

Breakfast Club Lecture Series 2019

The Summer Foundation is proud to announce the Breakfast Club professional development lecture series for 2019 on brain injury rehabilitation, providing information about up-to-date research and clinical practice.



1 Wednesday 6 March

TOPIC: Experiences of Volunteering Following Acquired Brain Injury

This presentation will outline the experiences and benefits of volunteering as a means of re-entering a productive role following acquired brain injury, and the potential implications for neurorehabilitation and longer term recovery.

PRESENTER: Suzana Hercegovac (2016 Allen Martin Scholarship Winner), occupational therapist at AvantiCare and University of South Australia Honours graduate.

2 Wednesday 5 June

TOPIC: Building Bridges: Linking disconnected service networks

This presentation will discuss the Building Bridges: Linking disconnected service networks project which highlights training as an important part of a raft of initiatives needed to address the over representation of people with ABI in the criminal justice system.

PRESENTER: Dr. Glenn Kelly is a psychologist who is active in research, and is a regular presenter at workshops and conferences.

3 Wednesday 7 August

TOPIC: Participant Led Videos (PLVs)

This lecture will provide an overview of the Summer Foundation's innovation project to support people with cognitive-communications changes following ABI to 'voice' their meaningful goals, express their needs and desires in their own words and create a training video for their support workers.

PRESENTERS: Carolyn Finis, Chief of Staff, Summer Foundation
Cathy Bucolo, Clinical Practice Leader, Summer Foundation

4 Wednesday 2 October

TOPIC: Light Therapy for Fatigue Following Acquired Brain Injury

Fatigue and sleep disturbances are among the most common and persistent complaints following traumatic brain injury and stroke. This lecture will discuss a novel in-home light intervention that was developed to treat post-injury fatigue and sleep problems in a trial at the Monash-Epworth Rehabilitation Research Centre.

PRESENTER: Laura Connolly (2017 Allen Martin Scholarship Winner) is completing a Doctor of Clinical Neuropsychology at Monash University.

Venue: Meeting Room 1, Therapy Services Building, Royal Talbot Rehabilitation Centre, 1 Yarra Boulevard, Kew, 3121 (Parking available at centre for \$3)

Time: 8-9.30am. Light breakfast served from 7.30am for an 8am start

Cost: \$30 per lecture or \$100 for the four lecture series



To book, go to:
trybooking.com/ZXER

For more information

Contact Alana Dobra on 9894 7006 or email alana.dobra@summerfoundation.org.au

Podcasts of our 2018 Breakfast Club series are available at summerfoundation.org.au/lectures-2018



SUMMER
FOUNDATION



Wednesday 6 March 2019

Experiences of Volunteering Following Acquired Brain Injury

PRESENTER:

Suzana Hercegovac is an occupational therapist at AvantiCare and University of South Australia Honours graduate.

About the lecture

Most Breakfast Club audience members will already be aware of the challenges people with an acquired brain injury (ABI) face during the rehabilitation process. Many are unable to return to pre-injury functionality because of ongoing changes in physical and cognitive function. Our first Breakfast Club lecture for the year explores the role that volunteering plays as a means of re-entering a productive role following an acquired brain injury.

Research has highlighted the health benefits to resuming a productive role post-ABI, but there is little research around the role of volunteering as a rehabilitation tool. Suzana will share the findings of her honours thesis through detailing four case studies who took part in her study.

The lecture will consider the potential implications for neurorehabilitation and longer term recovery. It will touch on the importance of productivity in the lives of people with ABI during rehabilitation and recovery, as well as some of the challenges for services and health professionals involved.

Suzana will also discuss the perspective of close loved ones, paid carers and community workers who provided ongoing support during the volunteering activities.

About the Presenter

Suzana Hercegovac is an Honours graduate in the Occupational Therapy program from the University of South Australia. During her community and clinical placements Suzana worked across numerous settings and with various client groups including people with intellectual disability, in a sub-acute neurorehabilitation setting, and in community rehabilitation working with people with mental illness and older people. Suzana is now working with clients in residential aged care facilities and primarily assists with the management of chronic pain using a holistic and restorative approach.



Wednesday June 5 2019

Building Bridges: Linking disconnected service networks

PRESENTER:

Dr. Glenn Kelly is a psychologist who is active in research, and is a regular presenter at workshops and conferences.

About the lecture

There is an over representation of people with acquired brain injury (ABI) in prison populations across many countries. This over representation requires a more effective service response in order to reduce this trend. For this to happen the ABI sector and the criminal justice system (CJ) need to collaborate on multiple levels.

