2012, Volume 1

# THE OSHA OMMUNICATOR A PUBLICATION OF THE OREGON SPEECH-LANGUAGE & HEARING ASSOCIATION



### President's Message By Nancy Fulton

Hello OSHA members! It is a pleasure to serve as your OSHA President this year. As 2012 rolls along, so does the work of your 2012 Board of Directors. The OSHA Board holds quarterly meetings to do the work of the Association. At

our January meeting last month, the major focus was on discussing and adopting the 2012-13 budget and current legislative issues. The Board will also be continuing its great work towards ongoing projects such as universal licensure and creating a method of giving back to members.

While our association remains financially stable, we have taken financial losses over each of the last three years and we may again this year. We hope to make up for those losses with an increased membership and a strong turnout at our fall conference in Portland this year. So be sure to talk to your colleagues and peers about what OSHA does for you! Encourage them to browse our new and improved website and invite them to attend the OSHA conference this October!

Legislative issues that impact our members this session include the autism insurance mandate, the Veterans Affairs

education bill, and the Oregon Board of Examiners fees rollback. Please see the article regarding legislative updates in this issue for more details.

Thinking about my new role with OSHA, I came across a question that provoked my thinking: "How do you know you are doing your best?" As speech and hearing professionals, how do we know we are providing the best quality care we can? How do we check ourselves? How do we avoid "drift" from best practices? Whatever your answer, OSHA has a part to play in offering opportunities to enhance and ensure clinical excellence and for professionals to "do their best" across our state. Whether offering our conference each year for the latest and greatest in continuing education, producing a quarterly newsletter, or through project work such as supporting universal licensure and educational scholarships, OSHA has a lot to offer. What better way to follow up Janet Lambert's theme of "honoring our legacy" than to keep that legacy going through the continuous pursuit of clinical excellence? How we get there, and how we stay there will be an ongoing theme throughout my OSHA presidential year. Stay tuned!

Nancy J. Fulton, MS, CCC-SLP

### Oregon Room at ASHA By Janet Lambert

Those who attended the ASHA Convention in November in San Diego had a wonderful opportunity to join others from Oregon and those who had connections to our state at the Oregon Reception at the Omni Hotel. Since many ASHA conventions occur a great distance from Oregon, we don't always have an Oregon Room. This year however we gathered on the West Coast, which provided great incentive to plan an event for Oregon. The faculty of Portland State University graciously organized this event. They, along with the University of Oregon, OSHA, Pacific University, Artz Center for Developmental Health and Audiology, and the Child Development and Rehabilitation Center funded the evening's festivities. Participants enjoyed appetizers and luscious desserts as they connected with old friends and colleagues and met new ones. As you can imagine, the noise level was at times intense, but it was the happy sound of reunions, sharing memories, catching up, networking, and chatting. We all proudly represented our state.

### **Legislative Update** By Karen Aguilera, Legislative Committee Chair

By the time you read this, the 2012 session of the Oregon Legislature will be coming to a close, and the fate of the following bills that OSHA has been monitoring will have been determined.

1) SB 1580...Do you Know what a CCO is....? One of the top priorities for this month-long short session is health care reform. The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) is seeking to establish locally-controlled Coordinated Care Organizations (CCOs) throughout the state that will administer benefits for 600,000 Oregon Health Plan recipients. Each of these organizations will be granted an overall budget, and they are expected to reduce costs as well as focus on better patient outcomes and prevention efforts.

Criteria for defining the formation and governance of Coordinated Care Organizations are expected to be finalized by the time you read this. The CCOs are scheduled to begin enrolling OHP patients as early as July of this year. The OHA expects that governing boards of each CCO will receive input from a community advisory committee, which in turn will be responsive to patient concerns, comments, and needs.

Even if you do not work in a practice which bills for Medicaid or Medicare/Medicaid dual-eligible patients, there is a good chance that you may be affected by this change in the next few years. The vision of the governor is to expand this program to include school and state employees, and eventually extend it to the commercial health insurance market.

Initial benefits include significant cost savings for the state and the opportunity for Oregon to receive 2.5 billion dollars of support in federal funding. The CCOs should be able to facilitate referrals to other practitioners, and informationsharing among providers who share patients will be streamlined.

