

Healthy Development Adelaide

A Research & Innovation Cluster in South Australia

Disability Research in SA: *Identifying and meeting the needs of our children*

Date: Thursday 17 June 2010
Time: 4.30 - 7.00pm
Venue: State Library of South Australia
Institute Building Lecture Theatre
(corner of Kintore Ave and North Tce)
Registration 4.15pm for 4.30pm start
Food & drink provided after conclusion of talks
All Welcome - Free admission

Seats limited, RSVPs by Thursday 10 June

✉ anne.jurisevic@adelaide.edu.au (email preferable)
☎ (08) 8303 8222

SPEAKERS

Professor Michael Sawyer

Mothers of children with cerebral palsy or autism: how much time is required for caregiving?

Head: Research & Evaluation Unit, Children Youth & Women's Health Service /
Professor: Discipline of Paediatrics, University of Adelaide (HDA Co-Convenor)

Dr Julie McMillan

Impact of school team support on the communication of students using speech generating devices

Lecturer: School of Education, Flinders University

Dr Pammi Raghavendra

'Why aren't you on facebook?': patterns and experiences of using the internet by adolescents with physical disabilities

Manager: Research & Innovation, Novita Children's Services

Ms Kelly Vincent

Yes But Syndrome
MLC, Dignity for Disability

CHAIR

Ms Wendy Wake-Dyster

Acting Chief Executive, Novita Children's Services

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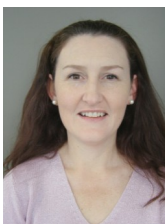
Speaker Profiles



Professor Michael Sawyer is Head of the Research and Evaluation Unit within the Children Youth and Women's Health Service (CYWHS); and Professor within the Discipline of Paediatrics at the University of Adelaide. Professor Sawyer's research is focused on the quality of life of children with chronic illness and the epidemiology of child and adolescent mental disorders.

Professor Sawyer was lead investigator in the Child and Adolescent Component of the National Survey of Mental Health and Well-Being in Australia. Professor Sawyer is currently lead investigator of the research team responsible for the Beyondblue Schools Research Initiative and is also Chair of the Australian Rotary Health Research Fund Research Committee.

In 2008, Professor Sawyer was awarded the *Medal of the Order of Australia* for his service to medicine in the field of child and adolescent mental health as a researcher and educator, particularly through contributions to the design of new programs of intervention and through the promotion of community awareness.



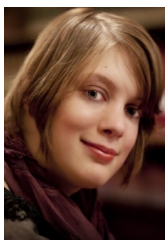
Dr Julie McMillan has been employed as an academic with Flinders University since 2006. She was previously a lecturer at the University of Illinois in the United States and a teacher of students with disabilities. Julie specializes in the areas of curriculum, instruction, assistive technologies, communication, and challenging behaviour for students with complex needs including autism, physical disabilities, intellectual, and multiple disabilities.

Julie's research interests include teacher professional learning and the effect of service provision and practice on student outcomes; specifically in the areas of augmentative and alternative communication, assistive technologies, and instruction of students with complex support needs, including challenging behaviour. Julie is currently conducting research in schools in South Australia investigating professional development and collaborative school teams to support students with complex communication needs using speech generating devices.



Dr Pammi Raghavendra manages the Division of Research & Innovation at Novita Children's Services. She is also an Adjunct Senior Lecturer, at the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology, Flinders University and Division of Health Sciences, University of South Australia.

Dr Raghavendra has extensive experience in co-ordinating and facilitating multi-disciplinary research in paediatric disability. Her current areas of funded research are: investigating the participation profiles of children with physical disabilities and complex communication needs at home, school and community and the use of technology such as web 2.0 and 3D virtual environments in facilitating their social participation. She is also an investigator on a US funded project to develop a database of appraised evidence in augmentative and alternative communication.



Kelly Vincent was born twenty-one years ago, the size of a tissue box and weighing 700 grams, with Periventricular Leukomalacia, which developed into what she sees as Spastic Deplegia Cerebral Palsy in her infancy.

Kelly was also born with a passion and gift for words, which developed into a passion for storytelling. In 2004, she completed work experience with No Strings Attached Theatre of Disability, and has worked with the company in sometimes erratic but always challenging and enjoyable spurts ever since.

Since 2008, she has been developing her first independent work, *StartSpace*, and was recently confirmed as one of four writers in a project with ActNow Theatre for Social Change. In 2009, Kelly was one of two winners of Young Guns, a competition for playwrights under the age of 21, for her play *Gravity*.

Most recently, Kelly wrote and performed her maiden speech as MLC for Dignity for Disability.