The 'Building Bridges' project piloted a professional development model that was designed to increase cross-sectoral knowledge and collaboration between the ABI and CJ sectors. The project aimed to increase contact, communication, and collaboration between workers in the ABI, disability, and justice sectors, as well as increase the knowledge base of workers within each sector.

Nearly 200 service providers from Victoria (Australia) participated in six professional development forums that included content about ABI, policing, disability and legal supports, and correctional/post-release services. Participants came from the disability, criminal justice, and health and community service sectors.

Dr Kelly will discuss details of the project, including the significant improvements in knowledge, behaviour change and cross-sector communication, and will discuss the importance of effective use of existing service resources and the important role that continued training plays in the initiatives required to address the over representation of people with ABI in the prison system

About the Presenters

Dr. Glenn Kelly is a psychologist who for 20 years has assisted clients, families, and service providers affected by neurobehavioral disorder. He has extensive experience providing behaviour support to assist people live successfully in their community. His clinical work involves direct therapeutic approaches with clients, psychoeducation and training for families and support staff, and tertiary advice regarding service development. Glenn is active in research, and is a regular presenter at workshops and conferences.



Wednesday 7 August 2019

Participant Led Videos (PLVs)

PRESENTERS:

Cathy Bucolo, Clinical Practice Lead, Summer Foundation

Carolyn Finis, Chief of Staff, Summer Foundation

About the lecture

The Summer Foundation obtained a grant under the Innovation Workforce Fund to co-design, pilot and evaluate the idea of supporting people with disability to make Participant Led Videos (PLVs), which are their own training videos for their support workers. They are an effective, innovative tool that gives people with disability the opportunity to lead the training of their support workers based on their self-described meaningful goals.

The lecture will discuss the process of creating PLVs, as it is much more than pointing and shooting a camera. It includes effectively supporting a person with disability to think about and express their personal goals. It translates these goals into constructive approaches and action that can be taken by a support worker on a regular, daily basis.

At each step of the video making process the choices, thinking and where possible the language, are that of the person with disability. This process, and the resulting training video was evaluated by Latrobe University and was found to be successful and effective because the process enabled people to have choice and control, set their own goals and direct their supports.

This Breakfast Club session will be an overview about the project and the PLV process, a demonstration of the resources available for everyone to use, and an update on the stage 2 phase of the project.

About the Presenters

Cathy Bucolo is the Clinical Practice Lead at the Summer Foundation, Cathy works to ensure people with disability have the right supports in place so they can live in the community. Cathy has worked as a speech pathologist, case manager, consultant, trainer and project worker for more than 20 years. She specialises in acquired brain injury, rehabilitation, disability and advocacy, transitional living and capacity building.

Carolyn Finis is the Summer Foundation's Chief of Staff, providing internal leadership in relation to the organisation's internal communications, strategy and culture. Carolyn also oversees the Summer Foundation's storytelling program and external communications.

Carolyn's role includes supporting people with severe brain injury or late onset progressive neurological conditions to publicly share their journey and experiences across a variety of mediums including media, public speaking and advocacy.

Carolyn is passionate about including the lived experience of the organisation's stakeholders, especially people with disability, into the work of the Summer Foundation.



Wednesday 2 October 2019

Light Therapy for Fatigue Following Acquired Brain Injury

PRESENTER:

Laura Connolly (2017 Allen Martin Scholarship Winner) is completing a Doctor of Clinical Neuropsychology at Monash University.

About the lecture

One of the most common and persistent complaints after experiencing an acquired brain injury or a stroke is fatigue and sleep disturbances. Developing an effective intervention for these disturbances is critical given their contribution to functional disability status.

There are currently no treatments for post-ABI fatigue that adequately address this issue or shows long-lasting effects. The lecture will discuss how a novel in-home light intervention was developed to treat post-injury fatigue and sleep problems in a randomised controlled trial conducted at the Monash-Epworth Rehabilitation Research Centre.

About the Presenter

Laura Connolly is completing a Doctor of Clinical Neuropsychology at Monash University, investigating how light therapy can be adapted in the home to treat post-acquired brain injury fatigue. She is also training to be a clinical neuropsychologist, and is currently completing her specialised placement at a Cognitive Dementia and Memory Service (CDAMS), working with older adults. She completed her Honours in Psychology at Monash University, with a thesis investigating the impact of REM sleep on emotional memory consolidation. Currently, she works as a Research Assistant undertaking developmental assessments of infants, and as a Teaching Associate within the School of Psychological Sciences at Monash University.
