

Dr. Bria Dunkin



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Bria Dunkin, Psy.D. joined Dr. Allan Reiss at the Center for Interdisciplinary Brain Sciences Research (CIBSR) at Stanford University School of Medicine in July 2006. She works as the assistant project coordinator of a large research study on the relationship between Genes, Brain, and Behavior in Turner Syndrome. Dr. Dunkin is a graduate of the American School of Professional Psychology at Argosy University/Hawai'i. She holds a Doctorate in Clinical Psychology with emphasis in child and family assessment and treatment. Her clinical training includes three years working in a community-based mental health agency on the island of Oahu providing care to individuals with serious mental illnesses, many with co-occurring psychotic disorders and severe substance abuse issues. She also completed extern training in personality assessment and neuropsychology in a Honolulu-

based private practice and behavioral medicine at Tripler Army Medical Center, Department of Psychology in Honolulu. Both her internship and post-doctoral training years were spent at CIBSR focusing on pediatric neuropsychological assessment and genetic disorders with primary focus on Turner syndrome. Her research and clinical interests include medical psychology, neurocognitive outcomes after medical treatment, neuroplasticity, and family dynamics. This is Dr. Dunkin's first visit to Calgary but she grew up in the Rocky Mountains near Bozeman, Montana and completed her undergraduate degree in psychology at her hometown university, Montana State University –Bozeman in 2001.

Dr. Joanne Rovet, PhD



Dr. Joanne Rovet is a senior scientist in the Neurosciences & Mental Health (NMH) program at The Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids) and a professor of Paediatrics and Psychology at the University of Toronto. She is also appointed to the Graduate Faculty at the University of Toronto and holds adjunct appointments at OISE/UT and York University.

Dr. Rovet obtained her PhD from the University of Toronto in 1974 and completed a postdoctoral fellowship in paediatric neuropsychology at SickKids. She has stayed at the hospital ever since. Dr. Rovet is a registered psychologist with the Ontario College of Psychologists.

Dr. Rovet was a founding member of the Turner Syndrome Society of Canada and carried out some of the early seminal studies on the spatial deficits in children with Turner syndrome. She was also responsible for the psychosocial follow-up component of the Canadian study of growth hormone effects in Turner syndrome. Her current research program has two main thrusts: the role of thyroid hormone insufficiencies or fetal alcohol exposure on early brain development. Recently, she has been conducting neuroimaging investigations to determine how a lack of thyroid hormone or exposure to alcohol during pregnancy disturb critical brain pathways for memory, visuospatial, and social processing. Her most recent work on children with fetal alcohol spectrum disorders examines structural and functional brain changes after emotion regulation therapy. Dr. Rovet is an active member of the American Thyroid Association (ATA) and sits on the ATA's Thyroid Health in Pregnancy committee as well as the Endocrine Society's guidelines committee on Thyroid Disease in Pregnancy. She was previously selected to be on review panels for the National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences and the Environmental Protection Agency to revamp the Children's Environmental Health Centers Program and the World Health Organization to establish levels of iodine sufficiency during pregnancy and lactation. She is frequently invited to present her research at conferences examining how environmental endocrine disruptors affect child development.

Dr. Derek Drummond is the regional Chief of Pediatric Otolaryngology at the Alberta Children's Hospital in Calgary. He graduated from the University of Alberta, and did additional graduate and post-doctoral training in Houston, Texas. He has an active practice at the ACH, and teaches and supervises medical students as a Clinical Assistant Professor with the University of Calgary.



Dr. Sarah Blenkhorn, (Doctor of Audiology) is an audiologist who works in private practice. She is the Head of Audiology for Apex Hearing Systems which is a private hearing clinic with a total of 9 locations here in Calgary and the surrounding area. She has worked with patients of all age levels and varying levels of hearing loss. She brings a unique perspective as she works with patients everyday who are trying to hear better through the use of different types of assistive technology, including hearing aids, FM systems and bluetooth compatible devices.



Dr. Hanan Bassyouni is a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Division of Endocrinology, University of Calgary. She graduated from the University of Calgary in Biochemistry and Medicine, joined the internal medicine residency program in Calgary in 1998 and was chief resident in 2000. She completed her fellowship in Endocrinology in Calgary in 2004. She has a clinical practice that includes diabetes in pregnancy, and general endocrinology, as well as teaching medical students at all levels of training. Dr. Bassyouni is also involved in making consultant endocrine services available to underprivileged populations.

