

THE OSHA COMMUNICATOR

A PUBLICATION OF THE OREGON SPEECH-LANGUAGE & HEARING ASSOCIATION



This Month's Featured Stories

- President's Message
- OSHA Benefits
- Strategic Planning Update
- Upcoming Events
- What's New in Higher Education
- Legislative Advocacy Updates
- Open OSHA Board Member Positions

Message from the President

Happy Spring! I am delighted to introduce you to the first OSHA newsletter of 2024. In this issue, you will find information about the benefits of being an OSHA member, updates to our strategic planning process, check-ins from our higher education programs, and opportunities to get involved in the association.

OSHA members are off to a busy start to the year - initiating a new Board in January, completing our strategic planning and co-hosting free CEU opportunities with our Hanen Centre partners in February, and facilitating a successful Spring Conference in April. Our committees and Board members are hard at work prioritizing legislative issues, planning our Fall Conference, and creating meaningful ways for SLPs and AuDs to connect with one another through in-person and virtual options. I encourage you to engage with our association in whatever way feels most accessible to you.

I am grateful to each and every one of you for your dedication and commitment to our association and our professions. I look forward to seeing you at an upcoming meeting, conference, CEU event, and/or Night Out.

Take care,

Megann McGill, PhD, CCC-SLP (she/her)
2024 OSHA President



Benefits of Being an OSHA Member

Professional Development: OSHA membership provides access to a network of professionals, conferences, workshops, and resources that can enhance your skills and knowledge in the field. In 2024, OSHA members will have access to at least 3 hours of FREE continuing education courses. Members also enjoy discounted rates to our Spring and Fall Conferences as well as our partnerships with other organizations such as Hanen.

Community: Joining OSHA can connect you with other professionals, educators, and experts in the speech-language and hearing community. Networking can lead to collaboration, mentorship, and career opportunities. Joining OSHA for an SLP/AuD Night Out, a continuing education event, or other social event can help you feel connected to AuDs and SLPs in Oregon.

Access to Resources: OSHA members receive quarterly newsletters/publications to stay up-to-date with latest developments in our field in Oregon. In 2024, we are working on beginning a school-based SLP coalition to develop some 'best practice' resources for RTI, IEPs, workload/caseload issues. Any resources generated by OSHA committees will be shared with membership via newsletter and members only portal on the OSHA website.

Advocacy and Legislation: OSHA advocates for the interests of our members, both at the state and national levels. Being part of OSHA gives you a voice in legislative and policy matters that affect your profession. We employ a lobbyist to help track and advance bills in the Oregon legislature - which is how we successfully passed HB 2618 (the "workload study" bill). Issues we are currently considering for 2024 and beyond include: elimination of prior authorization for treatment, implementation of the workload study bill suggestions, and the interstate compact for licensure.

Job Opportunities: Membership in OSHA provides free access to job boards and job fairs, which can aid in finding employment opportunities in the field.

Recognition and Awards: OSHA offers awards and recognition for outstanding achievements, research contributions, and service to the profession, which can enhance your professional standing. Honors and awards of the association are reserved for OSHA members.



OSHA Strategic Planning Meeting

In February, OSHA Board members engaged in strategic planning with Eileen Crowe, the State Association Relations Director at ASHA. The Board revised the vision, mission, and values and used the Strengths-Opportunities-Aspirations-Results (SOAR) method to guide goal-setting. We are excited to share the drafts of our new mission and vision statements with you! We are thankful to Eileen and all who participated in this important work!

Mission Statement

Cultivating a vibrant and diverse community through advocacy, education, and partnerships that promote equitable access to person-centered, culturally responsive services.

Vision Statement

Oregon: a place where our professionals thrive; a place where all forms of communication and nourishment are valued.



Thank you to the OSHA members who participated in our strategic planning!

