

Hearing in Noise
15 – 16 March 2019
Mantra Mooloolaba

Speakers in Alphabetical Order



Brent Edwards, Ph.D., is the Director of the National Acoustic Laboratories in Sydney, Australia. For over 22 years he led research and development teams at major hearing aid companies (GN ReSound, Starkey) and Silicon Valley startups (SoundID, EarLens) that have developed innovative signal processing algorithms, fitting procedures, diagnostics and outcome measures, wireless technologies, transducers and other technologies that have benefitted hearing aid wearers and dispensers worldwide. Dr. Edwards founded and developed the Starkey Hearing Research Center in Berkeley, California that was a leading site for research in hearing impairment and cognition. Dr. Edwards is a Fellow of the Acoustical Society of America, a Fellow of the International Collegium of Rehabilitative Audiology, an Honorary Associate Professor at the University of Nottingham’s School of Medicine, and an Adjunct Professor at Macquarie University. Dr. Edwards received his B.S. degree in electrical engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, his M.S. and Ph.D. in electrical engineering and computer science from the University of Michigan and was a Postdoctoral Fellow in psychology at the University of Minnesota.



Stephen Gauld, BE(Mech), BEngSc(Noise and Vibration), MIEAust, MAAS. Association of Australasian Acoustical Consultants - Communications Executive. Stephen is the Communications Executive of the Association of Australasian Acoustical Consultants, a not-for-profit peak body representing professionals who are involved in delivering acoustic solutions to a wide range of clients and the community. Stephen is also the Managing Director of Day Design Pty Ltd and works in a technical capacity as the Principal Acoustical Engineer. He provides oversight on all consulting projects that leave the office. He manages specific clients including legal assignments and larger projects and he provides training to his staff in acoustic measurement, analysis and noise control design. Stephen graduated from UNSW in 1997 and has worked in the acoustical industry ever since. He started working at Day Design in 1998 and then bought the company in 2004 at the age of 29 years. He completed his Master’s degree in 2007. His work involves a wide range of business types ‘Mum and Dad’ builders and not-for-profits, through to insurance companies, manufacturers and precedent-setting legal assignments. His day-to-day work is a mix of medium- to large-sized projects that all have the focus of ensuring “Good Acoustics by Design”, which is his company’s motto. Architectural projects, where the acoustic environment of the indoor spaces is difficult to imagine on paper, provide the most challenging as the design team works to resolve the many competing aspects of each project. Stephen is grateful to be invited to cross the often uncharted divide from Acoustical Engineering into the world of Audiology by speaking at “Hearing in Noise”. He values cooperation between disciplines and values the lessons that can be learnt through doing so.



Tegan Keogh, PhD, is a specialist clinical audiologist, who has practiced Audiology on the Sunshine Coast & Brisbane since 1999. Her PhD focussed on the ability of children to hear in noise, with an emphasis on children with otitis media, and bilingual children. Tegan has worked extensively within the Audiology profession including; large tertiary hospitals, Australian Hearing and the University of Queensland. She established the only State Public Health Audiology Service within the Sunshine Coast and greater area. She has worked in the development and implementation of state-wide policy and protocols, research innovation, and ensuring the provision of quality audiology services for both children and adults across Queensland. Tegan has consulted for the NZ Ministry of Health and QLD Workplace Health & Safety to improve service provision and implement quality assurance mechanisms. Tegan now runs her own private practice, Hear Check, on the Sunshine Coast, in addition to driving collaborative research in the areas of TeleAudiology, with the University of QLD.



David McAlpine is ARC Laureate Fellow, and Professor of Hearing, Language and the Brain at Macquarie University's Australian Hearing Hub. Graduating with a BSc in Physiology from the University of Western Australia (1989), he read for his D.Phil at the University of Oxford, before moving to the Medical Research Council Institute of Hearing Research, Nottingham. Following a short period as a lecturer at Sheffield University, he moved to University College London in 1999, as Lecturer, then Reader and, in 2005, Professor of Auditory Neuroscience. In 2006 he was appointed Director of the UCL Ear Institute, where he oversaw the development of an international leading programme of research into hearing and deafness. In October 2015, he took up the exciting challenge of bringing Macquarie's Australian Hearing Hub to global prominence. His research interests include understanding how we listen in noisy environments, brain mechanisms of spatial hearing, and therapies for hearing problems.



