

2018 Oklahoma Statewide Autism Conference

Keynote Presenters

Jonathan Weiss, PhD, C. Psych.

Associate Professor and Clinical Psychologist, York University, Toronto, ON

Dr. Jonathan Weiss, PhD, is an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology at York University and Clinical Psychologist. He completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health and University of Toronto, Dept. of Psychiatry, and held the federal Chair in Autism Spectrum Disorders Treatment and Care Research. He currently holds a York Research Chair in Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disability Mental Health. His research focuses on the prevention and treatment of mental health problems in people with autism or intellectual disabilities across the lifespan. He conducts studies into how people with developmental disabilities access mental health care, and is interested in their health service needs, their emergency service use, and their experiences of psychiatric crisis. He is interested in program development and evaluation, and in particular on the impact of Special Olympics on the psychological well-being of participants, and of cognitive-behavioural and social skill interventions to promote resilience and improve the mental health of children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Hon. Mike Lake

Member of Parliament, Ottawa, ON

Mike is the Member of Parliament for Edmonton-Wetaskiwin, and was first elected in 2006. After his re-election in October, 2008, Mike was appointed Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Industry, a position to which he was re-appointed after the May 2011 election.

On September 13, 2012 Mike was sworn into the Queen's Privy Council, after being asked by Prime Minister Stephen Harper to serve on a Cabinet Committee tasked with efforts to balance the federal budget. On October 19, 2015, he was re-elected to a fourth term, receiving the 5th highest vote total out of 1,800 candidates, from all parties, across the country. He currently serves as the Conservative Party Deputy Shadow Minister for International Development.

Prior to entering federal politics, Mike worked for 10 years with the Edmonton Oilers Hockey Club where he served as National Accounts Manager, Director of Ticket Sales and Group Sales Manager. Mike holds a Bachelor of Commerce (with distinction) from the University of Alberta.

Mike has two children, a son Jaden, 22, and daughter Jенаe, 19. The Lakes have been active supporters of autism organizations, families and individuals across the country, and around the world, while sharing their story of life with Jaden, who has autism.

Peter Gerhardt, EdD

Executive Director, EPIC School, Paramus, NJ

<http://www.epicschool.org/>

Dr. Gerhardt has more than 35 year's experience utilizing the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis in support of adolescents and adults with autism spectrum disorders in educational, employment, residential and community-based settings. He is the author or co-author on a number of articles and chapters on the needs of adolescents and adults with ASD and has presented nationally and internationally on this topic. Dr. Gerhardt serves as Chairman of the Scientific Council for the Organization for Autism Research and is on numerous professional advisory boards including the Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies. He received his doctorate from Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey's Graduate School of Education.

Other Distinguished Presenters

Tai Allen, OTR/L

Occupational Therapist

Tai Allen, OTR/L, is an occupational therapist who holds a Master degree of Occupational Therapy from the University of Oklahoma. She has 12 years of experience working with patients in a variety of clinic and home based settings. She has worked in outpatient rehabilitation, inpatient rehabilitation, NICU/PICU, school systems, & private practice. She serves as a consultant for state agencies. Her passion has always been focused on educating families and empowering the family unit through occupational therapy.

Sarah Baker, MS, CCC-SLP

Baker Speech Clinic

Owner

Sarah is owner of Baker Speech Clinic, a private practice in south Oklahoma City. She graduated from the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center with her Masters of Speech-Language Pathology in 2000. She is an active member of the Oklahoma Speech-Language-Hearing Association having served as vice-president, president, and private practice chairperson. Specializing in pediatric communication disorders, Sarah has worked in a variety of settings including the public school system, SoonerStart early intervention, university clinics, and private practice. She specializes in Childhood Apraxia of Speech and autism spectrum disorders. Sarah is recognized by Apraxia Kids for Advanced Training and Clinical Expertise in Childhood Apraxia of Speech. She is also program director for the Oklahoma City Community College Speech-language pathology assistance program. She lives in the Bridge Creek area with her husband and 16 year old son, Ian. She has two grown daughters and 3 grandchildren.

