



October 2018

Dear Members of the NFI,

This month our Trainers, Training Center Directors and Supporters will be together for our Annual NIDCAP Trainers Meeting... this year in Portugal. Participants make a true commitment of time and resources to travel and share these three and a half days with one another. We share and learn and grow our work and our organization. Yet it may be the intangibles of this unique gathering of people who share a philosophy of care that are the richest part of the experience. Our meeting offers us opportunities to validate, strengthen and refuel our investment in NIDCAP. It gives us the opportunity for reflection and support. It is a cherished and invaluable part of our tradition and our future.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING:

The NFI Annual Membership Meeting will be held Sunday, October 21, 2018 at the Sheraton Porto Hotel in Porto, Portugal. This is the primary meeting of the membership at large and the board. Our meeting will include an overview of NFI accomplishments and next steps, a review of our NFI finances and proposed new funding year budget and our Board Member elections. Additionally, we will have time for members' ideas and questions which will serve to inform one another as well as our next organizational steps.

UPDATES:

- The NFI announced the annual election of Directors to the Board. This year there are three terms ending, two at-large seats and one family representative seat. These are currently held by *gretchen Lawhon, RN, PhD, Jim Helm, PhD, and Mandy Daly, ACII, DLDU* respectively. *gretchen* and *Jim* will not seek re-election; *Mandy* will run for re-election. Please direct all questions to *Jim*, Chair of the Nominations, Elections and Appointments Sub-Committee (jimhelm27@gmail.com).
- *Jim Helm, PhD* decided to not seek re-election to the NFI Board of Directors for another three-year term. His current responsibilities include chairing two standing committees (Advancement and Governance) and managing member services. He and the Board want to ensure that these critical efforts are smoothly transitioned to NFI board and leadership members over the coming year. Therefore, the Board has approved a one-year appointment for *Jim* to continue on the Board and he has graciously accepted. *The NFI Board of Directors is pleased to announce that Jim will continue as an active, voting director on the Board for one year to support our organization's transitions.* With our sincere appreciation to *Jim* and his continued commitment and investment in the NFI.
- Changes at the Carolina NIDCAP Training Center: *Jim Helm, PhD, Senior Trainer*, has (mostly) retired as the Center Director though he plans to continue NIDCAP training. His new email address is jimhelm27@gmail.com. *Dorothy Vittner, RN, PhD, CHPE, Senior Trainer*, has moved to WakeMed and is the center's new Center Director. Her contact information: dvittner@wakemed.org and (919) 350-8276 (work phone number).
- The Barcelona-Vall d'Hebron and Dr Josep Trueta NIDCAP Training Center will now be comprised of two related hospitals of Barcelona-Vall d'Hebron and Hospital Universitari de Girona Dr Josep Trueta. *Fatima Camba, MD, Estrella Gargallo, RN, and Josep Perapoch, MD, PhD* will continue as the NIDCAP Training Team.

- Changes at the Brussels NIDCAP Training Center: *Dominique Haumont, MD*, a longstanding champion of NIDCAP, is stepping down from her role as Co-Director of the training center. *Dr. Marie Tackoen* is now the center's Co-Director with *Inge Van Herreweghe, MD* as the center's Director.
- The NIDCAP Nursery Program Steering Committee welcomes new members - *Monique Oude Reimer-van Kilsdonk, RN, NIDCAP Trainer, Sophia NIDCAP Training Center, Co-Director* and *Dorothy Vittner, RN, PhD, CHPE, Senior Trainer, Carolina NIDCAP Training Center, Director*.
- The French NIDCAP Center, Brest is celebrating its 20th Anniversary. They are marking the event with a regional event for professionals and families in association with SOS Prema, the national family group. The focus of the celebration is on the role of parents in the NICU.
- World Prematurity Day (WPD) 2018 preparations are underway. Thank you to our members who submitted photographs of NIDCAP care for our Annual NFI WPD poster representing **NIDCAP Care Around the World**. Please check the NFI's [World Prematurity Day](#) webpage for updates.
- The São João NIDCAP Training Center is hosting the 29th Annual NIDCAP Trainers Meeting on October 20-23, 2018 in Porto, Portugal. Please check the [Trainers Meeting](#) page of the NFI website for details and updates. Email all meeting questions to nidcap2018@skyros-congressos.com.

NEWS:

- *Erin Sundseth Ross, PhD, CCC-SLP, NIDCAP Professional*, is offering a training course -The SOFFI MethodSM: Supporting Oral Feeding in Fragile Infants in Lousa, Portugal, October 25 & 26, 2018, immediately following the NIDCAP Trainers Meeting. Register at feedingfundamentals.com (click on Oct 25-26 for registration details).
- *Dr. Inga Warren, Senior NIDCAP Trainer*, was awarded a Fellowship of the Royal College of Occupational Therapy for her contribution to newborn occupational therapy and also an honorary doctorate from Oxford Brookes University.
- *Linda Lacina, MSN, RN, HN-BC, NIDCAP Trainer*, shared that NIDCAP Cincinnati is collaborating with the Mayerson Center for Safe Children, the child abuse division of our Cincinnati Children's Medical Center, "to proactively address the toxic stress" experienced by NICU families and staff.
- On our Google ListServ there was a call for information on the use of cuddle cots.

Your feedback, questions, comments, NFI updates, and membership news written to me personally and/or to the whole board, are welcome.

Yours in support of the NFI,

Deborah

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