The impact on the practices of speech-language pathology and audiology is unclear. ASHA worked at the federal level to ensure that rehabilitative and habilitative services were included as an essential health care benefit through the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, but a waiver from the federal requirements might result in different benefits in various locations throughout the state. Asked how practitioners who are not working for or affiliated with a CCO who provide services to individuals on the Oregon Health Plan will be affected, Representative Tim Freeman (R-Douglas County) said that he expects that very little will change initially. Providers will continue to be credentialed with the state of Oregon and will be reimbursed by benefits contractors such as Family Care or Care Oregon.

Oregon SLPs and Audiologists should be aware of the changes ahead and become involved in their local CCO process in order to ensure that speech-language pathology and audiology services are included as an essential health benefit. You can keep updated at: www.health.oregon.gov

2) House Bill 4063 was proposed by the House Interim Committee on Veterans Affairs. This bill would revise state licensure laws for various professions and occupations to allow professional licensure boards to consider military experience when issuing licenses. It would allow the Oregon Board of Examiners in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology to consider military experience when issuing licenses to SLPAs. It would also allow for military experience to be considered toward meeting requirements for supervised clinical practicum for SLPs, SLPAs, and Audiologists.

OSHA is lobbying to have SLPs, Audiologists, and SLPAs removed from this bill, as BSPA does not have a mechanism in place for evaluation of equivalent practicum experiences for audiologists, and the military does not train or employ SLPs and SLPAs.

3) SB 1568, "Establishes requirements for health insurance coverage of autism spectrum disorders", requires private insurers, OEBB, and PEBB (Oregon Educators and Public Employees benefits) to cover medically necessary services for children and adults with autism. Speech-language pathology services are included among the essential benefits required to be covered. There are significant positive benefits to this bill, which include a mandate to provide speech-language pathology services, a ban on lifetime limits and age limits on coverage for individuals with autism, as well as reimbursement of the services of speech-language pathology assistants. Coverage would also be mandated for Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) programs provided by "line therapists" who work under the supervision of a Board Certified Behavior Analyst. These individuals would need to register with the state and meet certain minimum training and certification requirements.

OSHA recognizes the importance of access to medically necessary services for individuals with ASD. If the bill passes, OSHA hopes to be able to contribute to the development of a robust regulatory framework at the state level, that will provide oversight of the actions of appropriately qualified, trained, and supervised ABA providers.

# SPHR Events at Portland State University

### By Kelsey Fowler, Student Representative

Greetings! My name is Kelsey Fowler, and I am thrilled to be Portland State University's new student representative to the OSHA board. I am a first-year graduate student at PSU in the speech and hearing department. In my limited free time I enjoy reading, dog walking, and team trivia. I am looking forward to serving on the OSHA board this year, and am honored to be representing my fellow SPHR classmates there!

Portland State University, in conjunction with their chapter of the National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association (NSSLHA) will be putting on some awesome events this spring. On March 1, BIRRDSong, a brain injury survivor support group, and NSSLHA, will be screening a movie made by one of the BIRRDSong board members. The showing will be accompanied by a fundraiser and talk by Dr. Rik Lemoncello, a PSU SPHR professor specializing in cognitive rehabilitation.

On March 9, the NSSLHA board will be presenting a screening of the critically-acclaimed documentary, Aphasia the Movie. The forty-minute film will be followed by a presentation by the film's director, Carl McIntyre. Tickets to that event are free for PSU students, and \$10 at the door for members of the community.

Also happening at Portland State this spring is a NSSLHA bake sale to raise money for our Autism walk team. This event will be held in April, on the PSU campus. More details to come on that one later!

Finally, May 18 is our fourth annual Better Hearing and Speech Month Auction and Celebration! Once again at the beautiful Aquariva restaurant on the sgouth waterfront, the auction and event runs from 6-10 PM. There will be a silent auction full of amazing items, music, dancing, buffet and a cash bar. Proceeds from the even benefit a NSSLHA scholarship for PSU graduate students. What better way to get out and celebrate the profession, as well as meet some of its future members!

Tickets are on sale through the Portland State University box office and are \$10 dollars per person. PSU Box office contact information: (503-725-3307; tickets@pdx.edu. We look forward to seeing everyone there on May 18th!

Here's to a wonderful 2012 on the OSHA board, and great PSU & NSSLHA events!

# Oregon Renews ASHA Recognition By Janet Lambert

Oregon's Speech-Language-Hearing Association, along with nine other states' associations, received recognition renewal certificates at the November 2011 meeting of the Council of State Association Presidents. ASHA President Paul Rao presented the certificate to each state representative. This recognition demonstrates the ongoing collaborative arrangement between ASHA and the state associations. As stated in the ASHA Leader of January 17, 2012, "...the cornerstones of this relationship are mutual respect, interdependence, and shared responsibilities in promoting and advocating for the collective interests of the professions of audiology, speech-language pathology, and speech, language and hearing research, their members, and consumers of their services."