Kiri Mealings, PhD is a Research Scientist at the National Acoustic Laboratories. She completed a Bachelor of Science (Mathematics), Bachelor of Speech and Hearing Sciences (First Class Honours), and Doctor of Philosophy (Linguistics) at Macquarie University, Sydney. Her PhD was entitled “An investigation into how the acoustics of open plan and enclosed classrooms affect speech perception for Kindergarten children”. Kiri also has an Associate Diploma in Music Australia (Flute). Kiri's research interests include classroom acoustics (especially in open plan classrooms), speech perception, auditory processing disorders, and reading deficits.

Kiri has published over 15 peer-reviewed articles and has given presentations at over 30 national and international conferences.

Kiri is particularly interested in taking an interdisciplinary approach to assess the acoustic environments of learning spaces and how they affect children’s speech perception and learning abilities. Kiri is keen to use her research to inform educators about effective ways to design classrooms, how to enhance communication in the classroom, and how to improve classroom acoustic conditions so all children and teachers can reach their full potential at school.



Libby Sander, PhD is Assistant Professor of Organisational Behaviour at Bond University and the founder of the Future of Work Project. Libby has appeared on Channel 7’s Sunrise, ABC TV’s science program Catalyst, ABC TV’s The Drum, ABC News and spoken at TEDx presenting her research. She is a feature writer for The Conversation and an agenda contributor at the World Economic Forum. Libby is also a freelance feature writer and published author, and her work has been featured in the BBC, The Guardian, The Australian, Sydney Morning Herald, The Age, and on SBS. Libby is the co-author of *Work in the 21st Century: How do I Log On?* which was published by

Emerald in 2017. She is regularly featured on radio and in national media including for the ABC and 3AW Melbourne, commenting on issues on work, society and future trends in organisations. Libby works globally speaking and advising business. In 2017, Libby designed the new workplace for ITMS at Charles Darwin University that won the Northern Territory AIA award for Interior Architecture in 2017. Libby has a PhD from Griffith University and works with clients such as Microsoft Europe and Lend Lease. She has presented her research at the world's leading academic conferences.



Brent Spehar, PhD is a Research Scientist in the Department of Otolaryngology Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis and a founder of cLEAR[®], an online auditory training system. He specializes in the development and application of auditory training programs and equipment, including software, online programs, and handheld device. With over 18 years of experience as a research audiologist and research scientist at both the Central Institute for the Deaf in St. Louis and in the Washington University he has had a great deal of expertise in hearing-related issues. He also has extensive developing and setting up computer-based research projects that involve highly calibrated audio, visual, and audiovisual presentations of speech, including novel perception tests and training programs for adults and children at the Central Institute for the Deaf. As part of his dissertation, he helped develop the indices and formulas used to calculate and quantify the ability to integrate audio and visual speech signals. In his personal experiences he was part of a Deaf family and witnessed the trials of a Deaf child and adolescent and the pitfalls that go with miscommunications, the consequences of which can have compounding effects throughout life. Brent is interested in research and the application of research that seeks to reduce the communication barrier caused by hearing loss.



Nancy Tye-Murray is a Professor in the Department of Otolaryngology at Washington University School of Medicine where she directs the Audiovisual Speech Perception Laboratory. She is also an Adjunct Professor at the University of Canterbury in New Zealand, where she has served as an Erskine Fellow. Her research concerns audiovisual speech integration and auditory brain training. She has received over 30 years of continuous funding from the National Institutes of Health and has authored over 150 articles and five books, including *Foundations of Aural Rehabilitation: Children, Adults, and Their Family Members* (5th Ed., Plural Publishing). She is the former president of the Academy of Rehabilitative Audiology and former Hearing Editor for the *Journal of Speech-Language-Hearing Research*. Before joining Washington University, she was a member of the University of Iowa Cochlear Implant Team and then served as Director of Research at Central Institute for the Deaf. She recently launched cLEAR (customized learning: Exercises for Aural Rehabilitation; TM), an Internet business that provides customized auditory brain training to people who have hearing loss (www.clearworks4ears.com).



Tony Whelan is the Business Manager (Brisbane) and National President of Better Hearing Australia (BHA). Tony has a professional background in Psychology and over 20 years' experience in human services both as a practitioner and in senior leadership roles. Working across such diverse areas as youth; justice; housing & homelessness; and refugee settlement, Tony has spent the past 12 years in the disability sector working in both public and not-for-profit roles. Tony also represents BHA on the Board of Deafness Forum Australia.

Industry contributors

Technological developments that seek to address difficulty hearing in noise will be presented from industry representatives – including those from:

Oticon – Hearing devices as aids to listening

Phonak – Overcoming high levels of noise and distance – how far we've come