

IACC Full Committee Meeting April 26, 2017 INVITED SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

The Honorable Mike Lake, P.C., M.P. Member of Parliament for Edmonton-Wetaskiwin

The Honorable Mike Lake is the Member of the Canadian Parliament representing Edmonton-Wetaskiwin, and was first elected in 2006. He was appointed Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Industry in 2008. In 2012 Mr. Lake was sworn into the Queen's Privy Council, after being asked by Prime Minister Stephen Harper to serve on the Priorities and Planning Sub-Committee on Government Administration. He also currently serves as the Conservative Party Critic for Global Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health. Prior to entering federal politics, Mr. Lake 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. He holds a Bachelor of Commerce (with distinction) from the University of Alberta and has two children, a son Jaden, 20, and daughter Jenaë, 16. The Lake family has 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 is on the autism spectrum.

Melissa Spencer Deputy Commissioner Office of Disability Policy Social Security Administration

Ms. Melissa Spencer joined the Social Security Administration in 1996 and is currently the Deputy Commissioner for the Social Security Administration's (SSA) Office of Disability Policy. The Office of Disability Policy establishes all the medical criteria for Social Security Disability benefits and for Supplemental Security Income. Ms. Spencer is a graduate of SSA's Senior Executive Service Candidate Development Program. Before entering the Senior Executive Service, Ms. Spencer served as the Acting Deputy Associate Commissioner for the Office of Quality Review and led all quality reviews for SSA's programmatic workloads, including disability claims. She redesigned the State Disability Determination quality review processes by instituting virtual review and SSA's Targeted Denial Review. Ms. Spencer has served on several national groups, developing expertise in key areas including childhood disability policy. She provided leadership and guidance to states as the federal liaison for the Maryland, Delaware, and West Virginia Disability Determination Services. Before joining SSA, Ms. Spencer spent 13 years in the Virginia Disability Determination Services as a disability examiner and manager after



beginning her career as a vocational rehabilitation counselor. She holds a Bachelor of Sciences degree in Rehabilitation Services from Virginia Commonwealth University.

Scott Michael Robertson, Ph.D.
Policy Advisor, Youth Policy Team
Office of Disability Employment Policy
U.S. Department of Labor

Dr. Scott Michael Robertson, an autistic adult, works as policy advisor on the Youth Policy Team at the U.S. Department of Labor’s Office of Disability Employment Policy. He previously worked as a Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Fellow for Senator Tom Harkin in the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. Dr. Robertson has also served as a Public Member of the federal Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee and a Council Member on the Pennsylvania Developmental Disabilities Council. In 2006, he co-founded the Autistic Self Advocacy Network (ASAN) as a national 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, and then served as the Founding Vice President. Dr. Robertson completed his PhD in information sciences and technology at Penn State University after investigating cyber- and face-to-face bullying of autistic youth for his dissertation study.

Andy Arias
Policy Advisor, Workforce Systems Team
Office of Disability Employment Policy
U.S. Department of Labor

Mr. Andy Arias is a Policy Advisor on the Workforce Systems Policy Team at the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP). He has primary responsibility for a number of Federal policy initiatives focused specifically on promoting the employment and socioeconomic advancement of adults with disabilities. Andy brings a real-world experience along with a service provider expertise to his work. Prior to ODEP, Andy worked as an Americans with Disabilities Act subject matter expert for Harris & Associates a well-known law firm in Los Angeles focused on contracts and startup ventures. Andy worked as a Systems Change Advocate for the Dayle McIntosh Center, a Center for Independent (CIL) Living in Los Angeles, Orange California. While working at this CIL, he engaged in supporting autistic youth and other youth with disabilities in accessing resources to help them attain competitive integrated employment. He served as marketing director for CareerAccess, an employment initiative to improve career development for all youth with disabilities.

Edward S. (Ted) Brodtkin, M.D.
Associate Professor of Psychiatry
Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania

Dr. Ted Brodtkin is an Associate Professor of Psychiatry at the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. The Brodtkin lab uses mouse models relevant to autism spectrum disorders (ASD) and schizophrenia (SCZ) to elucidate genetic, cellular, and molecular mechanisms of social behavior disruptions. The ultimate goal of this research is to identify novel strategies for treatment of developmental disruptions of social behaviors. Dr. Brodtkin is also the recipient of one of the National Institute of Mental Health's SERV-ASD grants, which focuses on developing services strategies for adults with ASD. As an M.D., board certified psychiatrist, attending psychiatrist at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, and Director of the Adult Autism Spectrum Program at Penn Medicine, Dr. Brodtkin is committed to translating findings from basic research into improved care of patients. Dr. Brodtkin received his A.B. from Harvard University in 1988 and his M.D. from Harvard Medical School in 1992.

