

National Tour 2010 by Cori Williams, B App Sci (Speech and Hearing), BA (AS) (Hons), Dip Ed, Ph D, presenting in the area of “Working with Children from Multilingual Backgrounds”

The Association was very privileged to have Associate Professor Cori Williams as the 2010 National Tour speaker in Speech Pathology Australia’s CPD program presenting on “Working with Children from Multilingual Backgrounds”. Cori has worked as a teacher, university lecturer and speech pathologist and has a long-standing interest in cross cultural issues in language.



Working with children from multilingual backgrounds is very relevant in an increasingly multicultural Australia, with speech pathologists needing to bring to their workplace an understanding of the complex issues when working with children exposed to more than one language.

The National Tour incorporated a one-day workshop on covering assessment and intervention when working with children from multilingual backgrounds, plus a two-hour national videoconference on working with children from Indigenous populations. The National Tour was well attended with a total of 200 people attending the workshops held in every Branch and/or the national videoconference.

The feedback from the National Tour workshops on “Working with Children from Multilingual Backgrounds” has been very positive with comments including:

- Canberra in April: *“The workshop has broadened my horizons and given me new insight for my clinical practice. Very useful content from a very knowledgeable presenter. Great collation of the research.”*
- Launceston in April: *“Excellent presentation - very well paced, good balance of small group tasks and slides. Great use of references/research. Thank you Cori - a very balanced and clear workshop. Lots of reference to literature and list of resources.”*
- Melbourne in July: *“Good to receive up to date information in this challenging area. I will be in a better position to discuss issues with teachers, parents and colleagues.”, “I think it would be fantastic for all speechies to attend this event - it encourages us to think outside the box and challenge our own cultural practises!”*
- Adelaide in July: *“Excellent information about what is normal, current research and principles of assessment and intervention.”, “Really appreciated the currency of the information presented including articles that are in press.”*
- Darwin in August: *“Being able to inform parents/teachers of evidence has been really valuable to me. This has made me reflect on my whole understanding of the impact my culture has on my practice and also on the concept of client-centredness in the context of culture and values. Thanks Cori!”*
- Brisbane in September: *“A wonderfully engaging presentation that encouraged discussion. Cori gave a lot of food for thought, particularly in terms of cultural beliefs and values. It was particularly valuable to be directed to what research is available in this challenging area.”*
- Sydney in September: *“I think today was excellent and I have learnt a lot and will change the way I provide intervention”; “Thank you! Some interesting information presented with resources that can be integrated functionally into practice”.*
- Perth in October: *“The workshop presented by Associate Professor Cori Williams was outstanding and such a variable topic area to the changing nature of the Australian demographic.”*

The National Videoconference on “Aboriginal Australians and Language”, presented by Associate Professor Cori Williams in September ran successfully with 17 sites, 13 of which were rural and remote (including Albury, Alice Springs, Bairnsdale, Cairns, Charters Towers, Darwin, Geraldton, Mount Isa, Newcastle, Port Hedland, Wagga Wagga, Wollongong, and Aboriginal Lands District Office Northgate SA) and 4 of which were metropolitan (Melbourne, La Trobe University Bundoora, Brisbane, Manly).

To Associate Professor Cori Williams – on behalf of all in the CPD portfolio and all who attended the National Tour workshops, please accept our thanks for providing such stimulating and comprehensive workshops in this important area.

National Tour 2009 by Associate Professor Jacqueline Roberts

The 2009 National Tour by Associate Professor Jacqueline Roberts PhD on “Autism Spectrum Disorders: Understanding, Treating and Managing Autism” has now been completed. The National Tour was well attended with 350 people attending workshops held nationally. The feedback from each leg of the Tour was very positive with comments included below. To Associate Professor Roberts – on behalf of all in the CPD portfolio and all who attended the National Tour workshops, please accept our thanks for being such a wonderful and engaging presenter..



