



## The Past, Present and Future of Dyslexia

Pennington Biomedical Research Center, Baton Rouge

Hosted by Congressman Bill Cassidy

November 13, 2012



***Sally E. Shaywitz, M.D.***

Sally E. Shaywitz, M.D., the Audrey G. Ratner Professor in Learning Development at the Yale University School of Medicine, is the Co-Director of the newly formed Yale Center for Dyslexia and Creativity. Dr. Shaywitz received her B.A. (with honors) from the City University and her M.D. from Albert Einstein College of Medicine. She has devoted her career to better understanding and helping children and adults who are dyslexic. Together with her husband, Dr. Bennett Shaywitz, she originated and championed the “Sea of Strengths” model of dyslexia which emphasizes a sea of strengths of higher critical thinking and creativity surrounding the encapsulated weakness found in children and adults who are dyslexic. Dr. Shaywitz, an elected member of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences, has received numerous honors for her work in advancing dyslexia research and is consistently named one of the “Country’s Top Doctors” by US News and World Report.



***Bennett A. Shaywitz, M.D.***

Bennett A. Shaywitz, M.D., the Charles and Helen Schwab Professor in Dyslexia and Learning Development, is the Chief of Pediatric Neurology and Co-Director of the newly formed Yale Center for Dyslexia and Creativity at the Yale University School of Medicine. Dr. Shaywitz received his B.A. from Washington University and his M.D. from Washington University School of Medicine. He completed his pediatric training and then a Postdoctoral fellowship in Child Neurology at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. Dr. Shaywitz has devoted his career to better understanding the neurobiological basis of reading and dyslexia and to ensuring that this new knowledge is translated into the better care and treatment of people with dyslexia. He has made major contributions to understanding the neurobiology of reading, including the identification and localization of specific neural systems for reading. Dr. Shaywitz has received many honors for his contributions to the understanding of the basic neurobiology of reading and dyslexia, including election to membership in the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences, Distinguished Alumnus Award from Washington University, and the Annie Glenn Award for Leadership from Ohio State University.



### ***Representative Larry Byrd***

Rep. Larry Byrd is a Mississippi state representative serving the areas of Lamar and Forrest. Mr. Byrd is a veteran of the US Army's famed 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division. Now a contractor by trade, he is currently the vice-chair on the Mississippi House's Committee on County Affairs. He is also a member of the Committees on Agriculture, Energy, Marine Resources, and Ports, Harbors, and Airports. A sufferer of dyslexia himself, Mr. Byrd has sponsored legislation in the House aimed at furthering funding for dyslexia research and educational techniques.



### ***Glennie Lee Buquet***

A graduate of ULL and of Leadership Louisiana, Ms. Buquet is a former speech and English teacher, who later opened a tutorial school for children with reading disabilities. She served as member of the Board of Directors of the Council for a Better Louisiana (CABL) and is Board Chairman of the Center for Dyslexia, Nicholls State; she is a member of the American Cancer Society, the Louisiana Center for Women and Government, Nicholls State; the American Association of University Women; and NASBE. Her special areas of education focus are reading, with special attention to students with learning disabilities and improving teacher training at the pre- and post- service levels.



### ***Karen Chauvin***

Karen Chauvin has been involved with the education of dyslexic students since 1992 and is currently the director of the Louisiana Center for Dyslexia and the Jimmy and Glennie Lee Buquet Endowed Professor at Nicholls State University in Thibodaux, LA. She is a founding board member and the president of the board of the Maxine Giardina Charter School in Thibodaux and a founding board member of the proposed Louisiana Key Academy, which will hopefully open in the fall of 2013 in Baton Rouge. Both of these charter schools were created to serve the needs of children with dyslexia.



### ***Representative Steve Carter - Moderator***

Rep. Carter is a Louisiana state representative serving the East Baton Rouge Parish area. A Baton Rouge native, Mr. Carter graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree from Louisiana State University and served from 1967 to 1971 in the United States Air Force, in which he attained the rank of Captain. Mr. Carter currently is the Chairman of the Louisiana House's Committee on Education. He also is a member of the Committees on Ways and Means, Municipal, Parochial, and Cultural Affairs, and Joint House and Senate Capital Outlay.