

About the Authors

Joseph G. Agius (PhD) is a Registered European Fluency Specialist with special interest in creativity and humour research. He holds a Master of Science degree in Clinical Speech and Language Studies from Trinity College, Dublin and a Doctor of Education degree from the University of Sheffield. Dr. Agius is involved in the development and delivery of the '*European Clinical Specialization Course in Fluency Disorders*' (ECSF) and is a steering committee member. He is Executive Speech and Language Practitioner at the Speech Language Department, Government of Malta. Visiting senior lecturer at the University of Malta, he lectures on '*Fluency Disorders*' and '*Public Speaking*'. He is author of the iOS application '*Fluency SIS*' – Smart Intervention Strategy for school age children who stutter.

Stine Brubak is a speech and language pathologist (SLP) and fluency specialist in Norway. She finished 10 years of studies in SLP and psychology at the University of Oslo (UiO) in 1999, and then a Fluency specialist PG diploma (ECSF) at Lessius Mechelen in 2012. She also did several certification courses in stuttering treatment programs and cognitive therapy approaches abroad. She founded the first private fluency specialist clinic in Norway, started working with

stuttering and cluttering in all age groups, and now holds extensive clinical experience of stuttering treatment options. The past 10 years, she run courses and workshops for colleagues, been involved in clinical training of SLP students, and worked as a guest lecturer and sensor for MaS students at UiO. In recent years, she has developed a special interest for neurogenic and psychogenic fluency disorders in people with congenital or acquired diagnoses, progressive diseases, and trauma conditions.

Carolyn Cheasman has worked with adults who stammer, mainly in group settings, at City Lit, London since 1979. She has experienced interiorised stammering herself and so brings both personal and professional interests to the field. Having done post-qualification training in personal construct psychology and person-centred counselling she went on to train as a mindfulness teacher and now teaches mindfulness and *Acceptance and Commitment Therapy* to people who stammer, speech and language therapists and the general public. In 2012 Carolyn was honoured to receive the International Fluency Association clinician of distinction award. She became interested in the influence of the social model of disability in the late 1990s and has been involved in



the development of self-advocacy groups. She has a particular interest in interiorised stammering.

Kirsten Costain holds a PhD in Health Psychology from the University of Leeds, UK, and a Master's degree in Communication and Congenital Deafblindness from the University of Groningen, Netherlands. Her previous research includes topics such as experiencing treatment for cancer, qualitative research methodology, palliative care and the therapeutic encounter. She has worked since 2011 as first a teacher for children with congenital deafblindness, and then as Senior Adviser at the National Unit for Combined Visual and Hearing Loss and Deafblindness, Statped, Oslo, Norway. She has written about embodied cognition, communication and language development of people with congenital deafblindness.

Kurt Eggers is professor at Ghent University, Thomas More and Turku University. He is chair of the European Stuttering Specialization, president of the World Stuttering and Cluttering Organization, secretary of the European Fluency Specialists and associate editor for *Journal of Fluency Disorders*. Kurt has worked clinically for many years and his research focuses on temperament, attention, and executive functioning in stuttering and speech disfluencies in different populations.

Rachel Everard is a specialist speech and language therapist whose decision to train as a therapist stemmed from the fact she stammers herself and from her life-chang-

ing experience of receiving therapy at City Lit. Since qualifying in 1996, she has worked in a variety of settings including community clinics and mainstream primary schools before joining the City Lit speech therapy team in 2001 where she worked until 2019. Due to her own personal experience of stammering, she strongly believes in empowering people who stammer and the importance of developing stammering communities as well as educating the general public about stammering.

George Furlas is a Speech & Language Therapist, Fluency Specialist (EFS), head of the Stuttering Research and Therapy Centre (KEOT) in Athens, Greece (www.travlistimos.gr). He is lecturer and coach in the European Clinical Specialization in Fluency (ECSF). He is involved in clinical work with children and adults, research, teaching, and clinical coaching. He has published research papers and chapters in books, he has given presentations at national and international conferences and workshops and he is co-author of the *Lexipontix Programme*. He is a member of the IALP Fluency Committee and member of the Special Interest Group in Fluency Disorders of the Panhellenic Association of Logopedists-Speech Therapists.

