

**Seventh Annual Northern Kentucky
Traumatic Brain Injury Conference
“New Frontiers in Neurological Health”
March 22, 2013**

Speaker Biographies

Sheital Bavishi, D.O. – Dr. Bavishi is the Medical Director of the Brain Injury Program at the Drake Center and also serves as a physical medicine and rehabilitation physician. She evaluates and treats patients who have suffered brain injury in the inpatient rehabilitation unit as well as in the outpatient clinic. Dr. Bavishi also makes recommendations on a wide variety of post-brain injury complications including post-traumatic headaches, central spasticity and cognitive changes. She manages intrathecal baclofen pumps for spasticity and evaluates contributing medical conditions and biophysical factors to develop a multidisciplinary, functional approach to brain injury management. In addition to various therapies, Dr. Bavishi’s available treatments include botox injections, joint injections, phenol nerve blocks and acupuncture for post-TBI complications management.

David Beach, Ph.D., CRC, CPM – Dr. Beach is currently the Executive Director of the Kentucky Office of Vocational Rehabilitation. Prior to serving in this role, he was an Administrator in the Program Planning and Development Branch of the Kentucky Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, as well as the former Director for Residential Services, Job Placement and Research at the Carl D. Perkins Vocational Training Center in Thelma, KY. Dr. Beach also serves as Adjunct Faculty in the Graduate Program in Rehabilitation Counseling at the University of Kentucky, instructing in both the on-campus and distance learning programs. He is the current President of the National Rehabilitation Association, and Southeast Region Representative to the National Association Rehabilitation Leadership Board. Dr. Beach received his Ph.D. in Educational Psychology from the University of Kentucky in 2006, his M.R.C. from the University of Kentucky in 1996, and his B.A. from Georgetown College (Ky.) in 1995.

Kerry Crone, M.D. – Dr. Crone is a neurosurgeon who is certified by the American Board of Neurological Surgery and the American Board of Pediatric Neurological Surgery. He is the former Director of Pediatric Neurosurgery at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center where he lead the department for over 20 years, served as the Director of Clinical Affairs and Graduate Education in Pediatric Neurosurgery and Associate Professor of Clinical Neurosurgery and Pediatrics at the University of Cincinnati Medical Center. He is a graduate of the University Of Cincinnati College Of Medicine, completed his residency in general neurosurgery at North Carolina Baptist Hospital, Bowman Gray School of Medicine and completed his pediatric neurosurgery fellowship at The Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, Canada. Under Dr Crone’s leadership, the Department of Pediatric Neurosurgery has been ranked by U.S News Top Rated Children’s Hospitals in the top 3 pediatric neurosurgical centers in the United States. Dr Crone has been repeatedly named as a “Top Doctor” by Cincinnati Magazine.

Rachel Heberling, MD – Dr. Heberling is board-certified in physical medicine & rehabilitation and graduated from her residency at the University of Cincinnati in 2008. Additional training in acupuncture was from the Helm’s Medical Institute in 2003-2004. She is currently working at the Cincinnati VA, Fort Thomas division, where she is active in multiple roles: rehabilitation care in the nursing home, outpatient musculoskeletal medicine with a focus on acupuncture, residential PTSD/TBI program, and resident teaching.

Joan Kiefer, BS – Ms. Kiefer is the school intervention coordinator for the Division of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center. She graduated from the University of Cincinnati with a Bachelor’s of Science in Early Childhood Education. She have been in her current position for five years and has worked with the Cancer and Blood Diseases Institute, Heart Institute, and now the Division of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. Prior to accepting the position at CCHMC, she worked as a Service Facilitator for the Hamilton County Board of MR/DD (now called Hamilton County DDS) for approximately five years. In both positions, her primary focus has been to enhance the lives of children with disabilities and special needs.

Latasha Lampkin-Hartman, MS, ATP – Ms. Lampkin-Hartman is a rehabilitation engineer and coordinator of Redwood’s Assistive Technology Resource Center. Her areas of specialty are computer access, ergonomics, and technology for daily living. Latasha is a RESNA (Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America) certified Assistive Technology Professional who has worked in the field for nine years. Her experience includes working at the University of Michigan Health System, Cincinnati Children’s Hospital, and Redwood. She is an assistive technology technical assistance provider for Kentucky’s First Steps program for infants and toddlers. She is the coordinator of Redwood’s Assistive Technology Resource Center which provides equipment loans, evaluations, assistance, and training

to increase the independence of individuals with disabilities. Redwood houses one of four assistive technology resource centers in the state of Kentucky.

