

Speaker Biographies

Mark J. Ashley, Sc.D., CCC-SLP, CCM, CBIS, Centre for Neuro Skills®

Mark Ashley is Founder and President / CEO of Centre for Neuro Skills® which has operated postacute brain injury rehabilitation programs at facilities in Bakersfield and Encino, California, and Irving, Texas, since 1980. Dr. Ashley serves on the Board of Directors of the Brain Injury Association of America, is the Immediate Past Chair and serves on the Chairman's Circle. He also serves on the Board of Directors of the California Brain Injury Association and is the current Chair. He is the Immediate Past Chair of the Corporate Advisory Committee of the American Academy for Certification of Brain Injury Specialists. He participated in preparation of Traumatic Brain Injury Medical Treatment Guidelines for the State of Colorado Department of Labor and Employment and serves on several grant review committees. He worked to establish BIAA's, Brain Injury Business Practices College and the Business and Professional Council. He serves as the Vice Chairman of the Access to Treatment Committee of the Business and Professional Council, and the Federal Legislative Advisory Committee for The Brain Injury Association of America. He served on the California Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Council. He is a member of the Advisory Committee for the Department of Rehabilitation Sciences, Cyprus University of Technology, and a member of the Advisory Board for the Applied Neuroscience and Neurobehavioral Research Center, University of Cyprus.

Dr. Ashley received his Masters Degree in Speech Pathology and a Doctorate of Science from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, Illinois. In 1995, Dr. Ashley was named Distinguished Alumni of the Year by Southern Illinois University at Carbondale. He is an Adjunct Professor for the University's Department of Communication Disorders and Sciences in the College of Education, specializing in brain injury and cognitive deficits. Dr. Ashley is a licensed Speech/Language Pathologist in California and Texas and is a Certified Case Manager.

David McArthur, Ph.D., MPH, Trauma Epidemiologist, UCLA Brain Injury Research Center

Dr. David McArthur is a trauma epidemiologist focused on brain injuries. His research interests include understanding the complex relationship between exact causes of TBI, the course of hospitalization and treatment, genetic, neurochemical, physiological and environmental influences, and long-term behavioral and psychological recovery.

David A. Hovda, Ph.D., Director, UCLA Brain Injury Research Center

In 1989, Dr. Hovda was recruited by the Department of Neurosurgery to direct its scientific efforts to understand the cellular pathophysiology of brain injury. This work resulted in providing the backbone for UCLA being recognized as a "Center of Excellence" by the National Institutes of Health. He has devoted most of his career to understanding the mechanisms of recovery of function. He is a former President and current President - Elect of the National Neurotrauma Society and study section committee chair for the National Institute for Neurological Disease and Stroke (NINDS). He is the current chair for the Brain Injury and Neurovascular Pathologies study section

for the NINDS and has been elected President of the International Neurotrauma Society (2009-2012) Dr. Hovda serves on the California Brain Injury Association Board. He has received a number of awards for his research on brain injury and recovery of function, including the 1991 National Head Injury Foundation Award, the Giannini Foundation Award, and the Benjamin Franklin Haught Memorial Award and named the Lind Lawrence Eminent Scholar for his work on the topic of Traumatic Brain Injury. In addition He received the 2006 Women in Neurotrauma award for his teaching and support for women in neuroscience. Dr. Hovda is most well known internationally for his translational work on the pathobiology of traumatic brain injury.

Roger B. Trent, Ph.D., Chief, Injury Surveillance and Epidemiology Section, Safe and Active Communities Branch, California Department of Public Health.

Prior to joining the Department of Public Health in 1988, Dr. Trent served on the faculty of West Virginia University and as Chief of the Injury Surveillance Section at the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). He supervises epidemiologists who develop scientific data to shed light on all injuries that kill and injure Californians, including violence, suicide, drowning, senior falls, heat waves, child abuse, and injuries to motorists, bicyclists, and motorcyclists.