- Canberra in April: *For me the workshop 'sorted out' the varied assessment and intervention options in particular. I enjoyed the discussions (and the room/time for it) which were really informative. Presentation style was very engaging and I will leave this workshop with a much better (= more structured) understanding of autism. Thoroughly enjoyed the 2 days!; I particularly liked the objective yet compassionate approach of this lecturer.*
- Mackay in April: *Very enjoyable and interesting.*
- Brisbane in June: *Jacqui was highly knowledgeable and easy to listen to; Appreciated the great resources shared.*
- Hobart in June: *Comprehensive content - research / theories / clinical implications / management; A really enjoyable conference! The content was really informative and useful.*
- Darwin in August: *It was the most useful PD I have done in a long time; Thank you for organising such a wonderful and informative PD.*
- Griffith in September: *Very relaxed, interactive presentation; Great to share ideas with other professionals, reinforcing that on 'right track'; Loved the planning matrix; Really useful workshop – good to get theoretical background + strategies.*
- Melbourne in September: *Thanks for arranging a sensational national tour speaker. I feel my knowledge of issues around autism has been consolidated and organised and I feel better equipped to face the ongoing challenges. Thanks Jacqui too - a marvellous knowledgeable speaker!; Thanks so much for a wonderful, warm presentation and great examples from your extensive career! Really enjoyed both days.*
- Sydney in September: *Very practical & valuable information. I was very impressed. Loved the multidisciplinary focus, addressing all the approaches / interventions, planning matrix, very receptive to questions and open discussions. Thanks so much. Brilliant resources & ideas. Very interesting CPD event & it has been wonderful to listen to information presented by Associate Professor Jacqueline Roberts. I found her talk very helpful and valuable in adding to my understanding of intervention for people with Autism.*
- Adelaide in November: *Excellent presentation and wide range of information; Excellent framework and planning matrix; I found this inspiring and a great injection into my practice; Very thorough, good combination of group work and discussion*
- Perth in November: *Very well presented, speaker had very in- depth knowledge of the content, thought provoking and enjoyed opportunities to share information with others; Thank you so much - this is one of the best, most relevant and well organised events that I have attended. Many thanks to Jacqui Roberts!!*

To Associate Professor Roberts – on behalf of all in the CPD portfolio and all who attended the National Tour workshops, please accept our thanks for being such a wonderful and engaging presenter.

National Tour 2008 by Assoc Prof Sharynne McLeod



Speech Pathology Australia thanks Associate Professor Sharynne McLeod, our National Tour 2008 speaker.

Associate Professor Sharynne McLeod (at far right)
and registrants at the National Tour workshop in
Perth in October 2008

The Association was thrilled that Associate Professor Sharynne McLeod, PhD, FSPAA, CPSP, was the National Tour speaker for 2008. Dr Sharynne McLeod is associate professor in speech and language acquisition at Charles Sturt University, Bathurst (NSW). She is a Fellow of Speech Pathology Australia and is currently the editor of International Journal of Speech-Language Pathology (previously called Advances in Speech-Language Pathology). She has published and presented research about children with speech impairment nationally and internationally. Recently she has published International Guide to Speech Acquisition (Thomson, USA) and Speech Sounds: A Pictorial Guide to Typical and Atypical Speech (Plural, USA). Her presentations have been enjoyed by both clinicians and researchers and in 2007 she received an Australian government award "For sustained dedication, innovation and enthusiasm in university teaching that has had local, national and international impact".

Assoc Prof McLeod presented her "Sound management: Working with children with speech impairment" workshop in every state and territory in 2008. This practical two-day seminar presented cutting edge evidence from journals and books published during the last two years to enhance participants' professional practice with children with speech impairment.

The National Tour was very well attended by a total of 240 participants across Australia.

The legs of the 2008 National Tour were as follows:

- March/April 2008 – Canberra, Sydney and Brisbane: The feedback received included the following: "Thank Sharynne for her generosity in handing out information and making so much information freely available. Very accessible information. Case study excellent - I can read the journal with more ease now! Great mix of activities, listening, watching etc.", "So many things to take back to practise. Sharynne is an excellent presenter.", "Excellent event - would highly recommend others to attend as part of the National Tour. Excellent content with practical application to my caseload.", "I appreciate your thoroughness and passion and feel very much encouraged to (re) read ACQ / International Journal articles, also more empowered to be an advocate. I loved the update on phonetic symbols.", and "Feel inspired to apply what I have learned to my practice".
- August 2008 – Darwin: Feedback received included the following: "Fantastic presentation, with much needed research for our field and clients.", "Sharynne is dynamic and inspiring. I felt I learnt a lot.", "Sharynne was a very energetic and passionate presenter. Very informative.", "A worthwhile PD event. Sharynne was an engaging and passionate presenter. Thank you for coming to Darwin."
- September 2008 - Melbourne and Launceston: Feedback received included the following: "Thank you Sharynne for a wonderful professional development session. Your passion and enthusiasm for children and their speech definitely shone through and was a lovely asset to the sessions. You have provided me with so many new ideas! I hope to attend many more of your PD sessions in the future. Thank you!", "Awesome two days, thanks very much. Inspirational to learn from a passionate expert.", "Sharynne has been a wonderfully personable presenter, who provides relevant information as well as practical ideas for clinical

practice and service development. Thank you!", "I can only begin to imagine the amount of work Sharynne has put into preparing for this two day presentation. It was such a comprehensive range of information and so highly relevant to our clinical practice.", "Updated, comprehensive and inspiring.", "Sharynne is fabulous: engaging, well-prepared, very up-to-date, inspiring and approachable. Thank you so much!".