As Past President of OSHA I attended CSAP and accepted this recognition on behalf of OSHA and its membership. The certificate was presented to the OSHA Board at our January meeting and is held with other important documents at the OSHA office in Salem. It was my pleasure to "share the moment" with Paul Rao (see photo).



OSHA Past President Janet Lambert with ASHA President Paul Rios.

# **OSHA Awards To Recognize Outstanding Colleagues**

#### By Janet Lambert, Honors and Nominations Committee Chair

One of the highlights of our Fall Conference for me always is to see who receives Honors of the Association. This is such a highly anticipated award, shining a spotlight on a person who exemplifies the highest of professionalism, commitment, and care to our professions, our mission, and our state. Since no one was nominated last year, no one received this award at our conference last October. I am writing to urge our members to consider and nominate a person for an OSHA award this year!

Each year, OSHA provides a special means for us to honor those among us who stand out in our field. Now is a perfect time to reflect on the people with whom you come in contact at your work place! Do you know an outstanding clinician whose work you admire? Do you know a leader who has a special spark that ignites those around him or her? Is there a local clinician who has influenced your practice or contributed to our professional community for many years?

If a colleague comes to mind, then I'd like to encourage you to nominate that person for recognition during the business lunch at the OSHA Fall Conference in Portland. Please take the time to consider making nominations to OSHA for these awards. This is an excellent venue to recognize your colleagues who have done outstanding work and to honor them in a unique way. It doesn't take a lot of time, and it's a great way to recognize individuals with whom you work on a daily basis. We are especially looking to recognize those colleagues whose dedication, commitment and hard work is largely taken for granted, those who change the world around them in countless unrecognized ways, and to whom we would like to express our most sincere appreciation for the work they do.

#### Honors of the Association

- Designated as a "lifetime achievement" award. The intent of this award is to recognize an individual for outstanding history of clinical practice in the field of speech-language pathology, audiology or education of the deaf/HOH.
- This award may also be used to recognize outstanding advocacy or program sponsorship by an agency or organization.

#### **Outstanding Clinician Award: Schools/ EI/ECSE**

• Recognizes a speech-language pathologist, speechlanguage pathology assistant, audiologist, or educator of the deaf/HOH who consistently demonstrates outstanding clinical, advocacy, or leadership skills in the public school system. This award may recognize general clinical work or a specific, recent clinical achievement.

# Outstanding Clinician Award: Clinics, Hospitals, Private Practice

• Recognizes a speech-language pathologist, speechlanguage pathology assistant, audiologist, or educator of the deaf/HOH in a clinic, hospital, or private practice who consistently demonstrates outstanding clinical, advocacy, and/or leadership skills. This award may recognize general clinical work or a specific, recent clinical achievement.

#### Award of Clinicianship

• Recognizes a speech-language pathologist, speechlanguage pathology assistant, audiologist, or educator of the deaf/HOH whose dedication to the field is reflected in strong clinical and/or leadership skills paired with compassion, empathy, humor, and acts of support to colleagues and clients. Beyond clinical skills, this person's spirit touches and inspires those around them. This award may also be used to recognize an individual who has made a contribution to the profession in an unusual way.

#### Award of Outstanding Research or Teaching

• Recognizes a colleague whose published research or teaching (professional preparation or continuing education) has contributed to advancing clinical knowledge and/or practice in the fields of speechlanguage pathology, audiology, or education of the deaf/HOH.

#### **OSHA Professional Advocacy Award**

• Honors a person who has contributed to the advancement of the visibility, viability, or vitality of our professions. Potential nominees include legislators, philanthropists, SLPs, SLPAs, Audiologists, or any public figure who has shown outstanding advocacy for our professions.

Detailed information on the nomination process is available on the OSHA website, www.oregonspeechandhearing.org, under the "Honors and Awards" link in the Member Center. The deadline for submission is September 1, 2012.

If you have questions, please contact Janet Lambert at (503) 802-5260 or janetl@artzcenter.org.



