

Dedication to Care

From the first moment I observed Dr. Als with an infant, I was struck by her profound compassion and keen insight into the experiences of newborns and their families. Her dedication to improving care for the most fragile patients deeply resonated with me. She demonstrated that even the smallest adjustments, rooted in respect and understanding, could create a transformation on the well-being of others.

Dr. Als' influence guides how I create environments that prioritize family-focused developmental practices. Dr. Als emphasized that every detail matters, not just in medicine but in every aspect of how we present ourselves. She reminded us that we are public figures and thus all interactions matter and deserve intention. Whether creating an environment to uplift others, preparing for an assessment, or organizing a meeting, attention to detail shapes how messages are received and how others feel within that space. She emphasized the power of projecting confidence, clarity, and empathy to rear connection and trust. This philosophy has extensively shaped my approach, driving me to approach interactions and decisions with thoughtfulness, ensuring that I reflect a sense of well-being, respect, and intentionality.

Philosophy and Mentorship

This deep commitment to care was also reflected in her approach to mentoring. Dr. Als embodied an extraordinary work ethic, dedicating countless hours to her mission and inspiring others with her drive and high expectations. Her approach to training was rigorous and comprehensive. Through the NIDCAP curriculum, she cultivated a philosophy of thoughtful engagement, observation, and practice, cultivating a community of clinicians dedicated to individualized developmental care. I feel a profound responsibility to honor and carry forward her vision. In my own NIDCAP training efforts, I strive to uphold her meaningful approach, providing structure and depth while also offering additional guidance to make the process accessible and encouraging for trainees. This sense of responsibility drives me to motivate others to see the insights she uncovered, publish meaningful research, and promote transformative care practices that improve outcomes for infants and families.

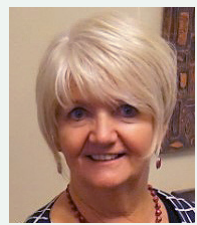
Dr. Als fostered a commitment to listening to, supporting, and inspiring others. Through her example, I advocate for the vital role we play in the lives of infants, their families, and others. I believe that as a professional in the field of neurodevelopment,

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Editorial

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A French Treat



This issue offers insights from the recent 35th NIDCAP Trainers Meeting, highlighting the exchange of knowledge that defines our global community. These meetings continue to grow in strength and scope, showcasing an outstanding diversity of information and experiences. The picturesque setting

of Toulouse in the south of France provided a vibrant backdrop for the event, which also served as an invaluable opportunity for networking among delegates representing many countries.

In this issue, Samantha Butler shares the wisdom and legacy of Heidelise Als, taking us on her inspirational NIDCAP journey—a testament to vision and dedication. Deborah Buehler introduces us to an innovative perspective on the Synactive Theory, exploring its application across all areas of care.

The abstracts featured in this issue reflect the diversity and depth of the meeting. From groundbreaking research and new educational approaches to parent-led initiatives and strategies

for expanding NIDCAP expertise. Additionally, we are delighted to include poster abstracts that highlight the incredible work of our NFI members.

For the first time, we have translated several articles from the original French, making their valuable content accessible to a broader audience. This new venture was made possible thanks to the generous assistance of Kiki Remont, and I extend my gratitude for her efforts. I would love to hear your thoughts on this new approach to fostering accessibility and understanding.

Thank you for your continued engagement and dedication to advancing the NIDCAP mission.

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Erratum: Vol 17, No 3, page 16. The image caption should read: Dr. Mohammad Heidarzadeh and Dr. Marzieh Hasanpour.