Kirsten Howells is a speech and language therapist who stammers, and who has gradually become more comfortable and open about stammering over the years. She specialises in working with people who stammer or clutter and has worked in the UK's National Health Service, in the Norwegian state service, in private practice and in the

charitable sector. She's also been sufficiently fortunate to live and work in the UK, Norway and the USA, and experience the role of speech and language therapists across settings and countries. In 2018, along with co-chair Jenny Packer, Kirsten received the International Fluency Association's *Unsung Hero Award* for her involvement in the collaborative world congress of the International Cluttering Association, International Fluency Association and International Stuttering Association.

Anke Kohmäscher works as a professor at Münster University of Applied Sciences directing a speech language bachelor program. She obtained a bachelor's degree in speech language therapy at HAN University of Applied Sciences (Nijmegen, The Netherlands) and a master's degree in speech language therapy in research and teaching (RWTH Aachen, Germany), as well as Public Health (University Lüneburg, Germany). Having specialized in treatment of stuttering, she worked in several private practices. In 2010 she finished her doctoral studies on a measuring instrument for speech fluency after stuttering treatments. Since 2005 she is doing research on stuttering, including being the head of the multi-site randomized controlled trial *PMS KIDS* on the effectiveness of stuttering treatment in school-aged children (2018-2022).

Aleksandra Krawczyk (M.A) completed her Master of Arts in Communication Sciences and Disorders at The University of Central Florida. She was a Student Fulbright grant recipient during the 2015-2016 year

to Poland, where she helped organize workshops for children and adults who stutter and taught English at the University of Białystok. Currently, she is a school-based speech-language pathologist as well as an adjunct clinical educator in the University of Central Florida Communication Sciences and Disorders Clinic. In addition, she completed the European Clinical Specialization in Fluency Disorders (ECSF) certification in June 2020. Her research interests include understanding the cross-linguistic aspects that may influence disfluencies in bilingual individuals who stutter.

Marilyn Langevin is former Director of Research at the Institute for Stuttering Treatment and Research at the University of Alberta. She obtained her PhD at the University of Sydney. She currently holds an Adjunct Associate Professorship at the University of Alberta. Dr. Langevin's research interests include treatment outcomes, the social impact of stuttering on school-age and preschool children, teasing and bullying prevention, and more recently, decision making in treatment programming. Her research interests derive from her clinical work and the many clients to whom she remains grateful. In 2021 Dr. Langevin also completed a Bachelor of Fine Arts at the University of Alberta and has become a multi-media/multi discipline artist.

Dimitris Marousos, is a Speech and Language Therapist, Fluency Specialist (EFS) and clinical supervisor of the Speech and Language Centre EU-LEGEIN in Volos, Greece. He has been trained and certified



to Solution Focused Brief Therapy. He has graduated from and is currently a mentor in the European Clinical Specialization in Fluency (ECSF). He has extensive experience in clinical work, mentoring and clinical supervision with children, teenagers and adults who stutter of all ages, and he conducts research in the area of stuttering. He is a member of the IFA Practice Committee and a member of the Greek SIG in fluency disorders. He is one of the authors of *Lexipontix Therapy Programme* for school age children who stutter, and he conducts workshops for speech and language therapists.

Sue O'Brian is a speech pathologist with many years clinical and research experience with adults and children who stutter. She has published around one hundred papers in professional journals and contributed to several books in the area of stuttering. Her particular interests involve the measurement of stuttering, the development of internet treatment programs for stuttering, and research in the *Camperdown Program* for adults who stutter. Sue is founding member of the *Camperdown Program Trainers Consortium* and has presented many workshops both locally and internationally for this program and the *Lidcombe Program*.