Cynthia Barger-Fenton, MA, CCC-SLP
Speech-Language Pathologist

Cynthia Barger-Fenton, MA, CCC-SLP, has been a speech-language pathologist for over 35 years and recently retired from private practice. Over the years, she has provided services for both children and adults privately and as a service provider and consultant for various state agencies, including the Sooner Start Early Intervention Program and Department of Developmental Disabilities. She is a member of the Oklahoma Speech Language and Hearing Association (OSHLA), the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), and the ASHA Special Interest Group 12 for Augmentative and Alternative Communication.

Allie Bartlett, MS CCC-SLP
Baker Speech Clinic
Lead Speech-language Pathologist

Allie is lead speech-language pathologist (SLP) at Baker Speech Clinic, a private practice in south Oklahoma City, specializing in pediatric communication and feeding disorders. She graduated from the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center with her Masters of Speech-Language Pathology in 2010 and began her career as an SLP in Norman Public Schools before deciding to move full time to private practice. She is involved with Project Piece of Mind through Autism Oklahoma. Allie currently serves as Treasurer of the Oklahoma Speech-Language-Hearing Association. She lives in Newcastle with her husband of 10 years and 4-year-old daughter, Ivy. She loves Disney movies and can sing almost any Disney or other kids show songs!

Emily Boyett, MA, CCC-SLP, ATP
Edmond Public Schools
Speech-language Pathologist

Emily has worked for 18 years providing assistive technology (AT) and augmentative/alternative communication (AAC) evaluation and intervention services in educational, vocational and residential settings for individuals across the life span. Emily currently works for Edmond Public Schools as a speech-language pathologist and assistive technology consultant. Prior to returning to the public-school environment in 2013, she worked at the Oklahoma Assistive Technology Center providing training, consultation and assessment services to public schools throughout Oklahoma. Emily began her career as a school bases SLP and AT consultant for Sand Springs Public Schools. Emily has also taught the graduate level Augmentative and Alternative Communications class at Oklahoma State University in the past and has served individuals with special needs for 25 years through the recreational camping program, Make Promises Happen.

Brittyn Coleman, MS, RDN/LD

Autism Dietitian

Owner

Brittyn Coleman, MS, RDN/LD is a dietitian specializing in autism spectrum disorders and is also a sibling of an individual on the autism spectrum. Through her life and her studies, she realized how much overlap there is between nutrition and autism. During graduate school at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, she specialized in autism spectrum disorders and led her thesis research in food aversions and nutrient intake in children with ASD. There are very few dietitians specializing in ASD across the country, which makes accessibility extremely low. Because of this, she offers video and phone consults to parents and individuals all over the nation to increase the reach of nutrition therapy and nutrition education for families and individuals affected by ASD. She is extremely knowledgeable about autism in relations to diet, biomedical interventions, food selectivity, and even nutrigenetics.

Rene' Daman, PT, MS, BCBA, LBA

Oklahoma Autism Network, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center

Co-Director

Rene' is the co-director of the Oklahoma Autism Network in the Tolbert Center for Developmental Disabilities and Autism. Rene' has worked with families and their children with disabilities, including autism since 1993. She is the co-principal investigator for the ConnectedKids program, a parent training program for parents of young children with autism. She chairs the Oklahoma Family and Interagency Autism Council, is a member of the Governor's Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel for Developmental Disabilities, and serves on the Developmental Disabilities Services Advisory Committee for the Oklahoma Department of Human Services. She provides services to children and their families through the ConnectedKids program and supports educators in implementing evidence-based practices for students with autism.

Donna Goodman, MS, BCBA, LBA

Autism Treatment Center of Texas

Lead Clinical Supervisor

Donna Goodman, MS, BCBA, LBA (formerly Donna Townley -Cochran), attended the University of North Texas. She received her Bachelors of Science degree in Applied Behavior Analysis with a double minor in Psychology and Child Development and Family Studies. She received her Masters of Science degree in Behavior Analysis from the University of North Texas as well.

