



June 2018

Dear Members of the NFI,



FY 2017-2018 NFI Board of Directors (from the left):

Mandy Daly, ACII, DLDU, gretchen Lawhon, PhD, RN, CBC, FAAN, Jim Helm, PhD,

Deborah Buehler, PhD, Dorothy Vittner, PhD, RN, Heidelise Als, PhD, Gloria McAnulty, PhD,

Juzer Tyebkhan, MB (Absent: Nikk Conneman, MD, Björn Westrup, MD, PhD)

On May 3 & 4, our NFI Board of Directors met in New Hampshire for our annual mid-year meeting. Topics included reviews and discussions of: our budget and financial plans for the next year; our Strategic Plan's Strategies and Action Plans; future NIDCAP Trainers Meetings; and specifics from NFI Committees (Program, Advancement, and Governance). In addition, *Karen Helm, MA*, board development professional (and *Friend of NIDCAP*), facilitated a very productive discussion to address the immediate and critical challenges prompted by recent and upcoming Board Member changes and organization needs. The Board generated new strategies for covering core administrative functions and for recruiting and electing and appointing new board members to support the NFI and its goals. For more details from our meeting, please see the Minutes to be posted within the Member Services section of our website when they are available.

Every year, the NFI holds an election for its open seats on the board. This October will be a significant transition for the NFI with two of our long-standing members and leaders stepping down from their elected board positions, *gretchen Lawhon, PhD, RN, CBC, FAAN* and *Jim Helm, PhD*. *gretchen* and *Jim* are incredible champions of NIDCAP and the NFI's efforts and successes. They have worked tirelessly to

ensure that NIDCAP is ever integrated into nursery care around the world. Their legacies will be felt for years to come. gretchen and Jim's board seats are open for election for new members. (Note: Mandy Daly's board seat is also up for re-election and she plans to seek another term.) Newly elected NFI members bring new ideas and perspectives to our board. We are a VERY active "working" board with whole board as well as committee participation. With our annual election of new board members, we seek to balance organizational continuity (our existing board members) with the contributions of the NFI's emerging future leaders (our newly elected board members). Please watch for the "Call for Nominations for the NFI Board of Directors" and consider this opportunity to join our efforts. Please direct all inquiries to *Jim Helm, PhD*, Chair of the Nominations, Elections and Appointments Sub-Committee ([jimhelm27@gmail.com](mailto:jimhelm27@gmail.com)).

#### UPDATES:

- *Joy Browne, PhD, PCNS-BC, IMH-E (IV)*, Australasian NIDCAP Training Center, achieved certification as Senior NIDCAP Master Trainer.
- The Karolinska NIDCAP Training and Research Center, Sweden (established in 1999) acknowledges the tremendous leadership of *Björn Westrup, MD, PhD*, Founder and Director of the first NIDCAP Center outside of the United States. Björn continues to be affiliated with the training center and to promote NIDCAP around the world. The center announces new leadership with *Stina Klemming, MD* (Director and NIDCAP Trainer-in-Training), *Björn Westrup, MD, PhD* (Co-Director), *Lena Westas, MD, PhD* (Medical Co-Director), *Ann-Sofi Ingman, RN BSN* (Nursing Director and NIDCAP Trainer), and *Agneta Kleberg, PhD, RN* (Senior NIDCAP Master Trainer).
- The Third Abstract Edition of the [Developmental Observer](#) was published with the abstracts from the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual NIDCAP Trainers Meeting. The NFI thanks *Diane Ballweg, MSN, APRN, CNS, RNC-NIC* for serving as the *Developmental Observer's* Senior Editor over the past year. Diane will move into an Associate Editor role in support of our NFI newsletter.
- Invitations for our 29th Annual NIDCAP Trainers Meeting were sent out in May. This year's meeting, October 20-23, 2018, will be hosted by the São João NIDCAP Training Center in Porto, Portugal. The closing date for registration for our By-Invitation Only Meeting is September 17, 2018. Meeting details are posted on the [Trainers Meeting](#) page of the NFI website. Please check the website for updates and email all meeting questions to [nidcap2018@skyros-congressos.com](mailto:nidcap2018@skyros-congressos.com)

Related to our Annual NIDCAP Trainers Meeting:

- Call for *Abstracts* (Deadline for submissions is July 1, 2018). Questions and submissions should be addressed to *Linda Lacina, MSN, RN* ([Linda.Lacina@cchmc.org](mailto:Linda.Lacina@cchmc.org)) and *Kaye Spence, AM, RN, MN* ([kayeNFI@gmail.com](mailto:kayeNFI@gmail.com)).
- Call for *NFI Member Panelists* on the Open Meeting Day, Monday, October 22. This session is an opportunity for members to share their valuable work and/or projects around three themes: Supporting the infant; Creating nurturing environments; and Supporting the family-infant relationship. The open-day schedule features a keynote speaker followed by a panel of presenters (to be formed) who will discuss how these themes have been operationalized into their respective nurseries. Following the panel members' individual presentations, the audience will have an opportunity for discussion/reflection on their own hospital/unit settings. Please contact *Jean Powlesland, RN, MS* ([jpowlesl@uic.edu](mailto:jpowlesl@uic.edu)) *Nikk Conneman, MD* ([n.conneman@erasmusmc.nl](mailto:n.conneman@erasmusmc.nl)) and *Fatima Clemente, MD* ([clemente.fatima@gmail.com](mailto:clemente.fatima@gmail.com)) with ideas, questions and interest.

- Call for *Journal Club* submissions deadline is June 15, 2018. The Journal Club serves to keep us up to date with the latest research, particularly that which relates to NIDCAP Training and Education. Please contact Juzer Tyebkhan, MB to participate and with questions ([Juzer.Tyebkhan@albertahealthservices.ca](mailto:Juzer.Tyebkhan@albertahealthservices.ca)).

NEWS:

- NFI Member, *Rohan Joshi, PhD Candidate*, Eindhoven University of Technology, The Netherlands shared his recent publication: Unlike Kangaroo care, mechanically simulated Kangaroo care does not change heart rate variability in preterm neonates.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.earlhumdev.2018.04.031>
- Our Google ListServ held a discussion of Kangaroo care with baby on high frequency oscillating vent.

Your feedback, questions, comments, NFI updates, and membership news addressed to the Board, and/or to me personally always are welcome.

Yours in support of the NFI,

Deborah

Deborah Buehler, PhD  
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