

**Dr. Tarané Probst, IBCLC, Germany**

*VELB President, member of the BDL*

My name is Tarané Probst. I am married and have two children. My nationality is Dutch. But I have been living in Germany for more than 25 years. I have grown multilingual and speak fluent German, English and Dutch. I have also profound knowledge in Persian and French. I am an OB/GYN and a board certified nutrition specialist. I have passed my master in Public Health in prevention and management.

After passing the IBCLC exam in 2005 I have organized seminars for physicians in Germany for the European Institute of Breastfeeding and Lactation for two years. I am author of a book and have given many lectures on the subject to both lay and professional audiences. Since the last election in 2008 I am the new president of the European Lactation Consultants' Association [VELB].

My aim as president was and is to strengthen the profession of the IBCLC in Europe and to form a strong network. I have followed this goal continuously: e.g. I have restructured the VELB board. Now there are seven resorts with fixed responsibilities. They are the corner stones of the activities of the association. The update of our bylaws and a name-change to EUROLACTA are further important steps that have been undertaken. Getting a password secured internal section on our homepage for our members is on its way. Also the good cooperation with our member associations has been intensified.

Uniting the IBCLCs in Europe and to promote and to support breastfeeding together is one of my big goals. My mission is: growing together & grow together. It is for this that I wish to work for the benefit of children and their parents.



**Denise Both, IBCLC, Germany**

*VELB Director of Public relations, member of BDL*

Born in 1960, married with three sons.

Originally with a masters of science from the University of Saarbrücken, Germany, and through my children introduced to lactation consultancy I have been actively involved in this field since 1989, initially as a La Leche League Leader, in Germany, and Zimbabwe, and since 2000 as an international board certified lactation consultant.

In addition to my practical work as a breastfeeding and lactation consultant, I am involved in initial and continuing education of lactation consultants. I am also a member of the National Breastfeeding Commission in Germany and belong to the editing team of parents magazine "WirbelWind – the alternative periodical for breastfeeding, and everyday problems with bringing up children". Furthermore, I am Chief Publishing Editor of the European Journal of Breastfeeding and Lactation [Laktation und Stillen].

My personal wish is that we in Europe develop a culture where breastfeeding belongs to everyday life. This means that every family has access to competent professional help, and assistance at any given time.

Currently I am serving as deputy secretary (department "public relation") on the VELB board of directors running for re-election.



**Andrea Hemmelmayr, IBCLC, Österreich**

*Member of VSLÖ*

My name is Andrea Hemmelmayr, I am living in Austria with my husband Peter and our two sons. Before the birth of my children I was working as a registered nurse in a general hospital on different wards, later in mobile nursing care. 16 years ago, when my first son was born, I experienced how difficult and frustrating it could be, trying to give the baby the best when the necessary support and information is missing. At last I found support in La Leche Liga. 1996 I was accredited as LLL-leader. For years I have been APL (Area Professional Liaison) of LLL Austria and I am still connected to LLL. Seeking to satisfy my thirst of knowledge in the



year 2000 I passed the IBCLC exam for the first time. This summer I have to recertify by exam after 10 years of working as an IBCLC. I am also trained in "emotional first aid for crisis after birth" by Thomas Harms, which supplements and completes my work as an IBCLC.

Meanwhile I am working in private practice: on behalf of the local civil service I am leading breastfeeding support groups in different places and I am part of two of their local parent supporting centres.

In the VSLÖ (association of lactation consultants in Austria) I am a member of the editorial team, which is responsible for the two VSLÖ journals ("VSLÖ News" and "VSLÖ Intern"). In addition we are also writing articles for other professional publications and our group is responsible for public relations of the VSLÖ.

For many years I have been coordinating the world breastfeeding week in Austria. Due to my engagement I gained the awareness for the "International code of marketing of breast milk substitutes". Both, in seminars and presentations I am teaching and discussing this code and other ethical questions, so I am providing some of the desirable E-Cerps. As an expert of this code I was asked to share my knowledge with the VSLÖ.

Each year I am looking forward to pass my opinion on the new theses written by the students of the European Institute for breastfeeding and lactation (VELB). I enjoy this chance to getting to know the new colleagues. For two years I have been offering some of the best theses to the public.

It has changed so much in the last 16 years. Nowadays in nearly every Austrian maternity ward there are working IBCLCs. And fortunately lots of wish-dreams from the last decade like rooming-in or bonding are normal standard these days. Not least the efforts of VELB are responsible for these changes.

It would be my pleasure to support the board of VELB and its valuable work as a writing chairman.

**Barbara Hopf-Janner, IBCLC, Germany**

*Member of BDL*

My name is Barbara Hopf-Janner, I am married and I am working since more than 25 years as an independent Speech and Language Therapist. My clients are parents and her toddlers with special needs, like premature babies, babies with Down's syndrome and children with cleft lip and palate. My focus is counselling and therapy by early dysphagia, eating and feeding disorder. In this context is the support of breastfeeding on the first place!



