



Autism Expert

About Susan M. Wilczynski, Ph.D., BCBA

Susan M. Wilczynski, Ph.D., BCBA, is the Executive Director of the National Autism Center. She chairs the National Standards Project, which will serve to establish national standards for the educational and behavioral treatment of individuals on the autism spectrum, and works in collaboration with experts from all over the country.

Dr. Wilczynski is charged with developing state-of-the-art Autism Screening and Diagnostic Clinics in underserved areas. In addition, she spearheads 'Pathways,' a parent education series for parents whose children have recently received a diagnosis on the autism spectrum.

Before joining the National Autism Center as Executive Director, Dr. Wilczynski developed and directed an intensive early intervention program for children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) at Munroe-Meyer Institute for Genetics and Rehabilitation. She has authored multiple articles and book chapters on the treatment of ASD and has co-edited the book "Effective Practices for Children with Autism."

A licensed psychologist and a board certified behavior analyst, Dr. Wilczynski has held academic appointments at the University of Southern Mississippi, the University of Nebraska Medical Center, and UMASS-Boston.

She is a frequent keynote speaker on the national conference circuit for issues related to early identification of and intervention for children with ASD, treatment selection, and parent education, as well as building and sustaining system-wide capacity to deliver effective, evidence-based treatment for individuals with ASD.



Recent News—National Autism Center

- Dr. Wilczynski will deliver the keynote address for **the Mayor's Summit on Autism** in Boston on April 3, 2009, sponsored by Mayor Thomas Menino, the Boston Public Schools, and the Boston Public Health Commission. Her topic will focus on treatments that work and the importance of collaboration within the broader community to improve access to evidence-based treatment for individuals with ASD.
- The National Autism Center is a co-sponsor of **May Institute's** new public awareness campaign, "*What Does Autism Look Like?*" The campaign, which will be displayed through the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) system throughout April, is intended to create and raise awareness about autism across multiple communities in Massachusetts during Autism Awareness Month. (See <http://www.mayinstitute.org>.)

Other News

- The National Autism Center and the **Ford Hall Forum** – the nation's oldest free public lecture series and greater Boston's prestigious lecture venue – will host a panel discussion with national autism experts and parents on Thursday, October 29, 2009. In order to address the overwhelming amount of information, and misinformation, available about autism, Dr. Wilczynski and the other nationally recognized experts will focus on cutting through the clutter and dispelling myths about autism.
- In the fall of 2008, the National Autism Center received a significant donation from **Cisco**, a global Fortune 500 technology company. Each year, Cisco partners with a non-governmental organization to raise funds for a worthy cause. The National Autism Center was very pleased to be selected as last year's partner organization. Dr. Wilczynski delivered a keynote address at Cisco's annual conference in San Jose, Calif., which described the global impact of autism and the challenges faced by individuals with ASD, their families, educators, and service providers.
- Dr. Wilczynski has served as an expert media resource on the topic of autism for multiple media outlets, including ABC News Healthy Life show, *Parenting* magazine, and *Exceptional Parent* magazine.

Dr. Wilczynski is available for interviews by contacting Susan Laueremann at slaueremann@nationalautismcenter.org or 781.437.1257.

About The National Autism Center

The National Autism Center is dedicated to serving children and adolescents with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) by providing reliable information, promoting best practices, and offering comprehensive resources for families, practitioners, and communities.

The National Autism Center is completing an unprecedented three-year project — the National Standards Project — to establish a set of standards for effective, research-validated educational and behavioral interventions for children with ASD. Once approved, the national standards will serve as a single, authoritative source of guidance to help families, practitioners, policymakers, and funders make informed decisions and choose effective treatments.

An advocate for evidence-based treatment approaches, the Center identifies effective programming and shares practical information with families about how to respond to the challenges they face. The Center also conducts applied research as well as develops training and service models for practitioners. Finally, the Center works to shape public policy concerning ASD and its treatment through the development and dissemination of national standards of practice.

For more information about the National Autism Center, please call 877.313.3833 or visit www.nationalautismcenter.org.