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Beyond Borders

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The Educational Committee for Speech Language Pathology is part of the Committees of the International Association of Logopedics and Phoniatrics. This Committee is composed of educators in logopedics from all around the world. A recent event took place in Poland and was organized by Tomasz Woźniak, the Chairperson of the Committee. This Composium was participated by many of the members of the Education Committee of Logopedics.

Professionals in surrounding areas of Poland as well as across the globe joined the Composium. Individuals presented scientific papers on the current challenges and achievements of various countries and regions around the world. Technology was incorporated in this Composium.

Here are some key points that underscore the importance of the Composium:

- conversations, critical discourse and exchanges beyond borders is the hallmark of this committee and the Composium. The efforts need to be continued and sustained in order to promote education in logopedics and services to all,
- based on the exchanges at the Composium, networks were established and individuals were able to develop and build capacity for helping areas where help is needed,

- based in the notion and conviction that Communication is a human right and that all speech language pathologists, educators and audiologists must take on the challenges of building education programs across the globe. This pledge is the driving force behind the mission of the committee,
- the outcome of this Composium clearly revealed that the playing field is not even and flat in the world. We need to further examine current needs. There is no one size fits all solution. Local needs must be assessed and programs need to be built based on local efforts and cultures,
- action plans need to be established and prioritized. Consistent and persistent efforts must be placed in order to bring about a better future for all.