

ABOUT THE PRESENTERS & MODERATOR

Marsha R. Mailick, PhD, is the director of the Waisman Center and holds the Vaughan Bascom and Elizabeth M. Boggs Professorships. She received her PhD in social policy from Brandeis University. Mailick joined the UW-Madison faculty in 1988 and has been director of the Waisman Center since 2002. An expert on the impact of developmental disabilities on families over the life course, her research focuses on how lifelong caregiving affects the well-being of parents and siblings of individuals with disabilities including Down syndrome, autism, and fragile X syndrome.

Jan Edwards, PhD, is a Waisman Center investigator and professor in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at UW-Madison. She directs the *Learning to Talk Lab* at the Waisman Center. Her research focuses on how children learn the sound system of their language (phonology) and how this affects their vocabulary with the goal of helping children who may be at risk for smaller-sized vocabularies develop the skills needed to acquire a large number of words quickly and efficiently. Her research is supported through grants from the National Institute of Deafness and Other Communicative Disorders (NIH-NIDCD) and from the National Science Foundation.

Samuel Gubbels, MD, FACS, is a Waisman Center investigator and assistant professor in the Department of Surgery, Division of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery at UW-Madison. His clinical practice is devoted to the treatment of adults and children with hearing loss and ear disease, with particular focus on cochlear implantation. His research interests are in the development of novel methods to study and treat hearing loss using different types of stem cells to generate the hair cells of the inner ear.

Christi Hess, PhD, CCC-SLP, received her BS in communication sciences and disorders and MS in speech-language pathology from James Madison University. From 2007-2009, she worked in New York City as a speech-language pathologist for NYEE's Cochlear Implant Center and Strivright/The Auditory Oral School of New York providing auditory rehabilitation as well as speech/language therapy to children ages 0-5 with hearing impairment. In 2010 she came to UW-Madison to complete her PhD in the Binaural Hearing and Speech Laboratory with Ruth Litovsky, PhD. Hess received her PhD in December 2013 after completing her dissertation focused on toddlers with cochlear implants.

Ruth Litovsky, PhD, is a Waisman Center investigator and professor in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders with a joint appointment in the Department of Surgery, Division of Otolaryngology at UW-Madison. She directs the *Binaural Hearing and Speech Lab* at the Waisman Center. Her research questions focus on how people are able to hear in noisy environments and how to improve processing of cochlear implants so that children and adults who are deaf and rely on cochlear implants can maximize their success at communication. Her research program is funded by the NIH-NIDCD.

Lina Reiss, PhD, received her undergraduate degree in mechanical engineering from Princeton University and her PhD in biomedical engineering from the Johns Hopkins University, where she studied sound localization circuitry in the auditory brainstem. In 2005, she became involved with the hybrid cochlear implant clinical trials as a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Iowa. In 2010, she was appointed as an assistant professor in the Oregon Hearing Research Center at Oregon Health and Science University. Her current research focuses on how hearing loss and cochlear implants affect binaural integration, optimizing speech perception with electro-acoustic stimulation, and improving residual hearing preservation after cochlear implantation. Reiss has had severe-profound hearing loss since early childhood.



3rd Annual Waisman Center Day with the Experts: Cochlear Implants

Saturday, May 31, 2014

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

John D. Wiley Conference Center

Waisman Center, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Participants will learn about the latest advances in research and hear from a panel of experts including individuals with cochlear implants and family members.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Waisman Center and the Department of Surgery, Division of Otolaryngology. Hosted in partnership with the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders.



University of Wisconsin Department of Surgery
**DIVISION OF OTOLARYNGOLOGY-
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