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## **IBCCES' International Symposium on Cognitive Research & Disabilities to Feature Top Experts & Educational Leaders**

**Education & Health Care Professionals Invited to Event February 13-14, 2017 in St. Augustine, FL**

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (October 19, 2016) – Healthcare and education professionals are invited to participate in the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual International Symposium on Cognitive Research & Disabilities, which is set to take place February 13-14, 2017 at the World Golf Village in St. Augustine, Florida. The symposium is designed to equip professionals with the tools they need to increase the quality of care and improve outcomes for both students and patients with cognitive and developmental disabilities. Top cognitive research experts and educational leaders will conduct TED Talk formatted panel discussions on topics relating to healthcare and education for this 1.5 day event hosted by the International Board of Credentialing and Continuing Education Standards (IBCCES).

"The latest research tells us that 94% of the population will either be personally affected by or have an immediate family member affected by one or more of the top cognitive disorders sometime in the next 20 years," said Myron Pincomb, International Board of Credentialing and Continuing Education Standards (IBCCES) Board Chairman. "No other profession is impacted by these findings more than our educators and health care professionals."

Educators and healthcare professionals will join more than 25 international experts on cognitive and developmental disabilities, featuring Tier I university researchers, neurosurgeons, master educators, distinguished clinicians and therapists, deans of higher education as well as a member of the Joint Chief of Staff of the U.S. Air Force.

The symposium is designed to equip healthcare workers with the tools they need to increase the quality of care and improve patient outcomes for individuals with cognitive and developmental disabilities. Through interactive sessions presented by distinguished experts in cognitive research, neuro science and patient care from around the globe, the symposium will enable attendees to have immediate, long-term impacts on individuals with Alzheimer's, Autism, Parkinson's, PTSD, dementia, stroke and other cognitive and developmental disabilities.

"Research has repeatedly demonstrated the importance of cognitive problems in limiting success in school and life," said Dr. Bruce Wexler, Senior Research Scientist from Yale School of Medicine and Director of the Neurocognitive Research Laboratory at Connecticut Mental Health Center. "New research is establishing increasingly effective methods to help children and adults with cognitive deficits succeed despite the deficits, or even reduce the deficits themselves. I am looking forward to the conference, which brings together many people who are in the forefront of these important efforts."

Teachers and education administrators attending will be better prepared to serve students and families through interactive sessions addressing inclusion and individual education plans and mental health, as well as best practices related to ADD/ADHD and Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Pincomb stated, "Our goal is to bring together some of the most respected brain researchers, accomplished educators and innovative health care professionals from all corners of the globe to collaborate and share the latest research and strategies that will help conquer the enormous challenge ahead of us."

Event speakers include Dr. Bruce Wexler, Senior Research Scientist from Yale School of Medicine, and Director of the Neurocognitive Research Laboratory at Connecticut Mental Health Center; Dr. Benjamin Brown, neurosurgeon at Mayo Clinic, Dr. Pam Rollins, Professor and Robotics Researcher at University of Texas School of Behavior and Brain Sciences, Dr. Christine Sapienza, Dean of Brooks Rehabilitation in the College of Healthcare Sciences at Jacksonville University; Dr. Stephen Shore, international autism speaker, author and professor at Adelphi University; Lt. Col. Christopher T. Ford, retired Joint Chiefs of Staff for the U.S. Air Force, Dr. Tina Anderson, Special Education Program Coordinator at the University of Georgia College of Education, Dr. Tracy Alloway, Professor of Psychology at the University of North Florida and many more.

"I am looking forward to presenting on autism at this unique multidisciplinary conference," said Dr. Stephen Shore, an internationally-recognized autism expert and professor at Adelphi University. " Learning and collaborating with each other will improve our abilities to support individuals of need in our professions."

Early bird pricing for registration is now available for \$395 until November 15, 2016. Regular attendance is \$450 from November 16-December 31, 2016, and late registration is \$525 following January 1, 2017. Group discounts are also available.

Registration includes a 3-course plated luncheon with live musical performance by Luci Butler, a music-therapist that has toured with the Trans-Siberian Orchestra, Moby and has worked with the Institute For Music and Neurologic Function. The symposium will be live web-streamed for individuals who would like to participate worldwide.

Discounted room rates are now available at the [World Golf Village Renaissance St. Augustine Resort](#) through January 12, 2017.

Registration is available now through [www.ibcces.org/international-symposium-cognitive-research-disabilities](http://www.ibcces.org/international-symposium-cognitive-research-disabilities).

For more information, please contact Kristin Chambers at [904-501-0003](tel:904-501-0003), or by emailing [kristin@ibcces.org](mailto:kristin@ibcces.org).