KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Lauren Schwarz, PhD, ABPP-CN
Professor and Dean of Student Affairs
Saint Louis University
School of Medicine, Psychiatry, Behavioral Neuroscience & Neurology

Dr. Lauren Schwarz provides neuropsychological assessment, with special interest in patients who develop abnormal cognitive conditions resulting from neurologic disease, neurodegenerative disorders, or psychiatric disorders. She also provides group psychotherapy.

In her practice, Dr. Schwarz offers support and education groups for individuals with Parkinson’s disease, and works with patients considering deep brain stimulation (DBS) surgery. Research interests include cognitive and emotional functioning in DBS patients with Parkinson’s disease, and cognitive outcomes after liver transplantation.

Dr. Schwarz is an assistant professor in the Department of Psychiatry, Division of Geriatric Psychiatry, at Saint Louis University School of Medicine. She is the director of Neuropsychology.

Dr. Schwarz is a board member with the Brain Injury Association of Missouri and a mentor for the American Board of Professional Psychology Clinical Neurology.

In her spare time, enjoys spending time outdoors.

Bryanna Bruger, PsyD
Instructor of Neurology, Clinical Neuropsychologist
Saint Louis University
School of Medicine, Department of Neurology, Division of Neuropsychology

Dr. Bryanna Bruger provides neuropsychological assessment, diagnosis and management of patients with neurologic disorders (e.g. epilepsy) functional disorders (e.g. non-epileptic seizures), neurodegenerative diseases, brain injuries, and other psychiatric conditions. She offers cognitive behavioral therapy for non-epileptic seizures, anxiety, and depression; cognitive processing therapy; prolonged exposure therapy; and acceptance and commitment therapy.

Research interests include neuropsychological assessment in epileptic and non-epileptic seizures, neurodegenerative disorders, and other neurological disorders; the impact of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and resiliency on post-concussive symptoms; psychological first aid for secondary trauma in emergency department providers; and sports psychology.

Dr. Bruger is an instructor in the Department of Neurology at Saint Louis University School of Medicine. She is a member of the International Neuropsychological Society, American Academy of Clinical Neuropsychology, American Psychological Association, National Academy of Neuropsychology, Association for Applied Sports Psychology.

Dr. Bruger enjoys horseback riding and raising plants.

BIA-MO Conference Session

Dr. Lauren Schwarz and Dr. Bryanna Bruger will present “Mental Health and Co-Morbidities After Brain Injury” on Thursday, October 20, 2022.

Registration Options

In-Person - Live presentations on October 20 and 21, 2022.
Archives On-Demand - Access to recording of available sessions, Oct 24 - Dec 31, 2022.
Combination - Attend in-person sessions plus access to archives on-demand recordings.
Dr. Paula Benes is a physical medicine and rehabilitation physician practicing at SSM Select Rehab Hospitals in the Saint Louis area.

Dr. Benes completed a residency at the medical College of Wisconsin and later completed a Fellowship in Spinal Cord Injury at the medical College of Wisconsin and the Clement Zablocki VA Medical Center in Milwaukee.

She has worked in several hospitals in the Milwaukee area as a staff inpatient rehab physician. She had a faculty position at the medical College of Wisconsin while maintaining a spinal cord staff position at the VA and the Medical College.

Dr. Benes is Board Certified in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and Spinal Cord Injury Medicine.

BIA-MO Conference Session

Dr. Paula Benes will present “Long COVID and Brain Injury” on Friday, October 21, 2022.

Registration Options

In-Person - Live presentations on October 20 and 21, 2022.

Archives On-Demand - Access to recording of available sessions, Oct 24 - Dec 31, 2022.

Combination - Attend in-person sessions plus access to archives on-demand recordings.
Lauren Murphy is a fitness enthusiast, public speaker, and traumatic brain injury (TBI) survivor. In 2019 Lauren began sharing her story in the hopes to spread TBI and Aphasia awareness. To date, she has spoken in front of over 10,000 people.

