

Media Release

Phonak convenes first Expert Research Circle

Key international experts in hearing aid research and Phonak audiologists and researchers participated in first expert circle meeting in the USA

Stäfa, Switzerland and Warrenville, Illinois/US – November 2, 2017 – Phonak, the leading global provider of hearing instruments and wireless communication solutions, recently organized the first in what is planned to become regular Expert Research Circle meetings. Eight renowned experts from across the globe were invited to participate in this initial exchange with a number of Phonak participants. The main goal of this new approach is to engage in an open dialogue about key areas in hearing aid research.

For a full day, the group of experts discussed the key topics "Ecologically Valid Methods of Assessing Hearing Aid Performance" moderated by Graham Naylor, Scientific Programme Leader of the MRC/CSO Institute of Hearing Research - Scottish Section, in Glasgow, U.K. and "Clinical Benefits Beyond Speech Perception," moderated by Brent Edwards, Director of the National Acoustic Laboratories in Sydney, Australia. In both sessions, areas of consensus and important next steps in order to bring findings closer to clinical practice were discussed. In addition, links and synergies between parallel work streams among participants were identified.



First gathering of experts, from left to right: Stefan Launer, Brent Edwards, Bradley Stephenson, Andrea Pittman, Lori Rakita, Graham Naylor, Jani Johnson, Michael Boretzki, Susan Scollie, Ora Buerkli, Yu-Hsiang Wu, Erin Picou, Christine Jones

"With this first Expert Research Circle meeting, it was our ambition to exchange views and experiences about essential research topics that are currently top of mind in the hearing aid industry," explains Christine Jones, Director at the Phonak Audiology Research Center (PARC) in Warrenville/Chicago. "We also wanted to provide our guests with a look behind the scences at Phonak."

Going forward, Phonak plans to host recurring expert research circle meetings with a changing set of select key researchers in the field of audiology.

For an overview of Phonak scienitifc evidence please visit the Phonak Evidence Page.

About Phonak

Headquartered near Zurich, Switzerland, Phonak, a member of the Sonova Group, was born in 1947 from a passion and dedication to take on the most difficult hearing challenges. Seventy years later, this passion remains. As the industry's leading provider, we offer the broadest portfolio of life-changing hearing solutions. From pediatric to profound hearing loss, we remain committed to creating hearing solutions that change people's lives to thrive socially and emotionally. We believe in changing lives and creating a world where 'Life is on' for everyone.

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At Phonak, we believe that hearing well is essential to living life to the fullest. For 70 years, we've remained true to our mission, creating life-changing hearing solutions to help people thrive socially and emotionally. **Life is on.**