**Biography**

# Undergraduate teaching:

# Over the past 40 years at UBC I have taught a number of courses in the Teacher Education program of the Faculty of Education at UBC including courses in language and literacy education, home and school relationships, the history of early childhood education and developmental psychology. I helped to co-author an undergraduate inter-professional course in child welfare with colleagues in Social Work, Child and Youth Care, Nursing and Education. I worked closely with community-based agencies to expand the Infant Development/Supported Child Care Certificate and Diploma Programs. As Academic Coordinator I administered for these programs which included, for example, supervising the development and implementation of five new distance education courses for early intervention specialists across the province. I also worked in partnership with community-based agencies in planning and implementing an annual summer institute which brought in early intervention scholars from around the world. From 2002-2012 years I designed and implemented a one-day workshop on assessment in the early years. Held in conjunction with a number of community and academic partners this workshop included presentations from a wide range of medical and social sciences and from various professional schools (e.g., Nursing, Social Work, Education, Rehabilitations Sciences, Speech and Audiology Sciences).

# Graduate teaching and supervision:

# The bulk of my classroom teaching has been at the graduate level. My teaching load has included courses in research methodology, child development, cognitive development, early childhood education, the masters and doctoral seminars in educational psychology and special topics courses as well. I have developed and taught interdisciplinary courses on early child development at the M.A. and Ph.D. levels. I have developed and taught seminars on the development of M.A. and Ph.D. proposals.

**SPECIAL INTERESTS AND LEADERSHIP**

In addition to my own program of research in early childhood development, I have worked very hard to create sustainable research infrastructures that would facilitate high quality, collaborative interdisciplinary child development research at UBC and the other BC universities. This work has produced a number of important vehicles that will support faculty members, students, community groups and government agencies in addressing questions about the ecology of child development and the translation of that research into policy and practice. Within the Faculty of Education at UBC I helped to establish, with my colleagues, the **Institute for Early Childhood Education and Research** which I served as Director from 2001 to 2003. I was also the Principal Investigator and Coordinator of the SSHRCC/RDI-funded **UBC Child and Family Project** which helped to create interdisciplinary and community-university research collaborations. The Project created the interdisciplinary Green College Lecture Series entitled, “*Multiple Lenses, Multiple Images: Perspectives on the Child across Time, Space and Disciplines*” which was published as an edited anthology by University of Toronto Press in 2004.

From 2002 to 2010 I was part of team of early child development researchers that created the **Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP),** an interdisciplinary research centre situated in the Faculty of Graduate Studies. I first served as **Associate Director** and later as **Senior Scholar** in HELP. The HELP network of affiliates included over 100 researchers from across the medical, biological and social sciences. In addition to generating policy-relevant research on child development as part of our core grant, HELP has also been successful in receiving multi-year funding from, among others, the Canadian Foundation for Innovation, the Michael Smith Foundation, the Canadian Institutes for Health Research and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

I was the **Principal Investigator** on a five-year (2003-2007) longitudinal, interdisciplinary research grant to the *Consortium on Child Health, Intervention, Learning and Development (The CHILD Project)* awarded by the Major Collaborative Research Initiatives program (MCRI) of the Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada. The study’s co-investigators are from Pediatrics, Neonatology, Rehabilitation Sciences, Nursing, Community and Regional Planning, Landscape Architecture, Early Childhood Education, Developmental Psychology, Women’s Studies and Gender Relations, Aboriginal Studies, Child and Youth Care, Social Work and Family Studies, Sociology and Anthropology, Interdisciplinary Studies, and graduate students from all of these disciplines are actively involved in the project.

Based on the *CHILD Project* my colleagues in Pediatrics and Neonatology and I have embarked on a new and exciting are of collaboration across the medical and social sciences. My colleagues included clinician/researchers in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Women’s and Children’s Hospital in Vancouver. Our project will attempt to trace the developmental trajectories of the at-risk children who were in the NICU from infancy up through their early elementary school years.

My leadership in early child development led to the establishment of the **Hillel Goelman** **Award** **Early Intervention** developed by and awarded by the Infant Development Program of British Columbia, a province-wide educational, research and advocacy association in the province of BC.

**Chair of the ISGP**

From 2009 to 2018 I served as the Chair of the **Interdisciplinary Studies Graduate Program (ISGP),** a university- wide academic program located in the Faculty of Graduate Studies (FOGS). I appointed by and report to the Dean of FOGS. The 100 students in the ISGP design individualized graduate programs by drawing on faculty supervisors from over 35 academic departments and 10 faculties which include the medical, health, natural and social sciences and the full range of professional schools in the university.

As an interdisciplinary, cross-campus academic unit it was critically important that the ISGP develop a strategic plan which would be consistent with those of other units and which would not appear to encroach on the academic or intellectual territory of the other disciplines on campus. This raised both conceptual issues on the principles of interdisciplinary scholarship as well as practical issues regarding faculty teaching time, the costs for offering courses, and instructional space. The success of the ISGP strategic plan was based on having the revenue flow to the ISGP and the consultations with the department heads and deans that the funds would be directed to the ISGP on the understanding that all ISGP would partner with other units wherever possible and that all ISGP activities, courses, lectures, seminars, and retreats would be open to all students on the UBC campus.

My entire academic career has focused on interdisciplinary research on the impacts of early challenges to child development and on how those challenges impact on later development. I have found that the most exciting and productive route to take in my research and teaching has been to work collaboratively and collegially with colleagues and students in my own and in other social, psychological and health-related fields. Collaboration allows me to learn more, to plan exciting interdisciplinary research and to engage with community-based organizations committed to optimal child development. I feel I have much to learn from potential colleagues and students at the Universite d’Ottawa and would welcome the opportunity to be a participant in a vibrant and dynamic faculty. I am also into a relatively new area of research in the history of early childhood education. I am in possession of a number of teacher manuals from eastern and central Europe that focus on pedagogy and schooling during a time of great social and educational change. I look forward to exploring these manuals, their perceptions on child development and the curricular implications of these manuals.

I retired from UBC and stepped down as the Chair of the ISGP in 2017. professor in the Department of Educational and Counselling Psychology, and Special Education, has dedicated his career to helping others learn, from his research on early childhood development to his efforts to support innovative interdisciplinary research through ISGP.

My time as Chair of the ISGP (2011-2017) has a special place in his heart. *"For years, I have told everyone that I have the best job at UBC and I continue to believe that. Every single ISGP student that I have had the pleasure of working with has identified compelling interdisciplinary research issues and has designed creative ways of pushing the intellectual and social boundaries in their creation of new knowledge.”* Professor Sally Thorne of the UBC School of Nursing and a long-time colleague of Hillel's notes that, "*Hillel’s gift to this university has been to provide a generation of graduate students with the creative, vibrant and supportive academic home in which they can flourish*."

In retirement I am working on a number of interdisciplinary research projects examining the roots of early childhood programs in a variety of religious communities in the 16th to the 19th centuries in Central Europe.