Jennifer Lawrence, JD – Ms. Lawrence attended Ohio State University as an undergraduate receiving a B.A. in political science in 1993. She attended Salmon P. Chase College of Law. Upon graduation, Ms. Lawrence joined her father in the practice of law. Throughout her career, Ms. Lawrence has successfully represented individuals and their families in medical negligence claims against hospitals, physicians and other healthcare providers. She has successfully handled product liability cases against manufacturers for defective medical devices. She continues to represent individuals and their families against hospitals, physicians, nursing homes, product manufacturers, trucking corporations and their insurance companies.

Kirk D. Little, PsyD. – Dr. Little is a Doctor of Psychology licensed to practice in Kentucky and Ohio and Board Certified in Neurofeedback by the Biofeedback Certification International Alliance. He earned his baccalaureate degree in psychology from Brown University and his doctorate degree from the University of Hartford. Dr. Little is specially trained in neuropsychology, pediatrics, and child and family therapy. He also has been a professor at the University of Hartford Graduate Institute of Professional Psychology and Central Connecticut State University, teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in psychological assessment and developmental psychology. Dr. Little is the premiere psychologist in the Greater Cincinnati area performing Quantitative EEG brain mapping and Neurofeedback and has recently published articles and book chapters on neurofeedback for traumatic brain injury and ADHD. He has been an invited lecturer for multiple local organizations, including the Health Foundation, the Epilepsy Foundation, The Lindner Center of Hope, BRIDGES, and many others. He is a member of the International Society for Neurofeedback and Research, Psychologists in Independent Practice and the American Psychological Association.

Scott C. Livingston, PhD, PT, ATC, SCS - Dr. Livingston earned his undergraduate degree in physical therapy from Ohio University and attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where he earned a Master of Science in Human Movement Science. He is a graduate of the University of Virginia where he completed a PhD in Kinesiology/Sports Medicine. He is a licensed physical therapist, is Board Certified as a Sports Clinical Specialist by the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties, and is a certified athletic trainer by the National Athletic Trainers' Association Board of Certification. Currently he is an Assistant Professor in the College of Health Sciences' Department of Rehabilitation Sciences at the University of Kentucky where he teaches teaching in the graduate physical therapy, athletic training and rehabilitation sciences programs. He is the Director of the Concussion Assessment Research Laboratory and Clinical Research Section Chair of the Interdisciplinary Concussion Program at the University of Kentucky. Dr. Livingston's research focuses on the pathophysiology of mild traumatic brain injury in sports, and he has numerous scientific publications and presentations in this area.

Tina M. Mooney, MSW – Ms. Mooney earned her Bachelor of Arts in Social Work from Purdue University and her Masters in Social Work from the University of Maryland. She has served in a wide array of roles in human service organizations: volunteer, direct care staff, supervisor, middle manager, Executive Director, Board member and consultant. When she sustained a brain injury in an auto accident, she added another role to that list - client.

When speaking about her experiences, Tina says, "Of all my jobs in human services, being the client is often the most frustrating but always the most enlightening." Tina strives to integrate what she learned in her academic and work life with the insights she's learned the "hard way", as she writes and speaks about disabilities and related issues, rehabilitation, grief and motivational topics.

Donna Murray, PhD, CCC-SLP - Dr. Murray is an Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, Director of Clinical Services, and Co-Director, The Kelly O'Leary Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders, Division of Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. Dr. Murray joined Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center and The Kelly O'Leary Center (TKOC) in 2001. Dr. Murray develops and oversees multidisciplinary clinical programs and process improvement initiatives for both the autism program and the larger Division. Academically, Dr. Murray's research interests include; language, communication, social skills in autism spectrum disorders including Asperger syndrome, and process improvement in healthcare. Dr. Murray teaches graduate level courses in communication and autism spectrum disorders at the University of Cincinnati and is a frequent lecturer at the local, regional and national level on topics relating to autism spectrum disorders.