Upcoming Events

OSHA Job Fair
BIPOC Panel
Hanan Partnership Event

2024 VIRTUAL OSHA JOB FAIR

*CONNECT WITH PROSPECTIVE
EMPLOYERS WITH CURRENT
CAREER OPPORTUNITIES!*

JOB FAIR FREE TO ATTEND



VIRTUAL JOB FAIR

- SATURDAY / APRIL 20TH
- 10AM-12PM

WHY ATTEND?

- *EXPLORE LEADS FROM THE COMFORT AND CONVENIENCE OF YOUR OFFICE OR HOME*
- *LEARN ABOUT A VARIETY OF WORKPLACES IN OREGON AND POSSIBLY BEYOND*
- *ENJOY NETWORKING*
- *ENHANCE INTERVIEW SKILLS*



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
oregonspeechandhearing.org

BIPOC Speech Pathology and Audiology Panel



Who: Undergrad and graduate SLP and audiology students

What: A virtual event designed to create an opportunity to ask questions and connect with other BIPOC students and professionals in the field

When: April 25, 2024, 5:30 - 7:00 P.M. (PST) via Zoom

Interested students should register with their university email address and indicate any specific questions they would like covered by clicking the link below https://oregon.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_a352dWSfTsMNovY or by scanning our QR code. Zoom link will be provided following registration.

Our Panelists:

Cecelia Pizano, MS, CCC-SLP (Amplify Speech Therapy)

Jessica Mena, MS, CF-SLP (Pediatric Home Health)

Faith Purnell, MS, CCC-SLP, BCS-S (Portland VA Medical Center)

Ilia Fong, AuD, CCC-A (Child Development and Rehab Center (CDRC) of DHSU)

Eva Vázquez-Ortega, MS, CCC-SLP (Salem Health - Outpatient Rehabilitation Center)



Questions? Please email Miyoko at miyokop@uoregon.edu

This event brought to you by UO, Pacific, and PSU



EO/AA/ADA institution committed to cultural diversity.
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Exclusive OSHA Member Event Offer!

OSHA has partnered with the [Hanan Centre](#) and through this partnership, OSHA active/current members will have access to a limited number of spaces at a discounted rate to attend the workshop outlined below.

Are you an SLP working in early intervention? Do you have children with language delays on your caseload? If you do, you may be interested in joining **The Hanan Centre's Online It Takes Two to Talk® Workshop on July 8-10, 2024, valued at 2.15 ASHA CEUs!**

The It Takes Two to Talk workshop can maximize the support you offer to children by enhancing a key ingredient for success – parent involvement. You'll learn how to effectively engage and coach parents so that they can promote their child's early language development during everyday activities and interactions. The flexible strategies can be used in 1-to-1 settings, or in a group program to meet the needs of your individual caseload.

As part of the Partnership between OSHA and The Hanan Centre, members of OSHA have guaranteed access to Hanan's lowest rate of pricing, \$795 per person. Every time a OSHA member signs up for the workshop, a financial benefit will be provided to OSHA to support the association's goals, advocacy, and member activities. Sign up before April 22, 2024, to secure your space! To sign up, email oshaoregon@gmail.com letting us know you would like to join the workshop, and we'll send you a link where you can register.

Learn more about [It Takes Two to Talk](#)

Not a current OSHA member, [join or renew](#) now for only \$85.00 for a year of benefits including access to discounted events and two additional free CE events in 2024, valued at \$100.00. Discounts for members will also be available for the annual OSHA Spring on April 5, 2024, and OSHA Fall Conference on October 11, 2024.