- October 2008 – Adelaide and Perth. Feedback received included the following: "I loved Sharynne's use of personal experience and evidence of how techniques work...Excellent workshop.", "I really thrived in your enthusiasm and positive outlook. Appreciated the "whole picture" outlook (considering international research and "whole" child consideration). Very broad and useful for me.", "It is fabulous to have such an energetic researcher contributing to our profession and being so generous in willingness to share. Also fab to have research made accessible.", "A most expert and effective presenter.", "A great, great event.", "Sharynne is such an entertaining, enthusiastic presenter. She inspires and excited you to learn and try new ways of thinking, challenging your thought process.", and "Sharynne McLeod is a very passionate presenter. It's great to hear the latest information. A privilege to hear her speak."

Our very sincere thanks to Sharynne for generously sharing her knowledge, experience, expertise and enthusiasm.

And thank you to all the participants who attended the workshops.

National Tour 2007 by Elizabeth Cardell, Ph D

Dr Elizabeth (Libby) Cardell presented throughout Australia, with 136 people attending her National Tour workshop *Psycholinguistic Therapies Unplugged: Principles, Processes, Parameters and Practicalities*.

Libby Cardell's interest in aphasia treatment and psycholinguistics stems from working as a speech pathologist in Cambridge, UK, in the mid-late 1980s. At that time, much of the seminal research in cognitive neuropsychology was being generated from the UK. Libby was particularly interested in the clinical application of psycholinguistic models to the assessment and treatment of acquired language disorders and, in 1999, she completed a research Master's degree that investigated the treatment efficacy for lexical-semantic anomia. She is about to submit her PhD which has investigated online and offline sentence comprehension in Broca's and anomic aphasia. Libby currently does some teaching and clinical education at the Division of Speech Pathology (UQ), and is employed by the Mater Health Services and the Australian Stuttering Research Centre, Sydney, and is carrying out research, based at the Mater Adult Public Hospital. She has presented in the area of acquired language disorders at workshops and conferences throughout Australia and in New Zealand.

Evaluation results were very positive with repeated comments from workshops testifying to Dr Cardell's gracious and skilled presentations. Feedback included:

- NSW – great attempt at making something muddy clear, excellent examples (provided,) and (excellent) review of theory/literature, good use of different modalities, great small group of participants, presenter keen to answer questions and allow discussion, good use of video.
- Qld, Brisbane –Fantastic linking of theory and practice. An informative, interesting and professional event = clinicians should definitely take advantage of this Library resource.

Qld, Townsville - thought provoking and stimulating; wonderful mix of theoretical information and practical tips

SA - "Excellent to have the opportunity to have such an indepth course with related EBP examples and information" "Great resource to refer back to and great to include actual dialogue of therapy techniques"

Vic - It was brilliant to hear from someone who can combine research with the realities of the clinical world.", "... the most useful and motivating PD event I have attended in ages. Excellent practical resources and therapy ideas ... thank you!

WA – Fantastic I have been so up skilled in this area as a result of the PD and the provided resources look ++ good; Wonderful the way therapy was unpacked as promised; Libby is a great, very engaging presenter whose explanations are very easy to follow, understand and relate to. This workshop has reinforced/reaffirmed my knowledge skills etc greatly.

Recordings of Dr Cardell's National Tour workshop is available via the Queensland Branch Office – for further details, please go to the CPD Lending Library brochure

<http://www.speechpathologyaustralia.org.au/Content.aspx?p=59>

National Tour 2006 by Mellanie Sherwood

Mellanie Sherwood presented workshops throughout Australia including *Blades: Adding Meaning and Interaction to Language Therapy for 2 to 5 year olds*; *Troubleshooting with Blades*; and *Childhood Apraxia of Speech*.

Mellanie Sherwood is an experienced clinician with over twenty years experience. She has held a variety of posts - clinical, administrative and teaching. Clinical interests include semantic problems in young children, high functioning autism and developmental verbal dyspraxia. Mellanie is an experienced presenter having presented BLADES in many states in recent years and as a Master Class at the 2003 National Speech Pathology Australia Conference in 2003.

Mellanie's National CPD Event was very well attended with a total of over 300 registrations for Mellanie's workshops held in 2006.

