frequent public speaker on contemporary design and curatorial practice.

Exhibitions of design are largely about looking, privileging the visual over multisensory experiences of an object. Yet design, like the world around us, is activated by all our senses. The more modes of access provided to a user—not just visual, but auditory, tactile, haptic, olfactory—the more opportunity there is to receive information. How do we curate exhibitions that extend beyond the visual? What are tactics of display in museums that can bridge multisensory experiences?

This talk will discuss new curatorial approaches implemented during *The Senses: Design Beyond Vision* at Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum, which recast objects and exhibition as inclusive, multisensory experiences.

15:40-16:00 **Professor Astrid Kappers** – **Haptic perception and haptic devices for communication**

Astrid M.L. Kappers is a full professor at Eindhoven University of Technology (TU/e). Her research interests include haptic and visual perception. Since her move to TU/e in 2018, her research focus changed somewhat from more fundamental to more applied

research. As a partner in the European SUITCEYES project, she worked on haptic devices for communication and navigation.
In this presentation, she will focus on the haptic perception research that is needed for haptic communication via devices. One important message will be that haptic stimuli will not always be perceived correctly. Thus when designing a haptic device, one should carefully consider how to present the haptic stimuli so that they will be perceived as intended.

16:00-16:20 **Dr. Raymond Holt** – **Multidisciplinary Collaboration for Designing Inclusive Technologies**
Raymond Holt is a lecturer in the School of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Leeds.
In this talk he reflects on his experiences of working in multidisciplinary teams on assistive and rehabilitative technology projects: the benefits, then challenges and why multidisciplinary centres such as INCLUDE are so important for the engineers developing these technologies.

16:20-16:35 Break

16:35-17:40 **Prof. Nigel Osborne**, **Peter Larsson**, **Tomas Hulenvik Klingberg**, **Sophia Alexandersson**, **Patricia Alessandrini and Clarence Adoo** – **Into the Future – Musictech in Practice**

Prof. Nigel Osborne is a composer and Professor Emeritus at Edinburgh University; **Peter Larsson** is a musician and actor; **Tomas Hulenvik Klingberg** is a musician and composer; **Sophia Alexandersson** is the chief executive and artistic director at ShareMusic & Performing Arts; **Patricia Alessandrini** is an Assistant Professor at Stanford University, Center for Computer Research in Music and Acoustics (CCRMA); **Clarence Adoo** is a musician performing internationally across classical, popular and jazz styles. As a founding member of the British Paraorchestra, he has been at the forefront of the development of new interfaces for inclusive performance. The talk presents a practical example of what an inclusive, participatory session with music technology can look like as of today. The group will then give an insight of what the future, and the MuseIT project, can bring regarding further development of remote performance platforms.

17:40-17:45 Closing comments

17:45-18:30 Cultural performance followed by the reception hosted by the University of Borås

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