

# RAISING THE BAR

## 2017 COCHLEAR IMPLANT CONFERENCE

January 26, 2017 | Lowry Conference Center, 1061 Akron Way, Denver, CO 80230

### AGENDA AT-A-GLANCE

- 8:00 Registration/Sign in Begins  
8:30 Conference Opening Remarks (Lisa Cannon, CDE)  
**Keynote Presentation by Dr. Jill Firszt**  
10:00 Exhibit Room & Break (20 minutes)  
10:20 AM Breakouts (choose 1)  
**Technology & Resource Updates with the Manufacturers** (Advanced Bionics, Cochlear, Med El)  
**Increasing Auditory Learning in the Classroom: A Listen & Chat-Style Interactive Workshop**  
(Nanette Thompson, Joanna Stith & Marti Bleidt)  
**11:45 Lunch On Own (75 min)**  
1:00 PM Breakouts (choose 1)  
**Candidacy Case Studies** (Allison Bieber, Shannon Elam, DHH Team from Children's)  
**CI Users with Autism Spectrum Disorder** (Deborah Mood & Dinah Beams)  
2:25 Exhibit Room & Break (20 minutes)  
2:45 **Self-Advocacy Student Panel: Tips & Tools to Raise the Bar**  
(Facilitator: Kelly Welch & Panelists: Wilson Sperry, 4<sup>th</sup>, Ana Perez, 8<sup>th</sup>, Maddie Burkholder, Post-Secondary)  
4:00 Adjourn

**EXHIBITS BY:** Advanced Bionics | CDE DHH Mentor Program | CO AGBell | Cochlear  
CO Hands & Voices | Listen Foundation | Med El | Rosie's Ranch

### INTRODUCING OUR KEYNOTE PRESENTER



#### **Jill B. Firszt, PhD**

**Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis MO**

Professor, Department of Otolaryngology, Adjunct Professor, Program in Audiology and Communication Sciences, Director, Cochlear Implant Program

Dr. Jill B. Firszt is Professor in the Department of Otolaryngology and Director of the Cochlear Implant Program at Washington University School of Medicine. She is also Adjunct Professor in the Program in Audiology and Communication Sciences at Central Institute for the Deaf at Washington University. She earned her BS in Speech and Hearing Science, MA in Educational Audiology, and PhD in Speech and Hearing Science from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Dr. Firszt has been working with cochlear implant adult and pediatric patients in clinical and research studies since 1985 and currently directs the CI Program at WU with an emphasis on clinical and research interactions. Her research Lab is focused on studies of asymmetry in hearing, including adults and children with unilateral hearing loss, and studies that explore optimization of cochlear implant performance. She is the recipient of a K23 award and two R01 grants from the NIH/NIDCD. Her previous research has been supported by the Deafness Research Foundation, the American Hearing Research Foundation, and the McDonnell Science Foundation. Dr. Firszt has numerous publications in the areas of speech recognition, electrophysiology, and imaging measures in individuals with substantial hearing loss using cochlear implants and hearing aids.

## SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

### **Keynote Presentation by Dr. Jill Firszt**

The keynote will address the latest research and evidence-based practice pertaining to children using cochlear implants. Dr. Jill Firszt, Director of the Cochlear Implant Program at Washington University School of Medicine, will share pertinent clinical and research findings from her lab to support raising expectations for children who are candidates for, receive and use cochlear implants.

### **AM Breakout A: Technology & Resource Updates with the Manufacturers**

Technology changes often in the world of cochlear implants. This session will provide updates from the three major cochlear implant manufacturers Advanced Bionics, Cochlear, and Med El. Professionals from each of these companies will present the latest in technology as well as highlight resources they offer to educators and families. **Presenters:** Keri Reynolds, Consumer Outreach Manager, Med El; Lauren Snyder, Associate Clinical Territory Manager, Cochlear; Jennifer Raulie, Senior Clinical Specialist, Advanced Bionics.

### **AM Breakout B: Increasing Auditory Learning in the Classroom *A Listen & Chat-Style Interactive Workshop***

This highly interactive session will dig deep into what it takes to maximize auditory learning in the school setting for all ages. Participants will create measurable auditory objectives, gain insight on ways to maximize auditory learning throughout the school day, discover the power of the individual session and discover tools to empower and increase accountability among all members of the student's team. **Presenters:** Nanette Thompson, MS, CCC-SLP, Cert. AVT; Joanna Stith, PhD, CCC-SLP, Cert. AVT; Marti Bleidt, Teacher of the Deaf/Hard of Hearing, DPS. [Access handouts directly at this link.](#)

### **PM Breakout A: Candidacy Case Studies**

This session features pediatric clinical colleagues (audiologists and SLP's) sharing cochlear implant case studies highlighting some of their most unexpected successes. Participants will gain insight into the current variables affecting CI candidacy and leave with a better understanding of who is a good candidate to receive and benefit from a cochlear implant. **Presenters:** Allison Biever, Implant Audiologist at Rocky Mountain Cochlear Implant Center; Shannon Elam, Implant Audiologist at University of Colorado Hospital; Kerry Moriarty, Lindsay Kendall & Allison Armitage SLPs from the DHH Team at Children's Hospital Colorado.

### **PM Breakout B: CI Users with Autism Spectrum Disorder**

The co-occurrence of an autism spectrum disorder and reduced hearing can significantly complicate language development and outcomes. Early identification and intervention for symptoms of ASD is critical. To promote earlier identification of ASD, this presentation will briefly review "red flags" for ASD, including the unique ways these symptoms can present among children who are D/HH. Strategies using applied research and clinical experience to improve outcomes for CI users with ASD will be discussed. **Presenters:** Deborah Mood, PhD, Children's Hospital Colorado; Dinah Beams, MA, Program Coordinator, Colorado Home Intervention Program (CHIP).

### **Self-Advocacy Student Panel: Tips & Tools to Raise the Bar**

The final session of the day will bring educators back together for a student panel discussion and candid look at strategies to support self-advocacy and communication access for all ages of students who use CI's. What do kids say they need to be successful advocates? What are their favorite and most helpful tools and tricks? **The panel includes three current students of different ages (Wilson Sperry, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade; Ana Perez, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade; Maddie Burkholder, Post-Secondary) and facilitator Kelly Welch, TOD with Denver Public Schools and CDE DHH Mentor Program.** Kelly (and team) will also share some favorite resources for teaching and developing self-advocacy skills.

**[ACCESS ALL HANDOUTS AT THIS LINK](#)**