

# SACHIN DEV PAVITHRAN

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## **PROFESSIONAL PROFILE**

Over ten years experience working with individuals with disabilities. Experience includes budget management, research and training of assistive technology, design and development of accessible websites, consulting for organizations on disability policy both nationally and internationally, in-depth understanding and knowledge of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and involvement in policy development for getting legislation passed in Congress in order to improve quality of life for people with disabilities.

## **EDUCATION**

M.S., Rehabilitation Counseling, Utah State University, Logan, Utah, May 2008

B.S., Marketing, Utah State University, Logan, Utah, December 2000

B.A., Business Information Systems, Utah State University, Logan, Utah, May 1999

## **EMPLOYMENT SUMMARY**

*Program Coordinator, Utah Assistive Technology Program (UATP), Center for Persons with Disabilities, Utah State University, Logan, Utah, May 2001 – Present*

- Coordinate and monitor staff efforts regarding implementation of Utah State Plan for AT, as described in the AT Act of 1998, as amended.
  - Activities Include:
  - Equipment Reutilization
  - Equipment Loan/Lending
  - State Financing Program
  - Equipment Demonstration (including AT Lab)
  - Training (including AT Lab)
- Oversee the collection and management program data; including the submission of the annual report to funding agency (including NIRS data reporting)
- Ensure consumer responsive policies and procedures in UATP activities (e.g., AT Council)
- Collaborate with AT- and disability-related state agencies to conduct outreach and public awareness activities on a regular basis.
- Participate on community-based organization boards and committees at the local, state, and national levels.
- Participate in disability advocacy activities.
- Get involved with disability related legislative issues and policy development.

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- Design and maintenance of UATP and UATF websites for appropriate AT access and acquisition.

*ADA Coordinator, Utah ADA Project, Center for Persons with Disabilities, Utah State University, Logan, UT, July 2005 – Present.*

- Coordinate ADA training and technical assistance to employers and community organizations.
- Analyze disability-related policies and other related state and federal legislative initiatives.

*Intern, LDS Employment Resource Center (ERC), Logan, UT, September 2007-January 2008.*

- Worked with clients to identify employment possibilities
- Training in résumé drafting
- Assisted in the training at the Career Workshop held at the ERC

*Intern, State of Utah Vocational Rehabilitation Center, Logan, UT, April – August 2007.*

- Worked with clients on their employment goals
- Made assessments to identify the appropriate assistive technology for client needs

*Training and Development Specialist, Web Accessibility in Mind (WebAIM) Project, Center for Persons with Disabilities, Utah State University, Logan, Utah, October 2000 – June 2005.*

- Development and implementation of training in the design of websites as per guidelines published under Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act and WAI Guidelines.
- Evaluation of products related to web accessibility and design.

*Database and Network Administrator, UNITOR, Dubai, United Arab Emirates, Summer 1998.*

- Provided training to the employees within the company, for a system which was just installed
- Configured the networks between Windows 95 work stations to Windows NT file server
- Installed Windows 95 and other software packages
- Configured terminals to meet employee needs

*System Analyst, Microlink Computers [IBM], Dubai, United Arab Emirates, Summer 1997*

- Designed a system that suited job requirements
- System configuration
- Identification of major projects, potential customers, and new products
- Negotiations with clients; liaison with consultants and other programmers
- Worked closely with other programmers and clients, developed excellent communication and interpersonal skills, and enhanced problem solving skills
- Assisted customers who called for technical support

### **ADVISORY BOARDS/ORGANIZATIONS**

- National Federation of the Blind, Research & Development Committee, March 2008 – Present.
- Standing Policy Committee, Assistive Technology Act Programs, November 2007 – Present.
- National Federation of the Blind, President of Cache Valley Chapter, October 2007 – Present.
- National Federation of the Blind, Utah State Affiliate Board Member, May 2007 – Present.
- Multicultural Council, Association of University Centers for Disabilities, January 2007 – Present.
- Utah Rehabilitation Association, Utah State Office of Rehabilitation, January 2007 - Present.
- National Clearinghouse of Rehabilitation Training Materials, Department of Special Education, College of Education, Utah State University, Logan, UT, June 2006 – Present.
- Advisory Committee on Disability Issues, Senator Orrin Hatch, Jan 2006 – Present.
- Consumer Advisory Council, Center for Persons with Disabilities, Utah State University, Logan, UT, July 2003 – Present.
- Association of Blind Students of Utah, Vice President, May 2007 – May 2008.
- Student President of the Utah Rehabilitation Association Student Chapter, October 2006 – May 2008.

### **AWARDS**

Kenneth Jernigan Scholarship, Presented by the National Federation of the Blind at its National Convention in Atlanta, Georgia, in Recognition of Extraordinary Achievement and Promise, 5 July, 2007.

Kurzweil Technologies 2007 Kurzweil Foundation Scholarship, For Academic Excellence and Service to the Community, 5 July, 2007.

Outstanding Chapter Member, Psi Sigma Phi Fraternity 2000-2001, Awarded by the Association of Students of Utah State University, April 2001.

### **TRAINING**

- Training individuals with visual impairments in the use of various hardware and software devices, ongoing.
- Training agencies, businesses, and universities on effective communication with people with disabilities, ongoing.
- Training employers and various agencies on Title I, II, and III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), ongoing.