James Plunkett, PhD – Dr. Plunkett is board-certified in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (PM&R) and has a subspecialty certification in Pain Medicine, Spinal Cord Injury Medicine, and Electrodiagnostic and Neuromuscular Medicine. He has been on faculty with the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine Dept. of P.M.&R. since 1994 and has served in several capacities on the staff of the Cincinnati VA medical center since 1994. He is currently the medical director of the Cincinnati VA Polytrauma/TBI program and director of Interventional Pain services. He has been honored to speak at past NKY TBI conferences highlighting unique aspects of Blast-related traumatic brain injury in our veteran population.

Troy Schumann, DO – Dr. Schumann joined the St. Elizabeth Weight Management Center in Florence as its Obesity Specialist Physician and serves as its Medical Director for the medically-managed weight loss programs. Dr. Schumann is Board Certified in Family Medicine and has practiced in Northern Kentucky since 1993. He is a diplomate of the American Board of Family Medicine, a member of the American Society of Bariatric Physicians and is in the process of becoming a certified Bariatrician through the American Board of Bariatric Medicine. His particular interest in the field of weight management is focusing on long-term weight loss focused on permanent lifestyle changes utilizing proven methods which are taught by himself and his multidisciplinary team of clinicians who also specialize in weight management.

Therese M. Sirles, MS, RN, CPN – Ms. Sirles is the Director of the Children’s Hospital Foundation Office of Child Advocacy of Kosair Children’s Hospital. Therese has worked at Kosair Children’s Hospital for more than 30 years; 13 of those years in the Emergency Department. She has a master’s degree from Spalding University, is a Certified Pediatric Nurse and an active member of Kosair Children’s Hospital Child Abuse Task Force.

Marlys Staley, PT – Ms. Staley is a Physical Therapist and certified dog trainer who founded Circle Tail in 1997. Circle Tail is a nonprofit organization that trains and partners service and hearing dogs with people with disabilities at no charge in the greater Cincinnati area. The organization is accredited by Assistance Dogs International. Marlys is currently the executive director and trainer for Circle Tail.

Linda Jo Van Eldik, PhD, - Dr. Van Eldik is Director of the Sanders-Brown Center on Aging, the Vernon Smith Endowed Chair in Alzheimer Research, and Professor of Anatomy and Neurobiology at the University of Kentucky in Lexington KY. She is also Director of the University of Kentucky Alzheimer’s Disease Center, a National Institutes of Health-funded center established in 1985 and internationally recognized for its contributions to the fight against brain diseases that are associated with aging.

She has an active research program focused on brain inflammation, and she is investigating why neurodegenerative disorders exhibit overactive and chronic inflammation that can lead to disruption of normal communication among brain cells and cause nerve cell damage. Her research is identifying potential points of intervention, with a goal of developing new drugs to slow the progression of impairment.

Dr. Van Eldik has received numerous honors during her career, including a Zenith Award from the Alzheimer’s Association and a prestigious MERIT award from the National Institute on Aging that recognizes investigators for an outstanding record of scientific achievements, sustained contributions to aging, and leadership and commitment to the field. Her research is currently funded by the National Institute on Aging, the National Institute on Neurological Disorders and Stroke, an Edward N. & Della L. Thome Memorial Foundation Award in Alzheimer’s Disease Drug Discovery Research, and a Kentucky Spinal Cord & Brain Injury Research Trust grant.

Sarah Wagers, MD - Dr. Sarah Wagers is Board Certified in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. She is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Neurosurgery and the University of Louisville. She is the Clinical Director of the Polytrauma Program at the Robley Rex VA Medical Center in Louisville, KY. She is the Medical Director of the Traumatic Brain Injury Service at Frazier Rehab Center in Louisville, KY. She enjoys caring for patients through all aspects of TBI. She lives in Louisville with her husband and 2 children.

Chad Walters, DO - Dr. Walters is Board Certified by the American Board of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. He received his Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree from the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine and completed his residency training at the University of Kentucky. He specializes in the medical and rehabilitation management in people with acquired brain injuries. He is also a Certified Brain Injury Specialist Instructor.