



Research Bulletin

Published by the St. Amant Research Centre

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SARC has a new website

Please visit our new website at <http://stamantresearch.ca>. You can meet our research team and national network of affiliates, learn about Research Centre news and events, and read in detail about our research areas, projects, and grants. Our long-term vision for the website is of an interactive knowledge resource that helps connect researchers, families, and practitioners with an interest in developmental disabilities.

Winnipeg Foundation supports research with milestone grant

The Winnipeg Foundation awarded \$450,000 to St. Amant Research Centre in January 2008 to support the Centre's five-year plan for (1) sustaining world-class research productivity, and (2) promoting knowledge translation for developmental disabilities in Manitoba. This extraordinary grant marked a \$200 million milestone in grants awarded by the Winnipeg Foundation, and recognized that an interdisciplinary research team, active Community Advisory Group, and strong community-university partnership combine to make the Research Centre unique in Canada. It creates an enduring future for the Research Centre and its mission to improve the quality of life of people living with developmental disabilities.

The **St. Amant Research Centre** is dedicated to improving the quality of life for individuals with developmental disabilities through research and education.

The Research Centre is possible thanks to the generous support of

- University of Manitoba faculties of Nursing, Human Ecology, and Arts.
- The Winnipeg Foundation
- St. Amant Foundation



CEO Rick Frost (far right) and Chairperson Gregg Hanson (2nd from right) of the Winnipeg Foundation present award to representatives of St. Amant, St. Amant Foundation, and St. Amant Research Centre, with Lieutenant Governor John Harvard present (4th from right)

Putting knowledge to work

There is growing recognition that researchers must not only create new knowledge, but translate it effectively to serve those who may benefit. Similarly, health care providers and users must have ways to access and understand the available information, and a way to have their research needs addressed. Knowledge translation (KT) is one name for this set of important activities.

In June 2008 St. Amant Research Centre hosted a one-day facilitated workshop on KT in developmental disabilities. This event, funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, was an important first step towards an organized, comprehensive KT initiative for developmental disabilities in Manitoba. Our objectives were to strengthen partnerships and to identify important actions to establish KT processes.

Twenty-six attendees represented diverse stakeholder groups, including parents, practitioners, researchers, administrators, and policymakers. The group examined a conceptual framework for KT, and responded to an assessment of current knowledge availability, use, and dissemination. Participants then identified important factors that facilitate or impede KT, and discussed how to build upon successes and overcome obstacles. A complete report on the event will be published at *stamantresearch.ca* in August 2008.

We will host at least two more workshops in 2008. One session will take place at the St. Amant Conference on October 9th, from 1:00 - 2:30 pm, at the Canad Inn Fort Garry. All conference attendees are invited to attend. Registration and program information are available at: www.stamant.mb.ca/main/Events.html.

A second full-day workshop, funded by the Centre for Life Course Health at the University of Manitoba, Faculty of Human Ecology, will be scheduled for Fall 2008. Interested individuals from Winnipeg, as well as rural and northern Manitoba are welcome to participate. For more information, please contact our administrative assistant Quinn Senkow at 204.256.4301x5482, or via email at senkowq@stamant.mb.ca.

How to contact us

Director: Dr. C.T. Yu
yu@stamant.mb.ca

Researcher: Dr. Bev Temple
templeb@stamant.mb.ca

Researcher: Dr. Shahin Shooshtari
sshooshtari@stamant.mb.ca

Manager: Toby Martin
tmartin@stamant.mb.ca

Administrative Assistant: Quinn Senkow
senkowq@stamant.mb.ca

To discuss partnerships, contact
St. Amant President
Dr. Carl Stephens
(204) 258-7040

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440 River Road
Winnipeg MB R2M 3Z9
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