



## Healthy Development Adelaide

*A Research and Innovation Cluster in South Australia*



# Research and Developments in Autism: A SA Perspective

**Wednesday 30 October 2019**

**5.30 - 8.00pm**

doors open from 5.10pm....  
networking with light refreshments following talks

**Napier Lecture Theatre (102)  
Napier Building, 1st floor  
University of Adelaide (North Terrace campus)**

All Welcome - FREE admission

Registration at Eventbrite  
[eventbrite.com.au/e/74048636465](https://eventbrite.com.au/e/74048636465)

**Ms Niki Welz, Training, Consultancy and Research Manager  
Autism SA and its role in supporting autism research in SA**  
Autism SA

**Dr Emma Goodall, Manager, Disability and Complex Needs  
Autism, behaviour, regulation and complex needs**  
Department for Education

**Ms Kristy Logan, Speech Pathologist/Clinical Lead  
Let's get social: Helping AAC users with autism  
communicate with others**  
Novita

**Dr Kobie Boshoff, Senior Lecturer, Occupational Therapy /  
Ms Lisa Porter, Lecturer, Occupational Therapy**  
**“A lot of time wasted...”: Parents expression of the process  
of diagnosis of ASD: a meta-synthesis**  
University of South Australia

### **CHAIR**

**A/Professor Pammi Raghavendra (HDA Co-Convenor)**  
College of Nursing and Health Sciences, Flinders University



**Ms Niki Welz** is the Manager for the Training, Consultancy and Research team at Autism SA.

Autism SA was the first autism specific non-for-profit organisation of its kind in Australia established in 1964 by families driven by the desire to ensure that they had access to the best information, education, intervention and support. Currently Autism SA has more than 15,000 individuals registered. Niki will provide an overview of Autism SA supports and services and its partnerships with a range of stakeholders which support research across SA and Nationally.



**Dr Emma Goodall** is the Manager of the Disability and Complex Needs team for the Department for Education.

This team is responsible for a wide range of policy and program development as well as health and crisis support across the state. Emma is currently researching the interoception strategies being rolled out across the state to enable children and young people to develop regulation skills. Emma will give a brief overview of the team's work and how the interoception strategy is going.



**Ms Kristy Logan** has been a speech pathologist for the past 17 years, and has worked in a range of settings including disability services, community health, schools, and private practice. Her PhD research has focused on effective interventions for children with autism who use Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC), with a focus on the social validity of AAC interventions, and developing an intervention that can be used to improve symbolic and social communication skills in AAC users. She currently works as a Clinical Lead for Novita, based in Broken Hill. This presentation will focus on an intervention to develop symbolic and social communication skills in AAC users with ASD.



**Dr Kobie Boshoff** is a Director of the International Centre for Allied Health Evidence and Senior Lecturer in Occupational Therapy at UniSA.

Kobie has extensive experience as practitioner with children, young people and people with disabilities – in South Africa, Canada and Australia, in areas such as service delivery in schools and family-centered services. She works on commissioned projects with industry and various types of reviews of evidence. She has won the Outstanding Contribution to Service Delivery Award (Occupational Therapy Australia) as well as the UniSA Chancellors Award for Community Engagement. Kobie lead the review team in undertaking the review presented today.



**Ms Lisa Porter** is an occupational therapist and recipient of the Cecilie Bearup student Prize (for embodying the highest professional qualification in Occupational Therapy as voted by faculty, clinicians and peers).

Lisa has a clinical background in Injury Management, Workplace Injury Consultancy, Aged Care, Dementia Care and Disability. Lisa currently is a lecturer in Occupational Therapy (UniSA). She has a lived experience of being a parent of a child with ASD and navigating the complex systems of disability services and the NDIS. Lisa provided her lived experience input into the review presented today and two others published in 2016 and 2017.

HDA Partners