Dr. Bernard Corenblum is a professor in the department of medicine, the University of Calgary. He developed the ovulation induction program for anovulation soon after returning to his native Calgary, and runs this program until today. In 1984 he established the fellowship training program in endocrinology and metabolism at the University of Calgary, and chaired the GTC until two years ago. For 11 years he chaired the undergraduate course in endocrinology and metabolism, until one year ago. Soon after returning to Calgary, he developed the outpatient metabolic testing unit for diagnosis and therapy of patients with endocrine disorders, and continues to be the medical director



Michael Watts is an Assistant Professor (part time) within the faculty of Child and Youth Studies at Mount Royal University. Michael is also employed as a Medical Social Worker at the Alberta Children's Hospital's Diabetes and Endocrine clinics. Michael is trained as a therapist and his areas of expertise include at-risk youth, mental health, individual, group and family therapy, and psychosocial issues related to adolescents living with Type 1 diabetes.



Janet Patterson is originally from Ottawa, Ontario. She completed her Bachelor of Social Work degree at the University of Western Ontario, and then went on to graduate from McGill University with her Master of Social Work degree.

Janet's broad base of social work experience includes working at a children's residential treatment centre, working in various areas of medical social work, working as a marriage and family counsellor, and working in the field of open adoption.

Janet has been a social worker with Adoption By Choice since the agency opened its' doors in 1989. She is involved in all aspects of the adoption process, from facilitating pre-adoption workshops to completing home assessment reports to providing both pre- and post-adoption counselling to birth parents and adoptive parents.

Janet and her husband, Doug, have two daughters who have come to them through open adoption.

Mary Edwards, as Executive Director of the Turner Syndrome Society of Canada, is an *ex officio* member of the Board. She has been involved with the Society for over 25 years, as one of the founding members of the Ottawa chapter, national president for two terms, and now Executive Director for the past five years. She has a B.Sc. from Queen's University, a M.Sc. in biology from the University of Ottawa, and a diploma in Public Relations from Algonquin College. She is married, and has two grown children that she and her husband adopted as infants.

Shirley Underwood is President of the Turner Syndrome Society of Canada. She has recently retired from teaching with the Toronto District School Board. She was the president of the board of directors for the Society from 1992 until 1994 and co-ordinated the International Turner Syndrome Conference in Toronto during that time. She was honoured to be the keynote speaker at the first conference of the South African Turner Syndrome Society. Shirley is a classically trained singer who enjoys every opportunity to make music and perform. She lives in Toronto with her husband Richard and their son Nate.

Debbi Thompson is the mother of a 15-year old daughter with TS, and has been instrumental in the establishment of the Turner Syndrome Society's Calgary support group. This year she coordinated the Calgary group's enthusiastic and successful work in organizing this conference.

"Big Sisters" workshop leaders

My name is **Jacquie Laurendeau** and I am 29 years old. I was born and raised in Calgary and lived here almost my entire life. I currently work in an administrative role at an accounting firm but have worked in many different areas including child care. I was diagnosed with Turner Syndrome when I was almost 18 years old and have since learned a lot about the condition. I am excited to be able to participate in this conference while at the same time meeting new people and being able share my experiences with everyone.

My name is **Mandie Brown**, a 28 year old adult with Turner Syndrome. I'm a make-up artist by trade, getting there by finishing those tough early years of school. Continuing with some college courses in Early Childhood Development, and my First Aid certification, then most recently graduating with a Make-Up Artist Diploma. This has been so rewarding in leading to my present job with a make-up company and free-lancing with my own make-up business. Supporting myself on my own here in Calgary since I was 18, whether a trusty stool was needed or not. I enjoy time with my family whenever possible as they have been a great support for me to grow not feeling any different. Since learning of having Turners Syndrome at age 10 I used the chance at these conferences to learn more such as the benefit of growth hormone for myself – I chose that option for 3 years. It's a blessing to share these moments as a support group for each other with these conferences and be a part of the Turner group and an honor to be celebrating it as a 30th landmark anniversary.

Tanya Lall was born in Edmonton 33 years ago, but has lived in Calgary most of her life. At 6 weeks old she was diagnosed with Turner's Syndrome. Tanya has been involved with the Turner's Syndrome Society since early childhood and has attended a number of conferences. She has worked as a Licensed Practical Nurse on the maternity ward for the past 10 years.