

Opening Keynote: Mary Pat Moeller, Bianca Birdsey, Elaine Gale, Sheila Moodie, Trudy Smith, and Amy Szarkowski

FCEI International Consensus Statement: Revised Principles Guiding Family Support and Collaboration



Mary Pat Moeller is retired but continues to serve as a Scientist Emerita at Boys Town National Research Hospital. She was honored to work with families throughout her career and her research focused on developmental outcomes of children who are deaf or hard of hearing. She led the 2013 FCEI consensus work and is leading the efforts to update this work.



Bianca Birdsey is a Hearing Health Advocate for South Africa and has three deaf daughters. Bianca is a member of the World Hearing Forum's core committee, a member of GPODHH and the co-founder of a parent support organisation called THRIVE.



Elaine Gale is an Associate Professor and Program Leader of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing teacher preparation program at Hunter College, City University of New York (CUNY). She is also the chair of the Deaf Leadership International Alliance (DLIA).



Sheila Moodie is an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Health Sciences, School of Communication Sciences and Disorders at Western University in London, Ontario, Canada. She is also the Director of the Family-Centred Early Intervention Lab at Western and an Associate at the National Centre for Audiology.



Trudy Smith is the Manager of Continuing Professional Education at NextSense Institute (formerly RIDBC Renwick Centre). She has been a Teacher of the Deaf for over 25 years and has worked in education settings in Queensland and New South Wales as a classroom teacher, itinerant support teacher and as the Statewide Education Advisor. She worked as an AV Therapist at the Hear and Say Centre in Brisbane and as a Rehabilitation Manager for MED-EL, providing coaching and guiding for therapists, teachers and parents supporting students with hearing loss in over 20 countries around the world.



Amy Szarkowski, PhD, is Director of The Institute and Director of The Clinic at the Children's Center for Communication/Beverly School for the Deaf (CCCBSD), faculty in the LEND (Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and related Disabilities) program at Boston Children's Hospital, and Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School.