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# Oregon Speech-Language & Hearing Association CALL FOR PAPERS

OSHA State Conference

#### Red Lion on the River, Jantzen Beach Portland, Oregon – October 12 & 13, 2012 Deadline to Submit: April 27, 2012

The program committee offers you the opportunity to share your knowledge and expertise with your colleagues at the 2012 OSHA Conference. If you wish to participate, please note the guidelines below. Students and professionals in related disciplines are encouraged to submit.

#### **PRESENTATION FORMATS**

90-minute presentation: These will be scheduled for Saturday, October 13th. You will be asked to state your audiovisual requirements on the cover sheet. Handouts are highly recommended. OSHA will provide copies of handouts if the OSHA office receives originals by October 1, 2012. Otherwise, presenters are responsible for providing their own handouts (you may contact the OSHA office for assistance in determining how many copies of your handout to bring).

Poster presentation: Interactive poster presentations will occur on Friday, October 12th from 4:30-6:00. Presenters are required to be at their posters during this time. OSHA will provide a 48" wide and 36" high presentation board together with materials to attach your information to the board. Theses will be displayed on easels supplied by OSHA. Handouts are encouraged and must be provided by the presenters.

#### **PROPOSAL GUIDELINES**

All proposals should be typed and submitted as follows:

Completed cover sheet: Find on website:

www.oregonspeechandhearing.org. Download the document "Call for Papers for 2012 Conference" in the "Favorite Links" section on the right hand side of your screen.

Abstract: (separate page). 50 words summarizing the major aspects of your proposal, to be published in the conference program. Please include the title of the proposal as well as the names and affiliations of all the presenters.

Biographical information: (separate page) Please include brief biographical information about each presenter (no more than 50 words per person).

Learning objectives: (separate page) Please list at least 3 learning objectives.

Program description: Please use the following guidelines for your program descriptions:

For a presentation or poster regarding intervention and/or assessment techniques or approaches:

A description of your proposed presentation or poster, no more than 500 words in length. The description should include the following: 1. A short overall summary of the presentation or poster. 2. A summary of the available evidence (200 words or less). For treatment approaches, this should include a discussion of the evidence of efficacy and clinical effectiveness, as well as the clinical/ practical significance of outcomes. For assessments, this should include a discussion of the psychometric properties of the assessment (sensitivity, specificity, reliability, and validity). When there is a lack of previous empirical research or the topic is controversial, please describe the underlying theory backing the approach, technique, or method.

For a presentation or poster regarding professional issues (such as clinical training, SLP shortage, etc.):

A description of your proposed presentation or poster, no more than 500 words in length, to include a statement of the issue or problem, action taken or suggested, method, results, conclusion.

For a presentation or poster describing a research project:

A description, no more than 500 words in length, which summarizes your research question(s), participants, methodology, analysis and results.

#### Please send all required materials by email to: julie@profadminserv.com For assistance with submissions, contact Amy Costanza–Smith, Ph.D, Program Chair, at (503) 418-1651 or costanza@ohsu.edu Submissions must be received by April 27, 2012

All presenters are required to pay registration fees. Presenters may not use their session to promote or sell products or services.

# Brain Injury Movie Night: Rehab Through Art and Humor

#### by Cheryl Green

When new career plans are thwarted, it's easy to get stuck reflecting on how great they would have been, if only. In the case of a traumatic brain injury, plans can change suddenly and often without the recipient's full realization. Ten days before beginning my CFY, a brain injury changed things for me in ways I am still discovering, a year and a half later.

With a very long history of cycling, martial arts, and soccer, I entered my mid-30s with several concussions to my name. Before grad school, I believed, like many, that a concussion is hardly worth mentioning. You don't go to the doctor for a scraped knee or a scraped-up head, so I never did. Despite symptoms as troubling as vertigo, outbursts of rage, confusion with figurative language, paraphasias, and stuttering that accompanied some of my various head injuries, I still never thought a concussion was a big deal - until my last one in 2010 put a wrench into much of my life. I understand now how one concussion - or a series of them - can floor you. Recent research shows that with a history like mine where balance, speech, language, and self-control problems last for months or more after each concussion, it can become harder to rebalance yourself after another. Therefore I no longer even refer to these injuries as concussions, but use the more technically accurate term: mild traumatic brain injuries.

