

Keynote and Guest Speakers

Arne H. Eide, SINTEF, Norway



Professor Arne H Eide is Chief Scientist at SINTEF Technology and Society, and Professor II at the Norwegian University for Science and Technology (NTNU). He is also Guest Professor at Stellenbosch University, South Africa. He has a major in Health and Social Policy and a Ph.D in Health Promotion and Behavioral Epidemiology at the Faculty of Psychology, University of Bergen, Norway. He has 20 years of experience in research on disability and poverty, community based rehabilitation and studies on living conditions in low-income countries, mostly in Africa, but also in the Middle East and in Asia. He has produced more than 90 scientific publications. Eide has been engaged in Expert Committees on Disability statistics, Disability and Development and on Provision of Assistive Technology in low-income contexts by United Nations and World Health Organisation. He has contributed to the World Report on Disability as well as the 2012 EFA Global Monitoring Report.

Kamal Lamichhane, Tsukuba University, Japan



Professor Lamichhane is associate professor at the Centre for Research on International Cooperation in Educational Development (CRICED) of the University of Tsukuba. He earned his PhD from the University of Tokyo. His main research fields are within special needs- and inclusive education, in education policy and economics and disability studies. Disability in disaster and conflict as well as disability and inequality are other fields of research. His interdisciplinary research focuses on identifying and remediating social and economic barriers for persons with disabilities. Dr. Lamichhane is the first person with visual impairments in Nepal to receive a doctorate. He has presented his research internationally, including at the Worldbank and UN. He is constantly working for promoting human rights and inclusion of persons with disabilities in the community. Growing up in Nepal, some 170 km from Kathmandu, he received no formal education until he turned 12. Such experiences have enabled Kamal to view the world from three different perspectives: the child in isolation; the child extending him or herself through education; the adult living fully in the world.

Michel D. Landry, Duke University, USA



Dr. Michel D. Landry PT, PhD is Chief of the Doctor of Physical Therapy Division, in the Dept. of Community and Family Medicine, at Duke University Medical Centre in North Carolina. He is also an Adjunct Assoc. Prof. in the Dept. of Physical Therapy, and the Dept. of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation (HPME), at the University of Toronto. Prior to receiving his PhD in HPME in Toronto, he held clinical and management positions within the private rehab sector in Ontario, and within international humanitarian aid and development agencies in Central America and Eastern Europe. Landry has spent much of his career as a health policy and health services researcher, where his focus has been developing forecasting methodologies specific to Rehabilitation Health human resources across the continuum of care. He is a Past-President of the Canadian Physiotherapy Association, and a former Career Scientist at the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care. He lectures widely internationally. Research interests are in Global Health and Disability and Assessing changing funding, delivery and allocation models in healthcare, and its impact on access to services.

Gubela Mji, Stellenbosh University, South Africa



Dr. Gubela Mji, PhD, is a research director engaged in various collaborative disability research projects and networks at both African and international levels for the realization of the rights of persons with disabilities. She is the director of the Centre for Rehabilitation Studies at Stellenbosch University, where she directs a Division which aim is to improve the quality of life and level of community integration of people with disabilities. To this end the Centre offers advanced, comprehensive and interdisciplinary disability and rehabilitation education and training programs, as well as research and service opportunities for all health sciences and rehabilitation-related professionals at all levels of health services and in the community. Some of her work also involves issues of development, transformation and indigenous knowledge systems. Gubela Mji is the current chairperson and visionary behind the African Network for Evidence-to-Action in Disability (AfriNEAD), and she is engaged in how making disability research accessible in Africa.

<http://tedxtablemountain.org/portfolio/gubela-mji/>

Brenda Msangi, Director, CCBRT Disability Hospital, Tanzania



Brenda Msangi is the Disability Hospital Director at Comprehensive Community Based Rehabilitation in Tanzania (CCBRT), the largest indigenous provider of disability and rehabilitative services in Tanzania (<http://www.ccbirt.or.tz/home/>). Responsible for the oversight of 10 departments, a team of 300 and a budget of \$7million, Brenda has demonstrated her powerful leadership and commitment to women's issues throughout her six-year career at CCBRT, gaining particular notoriety for her national awareness-raising work on obstetric fistula. She is also a mentor for the Tanzania-Asia Young Leaders initiative, aiming to develop strong and dynamic young leaders across the globe. Prior to her career at CCBRT, Brenda, a qualified pharmacist; managed a branch of Lloyds pharmacy in the UK. She lives in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, with her husband and three daughters.

