



Call for papers

« Handicap et Communication » MEI 36 “ *Disability and Communication* ” MEI 36

Issue edited by Bernard Darras and Dannyelle Valente
www.mei-info.com

In 2011, the WHO (World Health Organisation) and the World Bank published the first ever World Report on Disability. It placed emphasis on the fact that limited access to information and communication is one of the main obstacles facing disabled persons today.

This obstacle is the result of inadequate information (in public transportation, built environments, etc.), combined with a lack of access to information, education and culture.

Therefore, disability situations are built upon an environment lacking in appropriate services compounded with inadequate information and communication media. Additionally, disabled persons are faced with a negative image, prejudices and beliefs based upon preconceived notions of deficiency and disease.

MEI (Médiation Et Information) volume 36 sets out to explore the interaction between disability, communication, mediation, cognition and culture.

Proposals may be submitted in either French or English and must fall into the following themes:

Disability, interpersonal communication and learning:

- Studies related to communication, cognition and learning methods adapted to the needs of the disabled individual.
- Research programs and development of innovative teaching methods as part of inclusive education.
- Research into mediation devices/schemes that promote access to knowledge and the development of cognitive skills linked to communication (language, hand signals, verbal, graphic, haptic, etc.)

Disability and media communication:

- Studies related to the challenges facing disabled persons in their access to various communication, cultural and art media.
- Action research and studies applied to the development of new forms of mediation and communication, as well as inclusivity programs in museums, movie and stage theatres, multimedia, schools, etc.
- Studies related to media devices dedicated to affirming differences and promoting an exchange between disabled and non-disabled persons.

Disability, communication, standards and conflicting beliefs

- Research belonging to the field of *Disability Studies*, based upon the beliefs, standards, laws, practices and conflicts related to situations in communication, mediation et remediation, etc.
- Debates surrounding the role of media and other institutions in the construction of social and cultural identity and legitimacy.
- Studies aiming to transform negative beliefs, standards and images tied to preconceived notions of impairment and deficiency.

Disability, communication, technology and innovation

- Studies based upon new technologies and innovative practices in the field of communication, disability and accessibility.
- Research related to the fields of User-Centred Design, Participative Design and Design for all – dedicated to the design of a communication environment available to disabled persons (signage, public transportation, built environment, tourism, museums, libraries, digital environment)

Scientific organization:

- **July 10 2012:** deadline 200-300 word abstract proposal (in French or English) to the following email address: mei.handicapcommunication@gmail.com
Each abstract proposal should be clearly titled.
- **Early August 2012:** double-blind peer review panel results.
- **September 15 2012:** deadline for full paper (in French or English)
- **December 1er 2012:** papers accepted/revised.
- **February/March 2013:** MEI *Handicap et Communication* to be released.

First created in 1993 by Bernard Darras (Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne) and Marie Thonon (Université Paris 8), MEI “*Médiation Et Information*” is a double-blind peer reviewed thematic journal published twice a year in the form of a reference work.