



EARLY CHILDHOOD INTERVENTION AUSTRALIA

Sixth Biennial National ECIA Conference



Broadening the Vision

*Building Cohesive Communities
for Children and Families*

Grand Hyatt, Melbourne

25 – 27 July 2004

Call for Abstracts

www.cdesign.com.au/ecia2004

Attention

- Early Childhood Intervention Professionals
- Generic Early Childhood Staff
- Parents
- Service Providers
- Researchers

Conference Themes

Community Cohesion
Family Issues
Inclusion
Service Delivery
Training
Specific Disabilities

Invited Speakers

International Speakers

Professor Glen Dunlap
Florida Mental Health Institute,
University of South Florida

Dr PJ McWilliam

Division of Child Development,
Vanderbilt University Medical Centre, USA

Professor Robin McWilliam

Division of Child Development,
Vanderbilt University Medical Centre, USA

Australian Speakers

Assoc Professor Terrie Inder
Centre for Community Child Health,
Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne

Dr Tim Moore

Centre for Community Child Health,
Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne

Mr Paul Prichard

Deputy National Director,
Good Beginnings Australia

Important Dates

Abstracts due	20 December 2003
Confirmation letters distributed	30 January 2004
Registration Brochure distributed	27 February 2004
Early Bird Registration close	1 June 2004
Full Papers due	1 June 2004
Conference	25 – 27 July 2004



EARLY CHILDHOOD INTERVENTION AUSTRALIA

Sixth Biennial National ECIA Conference

Invitation to Melbourne, Victoria 2004

The Victorian Chapter of Early Childhood Intervention Australia invites you to participate in the 6th Biennial National Conference being held in Melbourne on 25 – 27 July 2004.

The theme *Broadening the vision: Building cohesive communities for all children and families* is intended to reflect the recent emphasis on the similarities that exist among all young children and their families, and the need to revise, challenge, and expand our views about current practices in early childhood intervention. Within this context, the focus of the Conference is on the benefits that the provision of inclusive, positive, community-oriented opportunities bring for children with additional needs and their families. The various Conference themes will bring together a range of fields of research and practice in early childhood intervention, including key aspects of generic and specialist service delivery; effective teamwork practices; and development of positive supports for and with children and families in their communities, among others. The program will contain at least one presentation in each session that will be of interest to different audiences, including parents, generic service providers, early childhood intervention staff, and researchers.

ECIA (Early Childhood Intervention Australia) and NIFTeY (National Investment for The Early Years) have formed a partnership as joint organisers for this Conference to ensure that all understandings of the importance of the early years in setting the scene for later development, well-being and community participation are depicted throughout the Conference. In addition, the Conference is linked with the International OMEP Conference for early childhood educators and childcare workers, (held in Melbourne immediately prior to the ECIA Conference), which will bring together international speakers and a display of children's works of art.

Such stimulating program content can only be matched by a similarly exciting social program that incorporates the best of Melbourne and surroundings with its non-stop arts, theatre and entertainment activities. The weather can be relied on to be cold but the blossom will be emerging, especially the acacias. Childcare, and sponsorship, and reduced fees will be available to encourage parents to participate in the sessions.

The Conference will be sponsored by the Department of Human Services Victoria (Family & Community Care Branch). We look forward to your company in July 2004.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Invited International Speakers

Professor Glen Dunlap

Dr PJ McWilliam

Professor Robin McWilliam

Invited Australian Speakers

Assoc Professor Terrie Inder

Dr Tim Moore

Mr Paul Prichard

CONFERENCE STREAMS

We invite abstracts for papers, seminars and poster presentations, which will expand the theme in relation to:

Community Cohesion

Advocacy

Rights and Responsibilities

Early Childhood

Community Partnerships

Neighbourhoods and Play

Family Issues

Well-being and Strengths

Information

Siblings and Extended Family

Fathers

Cultural Diversity

Family Support/Parenting Issues

Inclusion

Effective Practices

Inclusion in Communities

Transition

Professional Skills for Inclusion

Working in Teams (generic and specialist services)