Valerie Taylor, Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Paralyzed, Bangladesh



Dr. Valerie Taylor is the Founder of the Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Paralyzed (CRP), which runs 10 sub-centres throughout Bangladesh <http://www.crp-bangladesh.org/index.php>. As a physiotherapist from UK, she went to Bangladesh in 1969 with Volunteer Services Overseas. She founded CRP in 1979, in response to the desperate need for services for spinal injured patients. CRP has been an example of how to provide high quality, cost-effective and culturally appropriate services, while focusing on a holistic approach to rehabilitation ensuring social reintegration. Community Based Rehabilitation projects operate in 13 districts, with accident and disability prevention programs directed towards vulnerable groups. Advocacy, awareness campaigns and networking bring CRP's work to public attention, and help break down socio-cultural barriers. Through CRP's academic institute, the [Bangladesh Health Professions Institute \(BHPI\)](#), Valerie has pioneered the training of rehabilitation professionals, while affiliating with Dhaka University and the Bangladesh State Medical Faculty. Thus, CRP's work includes human rights, poverty alleviation, health care provision and education. Valerie was given Bangladeshi citizenship in 1998, and holds a list of awards, including "Shadhinota Dibosh Podok", the highest civilian award of Bangladesh. She also holds the distinction of Order of the British Empire.

Samir Shaheen, University of Khartoum, Sudan



Prof. Shaheen, MBBS, MD, JMHP, is Associate Prof of Orthopaedics at the University of Khartoum, where he graduated from the Faculty of Medicine. He trained in Orthopaedics and Paediatrics in Sudan and Germany (University of Khartoum, Heidelberg, Muenster and Ulm University clinics). He is the Director of Educational Development Centre for Health Profession at the University of Khartoum. As well, he is Head of Paediatric Orthopaedics at Soba University Hospital, and Volunteer Orthopaedic Surgeon and member of ex. Board of Khartoum Cheshire Home for Children with Disabilities. He is Former Head of the Department of Orthopaedics and Trauma, Faculty of Medicine, University of Khartoum. He has been a consultant for Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration in Sudan/UN, as well as a Former director of the National Centre for Orthotics and Prosthetics in Khartoum. He was formerly in-charge of the WHO program for Injury prevention and rehabilitation in Sudan, as well as Consultant for the ICRC and orthopaedic rehabilitation services. He has published many papers related to rehabilitation of disabled children. He is Member of the Committee of evaluation of the new medical colleges in the Ministry of Higher Education, and he is Member of the National Council for the Welfare and Rehabilitation of the Disabled.

Emma K. Stokes, President WCPT and Trinity College Dublin, Ireland



Dr. Emma K. Stokes is President of the World Confederation of Physical Therapists (WCPT). She qualified as a physiotherapist in 1990 and worked in the clinical field until 1996. She completed her PhD in 2005 and an MSc in Business Administration in 2008. She is an associate professor and Fellow of Trinity College Dublin, where she is also the Deputy Head of the physiotherapy programme. She teaches on programmes in Dublin and Singapore and her teaching and research focus is professional issues in physiotherapy. She has significant national and international experience of leadership, governance and organisational development and has been a director of boards in the health, education, regulatory and non-profit sectors.

Thorkild Tylleskär, Centre for International Health, University of Bergen, Norway



Thorkild Tylleskär is a paediatrician and professor in International Health since 2001. His focus is on child health, nutrition, HIV and health informatics in a global perspective. He has his medical degree, his PhD training and his specialist training from Uppsala University and Uppsala University Hospital. In addition, he has a French Master in African Linguistics from Sorbonne University after fieldwork in present-day Democratic Republic of Congo. His medical thesis in 1994 describes the toxic-nutritional causation of 'konzo', a paralytic disorder permanently crippling women and children in some pockets in Africa, <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Konzo>.