Evaluation results were very positive with repeated comments from workshops testifying to Mellanie's gracious and skilled presentations. Feedback included:

- ACT Blades – “Great mix of learning activities - very relevant and great practical ideas. One of the best workshops I've been to in a long while.”
- NSW: Blades - “Thank you Mellanie! This is the most exciting 2 days I have attended in ages! Everything was relevant and I was constantly thinking about my clients and how I could apply ideas.”
- NSW: Troubleshooting with BLADES - “Gained a great deal from the sessions. Really appreciated the ‘human’ aspect of this work - emotionally engaging and meaningful.”
- Qld, Brisbane: BLADES – “Provided me with a clear framework to approach semantic and pragmatic intervention.”
- Qld, Rockhampton: BLADES – “Challenged areas of early language intervention that I hadn't ever thought of. Practical aspects could be immediately applied to my clinical work.”
- SA: CAS – “FANTASTIC - very practical and well presented.”
- Tas: Blades – “Thank you very much Mellanie. Wonderful to have a fresh way of looking at analysing language and planning intervention with very functional aims and outcomes.”
- Vic: Troubleshooting with BLADES – “Another wonderful presentation from Mellanie. I'll come to anything else she ever does!!”
- Vic: BLADES – “An outstanding workshop presentation. Great mix of theory and practice. Can't wait to try out the ideas. Inspiring!”
- WA: Dyspraxia – “Comprehensive and relevant.” “Mellanie is a fantastic presenter. Excellent mix of theory and practical examples.”

National Tour 2005 by Caroline Bowen, Ph D

An enthusiastic ambassador for her profession, Caroline Bowen PhD is a Speech Pathologist in private practice in the Blue Mountains outside Sydney, and an Honorary Associate in Linguistics at Macquarie University. In an uninterrupted career that has spanned over 30 years, her workload has evolved into a unique, absorbing and happy blend of hands-on clinical practice and research. Her interests include children's speech sound development and disorders, computer applications in speech-language pathology, information and communication technology (ICT), continuing professional education, and family centred practice – all of which will be reflected in this National Tour.

Dr Caroline Bowen completed two multi-Branch tours in 2005, with workshops in:

- April 2005 in Victoria, Tasmania, South Australia and Western Australia.
- July 2005 in NSW, Queensland (Brisbane and Cairns) and Northern Territory

All Branches offered the two-day workshop on *Children's Speech Sound Disorders: a practical update*, except in Tasmania which offered it as a one day workshop and in Cairns and Brisbane where it ran for 1.5 days, with Brisbane also including a half-day workshop on *The Internet for Speech Pathologists* to complete the two day program.

The National CPD Event in 2005 by Dr Caroline Bowen was very well attended with a total of 368 people attending the workshops nationally.

Evaluation results were very positive. Comments from all workshops were testimonials to Caroline's generosity and expertise and included:

- "Caroline combines the best of clinical practicability, evidence based practice and academic expertise with exceptional generosity." (NSW)
- "Everyone raved about the quality of the presentation and about Caroline as a speaker" (NT)
- "The best professional development I've been to. Very practical with inclusion of so many examples- very helpful" (Qld)
- "Great to get information on a wide range of speech sound disorders and treatment approaches. Liked info on therapy/options how to do it" (SA)
- "Fantastic information but would have liked more time. In fact I think I would like to spend a few weeks with Caroline. What an amazing person." (Tas)
- "Caroline Bowen was a magnificent choice as National Tour Speaker. She left us with so much information and places to go for more information. I feel empowered and exhilarated to get back to my phonological clients!" (Vic)
- "Well organized and excellent clinical application. Generous sharing of resources. Excellent. Best presenter in 25 years." (WA)

National Tour 2004 by Maggie Lee Huckabee, Ph D

Maggie-Lee Huckabee, Ph.D. is a senior lecturer in the department of Communication Disorders at the University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand, and a senior researcher at the Van der Veer Institute for Parkinson's and Brain Research. Maggie Lee's appointment to the University of Canterbury was her first academic appointment following her Ph.D. With a lengthy clinical background in health, her research interests focus heavily on the understanding of swallowing biomechanics as they are influenced by rehabilitation and the complexities of neural control and neural recovery underlying swallowing behaviour. She is involved in undergraduate teaching in the areas of neuroscience and dysphagia, for which she has been awarded a University Teaching Award. However she spends most of her time and energy supervising a host of postgraduate research students. Dr. Huckabee has recently served on the board of the International Dysphagia Research Society, is a founding member of the Executive Management Team of the Van der Veer Institute and actively publishes in and reviews for international research journals.

Maggie Lee presented two one-day workshops "Beyond Compensation – Rehabilitation of the Patient with Dysphagia" and "the Questions we need to be asking: Limitations in our approaches to Rehabilitation" in various states throughout Australia in 2004.

These workshops were very well attended and positive feedback was received, including "Every speech pathologist should attend this very useful and informative workshop", "Great event, wonderful speaker", "Inspiring speaker", and "Just excellent in all aspects".

Recordings of Maggie Lee Huckabee's National Tour workshops are available via the Association's CPD Lending Library – for further details, please go to the CPD Lending Library brochure <http://www.speechpathologyaustralia.org.au/Content.aspx?p=59>