Donna has been a Board Certified Behavior Analyst since 2014, but has provided ABA services to individuals with an Autism Spectrum Disorder, Intellectual Disabilities, and/or those at-risk for a diagnosis of an emotional/ behavioral disorder for 10 years. She has been actively involved in research to enhance the behavior analytic field's understanding of the most effective and efficient techniques used to develop and enhance children diagnosed with an Autism Spectrum Disorder's language and social communicative repertoires. She has also participated in research projects to develop parent and staff training models.

Donna currently oversees the Applied Behavior Analytic services provided at the Autism Treatment Center's Fort Worth site. Donna's current interests lie in merging her research and clinical experience, utilizing best-practice techniques and strategies to provide the most meaningful learning opportunities for individuals with autism of all ages and their families.

Maria Jones, PT, PhD

Oklahoma City University

Program Director, Clinical Professor

Maria Jones, PT, PhD, is program director and clinical professor at Oklahoma City University (OCU). She consults or has consulted with many state agencies in Oklahoma in the areas of assistive technology, durable medical equipment, and service provision for children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Dr. Jones is a member of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) and the Oklahoma Chapter. She currently serves as the Federal Affairs Liaison for the Academy of Pediatric Physical Therapy of APTA.

Jennifer Kaut-Hines, MEd, BCBA

Texas Workforce Commission, Vocational Rehabilitation Division

Board Certified Behavior Analyst, Neurodevelopmental Specialist

Jennifer Hines has worked in the field of neurodevelopmental disorders for 25 years in public schools, state agencies and in private practice. Currently, Jennifer is the State Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders Specialist for The Texas Workforce Commission, Division of Rehabilitation Services. She provides staff consultation and training and collaborates with stakeholders (employers, school districts, public universities, legislative staff and other state agencies). In the past seven years, Jennifer has developed many state policies to enhance vocational rehabilitation services for autism such as Applied Behavior Analysis, wrap around ASD supports, an autism endorsement earned through the University of North Texas and established an autism premium for employment providers as well as created an interactive environmental work assessment used throughout the state. Jennifer has a personal knowledge of what it is like to transition a child with Autism to adulthood. Her son is successfully living on his own with a full-time job as a mail clerk. His journey, among many other customers, helped her identify and then create best practices.

Lance McLemore

The Center for AAC and Autism

Ambassador

Lance McLemore is an ambassador for The Center for AAC and Autism. He graduated from the University of Alabama in Huntsville with a BA in Art and Philosophy. When not working as an ambassador, he enjoys making art in various mediums, with a current focus on fiber arts. He frequently Skypes into LAMP workshops to engage with participants and answer questions. He also travels to speak at conferences.

Camber Moulton, MS, CCC-SLP, ATP
The Children's Center Rehabilitation Hospital

Camber obtained her Masters of Science in Communication Disorders from the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center in 1998. She has provided assistive technology, augmentative-alternative communication, and speech-language pathology services in a variety of settings including early intervention, public schools, clinics, homes, and hospital settings. She previously worked for Oklahoma City Public Schools and Edmond Public Schools as a school speech language pathologist and assistive technology consultant. Camber was an Assistive Technology Curriculum Specialist at the Oklahoma Assistive Technology Center from 2008-2013. She then joined The Oklahoma University Health Sciences Center at the Tolbert Center for Developmental Disabilities at the Oklahoma Autism Network as the Training and Outreach Coordinator. She also was Assistant Professor and Clinical Supervisor in the Communication Sciences and Disorders Department at OUHSC and taught Augmentative and Alternative Communication and Autism. Camber currently works for the Children's Center Rehabilitation Hospital in Bethany.

Dana Paliliunas, PhD, BCBA

Co-Author AIM: *A Behavior Analytic Curriculum for Social-Emotional Development in Children*

Dana Paliliunas, Ph.D. is a professor and a board certified behavior analyst. She has spent over a decade as an educator and behavior therapist working with children with disabilities in a variety of school and clinic settings. Her primary interest is to examine how behavior analytic and therapeutic techniques can improve outcomes for children and adults with psychological needs, and to disseminate these techniques to the individuals who will benefit from them. Dr. Paliliunas and Dr. Mark R. Dixon are the authors of *AIM: A Behavior Analytic Curriculum for Social-Emotional Development in Children*.

