

Dr. Stuart Shanker



Biography

Stuart Shanker is a Distinguished Research Professor of Philosophy and Psychology at York University. He was educated at Oxford, where he obtained a B.A. in Philosophy, Politics and Economics, and a B Phil and D Phil in Philosophy. Among his recent publications are *Apes, language and the human mind* (with Sue Savage-Rumbaugh and Talbot Taylor, 1998); *Wittgenstein's remarks on the foundations of AI* (1998); and most recently, *The First Idea* (with Stanley Greenspan, 2004).

Dr. Shanker is currently serving as Director of the Milton and Ethel Harris Research Initiative (MEHRI) at York University, a privately funded initiative whose goal is to build on new knowledge of the brain's development, and help set children (including those with developmental disorders) on the path towards emotional and intellectual health.

In addition to the above, Dr. Shanker is also Co-Director of the Council for Human Development and has recently been appointed as the President of the Council for Early Child Development (CECD). In recent years, he has learned a great deal about brain development in a child's first 3 years of life, and believes that an alarming number of children are not receiving the experiences they need. He views the CECD as an excellent opportunity to put science into action for children in communities.