ACI Alliance Announces Dr. Jill B. Firszt as 2024 Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient

Jill B. Firszt PhD is an audiologist and researcher who is a Professor in Audiology and Communication Sciences at Washington University in St. Louis. She is the Director of both the Cochlear Implant Program and the Firszt Laboratory, intertwining clinical care with research. Those of us in the CI field are awed by her lifework spanning 46 years of service and devotion to improving hearing outcomes and quality of life for deaf and hard of hearing children and adults. She served as Principal Investigator on two multicenter, FDA approved, NIH-funded studies—a feat few others in hearing science have accomplished.

Jill was one of the first clinician-scientists in the United States to provide cochlear implants for patients with Asymmetric Hearing Loss and Single Sided Deafness. Her work in this area was recognized early on. At the first CI conference organized by the new American Cochlear Implant Alliance in 2013, she was asked to organize a segment on this key emerging issue. Jill was a critical contributor to the work of establishing ACI Alliance. She served on the Founder’s Board as well as on the first Board of Directors as the Treasurer—at a time when there was minimal funding to operate with. She has remained a strong supporter of our organization’s work and is one of the people we turn to when we need help with a research question.

Dr. Firszt will be presenting a keynote address at CI2024 Vancouver on “Cochlear Implantation of Individuals with Asymmetric Hearing Loss and Single Sided Deafness: Results, Expectations and Gaps in Knowledge.”

The Lifetime Achievement award recognizes the contributions over the whole of a career and for the work and accomplishments of the individual being recognized. Each year the ACI Alliance honors a person whose life work has steadfastly promoted the values and ideals that guide and inspire us and our mission as an organization. The Award will be given to Dr. Firszt at the Opening Session of CI2024 Vancouver on July 11.

*For more information on the Lifetime Achievement Award visit: www.acialliance.org/page/LifetimeAchievementAward

*For more information on CI2024 Vancouver visit: https://ci2024vancouver.org/