

18th Annual
**Eleanor M. Saffran Conference on Cognitive Neuroscience &
Rehabilitation of Communication Disorders**

Saturday and Sunday, September 21-22, 2024

The Roles of Caregivers and Companions in Rehabilitation of Communication Disorders
Preliminary Program

Day One: Saturday, September 21st

Research on Caregiving and Companions in Healthcare

Morning

- 9:00-9:15 **Introduction: Dr. Nadine Martin or Dr. Jaime Reilly**
- 9:15-10:15 **Alys Griffiths, Ph.D., University of Sheffield**
The Impact of Psychosocial and Psychotherapeutic Interventions for People Living with Dementia and their Families
- 10:15-10:30 *Break*
- 10:30-11:30 **Liz Halstead, Ph.D., UCL London**
Sleep, Resilience, and Mental Health in Individuals with Autism and their Care Partners
- 11:30-12:30 **Brian Boyd, Ph.D., University of North Carolina (UNC)**
Community-Based Interventions to Increase Participation and Representation for Members of Historically Marginalized and Vulnerable Groups

Afternoon

- 12:30-1:30 **Lunch**
Student Scholar Lunch with one or more representatives of the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders
- 1:30-3:00 **Poster Session (Student Scholar awardees)**
- 3:00-4:00 **Sharon Antonucci, Ph.D. CCC-SLP, Director of MossRehab Aphasia Center**
Animal Assisted Interventions as Companionship for Individuals with Aphasia
- 4:00-4:15 *Break*
- 4:15-5:15 **Leanne O. Nieforth, Ph.D., Purdue University**
Benefits and Challenges of Animal Assisted Interventions for Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder
- 5:15 – 5:30 *Closing remarks*

Day Two: Sunday, September 22nd

Caregivers' Contributions to the Rehabilitation and Habilitation Process and Approaches to Improving Support of their Needs

Morning

9:00-10:00 **Keynote Address: Kristen Bottema-Beutel, Ph.D., Boston College**
The Involvement of Caregivers in Understanding Communication in Autistic Children and Youth

10:00-10:30 **Q & A Session**

10:30-11:30 **Keynote Address: Kathryn Helland, Temple University**
The Role of Assistive Technologies in Enabling Caregivers to Communicate and Play an Active Role in the Rehabilitation Process

11:30-12:00 **Q & A Session**

Afternoon

12:00-1:00 **Lunch**

1:00-2:00 **Panel Discussion 1: Challenges and Interventions for Caregivers of People with Autism**

Kristen Bottema-Beutel, Ph.D., Boston College

Liz Halstead, Ph.D., UCL London

Kathryn Helland, Temple University

Additional contributors to be determined

2:00-2:15 **Q & A Session**

2:15-2:30 *Break*

2:30-3:30 **Panel Discussion 2: Challenges and Interventions for Caregivers of People Primary Progressive Aphasia and Frontotemporal Dementia**

Alys Griffith, Ph.D., University of Sheffield

Jamie Reilly, Temple University

Additional contributors to be determined

3:30-3:45 **Q & A Session**

3:45-4:00 **Closing Speech & Adjourn**

ASHA CEUs will be offered for this conference.