His later focus has been shared between 1) child health and nutrition in times of HIV, 2) birth care and 3) improved data collection and management for health in low resource settings. He has supervised over 20 PhD candidates, the majority of them from throughout Africa. Some of his ongoing projects are [SURVIVAL PLUS – Increasing capacity for mama-baby survival in post-conflict Uganda and South Sudan](#); [HI TRAIN – Health Informatics Training and Research in East Africa for Improved Health Care](#); [GROW NUT – Growing Partnership for Higher Education and Research in Nutritional Epidemiology in DR Congo](#)

Hanneke van Bruggen, Tbilisi University, Georgia; Dalhousie University, Canada



Dr. Hanneke van Bruggen, is head of the Occupational Therapy (OT) programme at Tbilisi University, and Adj. Prof. at Dalhousie University, as well as Director of FAPADAG (www.fapadag.com). She has been in the frontline of innovation in OT education and practice for more than 40 years. Her accomplishments range from 1) Social and educational reform in Eastern and Central Europe, including implementing BA degrees in OT (Prague, Bulgaria, Poland, Romania) with a focus on participation of persons with disabilities in society (Georgia and Armenia) to 2) Founding ENOTHE, the European Network of Occupational Therapy in Higher Education.

<http://www.enothe.eu/index.php?page=about/en/default>). As Director of ENOTHE she has been involved in implementing the Bologna process and executing the European TUNING process for OT and other health related studies. She is currently involved in the African Higher Education Harmonisation Project following the revised Arusha Convention and Tuning project (as part of the EU-AU Declaration, 2011), and since 2014 in the Indian Higher Education Harmonisation Project. Hanneke has been awarded a Hon. Fellow of the World Federation of Occupational Therapists, a Hon. Dr. Scie. Degree from Brighton University, and the title of Dr. Hon. Causa from the University of Coruna.

Stine Hellum Braathen, SINTEF, Norway



Research scientist Stine Hellum Braathen is a social scientist at SINTEF Technology and Society, Department of Health, Oslo, with a background in anthropology and community health. Her primary research interests are disability, vulnerability, alcohol/ drugs and access to health and social services in the African context. She is currently in the process of writing up her PhD dissertation at the Department of Psychology at Stellenbosch University, South Africa. The title of her PhD thesis is: *"No one bothers about the confused people": Care for people with psychosocial disabilities in rural South Africa*.

José Frantz, University of Western Cape, South Africa



Professor Jose Frantz, PhD (Physiotherapy) is currently the Dean of the Faculty of Community and Health Sciences at the University of the Western Cape, where she also was the Deputy Dean of research and the Chairperson of the Physiotherapy department. She is a physiotherapist with an interest in the area of health risk behaviours and youth in schools. She has a strong focus on academic capacity development and research in this area. She is the principal investigator in a project looking at the impact of faculty development programs amongst health professional educators in Africa. She has received several prestigious scholarships and bursaries from research and education foundations. She has published more than 70 articles and has presented at a number of conferences in Africa, North America, Australia and Europe. In addition, Prof Frantz has supervised and currently supervises masters and PhD students across Africa and across disciplines. She is one of the principal investigators of a North -South-South collaboration between Norway, Sudan, Tanzania and South Africa, which aim is to develop physiotherapy education in Sudan and Tanzania.

Paul Egil Gravem, Haukeland University Hospital, Norway



Dr. Gravem is graduated from the Faculty of Medicine, University of Bergen in 1974. He specialised in Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (1985) and in General Surgery (1986). He is Member and Surgeon of Bergen Multidisciplinary Cleft Lip and Palate team, and of Bergen Multidisciplinary DSD Team, as well as a Consultant plastic Surgeon Haukeland University Hospital Bergen since 1990. He was a Consultant Plastic Surgeon at ALERT, Ethiopia (1986-88), as well as he was a head of the Dept. of Surgery there too in 1996-98. He founded the training program in Plastic and reconstructive Surgery at Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia 2001, as well as he was the founder of Multidisciplinary Cleft Lip and Palate (CLP) team in Addis Ababa. He was also a surgeon of Bergen/Arkhangelsk Disorder of sex development – (DSD) for Children born with ambiguous genitals team, Russia since 2001, and the founder of the CLP team, Russia 2004. He is also interested in foot surgery. Dr. Gravem received His Majesty King Harald's Gold Medal in 2008.

