

November 2020  
Term 4

## Welcome to the final newsletter for 2020

### End of the Year Function

On Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November, AATD(SA) had an end of year function where 17 members attended. We had an exciting news to share with everyone that Warradale Inclusive Preschool Program for Deaf/Hard of Hearing children has been nominated for the Governor's Multicultural Award for 2020. Nominated for the Public Sector Award.



End of Year Get  
Together

Presidents Report –  
Sarah Lewis

2020 AATD(SA)  
Award for Excellence

Upcoming  
professional learning  
opportunities

We were also saddened to announce the retirement of Meriel Custance and Julie Daly. Meriel and Julie were awarded to thank them for their contributions to the deaf education. Their hard work will always be valued and remembered as their hard work, commitment and dedication are worth of admiration.



## President's Report

October 2020

### President's Report

Welcome to the end of what has proven to be a unique, socially distant but consequently unifying year. Virtual classrooms and meetings have become a permanent part of our work, albeit to a lesser extent than those in eastern states. As I've mentioned previously this year, I think the learning journey we have been on, working out how Teachers of the Deaf can remain connected with colleagues, children and families in these times has reinforced the pivotal work we do to guide our families and students.

The AATDSA Professional Development sub-committee have had meetings recently to organise some upcoming PD opportunities for both Teachers of the Deaf and mainstream teachers working with Deaf and Hard of Hearing students, more information on these events will follow soon. While Covid-19 meant that the International Congress on the Education of the Deaf had to be postponed, I'm looking forward to reading the updated program for the 2021 congress. If you haven't already subscribed for updates from the congress organisers, I encourage you to do so.

The Inclusive Education Support Program funding model is now being used for DHH students in public schools and AATDSA is watching this space closely to see how this model impacts the services and supports and choices our students can access.

As we prepare to celebrate World Teacher's Day, I would like to congratulate all the hard-working teachers that are members of AATDSA. Your collegiality, passion and the hours you put towards your work shape your students and the field of Deaf Education. I would especially like to take this opportunity to congratulate Amy Geue, who has been awarded AATDSA's Teacher of the Year award for 2020. Unfortunately, Covid-19 restrictions, Educators SA is not able to host their Gala Awards evening, but they will be mentioning Amy's award in the Advertiser newspaper and online in SA Life and InDaily. Amy's work in the classroom and in leadership has supported many students and staff alike and she is a worthy recipient of this honour.

Lastly, I would like to take this opportunity to encourage members to reach out to your networks, encourage others to become members of AATDSA. Connecting as an association provides us all with support and power greater than if we work alone. If you are already a member, consider volunteering some of your time to join one of our committees. I'd like to thank those that are already volunteering their time to be part of our Managing Committee, Professional Development Committee, National Committee and online maintenance; without all of you AATDSA could not continue to function.

I look forward to seeing members at the end of year function in November.

Thank you.

Sarah Lewis

President

## World Teacher's Day Award

From the AATD(SA) Committee, we would like to congratulate Amy Geue for the 2020 AATD(SA) Teacher of the Deaf Award for Excellence.



## Retirement

From the AATD(SA) Committee, we would like to congratulate Annette Philips on her retirement after 23 years of services as a BSSO at Klemzig Primary School.

A brand new language I must now learn,  
Into my mind the Auslan, I will learn.

I know its true, and my parents can see,  
For the future, knowing to languages is the keep.  
I seek to sign Auslan, but to right it is so hard.  
There are so many errors from which to guard.

The BSSO, she gives me all these rules  
that should make signing easier

Just when I think the battle of the Auslan I've won, I realize I have only begun.  
So try and try and try I will, but just please know  
That I am learning Auslan as fast as I can grow.



## Teachers of the Deaf - Retirement



From the AATD(SA) Committee, we would like to congratulate Meriel Custance, Greg Pedder and Julie Daly on their retirements.

Meriel, Greg and Julie, you have spent many years devoting your life to educating and taking care of deaf/hard of hearing students. This is why you are well-loved by them. After all your years of hard work, you all deserve some free time.

Congratulations and Happy Retirements!

## Upcoming Professional Development Opportunities

### [An online visit for Itinerant Teachers of the Deaf \(ITOD\)](#)

**Date:** Friday 11 December

**Time:** 9:00 – 3:00

**Cost:** \$20.00

The RIDBC Renwick Centre and the Australian Hearing Hub members invite Itinerant Teachers of the Deaf to learn about the clinical work and research taking place at the Australian Hearing Hub.

There will be a number of short presentations by many of the Australian Hearing Hub members including Hearing Australia, National Acoustic Laboratories, Royal Institute of Deaf and Blind Children, The Shepherd Centre, Macquarie University Hearing and Cochlear Limited.

### [DIR 101: An Introduction to DIR® and DIRFloortime®](#)

**Date:** Monday, 19 April, 2021 - Tuesday, 20 April, 2021

**Time:** 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

**Cost:** \$450.00

This training will introduce and examine the Developmental, Individual difference, Relationship-based (DIR) model, which is an established and recognized framework to understand a child's development that was developed by Dr. Stanley

Greenspan. DIR explains a child's developmental stages, individual differences, and the role emotion and relationships have in a child's development. The training will present an introduction to the DIRFloortime (AKA Floortime) approach, with the developmentally appropriate interactions, interventions, and practices geared to each child's developmental profile. The DIR model is applicable for all children and the DIRFloortime approach is particularly used as an intervention for children with Autism and other developmental disabilities.

Learning Objectives: Students successfully completing this course will be able to:

1. Identify common features of autism and other challenges of relating and communicating
2. Identify the key features of relationship-based approaches
3. Describe the 6 Functional Emotional Developmental Capacities (FEDCs) in the DIR model and potential challenges that children face at each capacity
4. Understand and describe the "I" in DIR - individual differences and how health, sensory processing, and regulatory challenges can impact a child's development
5. Describe key principles and basic strategies of Floortime
6. Understand and articulate the role of relationship and family in the DIR model
7. Understand and articulate the essential role of affect as it is related to the D, the I, and the R

**This event is a hands-on experiential workshop that requires participants to attend in-person. Remote and Digital Access will not be offered for this event.**

**Please note: this event runs from 9am - 4pm. We are also delighted to offer an additional hour with Jeff Guenzel for questions and answers about DIR and the Floortime Training with a special discussion on writing DIR-based treatment and education goals at no extra cost from 4-5pm on the 20th April.**

**[It's more than language: \(Re\)positioning the role of pragmatics in learning for deaf and hard of hearing children and young people](#)**

Date: Friday, 7 May, 2021

Time: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

<b>Full Registrationsh</b>	\$200.00 (AUD)
<b>Remote Access (live stream)</b>	\$150.00 (AUD)
<b>Digital Access</b>	\$100.00 (AUD)
<b>RIDBC Alumni</b>	\$175.00 (AUD)

This one-day workshop will explore the links between pragmatics and social communication. Participants will build knowledge informed by the latest research in the field of pragmatics in deaf and hard of hearing (DHH) children and young people, and its application to a range of education settings.