In order to upgrade my competences I absolved from 1996 to 1998 the advanced training for early childhood regulation disorder by Prof.

Papousek – Medical Centre for Children/Munich. From 2000 to 2002 I qualified me for a systemic counsellor and supervisor at the Institute for Systemic Short-time Therapy NIK/Bremen.

In addition I have the qualification in therapy of children in neurophysiologic base by Bobath, NMK by Brondo (like Castillo Morales) and craniosacral therapy.

From 2006 until 2008 I made the training for IBCLC and I passed the exam successfully in July 2008.

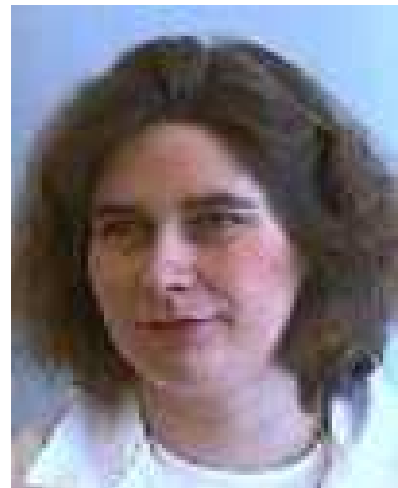
From 1988 until 1992 I was vice-president of the German Association of Speech Therapists, dbf-ev. /Köln.

Since April of 2010 I have been studying Speech and Language Pathology – Master of SPL in the university of Basel and Zurich/Switzerland. I have profound knowledge of Italian, I am able to have English conversations and I have basic knowledge of French.

My aim is to encourage and inform parents, so that they experience a natural birth of their child and that they are able to establish a good relationship with their baby – in the Allgäu, in Bavaria, in Germany and in Europe – a breast-fed/ nursed baby is standard!

### **Franziska Krähenmann, IBCLC, Switzerland**

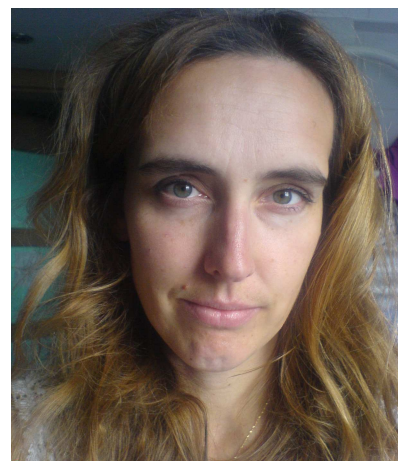
*VELB Director of science and research, member of BSS*  
Working as a Consultant in obstetrics on the university hospital of Zurich. I am responsible for the treatment of women (& children) before, during and after birth. With imagination and heart I also fulfil a lectureship for IBCLC's, midwives and students. I collected professional experience not only in Switzerland, but also in Russia, Ukraine, The United States, England, Belgium and Laos. Being a member of VELB since autumn 2009, I hope nevertheless you could benefit from my professional competence especially in the preparation work for the congress. I would appreciate to continue my mandate.



### **Jolanta Nurek, IBCLC, Poland**

*VELB Director of Professional Development, Member of PALC*

My name is Jolanta Nurek, 37 years old, married, 3 children (2001, 2003 and 2005). Giving birth was the key to become an IBCLC, 2006. Born in Germany with Polish parents, I learned both languages and further English and French. I am working as a general practitioner and as an IBCLC and organise preparation courses for pregnant women. As a member of the VELB board, I like to support the international community of breastfeeding. With this activity I want to intensify the new style of giving birth and breastfeeding in Poland. I want to improve the education of IBCLC and other medical personal in Poland, hoping be supported by the VELB. I would appreciate to continue my work in the VELB Board.



**Myrthe van Lonkhuijsen, Netherlands**

*Member of the NVL*

It would be a great pleasure to be elected as a member of the VELB Board.

For the last 10 years I have worked full time as a lactation consultant (IBCLC) in private practice. Originally I am an educational scientist specialized in research. My first child introduced me to the fascinating world of breastfeeding.

I started working as a volunteer with Vereniging Borstvoeding Natuurlijk for a couple of years. And I became also a member of the board as well. After a few years I decided to become a trained professional IBCLC.

Thereafter I worked hands on with mothers and children for many years and taught Professionals. Finally I was ready for a new challenge: Since March this year I am chairwoman of the Nederlandse Vereniging van Lactatiekundigen (NVL).

Within our group of professionals there is a surprising diversity in both professional background and work settings. As a whole we can offer great benefits to the health and wellbeing of mothers and children. This requires good communications with other professionals, but also within our own ranks.

A European Association of Lactation Consultants is of great value in this. The better we work together and learn from one another, the better we can present ourselves as professionals. I am looking forward to working with my European colleagues.