Djenana Jalovcic, Athabasca University, Canada



Djenana is an inclusive development consultant and a doctoral candidate in distance education at Athabasca University, Canada. She is an accomplished educator, policy advisor, and development expert with 24 years of international experience in the field of disability and gender in health, education, social and employment sectors. She directed over 20 health, education and social reform initiatives in 15 conflict, post-conflict, and low income countries, with the total value of over \$30 million. Djenana is a passionate advocate for the human rights of persons with disabilities, and a facilitator of collaboration with governments, NGO's and UN agencies. She also has extensive experience of studying, developing and implementing technology mediated education and service programs for interprofessional groups and clients in isolated and under-served areas. She developed the first online continuing education program for disability and development practitioners in the world. Djenana worked at the International Centre for the Advancement of Community Based Rehabilitation at Queen's University, Canada, the World Health Organization, and Doctors without Borders.

Liv Grethe Kinn, Bergen University College, Norway



Dr. Liv Grethe Kinn, Ph.D, Can. San. B.Sc. (OT) is Associated Professor at Bergen University College, Faculty of Health and Social Sciences, Department of Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy and Radiography. Her research has focused on: a) occupational therapists (OTs) practice, b) problematic aspects of evidence-based practice, and c) on how to best enabling occupational and community participation of people with severe mental illness. This has included studies of the lived experience of what helps and what hinders work participation for persons with severe mental illness, from the perspectives of service users themselves, as well as from the view of community mental health professionals.

Darko Krznaric, Development consultant, Canada



Darko is an accomplished manager with over 20 years of experience in international development and implementation of initiatives in education, health, social, disability and rehabilitation sectors in countries of Central and Eastern Europe, Central America and Asia. He has worked on establishment of effective management and governance infrastructure which facilitates participation of all stakeholders including consumers, community organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGO), service providers, policy makers and governments. Darko has collaborated with government and NGO officials, negotiated project activities, and obtained their support for capacity building, policy development and implementation. This is one of the features of Darko's expertise – bridging the gap between public and NGO sectors that often impedes development. Darko has worked on projects which focus on human rights of persons with disabilities and equalization of opportunities for all. He has facilitated participation of marginalized and vulnerable groups and ethnic minorities, during and after the conflicts, delivering emergency humanitarian aid and technical assistance. Darko worked with MSF - Medecins Sans Frontieres - Holland and Queen's University, Kingston Canada.

Eva Langeland, Bergen University College & Centre for Care Research in Western Norway



Eva Langeland, PhD, is Associate Professor at the Department of Nursing at Bergen University College. She researches on reablement, salutogenesis and health promotion, the latter with a particular focus on persons with mental health challenges. She has developed a model for a talk therapy group intervention based on salutogenesis principles. She has written several articles and book chapters about salutogenesis, mental health promotion, sense of coherence, social support and self-management. She is a popular lecturer. She is presently the project leader for a multi-center study about community-based reablement including 46 municipalities in Norway.

Jennifer Muderedzi, University of Oslo, Norway; Zimbabwe



Jennifer M. trained first in the UK as a Registered Nurse (1984). She obtained a Diploma in Occupational Therapy at Coventry University (1992); a MSc in Interprofessional Health and Community Studies (OT) at the University of Kent (1997); a Certificate in Systemic Counselling at the School of Counselling in Zimbabwe (1999) and finally a Master in Community Health at the University of Oslo in 2006. She is presently pursuing her PhD at the same university. She has worked as a nurse and as a Community Occupational Therapist in London, UK. She has also worked as a Psychosocial Occupational Therapy lecturer at the University of Zimbabwe, from 1998 to 2006; with Consultancy work from 2006 to 2010, and as Commissioner in the Health Services Board from 2011 to 2014. Meanwhile she has carried out her PhD research in villages in Zimbabwe, with a project titled: *“Coping of families of children with disabilities among the Tonga of Zimbabwe - a cultural approach”*, focusing on vulnerable groups and the structural violence taking place.

Karen Marie Moland, Bergen University College and University of Bergen, Norway



Karen Marie Moland is Professor at the Centre for International Health at the Department of Global Public Health and Primary Care, University of Bergen, as well as at the Department of Nursing at Bergen University College. She trained as a nurse and she holds a PhD in social sciences. She has project and research experience from Kenya, Ethiopia and Tanzania focusing on implementation of global programmes in local health systems within reproductive and maternal health and prevention of mother to child transmission of HIV. Her major theoretical interest is medical anthropology, culture, knowledge and power and structural inequality. Her major methodological approach is ethnography. She has been heavily involved in research and competence building collaboration with institutions throughout Africa, and she has supervised several PhD students.

