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## Fuss Research Seminar Presents Celebration of the Life and Enduring Legacy of Heidelise Als, PhD March 1, 2023 via Zoom, 1-2pm EST



In her remarkably accomplished career, Heidelise Als, PhD (Heidi) changed the lives of thousands of infants, family members and professionals around the world. She successfully brought behavioral science to the newborn intensive care bedside in the form of a clinically applicable observational approach with paradigm changing therapeutic implications, the Newborn Individualized Developmental Care and Assessment Program (NIDCAP). Because of her determination and fortitude, newborn intensive care programs have changed the way high-risk infants and their families are viewed, cared for, and approached. Heidi distinguished herself nationally and internationally as an investigator whose passionate life's work has immeasurably

improved the way a most vulnerable population, infants born prematurely, are perceived and how they receive care. In addition to her academic and clinical achievements, Heidi founded the NIDCAP Federation International (NFI: <a href="https://nidcap.org">https://nidcap.org</a>), a nonprofit organization that ensures the quality of the NIDCAP model of developmental care education, training and implementation through 29 training centers, and that ultimately improves the future for infants in hospitals and their families around the world. The NIDCAP program will continue to provide comprehensive family centered evidence-based approach to developmental care for newborn and infant intensive care nurseries to new generations of infants and their parents.

## **Speakers**

Samantha Butler, PhD is a developmental and clinical psychologist, whose focus is toward improving the quality of hospital care and long-term outcomes for high-risk infants and their families through clinical innovation and investigation. She is the Director of Infant Inpatient Neurodevelopment in the Cardiac Neurodevelopmental Program at Boston Children's Hospital, Director of the National NIDCAP Training Center at Boston Children's Hospital, Assistant Professor at Harvard Medical School, Co-Chair of the Quality Improvement Committee of the Cardiac Neurodevelopmental Outcome Collaborative (CNOC), and Co-Chair of the Cardiac Newborn Neurodevelopmental Network (CNNN) a SIG of CNOC. She was recently awarded the Children's Heart Foundation Research award to investigate the effects of NIDCAP on children with heart disease.

Jacques Sizun, MD is a neonatologist, professor of pediatrics at the University of Toulouse. NIDCAP certified in 2000, he participated with Dr. Nathalie Ratynski in the creation of the first French-speaking NIDCAP training center in Brest in 2004. He has translated, adapted and developed various training courses all based on the Synactive Theory model (SOFFI, FINE, NBO). He is the coordinator of the "Groupe de Réflexion et d'Evaluation sur l'Environnement du Nouveauné" (GREEN). He was the recipient of the 2019 Virginia Apgar Award from the French Society of Neonatalogy.

## **Moderator**

Gloria McAnulty, PhD is a neuropsychologist and researcher scientist in the Department of Psychiatry at Boston Children's Hospital. Her research with Dr. Als and members of the Neurobehavioral Infant and Child Studies (NBICS) laboratory has focused on the development, validation and dissemination of the NIDCAP model of developmental care. She succeeds Dr. Als as NBICS Director and is a member of the National NIDCAP Training Center at Boston Children's Hospital. Dr. McAnulty is Assistant Professor at Harvard Medical School. She is a founding member of the NIDCAP Federation International and has served on its Board of Directors as Treasurer since its incorporation in 2001.