Nathan Cope, M.D, Founder, Chief Medical Officer, Board of Directors, Paradigm Management Services

Founder and Chief Medical Officer at Paradigm, Dr. Nathan Cope brings over 30 years of career experience in catastrophic care and is a nationally recognized physiatrist and psychiatrist. Dr. Cope has specialized in catastrophic head and spinal cord injury treatment; and performing and publishing seminal research on treatment and outcomes. Prior to starting Paradigm in 1991, Dr. Cope held senior medical and management positions at some of the country's leading hospitals, including Director of the Head Injury Program at Santa Clara Valley Medical Center; Chief of Rehabilitation at Palo Alto Veterans Administration Hospital; Chief of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Stanford University Medical Center; and Chief of the Brain Injury Program at the National Rehabilitation Hospital in Washington DC. He has lectured throughout the world on catastrophic head and spinal cord injury treatment, research on treatment and outcomes as well as managing catastrophic care in workers compensation and managed care environments. He has served on many national committees, panels, and boards. Dr. Cope earned his BA from Stanford University and his MD from Ohio State University. He graduated with honors from both institutions.

Sharon M. Grandinette, M.S. Ed., CBIST, Owner/Operator of Exceptional Educational Services

Sharon Grandinette is a nationally recognized consultant and trainer in the field of Special Education who focuses her work on children and adolescents with acquired/traumatic brain injury. She owns and operates Exceptional Educational Services in Redondo Beach, California, where she provides acquired brain injury consultation services to school districts, families and attorneys. She is a nationally

Certified Brain Injury Specialist/Trainer and an adjunct faculty member at the California State University Dominguez Hills in the Teacher Education Department-Graduate Special Education Division. Sharon has worked in public as well as in private special education school settings as a special educator and administrator for over 29 years. Since 1989, her work has centered on children and adolescents with acquired and traumatic brain injury, assisting them with accessing school and state services, transition to the community, and long term needs. She has published in the field, and presents extensively at local, state and national conferences.

Sharon is currently president of The California Association of Physical & Health Impairments (CAPHI). She serves on the board of The California Brain Injury Association (Charter member), the ACBIS-The Academy for the Certification of Brain Injury Specialists (Brain Injury Association of America), The Sarah Jane Brain Project (National Advisory Board Member), The We Can Pediatric Brain Tumor Network (Secretary, Past Board Chair), and the California Department of Mental Health TBI advisory board.

Charles Bacchi, Executive Vice President, California Association of Health Plans

Charles Bacchi is the Executive Vice President for the California Association of Health Plans (CAHP). As Executive Vice President, Mr. Bacchi is the chief lobbyist to the California Legislature and provides leadership on other important policy issues on behalf of the 40 health plans that are members of CAHP.

Mr. Bacchi has 15 years of experience in the Sacramento legislative arena. Mr. Bacchi previously served as Legislative Advocate for the California Chamber of Commerce, the largest broad-based business advocacy group in California with more than 13,000 members. At the Chamber, Mr. Bacchi was instrumental in developing and negotiating the 2004 workers compensation reform package, and also lobbied on issues such as education, insurance, tourism and land use. Mr. Bacchi also served as Legislative Director for Senator and then Assembly Republican Leader Bill Leonard. He was a key participant in negotiating the 1998 school bond and worked on a bipartisan basis on many policy issues, including efforts to place another school bond on the ballot in 2002.

Dave Woodruff, Co-Founder, Bob Woodruff Foundation

Dave Woodruff is co-founder and immediate past Chairman of the Board of the Bob Woodruff Foundation. In January of 2006 Woodruff's brother, ABC News Anchor Bob Woodruff, suffered a severe traumatic brain injury while covering the war in Iraq. A year after his brother's injury and as his recovery continued, Woodruff and his family established the Foundation in thanks for the remarkable care Bob received from the military and civilian caregivers he encountered through his injury and recovery. Woodruff is committed to growing the Bob Woodruff Foundation into a nationally recognized leading military charity and advocating for military and civilian victims of traumatic brain injury and.

Woodruff is also Group Advertising Director for the Hearst Integrated Media and Hearst Digital Media divisions of Hearst Magazines overseeing all corporate accounts in the Detroit territory. He has been very active in the Detroit advertising community and has been a member of the Adcraft Club of Detroit since 1984 and a member of its Board of Directors since 2002. He just completed his term as the organization's 101st President in 2007. He was a member of the Board of Directors of the Detroit Magazine Representatives Association from 1998-2001, serving two consecutive terms as the organization's Chairman in 2000 and 2001. Woodruff is also a member of the Detroit Advertising Association.