What's New in Oregon Higher Education

Pacific University

Jordan Tinsley MS, CCC-SLP

Pacific is welcoming Spring, and the flowers and new beginnings that come with it! Some recent highlights from Forest Grove include:

- Dr. Kerry Mandulak is presenting the 2024 Admissions Summit in New Orleans, along with Dr. Danai Fannin from North Carolina Central University. They will be training 25 attendees to use Holistic Review for admissions.
- Dr. Amanda Stead was invited to present a pre-conference workshop at the Council of Academic Programs in CSD (CAPCSD) conference in New Orleans. Her workshop will help other programs learn how to use simulation to increase student learning opportunities.
- Dr. Kerry Mandulak was awarded the 2024 CAPCSD Excellence in Diversity Award in recognition of her significant contributions to achieving diversity in the field of Communication Sciences and Disorders through the Holistic Review for Admissions research and implementation she has championed.
- Our NSSLHA supported the Early Learning Community in a food drive for Forest Grove High School's food closet, where older siblings can get food and supplies for home if they are caretakers of younger siblings while adults are at work or otherwise out of the house. There were LOTS of food donations!
- Dr. Stead, Dr. Mandulak, Professor Fryer, and Professor Tinsley are all attending and presenting at the CAPCSD conference about the simulation program and alternative grading practices.
- We are looking forward to welcoming our incoming Class of 2026 as this admissions season comes to a close!
- Dr. Mary Mitchell will be presenting about Dynamic Assessment at the Annual National Black Association for Speech-Language and Hearing (NBASLH) in Raleigh, NC from 4/11-13.
- We are so proud of Dr. Mary Mitchell and Dr. Jenny Larsen for being the invited speakers for the OSHA Spring Conference!
- Dr. Deepa Srikant was awarded a Faculty Development Grant for her project "Profiling RBANS Performance Across Persons with Acquired Brain Injury."

University of Oregon

Lauren Cycyk PhD, CCC-SLP

- We are so pleased to be welcoming Dr. Sofia Benson-Goldberg to our faculty beginning this September. Dr. Benson-Goldberg will be joining us from the Center for Literacy and Disability Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where she is currently a postdoctoral research associate. Her research agenda focuses on understanding and improving communication and literacy learning opportunities for people with diverse needs, especially those with complex communication and extensive support needs.
- Congratulations to Dr. Lauren Cycyk on her selection to the 2024-2025 UO Leadership Academy, UO's participatory leadership development program. The academy serves the university's broader mission by developing administrators and faculty who feel empowered to address complex challenges and work collaboratively to cultivate more equitable environments across (and beyond) campus.
- Three CDS faculty members had the opportunity to participate in the 2024 CAPCSD Conference. Congratulations to doctoral student Danielle Jones and faculty member Jen Meyer for successful presentations and to faculty member Elise Peltier on her participation in the DEI Academy preconference workshop.
- CDS faculty members Dr. McKay Sohlberg and Amanda Thompson have been selected to participate in the interdisciplinary Rehabilitation Treatment Specification System (RTSS) Summit Meeting in Philadelphia. The RTSS is a framework that promotes specification and coordination in delivery of multidisciplinary setting for clinicians providing rehabilitation services. They will be focused on looking at dissemination and clinical training and sharing how we use it in cognitive rehabilitation when training students.
- Dr. Samantha Shune just wrapped up her term as the Annual Meeting co-chair for the Dysphagia Research Society. Nearly 400 dysphagia clinicians and researchers, including speech-language pathologists, physicians, occupational therapists, dietitians, and nurses, came together in Puerto Rico this year to explore new perspectives on swallowing, dysphagia management, and research and healthcare inequities.

Cont. on next page...

- Our students and faculty are in full spring mode! Our second year master's students are enjoying their last term of full time, off campus externships before June graduation. Our first year master's students are busy with their spring term classes and on campus clients. We are also now in process of planning our summer camp offerings with more information to be coming soon.
- Student alert! In conjunction with PSU and Pacific, UO will be hosting a virtual BIPOC SLP and AuD panel on April 25th from 5:30-7pm PST.