Jenny Packer is a Highly Specialist Speech and Language Therapist working for the National Health Service in the South East of England. Jenny currently works with children who stutter and their families but also has experience and specialist training working with adults who stutter. Jenny's qualifications include a post-qualification Master's

degree (Trinity College, Dublin) with stuttering as a specialism and completion of the European Clinical Specialisation in Fluency Disorders program. Jenny participates nationally and internationally in the wider stuttering world and enjoys being an ally within the stuttering community. As well as her role within the National Health Service, Jenny supports STAMMA in a voluntary capacity.

Erik X. Raj (PhD) holds a Certificate of Clinical Competence from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and is a practicing speech-language pathologist who works with school-age children with various communication difficulties. He is currently an associate professor in the Department of Speech-Language Pathology at Monmouth University in New Jersey (United States) where he teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in the areas of fluency disorders and research methods. Also, Dr. Raj is a facilitator at Camp Shout Out in Michigan (United States), which is a summer camp for young people who stutter. Dr. Raj regularly presents interactive workshops demonstrating how speech-language pathologists can use mobile and Internet-based technologies to educate and motivate school-age children. In addition to developing over 25 mobile apps and websites for children with communication difficulties, he is the creator of SLPVideoGames.com, a website that features a collection of online video games with built-in speech and language flashcards.

Selma Saad Merouwe is a Slovak-Lebanese SLT. She is specialized in fluency disorders

(ECSF, EFS) and a PhD candidate (University of Turku, Finland and Saint-Joseph University, Lebanon). She is a lecturer, graduate program coordinator, researcher and clinical supervisor at the Higher Institute of Speech-Language Therapy of Saint-Joseph University. Her research, clinical practice and teaching focus on fluency disorders, and bilingualism. She is a national representative of the Stuttering Committee (Lebanon), member of the Practice Committee in the International Fluency Association, and national representative in the International Cluttering Association.

Patricia Sandrieser (PhD) is a trained speech and language therapist and followed the studies Speech and Language Therapy in Research and Teaching at the university of Aachen. She works at the head of the department Speech and Language Therapy at the Catholic Clinic in Koblenzans Montabaur. She has worked in the field of childhood stuttering for 25 years. She is working as a lecturer in several universities of applied sciences in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland and together with Peter Schneider she developed the treatment approach "KIDS" and participated in the development of the Clinical Guidelines for Fluency disorders.

Peter Schneider graduated as a primary school teacher and a speech language therapist. Between 1990 and 2019 he lectured at the School of Logopedics at the University hospital of the RWTH Aachen, where he specialized for childhood stuttering, treated clients and supervised students treating

stuttering children. Together with Patricia Sandrieser he developed the *Stuttering Modification approach KIDS (School-KIDS and Mini-KIDS)* which became one of the most common approaches for stuttering children in Germany. He was part of the core-team of the German guidelines for fluency disorders. He was a staff member of the *European Clinical Specialization Course on Fluency Disorders*, and published about stuttering for specialists, stuttering children and their parents.

Kenneth (Ken) St. Louis, a mostly recovered stuturer, is an Emeritus Professor of speech-language pathology at West Virginia University (WVU). St. Louis has taught and treated fluency disorders for 45 years. His research has culminated in more than 200 professional publications and 400 presentations. He is an ASHA Fellow and was awarded the Deso Weiss Award for Excellence in Cluttering, WVU's Benedum Distinguished Scholar Award, and WVU's Heebink Award for Outstanding Service. He founded the *International Project of Attitudes Toward Human Attributes* and collaborates with numerous colleagues internationally on measuring public attitudes toward stuttering. He has also presented and published widely on cluttering and stories of stuttering.

Hilda Sønsterud (PhD) is a speech-language therapist and researcher in Oslo, Norway. She works as a Senior Advisor at Statped, National Service for special needs education, and as an Associate Professor II at Nord university, Faculty of Education and Arts. Hilda works primarily with treatment



and clinical research related to fluency disorders. Hilda is EFS-certified (European Fluency Specialist), she runs courses for SLTs within the field of stuttering and cluttering, and she provides lectures, supervision, workshops, and clinical practice for SLT students. Hilda is the founder of the *Multidimensional Individualized Stuttering Therapy* (MIST) and has investigated the therapeutic alliance within stuttering treatment. She is particularly occupied about how researchers are defining evidence in clinical research. Hilda is a national representative in the International Cluttering Association.