Tiffany Peltier, MEd

Reading Specialist, Master Reading Specialist

Tiffany Peltier's passion for reading instruction began at Texas A&M University where she received a B.S. in interdisciplinary studies and went on to earn her M.Ed. in curriculum and instruction with an emphasis in reading and language arts. While at A&M, Tiffany led courses for pre-service teachers on effective elementary reading instruction. She has also taught pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, and first grade in public and private school settings in both Texas and Maryland, as well as third through seventh grade reading classes in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Driven by her interest to improve student reading achievement and understand best practices in pre- and in-service teacher instruction, Tiffany is presently pursuing her doctorate in Special Education at the University of Oklahoma.

Joshua Pulos

University of Oklahoma

Doctoral Student

Joshua M. Pulos is a Sooner Scholar, pursuing his doctorate in special education with an emphasis in secondary transition education and applied behavior analysis at the University of Oklahoma's Zarrow

Center for Learning Enrichment. In October 2015, the Council for Exceptional Children's Division on Career Development and Transition awarded Mr. Pulos the Andrew Halpern Early Career Practitioner Award. His research focuses on behavior-analytic interventions to promote positive postsecondary outcomes of students with disabilities, intellectual and developmental disabilities, self-determination, sexuality and disability, and transition assessment. He resides in Norman, Oklahoma.

Peter Stanbro, MD, MPH

Psychiatrist Peter B. Stanbro, MD, MPH, established Stanbro Healthcare Group in 2011, a psychiatric practice dedicated to children, adolescents and adults. The specific interest of his practice is diagnosing and treating patients with Autism Spectrum Disorders, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, mood and anxiety disorders, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, Reactive Attachment Disorder among other diagnoses.

Dr. Stanbro formed Stanbro Healthcare Group after being on faculty with the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, and was a member of OU Physicians, and served as Clinical Assistant Professor at the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences.

Prior to his experience at the University of Oklahoma, Dr. Stanbro was in private practice in Massachusetts and also served as a staff psychiatrist and consultant with the University of Massachusetts Medical Center and Medical School (UMASS). While in Massachusetts, he earned a Master's Degree in Public Health, Health Administration and Health Policy from Boston University School of Public Health.

Dr. Stanbro completed a child and adolescent fellowship from UMASS and his psychiatry residency at Boston University Medical Center after earning a medical degree from State University of New York School of Medicine at Buffalo. He earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Central Oklahoma.

Dr. Stanbro is a member of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, the American Psychiatric Association, the National Alliance on Mental Illness, the American Medical Association, Oklahoma Psychiatric Physicians Association, Oklahoma State Medical Association and the Oklahoma County Medical Association.

Dr. Stanbro has been keynote speaker for PANDAS/PANS Awareness Day and for National Autism Awareness Day at the Oklahoma State Capital. He has also been both a participant and a sponsor for Autism Oklahoma Piece Walk and Drive For Autism, and has recently joined the Oklahoma Autism Center Foundation as a member of the Board of Directors.

Judith Ursitti

Autism Speaks

Director State Government Affairs

Judith became heavily involved in autism advocacy when her son Jack was diagnosed with autism in 2005. Since that time, she has participated in the passage of autism insurance reform legislation in more than a dozen states, testifying at numerous hearings and working with stakeholders and legislators across the country. Before joining the Autism Speaks government relations team, she volunteered as advocacy chair for the organization's New England and North Texas chapters, chaired the inaugural Dallas Fort Worth Walk for Autism Speaks and served as a member of the Parent Advisory Council for Autism Speaks 100-Day Kit. Judith was awarded the Margaret L. Bauman, M.D. Award for Excellence within the Autism Community in 2009. Judith holds a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting from Georgia College and State University and is a Certified Public Accountant.