Mr Brendan Moore
General Manager, Policy, Research and Information
Alzheimer’s Australia NSW

Brendan Moore is the General Manager for Policy, Research and Information at Alzheimer’s Australia NSW. Brendan has worked in a variety of roles in the human service sector in: both Government and non-Government sectors; aged care, health and disability industries; research, policy and program delivery; project management and now in organisational management with Alzheimer’s Australia NSW.

Dr Molly de Lemos
President
Learning Difficulties Australia
http://www.ldaustralia.org

Molly de Lemos was a Senior Research Fellow at ACER prior to her retirement in 2001. Her initial training is in psychology, but since joining ACER in 1967 worked on a number of projects relating to assessment of educational achievement, with a focus on children from different language and cultural backgrounds and the early years of schooling. She has also worked on projects relating to educational provisions for students with disabilities and the educational needs of children in care. She has had an ongoing interest in issues relating to pre-school education, early intervention, and the assessment and identification of children with learning difficulties, and has also worked in the area of psychological assessment, including the adaptation and norming of measures of intelligence, aptitudes and adaptive behaviour. Her publications include the 1994 report Schooling for Students with Disabilities, and the 2002 ACER review paper Closing the Gap between Research and Practice: Foundations for the Acquisition of Literacy. She has served on a number of committees and advisory groups relating to assessment and early childhood education, and is currently a member of the Developmental Disorders of Language and Literacy Network Group. She has been a member of LDA since 2004, and was also Secretary of LDA from 2004 to 2012. Molly was the recipient of the 2012 Mona Tobias Award.

Ms Alison McMurtrie
Secretary
Learning Difficulties Australia
http://www.ldaustralia.org

Alison McMurtrie is currently working for MultiLit as Product Development Manager and Senior Trainer. She has a wealth of teaching and training experience in the area of literacy and literacy difficulties. After obtaining her teaching degree from the University of Cape Town, she studied for a postgraduate diploma in Specific Learning Difficulties at Kingston University and Dyslexia Action, London, UK (formerly Dyslexia Institute). She completed her Masters Degree in Special Education at Macquarie University in 2012 where she was awarded the Vice-Chancellor's Commendation for Academic Excellence as well as the 2012 Special Education Prize for Academic Excellence. During her career she has worked in a variety of settings, including the not-for-profit sector in London where she was involved in the setting up of dedicated literacy units in inner-city schools.
Adjunct Professor Jim Patrick  
Senior Vice President, Chief Scientist  
Cochlear Ltd  
http://www.cochlear.com

Jim Patrick is Senior Vice President and Chief Scientist at Cochlear Ltd. He is currently responsible for the global research portfolio of projects that feed into the commercial development stream, exploring how novel forms of signal processing can improve the performance of the Cochlear Implant, and how advances in biology and electro-neural interfaces can be applied to future implant designs.

Jim is one of the original engineers who pioneered the development of the multi-channel Cochlear Implant with Professor Graeme Clark and is recognised as a world authority on Cochlear Implants. He joined Professor Graeme Clark's research team at Melbourne University in 1975. With training in physics and communications engineering, and an interest in how electrical stimulation might be used to help people hear, he led the successful development of "UMDOLEE", the ten channel cochlear implant developed by the Departments of Otolaryngology and Electrical Engineering.

When initial proof of concept generated Federal Government support for commercial development in 1981, Jim moved to Sydney as a member of the Cochlear "Tiger Team", established by Paul Trainor inside the Nucleus group to develop a 'clinically applicable' cochlear implant. Jim was responsible for systems engineering, and the digital aspects of the implantable stimulator, playing the key leadership role in the development of the commercial medical implant.

Since 1981 he has been a member of Cochlear's senior management team, holding a number of technology management roles, including responsibility for Research and Development, Quality and Manufacturing. Jim received his Doctor of Engineering through The University of Melbourne. He has an honorary appointment as Associate Professor, at the Department of Otolaryngology at The University of Melbourne and is Adjunct Professor at La Trobe University and Macquarie University.

Professor Leanne Togher  
Discipline of Speech Pathology, Faculty of Health Sciences  
University of Sydney  
http://www.speechpathologyaustralia.org.au

Leanne Togher is a speech pathologist who has worked in the area of communication disorders following acquired brain injury for over 25 years. Leanne's work has focused on ways of improving the communication of people with brain injury in two ways. Firstly, she has evaluated direct communication treatment approaches for the person with traumatic brain injury (TBI) and secondly, she has empirically evaluated training programs for families and community agencies. Leanne has published training packages for law and justice personnel in conjunction with the Attorney General's Department of NSW. In 2012, she launched a new treatment resource aimed at improving everyday communication for people with brain injury and their families, called TBI Express. This treatment was proven as part of an NHMRC funded clinical trial and is now available for clinicians, people with brain injury, their families, friends and carers. Further trials are being undertaken with TBI Express at The University of Montreal in collaboration with Leanne's colleagues, Professor Claire Croteau and Professor Guylaine LeDorze. TBI Express will also be evaluated as part of a telehealth clinical trial for people with TBI and their families in 2013-2014.
Greg Leigh is Director of RIDBC Renwick Centre for Research and Professional Education at the Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children in Sydney and is conjointly Professor of Special Education and Deputy Director of the Centre for Special Education and Disability Studies at the University of Newcastle, Australia. He is also Adjunct Professor in the Department of Linguistics at Macquarie University. He holds degrees in Education and Special Education from Griffith University; a Master of Science (Speech and Hearing) from Washington University (Central Institute for the Deaf); and a PhD in Special Education from Monash University. In 1999 he was made a Fellow of the Australian College of Educators.

Greg is active in research and has published widely on aspects of the education of deaf and hard of hearing children, and related areas. He serves on numerous Australian government consultative committees on issues related to deafness and is a member of the Editorial Boards of both the *Journal of Deaf Studies and Deaf Education* and *Deafness and Education International*. Since 2005 he has been Chair of the Australasian Newborn Hearing Screening Committee. He is a former National President of the Education Commission for the World Congress of the World Federation of the Deaf (1999) and is currently Chair of the International Steering Committee of the Asia-Pacific Congress on Deafness and Co-Chair of the International Committee of the International Congress on Education of the Deaf (ICED).

Bill Gye has deep interest in cognition. He is arguably the most experienced person in Australia in disability employment programs and one of only three accredited de Bono trainers in the country.

Recovery Services includes the Personal Helpers and Mentors Program (PHaMs), Support with Day to Day Living in the Community Program (D2DL), Pioneer Clubhouse, the Ostara Disability Employment Services (mental health specialists), Resource and Recovery Support Program (RRSP), NOUS, Bradfield Park Wellbeing Centre and several other smaller projects and activities.

The Principles of Recovery Practice are:

- Uniqueness of the individual
- Real choices
- Attitudes and rights
- Dignity and respect
- Partnership and communication
- Evaluating recovery

Trevor Clark is a special educator with a comprehensive experience and knowledge of educational programs and service provision for students with autism spectrum disorders as a result of over 25 years in the field in New Zealand, England and Australia. He completed his PhD in autism which involved a curriculum designed to make functional use of savant and splinter skills in children with autism. He is currently responsible for the Aspect schools program (8 schools, 100 satellite classes with student enrolment of 1000 students with ASD) and is also the senior consultant to the Aspect research program. He presents nationally and internationally on education and research in ASDs. Trevor is the co-author of *A Practical Guide for Teachers of Students with an Autism Spectrum Disorder in Secondary Education*.