

Press release

The Foundation for the Disabled awards professor the Research Prize 2000

Professor, Dr. Phil. Niels Ole Bernsen, University of Southern Denmark in Odense, awarded DKK 100.000 for his efforts at improving the conditions for the disabled.

Niels Ole Bernsen is founder and head of the Natural Interactive Systems Laboratory (NISLab) at the University of Southern Denmark, which is carrying out research into future interactive systems for ordinary users. Instead of focusing on the use of well-known interactive systems with screen, keyboard and mouse, NISLab is developing communication systems based on speech, which understand and communicate by means of gesture, speech, facial expression etc. This will enable disabled people to take part in the information society.

Niels Ole Bernsen who has been a driving force in creating USD's interactive media education, is an advisor for the European Commission concerning new IT-initiatives and a present or former member of a large number of international research boards, conference committees etc.

The Research Prize of the Foundation for the Disabled was established in 1993. It is awarded every year to one or more researchers who in a significant way have contributed to improving the lives of physically disabled people. The award ceremony took place in the assembly hall of the National Museum, Copenhagen, Denmark, on Thursday 25th May 2000.

Best regards,
Vanførefonden (Foundation for the Disabled)

Copenhagen, 25th May 2000