Portland State University

Maria Kapantzoglou PhD, CCC-SLP

- Dr. Britton has co-lead and coordinated a multi-institutional (primarily PSU, Purdue, Columbia U in NY and Canterbury U in Christchurch NZ) effort to complete and publish a large ANCDs-sponsored systematic review over the past few years, which is now published. Two of our former PSU graduate students are also co-authors on this manuscript due to their work on this project while they were students at PSU and thereafter: Qiana Dennard and Jillian River Browy. Perry, S. E., Troche, M., Huber, J. E., Curtis, J., Kiefer, B., Seviz, J., ... & Britton, D. (2024). Behavioral Management of Respiratory/Phonatory Dysfunction for Dysarthria Associated With Neurodegenerative Disease: A Systematic Review. *American Journal of Speech-Language Pathology*, 1-29.
- Dr. Dutta published a research article on "Universal and Language-Specific Connected Speech Characteristics of Bilingual Speakers with Alzheimer's Disease: Insights from Case Studies of Structurally Distinct Languages," in the *Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research (JSLHR)*. The study evaluates changes in connected speech associated with Alzheimer's Disease among Bengali-English bilingual speakers, examining both languages.
- Drs. Gerasimos Fergadiotis, Maria Kapantzoglou, and Teresa Roberts are pleased to announce the awarding of an NIH Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant (R21), which is entitled "Integrating response time and ancillary information into the assessment of anomia" from the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders. The two-year project will focus on creating a computer adaptive assessment system intended to enhance precision in aphasia patient evaluation while minimizing the testing burden. This system will dynamically tailor clinical tasks to individual patient profiles during assessments considering both accuracy and chronometric measurements, advancing the field of clinical diagnostics.



Legislative Advocacy Updates

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

SPRING 2024

STAGE II WORKLOAD METHODOLOGY

The Legislative Committee will be working with the School-based SLP Committee to create Legislation for 2025. This will most likely take the form of requesting ODE develop and administer a Pilot Study based on the recommendations in the Workload Methodology Report. The purpose of the Pilot Study will be to collect data to analyze the costs and benefits of a workload calculator to school-based health practitioners, school-districts, and education service districts.

PRIOR AUTHORIZATION REFORM

Members of the Legislative Committee met with physical therapists (PTs) and occupational therapists (OTs) last week. We will soon begin planning meetings with legislators, with guidance from the PT group's lobbyist. OSHA will assist by collecting survey data from Oregon speech-language pathologists (SLPs) about their experiences with Prior Authorization. Stay tuned for updates on our social media platforms. Additionally, the Legislative Committee will develop a Legislative Brief containing key talking points on the obstacles to care posed by prior authorization and how reform can enhance access.

INTERSTATE COMPACT

In 2023, the occupational therapists (OTs) attempted interstate compact legislation, but it was unsuccessful. Similarly, EMS and firefighters faced challenges with labor unions not supporting an interstate license. Concerns revolve around licensing boards and labor unions.

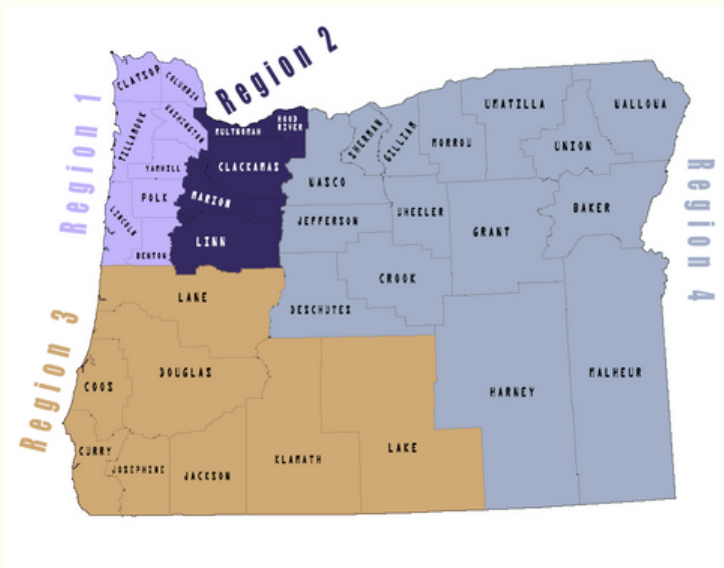
Our lobbyist advised that next year would be the best year to push this legislative because budget cycles in odd years. Our lobbyist will talk to chairs of education committee and see if they'd like to sponsor the bill.