Service Delivery

Service Provision in Isolated Settings

Policy and Practice

Communicating with Families

Management Issues

Leadership

Training

Evaluation and Standards

Recommended Practices

Ethics

Specific Disabilities

Autism Spectrum Disorder

General Developmental Delay

Sensory impairments (vision/hearing)

Physical

Communication

Prematurity and Disability

PARENTS

The conference will have at least one stream of particular interest to parents throughout. So the organisers rely on parent contributions to help this happen. Parents find strength, information and support from hearing each other's stories and journeys. As well staff want to hear from parents to help them be as aware and effective as possible. So please think about whether you have something you would like to say – join with a group of others to present or let us combine your story with other parent contributions. Tell us how long you think your talk might take. It might be less than the standard times. That's OK. We promise you, parents can be assured of having an attentive and interested audience.

SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS

Draft abstracts, consisting of 300-400 words (text only) should be received by the Conference Secretariat by 20 December, 2003. Acceptance or non-acceptance of abstracts will be sent by 30 January 2004.

Authors should state their preferred format of presentation (oral paper, workshop or poster); however the academic committee in balancing the programme may ask authors to alter the manner of presentation.

If your abstract is accepted you will be asked to submit a paper to support your abstract. If presenting an oral paper, workshop or poster you must register for the Conference.

Oral papers will be presented in concurrent sessions of 30 or 45 minutes including a 5 minute question time. When submitting, please indicate which session length is preferred for presentation of papers. The academic committee may request that presentations lengths be changed to fit the final program.

Workshops Sessions will be set aside in the program of 90 minute's duration. We envisage the workshops being interactive sessions. Authors who state a preference for presenting workshop sessions must state on the abstract submission form in less than 200 words how the delivery of their workshop material qualifies as interactive.

Posters will be displayed for the duration of the Conference. Specific times will be allocated in the program for the presentation of posters. Posters will be allocated a 1 metre wide x 2 metre high poster board. Posters can combine text and graphical information

We prefer that you submit your abstract electronically, as this will ensure consistency in the submission and review process. Abstracts can be submitted by accessing the conference home page at www.cdesign.com.au/ecia2004 and following the links to Abstract Submission Form.

You will be asked to enter:

- Name and address of Corresponding Author
- Preferred presentation type
- Authors
- Authors' affiliation
- Abstract title
- Keywords.

The date will be encrypted and transferred to the Conference database. You will receive a Confirmation of Receipt notice once your submission has been checked and registered. There will be a review panel consisting of members with an academic, research, practitioner and parent of a child with additional needs backgrounds. Papers will be reviewed by people with a relevant background to the paper's author.

Those with a research background will review research papers, parents will review parent papers and practitioners will review practice papers.

If you are unable to lodge your abstract via the website, please contact Conference Design.

Copies of abstracts received by email, facsimile or post will not be automatically registered for review, so it is imperative that you contact Conference Design if you have any queries.

Audio Visual Equipment

It is envisaged the following equipment will be available for presentations:

- Powerpoint
- 35m Slide Projector
- Overhead Projector
- Video
- Whiteboard.

ACCOMPANYING PARTNERS & TOURS

There are tours and attractions to suit all tastes and interests. The Conference Secretariat will assist with arrangements. There will be an opportunity for those who are interested to visit service providers on the Wednesday immediately following the conference.

TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION

The Conference Secretariat, Conference Design, will provide details of airfares and accommodation options on the Registration Form, which will be distributed at the end of February 2004.

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CHILDREN'S ART EXHIBITION

In conjunction with the 24th World Congress of OMEP an exhibition of children's art will be on display in the foyer of the Melbourne Exhibition Centre during the week of 21 – 24 July. The exhibition will then be displayed at the Grand Hyatt during the ECIA conference 25 – 27 July 2004. For further details on submission and criteria, please contact Dawn Hore from the Art Exhibition Sub Committee by telephoning 03 9878 9713 or e-mail ghore@bigpond.net.au

All queries to the

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