Sabine Van Eerdenbrugh is researcher, lecturer, and the coordinator of the Bachelor Student Research at the Thomas More University College of Applied Sciences in Antwerp (Belgium). Sabine specialised in stuttering but has treated children and adolescents with a variety of speech and language disorders for many years. She developed the Internet-based *Lidcombe Program* Training for her PhD at the Australian Stuttering Research Centre and is a member of the International Lidcombe Program Trainers Consortium. Her research focuses on the domain of stuttering. Sabine recently became a member of the editorial board of EBPracticeNet at the Centre of Evidence-Based Medicine (Cebam) in Louvain.

Martine Vanryckeghem received her Substitute Ph.D. with PhD from Southern Illinois University after having worked as a speech-language pathologist in Belgium. Dr. Vanryckeghem is a Pegasus Professor at the University of Central Florida, ASHA

fellow, a Board-Certified Fluency Specialist, and European Fluency Specialist. She has published widely in peer-reviewed journals and has given workshops, internationally, with respect to the assessment, differential diagnosis, and treatment of individuals who stutter. She is the co-author of the *Behavior Assessment Battery for Children and Adults who Stutter* and the *Communication Attitude Test for Preschoolers* (*KiddyCAT*). For her international endeavors, Prof. Vanryckeghem received ASHA's Certificate of Recognition for Outstanding Contribution in International Achievement. She has been a guest professor at the University of Gent, Belgium and the University of Utrecht, the Netherlands. From 1990 until 2000, she was managing editor of the *Journal of Fluency Disorders*. Dr. Vanryckeghem serves on the Scientific Board of different internationally-based organizations.

Mary Weidner is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, USA. Mary's area of research focuses on measuring and changing children's attitudes toward peers who stutter. She developed the *Attitude Change and Tolerance* program (*InterACT*), an educational program that teaches children about awareness and acceptance of stuttering and other human differences. The program has been translated into various languages and has been shown to improve young children's stuttering attitudes. Mary has co-authored children's books about stuttering and assisted in the production of the documentary, *Stuttering: Part of Me*.

Katarzyna Węsierska is an Associate Professor at the University of Silesia in Katowice, Poland, and the founder and the president of the Logopedic Center Foundation. In her research and clinical practice, she focuses mainly on fluency disorders. She is a European Fluency Specialist and a coach of the EU postgraduate Clinical Specialization in Fluency Disorders. She has been actively involved in numerous research projects conducted in the *International Project on Attitudes Toward Human Attributes - IPATHA*. She has also been involved in other international research projects (e.g., in cooperation with the University of Central Florida, USA, or the University of Alberta, Canada). Recently, she has coordinated another international project: *LOGOLab - Dialogue without barriers* (collaboration with the Arctic University of Norway and the Agere Aude Foundation of Knowledge and Social Dialogue). She is the International Cluttering Association (ICA) secretary and the editor of the ICA newsletter. Dr. Węsierska co-organizes the International Conference of Logopedics: *Fluency Disorders: Theory and Practice*. At the 11th Oxford Dysfluen-

cy Conference, she was awarded the David Rowley Award for International Initiatives in Stuttering.

Marta Wesierska (PhD) graduated with a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Warwick in the UK in 2013 and continued her education by undertaking a master's degree in Developmental Psychology at the University of York (UK). In 2018 she defended her PhD thesis in Psychology at the University of York, her doctoral thesis researching bilingual language and reading development in early primary school children. She is currently working as a lecturer in Developmental Psychology at Liverpool Hope University (UK). Her research interests include developmental psychology, bilingualism, reading development in young children as well as language and communication disorders. She has written a number of publications in these areas of research. Additionally, she is involved in translating scientific and didactic materials on the subject of fluency disorders into Polish and has actively participated in organizing scientific conferences and workshops for speech-language therapists.