Rune Nilsen, Oslo University Hospital, Norway



Rune Nilsen is Head of the Prosthetics & Orthotics Dept. at Sophies Minde Ortopedi A/S, Oslo University Hospital, Norway. He has extensive experience of working in prosthetics and orthotics not only in Norway, but also in Ethiopia, Cambodia, North Korea and Somalia. He has had around 80 short missions internationally (such as for ICRC) and he is engaged in several board memberships. He is currently President of the Norwegian Member Society of the International Society for P & O. He is also the coordinator of an FK Norway (Norwegian Peace Corps) exchange program focusing on P & O teaching staff development and experiences exchange between Norway, Cambodia, Tanzania and Malawi. His clinical interest reflects the coordinated approach of services in Norway. Lately he has been sharing his skills with other professionals through short courses in topics such as Peer Group Training in spinal cord injury management together with disabled persons' organizations in Cambodia, together with Dr. Thomas Glott from Sunnaas Rehabilitation Hospital in Norway.

Anthea Rhoda, University of Western Cape, South Africa



Prof. Anthea Rhoda (PhD Physiotherapy) is an Associate Professor and the Deputy Dean of Teaching and Learning in the Faculty of Community and Health Sciences, University of the Western Cape. She is a physiotherapist with an interest in the area of community development, rehabilitation, disability studies, with the main focus on reintegration of persons with disabilities, Teaching and Learning and Faculty Development specifically related to Interprofessional Education and Collaborative practice. Her PhD thesis investigated the rehabilitation of stroke patients at Community Health Centres in the Western Cape, and she is currently developing a programme to facilitate participation of persons with stroke in their communities. Other research areas are in the area of student success. As a disability advocate she is committed to addressing the needs of people with disabilities in South Africa and working towards inclusivity and full participation. Prof Rhoda ensures that disability issues are addressed in the undergraduate and post graduate curriculum and she supervises Masters and PhD students conducting research in the area of disability and rehabilitation across the African continent.

Tom Skauge, Bergen University College, Norway



Dr. Tom Skauge is associate professor at Bergen University College in the Faculty of Engineering and Economy. He is the leader of two master degrees in Innovation and Management for technology- and social sciences students. He earned his PhD at the University of Bergen. Skauge is the leader of Norwegian Network of Professional Ethics. For several years he was the scientific director of CROP (Comparative Research Programme on Poverty) under the International Social Science Council (ISSC). Skauge has life skills as father of a daughter with disabilities and several honorary positions in The Norwegian Association for Persons with Developmental Disabilities (NFU). He is the author of a textbook on Ethics and Corporate Social Responsibility (CRS) also focusing on ethics in theory of professions (2015). He has also a publication on how organizations can learn from time cultures among people with developmental disabilities - Organizational Rhythm and Professional Time, on the concept of Technology Management, Higher Education and on evaluation of Education reforms for pre-school teachers.

Hilde Smith-Strøm, Bergen University College/ University in Bergen



Hilde Smith-Strøm is a Registered nurse and PhD student who is part of DIABEST project, which aim is to increase knowledge in the field of diabetes care and research while involving users of services. Innovation is pursued in applying new technology and in promoting psycho-social health and better services in primary healthcare and in secondary, specialist healthcare. Hilde Smith-Strøm's research focuses on the use of telemedicine in the follow-up of persons with diabetes ulcers.

Gunvor B. Wilhelmsen, Bergen University College, Norway



Associate professor Dr. Gunvor B. Wilhelmsen is Doctor of Special Needs Education and employed at the Faculty of Education, Bergen University College. Before starting here she was working in the field of education and rehabilitation in schools and resource centers. Her research is focusing on vision functions, vision disturbances and the rehabilitation and stimulation of vision. In addition, children's visual development and the role of vision qualities in activities and participation is part of her research field. She is responsible for a continuing professional development (CPD) at Bergen University College focusing on vision rehabilitation after brain injuries and neurological illnesses. This study has students from all Nordic countries. She is used as a lecturer for health personnel, therapists and educators and is involved in the vision teacher master-studies at NTNU.