## **TECHNICAL SKILLS**

### *Assistive Technology*

- Screen reading software (JAWS, Window Eyes, IBM Homepage Reader)
- Duxbury Systems
- Alpha Smart
- Open book reader
- Kurzweil 1000
- Magic
- Braille Note QT
- Voice Mate
- Type Light
- Voice Note
- Zoom Text

### *Programming Languages*

- Visual C++
- COBOL
- HTML
- Visual Basic
- S.Q.L.

### *Software Applications*

- Microsoft Office XP Professional
- Dream Weaver
- System Architect [CASE Tools]

### *Braille*

- Reading and Writing Grade 1 and 2 Braille

## **VOLUNTEER SERVICE**

- 2002 Winter Olympics held at Salt Lake City, as part of the production “The Light of the World.”
- Various community services through the Psi Sigma Phi fraternity.
- Panelist through the Disability Resource Center to educate the public about disabilities.
- International Student Council to organize activities to attract more international students to Utah State University.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

**Pavithran, S.,** and Butikofer, H. (2005). *Assistive Technology: The Utah State University Assistive Technology Laboratory*. The Utah Special Educator, 25(5), 42-43.

**Pavithran, S.** (2004). *Email Access: From the Perspective of an Individual with Visual Impairment*. Online publication available at: <http://webaim.org/techniques/articles/email>.

Anderson, S., **Pavithran, S.,** & Bohman, P. (2004). *Accessible taxes? A blind man’s experience with the United States’ tax system*. Online publication available at: <http://www.webaim.org/techniques/articles/taxes>.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

**Pavithran, S. & Blair, M.** *Implementing Assistive Technology in Employment (Title I of the ADA)*. Presented at the ATIA Conference, Orlando, Florida (30 Jan 2009).

Millington, M. & **Pavithran, S.** *Community Inclusion: Building Alliance on the Web*. Presented at the NCRE Conference, San Diego, California (22 Sept 2008).

**Pavithran, S.**, Hammond, M., & Blair, M. *Assistive Technology for the Blind: Devices and Funding Resources*. Presented at the PACRIM Conference, Honolulu, Hawaii (15 April 2008).

**Pavithran, S. & Blair, M.** *Overcoming the Barriers of Training and Device Demonstration Around the State*. Presented at the ATIA Conference, Orlando, Florida (1 Feb 2008).

Blair, M. & **Pavithran, S.** *Assistive Technology in Utah: State Level Initiatives and an Intervention for Young Children and Their Families*. Presented at the Association of University Centers for Disabilities Conference, Washington, DC (13 Nov 2007).

Blair, M. & **Pavithran, S.** *2007 Federal Disability Legislation Update*. Presented at the Governmental Affairs Conference, Salt Lake City, Utah (4 May 2007).

**Pavithran, S.**, Price, R., Bacon, E., Braithwaite, L., Hammond, M. *Assistive Technology for the Visually Impaired or Blind*. Presented at various school districts in the State of Utah. Sponsored by the IOTI Grant, (Sept. 2006 – May 2007).

**Pavithran, S.**, and Blair, M. *Lessons Learned in AT Training and Device Demonstrations in the State of Utah*. Presented at the ATIA Conference, Orlando, Florida (26 Jan 2007).

Price, R., and **Pavithran, S.** *Strategies in Using Assistive Technology for Helping Students in K – 12, with Visual Impairment to be more Independent*. Presented at the PACRIM Conference, Honolulu, Hawaii, (February 2005).

**Pavithran, S.**, and Menlove, T. *Independence is Priceless: The Utah Assistive Technology Foundation*. Presented at the Family Links Conference, Salt Lake City, Utah (April 2003).

**Pavithran, S.**, and Menlove, T. *Assistive Technology: The Key to Independence*. Presented at the Tenth Annual Conference of the Early Intervention Research Institute, Logan, Utah (March 2003).

**Pavithran, S.**, and Menlove, T. *The Utah Assistive Technology Foundation. Third Annual Southern Utah Autism Conference*, Cedar City, Utah (April 2002).

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**Pavithran, S.,** Richins, G., and Menlove, T. *Accessing the Center for Persons with Disabilities.* Presented at the Family Links Conference, Salt Lake City, Utah (April 2002).

**Pavithran, S.** *Utah Assistive Technology Program.* Presented at the Celebrate Disabilities Conference at Utah State University, Logan, Utah (March 2002).

**Pavithran, S.,** Price R., and Menlove, T. *Utah Assistive Technology Program.* Presented at the Disability Awareness Month Open House at Utah State University, Logan, Utah (March 2002).

### **OTHER RESEARCH AND PRESENTATIONS**

- Multiple presentations on various disability legislative issues to Congressional Delegates from Utah and other states to promote sponsorship of proposed legislation, Capitol Hill, Washington D.C., Jan 2006 – Present.
- “Assistive Navigation for the Visually Impaired” research project with Professor Vladimir Kulyukin, USU Computer Science Department, May 2003 – Present.
- Several presentations were made to various Special Education classes at Utah State University on assistive technology for people with visual impairment, 2002 - Present.