



## EDITOR'S PAGE

It took some time to publish this fourth issue of the *Journal of Deafblind Studies on Communication*. But here it is ...and a next issue is coming soon. This fourth issue contains four interesting papers, as well as features and commentaries.

The first article is about low readability regarding communication with persons with congenital deafblindness. A key focus of this research concerns the combination of exploration and cognitive processing indicated by self-addressed expressions, and how this combination contributes to sign constructions. The results provide support for the proposition of a new sign category based on heightened tactile perception.

The second contribution is focused on the need of a dialogical approach in cases where people who have complex communication support do not have active choice and control in the process of defining how their lives are organised and the support that they receive. This challenge can be met by using a dialogical approach where communication is seen as a process of negotiation where meaning is co-constructed through a sequence of interactions. In this article relevant literature is explored on these topics, highlighting the role of the dialogical approach within the context of the international human rights framework.

In the third article the effects of a two-phase intervention program are described. The intervention is intended to foster harmonious interaction and the use and recognition of expressions based on a bodily emotional trace (BET), through a multiple-baseline design. The results of this study suggest that it is possible to foster harmonious interaction and the use and recognition of expressions based on a BET in adults with congenital deafblindness and an intellectual disability.

The fourth article is a very special one and I am honoured that the author submitted this paper to our Journal of Deafblind Studies on Communication. It is about body-with-body interactions, which are understood as interactions where two bodies are aligned with each other: the paradigmatic form is where the back of the child is aligned with the stomach and the chest of his partner. This body-with-body mode can enable agency for a child with congenital deafblindness through making good conditions for perception and cognition.

The child in this article is Kasper Gregersen and the article is written by his father Anstein Gregersen, an associate Professor of Philosophy at the Inland Norway University of Applied Sciences (see for contact data the article entitled “ Body With Body. Interacting with Children with Congenital Deafblindness in the Human Niche”).

Kasper passed away shortly after this article was written. And I was so very sorry to hear that, but also happy that I have known Kasper a little bit, like many of you. Kasper was with us together with his mother Rosemarie van den Bremer at our conference “Communication in the context of congenital deafblindness: ten years of studies. How knowledge and Practice develop” in November 2016. How happy and active Kasper was you can see at the picture which was made of him and his mother in one of the breaks during the conference.<sup>1</sup>

I would like to thank Kasper, his father and his mother very much for their wonderful contributions to our deafblind field. I think many readers can learn from this article written not only from a philosophic perspective but based on personal experiences!

The Features and Commentaries section includes a short review of the latest Graduation Ceremony of the Master Pedagogical Sciences: Communication and Deafblindness, written by Wolfgang Hug, one of the students. There is also a review by Jacques Souriau of the book *The Dialogical Mind: Common Sense and Ethics* by Ivana Marková, and a conference report by Annelies Witsiers-Van der Heijden on the European Conference on Deafblindness in Aalborg last September.

We would like to thank all the authors for their interesting contributions. Wish you happy reading and all a wonderful summer.

Marleen J. Janssen  
Editor-in-Chief

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<sup>1</sup> The picture can be found at <http://www.dvhn.nl/groningen/Doofblindheid-vaak-verward-met-een-verstandelijke-beperking-21785545.html>, or google: Dagblad van het Noorden doofblind November 2016