OSHA Board Position Openings

The qualifications and responsibilities of each position are included with each listed position. If you are interested in serving in any of the roles, please email oshaoregon@gmail.com

Regional Representative- Regions II and IV

The role of the Regional Representative is to support the activities of the OSHA Board and the President of the Association by serving as a liaison between the Board and the membership. The membership is served by four regional representatives whose constituency is defined by the member's county of residence as identified below:



- Region I: Clatsop, Columbia, Tillamook, Washington, Yamhill, Polk, Lincoln, and Benton
- Region II: Multnomah, Hood River, Clackamas, Marion, and Linn
- Region III: Lane, Douglas, Coos, Curry, Josephine, Jackson, Klamath, and Lake
- Region IV: Wasco, Sherman, Gilliam, Morrow, Umatilla, Union, Walla Walla, Jefferson, Wheeler, Grant, Baker, Deschutes, Crook, Harney, and Malheur

1.0 PURPOSE

The purpose of this Policy is to identify the responsibilities of the Regional Representatives.

2.0 SCOPE

This Policy applies to all persons directly [or indirectly] connected with the Oregon Speech-Language and Hearing Association.

3.0 QUALIFICATIONS

Each Regional Representative shall be an OSHA member in good standing.

4.0 APPOINTMENT AND TERM

4.1 Regional Representatives shall be elected by the Executive Committee.

4.2 Each Regional Representative shall serve in accordance with the terms outlined in Article V of the Association's Bylaws.

5.0 RESPONSIBILITIES

Responsibilities of the Regional Representatives include:

- Serve as a voting member of the OSHA Board.
- Act as a liaison between the OSHA office, OSHA Board, and OSHA members in their respective regions.
- Assist with recruiting new members within the region.
- Facilitate the organization of regional workshops as needed.
- Inform their regional members with regard to in-service, professional issues, and pending legislation.
- Conduct periodic information searches or surveys to obtain opinions of members as to their needs in the professional organization, including but not limited to the topics of:
 - Professional Growth
 - Policy and Ethics Issues
 - Membership Issues
 - Legislative Issues
 - ASHA Certification
 - State Licensure Information

Salem, OR 97303

503-877-2042

Membership Committee Chair

The role of the Membership Committee, headed by the Membership Chair, is to develop and implement strategies to increase and maintain membership.

1.0 PURPOSE

The purpose of this Policy is to identify the responsibilities of the Membership Committee Chair.

2.0 SCOPE

This Policy applies to all persons directly [or indirectly] connected with the Oregon Speech-Language and Hearing Association.

3.0 QUALIFICATIONS

The Membership Committee Chair shall be an OSHA member in good standing.

4.0 APPOINTMENT AND TERM

4.1 The Membership Committee Chair shall be appointed by the OSHA President.

4.2 The Membership Committee Chair's term shall be one year with the option to renew for additional one-year terms as approved by the OSHA President.

5.0 RESPONSIBILITIES

Responsibilities of the Membership Committee Chair include:

- Serve as a member of the Communications Committee.
- Recruit committee members and convene committee meetings as needed; document proceedings of committee meetings.
- Report to the OSHA Board on the activities of the Membership Committee, current levels of membership, goals and strategies to increase membership.
- Promote and monitor SLP-AUD Night Out activities throughout the state, recruit and support Night Out hosts and other membership recruitment efforts.
- Create or gather materials and provide staffing for membership table at the Fall Conference.



Clinic-Based Speech-Language Pathology Professional Affiliate -

The role of the Clinic-Based SLP Professional Affiliate is to provide guidance to the OSHA Board on matters relating to the practice of speech-language pathology in clinical settings, facilitate continuing education activities specific to the practice of speech-language pathology in health care, and provide information regarding issues of practice relating to quality assurance, standards of practice, clinical outcomes and licensure in health care settings.