After receiving her MBA in 2011, Lauren headed east to pursue a lifelong dream of living and working in New York. She accepted a job that included travel throughout the country. During a 2013 business trip to Los Angeles, Lauren, an avid runner, was struck by a car and critically injured during a morning run. Unidentified for several hours, she remained in critical condition for weeks, she had only a slim chance of survival. Doctors suspected that if she did survive, she would most likely not be able to feed herself, walk, talk, or understand spoken words.

Lauren spent over 600 hours of physical and occupational therapy to regain basic functions and over 2,000 hours of speech therapy. Lauren’s words and ability to process language have slowly improved. She currently lives with her parents in O’Fallon, Missouri and continues her journey towards recovery.

Colleen Murphy is a wife, mother of seven, public speaker and author of the book, Murphys Don’t Quit: Five Keys to Unlocking Hope When Life Seems Hopeless.

In 2013, tragedy struck Colleen’s family when her second oldest daughter, Lauren, was hit by a car and suffered severe brain damage. Colleen’s focus became helping piece Lauren back together. With the help of specialists from all over the country, her family, and friends, as well as her strong faith, she was able to do just that.

Today, Colleen and Lauren speak together as a team, inspiring thousands of people by sharing the details of Lauren’s tragic accident, never-give-up attitude, and miraculous recovery. Colleen lives just outside of St. Louis, Missouri with her husband Dave. She spends her free time fielding countless phone calls from her children as they deal with the challenges of adulting and assisting her husband via FaceTime as he struggles to find things at the grocery store.

BIA-MO Conference Sessions

Lauren and Colleen Murphy will present “Murphys Don’t Quit: 5 Keys to Unlocking Hope When Life Seems Hopeless” on Friday, October 21, 2022 for the professional audience.

Then on Saturday, October 22, 2022 they will present this session for survivors of brain injury and family members.
CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Name: ____________________________________________

Agency/Organization: _______________________________________

Address: ___________________________________________________

City/State/Zip: ______________________________________________

Phone: ______________________ Alt. Phone: ______________________

Fax ______________________ Email ______________________________

Additional Names 2.________________________________ 3.________________________________

☐ Professional Conference, Thursday, October 20 - Friday, October 21, 2022
  ____ In-Person  ____ Archives On-Demand  ____ Combination (add $30 per registration)

  Non-Member BIA-MO Conference Fee: _____________ $220 x ____ = $___

  BIA-MO Member Conference Fee: _____________ $170 x ____ = $___

  Family Member Fee: _____________ $90 x ____ = $___

  Survivor Fee: _____________ $65 x ____ = $___

  Student Fee: _____________ $65 x ____ = $___

  Combination Option Fee _____________ $30 x ____ = $___

Survivor and Family Seminar, Saturday, October 22, 2022

Survivor, Family & Friends _____________________________ FREE x ____ = $___

Awards Luncheon and Annual Meeting (Lunch Guest Only) ____ FREE x ____ = $___
  (Reservations required by Friday, October 14, 2022)

Meal Requests and Restrictions Vegetarian meal requests and dietary restrictions are required by October 14, 2022. No exceptions will be made at the Conference.

☐ I request vegetarian meals. Name of guest(s): _____________________________________________

☐ I have dietary restrictions. Specify: __________________________________________________________

BIA-MO Membership Gift ____________________________________ = $_____

Total number of attendees = ______ TOTAL ENCLOSED = $_____

Payment Options

☐ Enclosed is check/money order payable to BIA-MO for $_______

☐ Please invoice me

☐ Please charge my Visa/MC/Disc/American Express

  Name on Card: __________________ Card #: ___________________

  Exp. Date: _______ CVV Code (on back): __________

  Cardholder billing address (if different than above)
  Address/Zip: ______________________________________

Complete and mail or fax by Friday, October 14, 2022 to:
Brain Injury Association of Missouri, 2265 Schuetz Rd., Saint Louis, MO 63146-3409
Phone: 314.426.4024 ● Fax: 314.426.3290
Online registration available at www.biamo.org