



**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR ADULTS  
WITH SPECIAL LEARNING NEEDS**

## **The NAASLN Website - A Part of Our Vision and Principles**

The 2006 redesign of the current **NAASLN** website represents the vision and principles of our association and is a major step in better serving our membership.

As an association committed to ensuring and expanding opportunities for adults with special learning needs, our new website has been developed and will be maintained by the students attending the Project New Hope Learning Center for computer training, a program of the Los Angeles Unified School District, Programs for Adults with Disabilities. Following is the story of how this happened.

### **Website Redesigned by Students of Los Angeles Unified School District, Programs for Adults with Disabilities, Project New Hope Learning Center**

By Julie Wetzel, Teacher Advisor, Los Angeles Unified School District,  
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When **NAASLN** board member Terry Wetzel heard discussions about the problems with the current NAASLN website, he began thinking of a creative multi-leveled solution. Why not have some students with disabilities help with the redesign and implementation? Terry approached Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) Adaptive Computer Technology teacher, Kevin Termunde with his idea. Kevin took it on with enthusiasm, keeping his adult students with disabilities involved with the redesign from the beginning.

Kevin's class is a unique blend of funding from the non-profit organization, Project New Hope, the California state Department of Rehabilitation, and LAUSD. Twenty-four windows-based computer stations are housed in the mid-town location developed by Project New Hope to assist their clients with re-entry into the workforce after diagnosis ranging from HIV to AIDS. The class allows them modifications based on medical needs, as well as adaptations for any physical disabilities they may have. Mr. Termunde has been with the LAUSD Division of Adult and Career Education since 1985, and has been at the Project New Hope site for the past seven years. He has had great success with his students as they train for new careers ranging from data entry to web-page design.

The idea of redesigning the **NAASLN** website was a hit from the beginning. Five students took on the challenge and worked with Kevin on all aspects of the website. They assisted with the new design of the template, input all of the data and content, edited photos, structured the files, and experimented with different looks and fonts, all leading to the new design. While the entire project took longer than the expected six months, the extra time seemed worthwhile. The most exciting part of the project for the students is that they will continue to be the webmasters for the **NAASLN** website, making changes as necessary.

For Kevin and Terry it has been a project worth the time and effort. **NAASLN** Communications Committee Chair, Joan Hudson-Miller, has also been an instrumental partner in this process, meeting monthly with the students to be sure that all changes are implemented as requested. They are all pleased with the outcome and are looking forward to more input from our associates in the field. Thank you Kevin and students for all your hard work and dedication!

Visit [www.lausd-pad.net](http://www.lausd-pad.net) and meet the wonderful people behind our website.