1.0 PURPOSE

The purpose of this Policy is to identify the responsibilities of the Clinic-Based SLP Professional Affiliate.

2.0 SCOPE

This Policy applies to all persons directly [or indirectly] connected with the Oregon Speech-Language and Hearing Association.

3.0 QUALIFICATIONS

The Clinic-Based SLP Professional Affiliate shall be an OSHA member in good standing.

4.0 APPOINTMENT AND TERM

4.1 The Clinic-Based SLP Professional Affiliate shall be elected the Executive Committee.

4.2 The Clinic-Based SLP Professional Affiliate shall serve in accordance with the terms outlined in Article V of the Association's Bylaws.

5.0 RESPONSIBILITIES

Responsibilities of the Clinic-Based SLP Professional Affiliate include:

- Serve as a voting member of the OSHA Board.
- Advise the OSHA board on issues pertaining to the practice of speech- language pathology in clinic settings.
- Assist the Conference Committee in developing the Fall Conference continuing education activities specific to the needs of the members practicing in clinic settings.
- Assist the Association lobbyist and Vice President of Governmental Affairs with preparation of testimony for governmental entities on issues affecting the practice of speech-language pathology in clinic settings.
- Gather and report information pertinent to clinical practice to Executive Board and to the membership at the annual business meeting, newsletter, etc.
- Recruit committee members and chair meetings as needed to fulfill the duties of the position; maintain appropriate records of committee meetings.]



Audiology Professional Affiliate

The role of the Audiology Professional Affiliate will be to provide guidance to the OSHA Board on matters relating to quality assurance, continuing education, standards of care, legislative decisions, and licensing issues of local/national significance for Audiologists in the State of Oregon.

1.0 PURPOSE

The purpose of this Policy is to identify the responsibilities of the Audiology Professional Affiliate.

2.0 SCOPE

This Policy applies to all persons directly [or indirectly] connected with the Oregon Speech-Language and Hearing Association.

3.0 QUALIFICATIONS

3.1 The Audiology Professional Affiliate shall be an OSHA member in good standing.

3.2 The Audiology Professional Affiliate must hold a current license in Audiology from the State of Oregon Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology.

4.0 APPOINTMENT AND TERM

4.1 The Audiology Professional Affiliate shall be elected by the Executive Committee.

4.2 The Audiology Professional Affiliate shall serve in accordance with the terms outlined in Article V of the Association's Bylaws.

5.0 RESPONSIBILITIES

Responsibilities of the Audiology Professional Affiliate include:

- Serve as a voting member of the OSHA Board.
- Recruit committee members and convene meetings as needed; maintain appropriate records of committee meetings; report proceedings or recommendations from committee to the OSHA Board.
- Gather information which impacts audiology practice or research and communicate that information through the OSHA newsletter, social media, bulletins, website, etc.
- Represent OSHA at the Oregon Academy of Audiology (OAA) meetings.
- Consult with and advise the Vice President of Governmental Affairs, OSHA lobbyist, and OSHA Board regarding legislative items which may impact the practice of Audiology in the State of Oregon.



StAMP Representative

The State Education Advocacy Leaders (SEALs), State Advocates for Medicare Policy (StAMPs), and State Advocates for Reimbursement (STARs) are three critical networks that support ASHA's ongoing advocacy efforts on behalf of audiology and speech-language pathology. These networks comprise of ASHA member audiologists and speech-language pathologists—appointed by their state association president—who undertake the following roles and responsibilities:

1. Partner with ASHA staff, ASHA volunteer leaders, other ASHA members, and state association members on ASHA's advocacy objectives and related efforts
2. Engage in direct advocacy with lawmakers, policymakers, and external partners
3. Serve as an information conduit between ASHA and state associations
4. Raise awareness about relevant public policy topics within the professions

The StAMPs provide leadership, guidance, and support on topics related to coverage, reimbursement, and the delivery of services under Medicare.



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