James C. McPartland, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Child Psychiatry and Psychology, Yale Child Study Center
Director, Yale Developmental Disabilities Clinic
Director of Undergraduate Studies, Yale Child Study Center

Dr. Jamie McPartland's program of research investigates the brain bases of neurodevelopmental disabilities to develop biologically-based tools for detection and treatment. He is the Principal Investigator of the Autism Biomarkers Consortium for Clinical Trials, a nationwide effort to identify biomarkers to support intervention research in ASD. His research has been supported by NIH, NARSAD, the Autism Science Foundation, the Waterloo Foundation, Autism Speaks, the Patterson Trust, and the Simons Foundation, and his contributions to the field have been recognized by the University of Washington's Bolles and Gatzert Child Welfare Fellowships, a Clinical and Translational Sciences Scholar Award from the Yale Center for Clinical Investigation, a Behavioral Science Track Award for Rapid Transition and a Patient-Oriented Research Career Development Award from the National Institutes of Mental Health, the NARSAD Atherton Young Investigator Award, the International Society for Autism Research Young Investigator Award, the Patterson Trust Clinical Research Award, the Brain & Behavior Research Foundation Klerman Prize, and the American Psychological Association Division of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Sara S. Sparrow Early Career Research Award. He has served on the Executive Committee of the American Psychological Association's Division of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and currently serves on the board of the International Society for Autism Research.

Heather Hazlett, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
University of North Carolina School of Medicine

Dr. Heather Hazlett is a licensed psychologist with a background in child neuropsychology and with research interests in neurodevelopmental disorders. During the last ten years, Dr. Hazlett's primary research interests have focused on brain development in autism and fragile X syndrome, using brain MRI scans to conduct studies of brain structure and maturation. Her work involves the use of specialized image analysis tools to examine how brain development in children with autism and related disorders compares to typical brain development. These methodologies allow Dr. Hazlett to investigate how variations in brain development influence behavior and development, and conversely, in what ways behavior may shape the trajectory of brain growth. In combination with the brain MRI data, Dr. Hazlett's work involves developmental and psychological assessments to test relationships between brain and cognition. Currently, Dr. Hazlett is the principal investigator (or collaborator) on several projects using neuroimaging to study the brain development in neurodevelopmental disorders including autism, fragile X syndrome, and Down syndrome. In addition to her research activities, Dr. Hazlett participates in a multi-disciplinary clinic conducting evaluations for autism spectrum disorders and co-supervises a pediatric neuropsychology clinic.

Mark Shen, Ph.D.
Postdoctoral Fellow
University of North Carolina

Dr. Shen is a clinical neuroscientist studying the early brain and behavioral development of children with autism. Dr. Shen obtained his Ph.D. in Cognitive Neuroscience from the UC Davis MIND Institute, and he is currently a postdoctoral fellow at the University of North Carolina. Prior to graduate school, Dr. Shen worked for six years doing clinical work in the community with individuals with autism (early intervention with young children; developing high school transition programs for teenagers; and integrating independent living and employment programs for adults). Dr. Shen has helped carry out longitudinal MRI studies in high-risk infants and toddlers with autism, and his current research objective is to integrate multiple approaches (clinical and behavioral assessment, infant brain imaging, and molecular genetics) to identify early risk markers for autism. Dr. Shen's ultimate goal is to translate his research into findings that are both useful to clinicians and beneficial for individuals and families living with autism.

Robert Schultz, Ph.D.

**R.A.C. Endowed Professor of Professor of Psychology
Director, Center for Autism Research
University of Pennsylvania**

Dr. Schultz founded and directs the Center for Autism Research (CAR) at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP). His research focuses on autism and related childhood neuropsychiatric disorders, including studies of Williams syndrome, Prader Willi syndrome, and 22q11.2 deletion and duplication syndromes in comparison to autism. His interest in autism also reflects a fundamental interest in social ability and disability. He has pursued several different but complementary research strands over the past two decades. He also collaborates with others at CAR on studies of autism comorbidities, including sleep disturbance, anxiety, intellectual disability and ADHD. His autism research has received continuous funding from the NIH since 1995. Before coming to UPenn/CHOP in 2007, he was on the faculty of Yale University for more than 15 years. His PhD and postdoctoral training were in clinical psychology and cognitive neuroscience.

Stuart K. Shapira, M.D., Ph.D.

**Associate Director for Science and Chief Medical Officer
National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD)
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

Stuart K. Shapira, MD, PhD is Associate Director for Science and Chief Medical Officer in the National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Prior to this role, Dr. Shapira served as a medical officer on the Pediatric Genetics Team in NCBDDD. His research activities included dysmorphology of autism, birth defects epidemiology, and newborn screening. Dr. Shapira received his PhD degree in Genetics and his MD degree, both from the University of Chicago. He completed a residency in Pediatrics and a clinical fellowship in Genetics and Metabolism at Boston Children's Hospital. He also completed dual research fellowships in Genetics and Metabolism, and in Allergy and Immunology at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Shapira is board-certified in Clinical Genetics, Biochemical Genetics, and Molecular Genetics. Prior to joining the National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities in 2005, Dr. Shapira practiced clinical genetics and metabolic genetics at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston and at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio. He currently serves as CDC liaison to the Committee on Genetics for the American Academy of Pediatrics, as chairman of the Dysmorphology Workgroup for the Centers for Autism and Developmental Disabilities Research and Epidemiology, and as NCBDDD liaison of the Interagency Collaborative to Advance Research in Epilepsy. Dr. Shapira has authored and coauthored more than 100 journal



articles, book chapters, and abstracts, and he has been an invited speaker at numerous regional, national, and international scientific conferences.