Last summer, I was in a bike wreck on my commute to work. I landed on my head, shattering my helmet. Symptoms started immediately, and although I was aware of some of them, I refused to believe this would happen to me. Ok, if I had to admit it did happen, I would not let it mess up my CFY plans. So I showed up to my coveted CF, barely making it three strenuous weeks of not getting very much done before taking leave, then resigning. I did cognitive rehab, physical therapy, counseling, and vision therapy in an effort to regain my former self. (Confession: I dropped out of cog rehab, for reasons I couldn't explain to my therapist at the time, and which I now see were ironically patterns of thinking resulting from of the brain injury I was in rehab for.) But no good can come from hyperfocus on the former self and plans. It's time to rebuild a new self! With my new acceptance that old familiar things take more concentration and more steps and contain more mistakes when done, that new self is being rebuilt day by day with great success. It's a new self with seizures, tired

eyes, migraines, poor time management, and questionable social skills. But it's also a new self with less shyness, more motivation, and an ability to pull weeds in my garden for very long stretches of time, a change I can't say I really understand.

There are many reasons I am restoring a life successfully: access to rehab and resources, a supportive partner, and high-level training in cognition and communication preinjury are some key indicators of potential success. I have found some other, more creative pathways to hope and success as well.

First, I am a volunteer and Board member of the local, peer-led non-profit BIRRDsong (Brain-injury Information Referral and Resource Development), a place where I relearn and practice all manner of cognitive, communicative, and social skills and put some of my SLP and disability advocacy knowledge into practice in small, manageable steps. This gives me constant opportunity to achieve the coveted "generalization." All of you speech-language pathologists so desperately want to see your clients generalize and integrate clinic-learned skills into the rest of life, but you often cannot when insurance payments run out, community or family support is not strong enough, or therapy cannot be provided intensively enough (or your clients drop out, like I did). BIRRDsong has been the ideal laboratory to explore generalization in a dynamic, natural environment as we work diligently to pursue the mission of bringing peers and our support persons out of isolation.

My second avenue to success is an artistic endeavor. Having been a non-disabled performer in mixed abilities theater and dance for over 10 years, I was suddenly on the other side and got invited to participate in an autobiographical storytelling project for disabled artists last winter. From there came an unexpected delight: I started documenting struggles with simple, everyday things that my brain-injured friends and I have by making short comedy films. The films are designed to spark dialogue between peers (BIRRDsong's term for "survivors"), family, friends and partners, and medical and rehab providers about those struggles. The intent is to open avenues to finding creative, individualized potential solutions and compensations. The difficulties, emotional responses, and chaos portrayed in the films are autobiographical and

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Free parking after 5pm in Parking Structure 3 Additional parking information at pdx.edu/transportation

Refreshments provided

Questions? Contact us at nsslha@pdx.edu

# PSU NSSLHA's 4<sup>th</sup> Annual **Better Hearing & Speech** Month Event

Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup> 6-10pm Aquariva 0470 SW Hamilton Court Portland, OR 97239

Come enjoy hor d'oeuvres, live music, games, and a silent auction while mingling with professionals throughout Oregon.

# Advance Tickets Only \$10 per person

Available at PSU Box Office starting March 1st in Smith Student Union or call 503.725.3307

Adults Only Event Free Valet Parking Cash Bar

Portland dressy attire (no jeans please)

All proceeds fund scholarships for PSU NSSLHA members.

Questions? Contact us at nsslha@pdx.edu

# Upcoming 5K to Benefit Camp Quest

Camp Quest is the only overnight camp in the Pacific Northwest that is specifically designed for 10-15- yearold campers with High Functioning Autism (HFA). The camp is put on by ASD Oregon, a local non-profit organization dedicated to providing recreational opportunities for children with HFA in an environment that accepts and celebrates their unique personalities. Children who attend camp experience swimming, canoeing, fishing, and campfire time, as well as the opportunity to choose from several clubs tailored to suit their individual interests. The cost for a camper to attend Camp Quest is over twice that which a typically developing child would pay to attend a summer camp; however, Camp Quest strives to provide all the activities and amenities of a traditional overnight camp experience at an affordable cost. In order to offer campers a price that is commensurate with a traditional summer camp, the price charged to campers is only half of what is necessary to run camp. The additional funds are raised through donations and fundraising events like the Camp Quest 5k Run and Family Walk, which will be held on Saturday April 14th. To register for the 5K, make a donation or for more information on Camp Quest, please visit asdoregon.org

#### **Camp Quest 5K Details**

Date: April 14th, 2012 Time: 9am (check-in and race day registration opens at 7:30am) Place: Happy Valley Middle School (Happy Valley, OR) Events: 5k Run, 1k Family Walk, Kids Dash

## Brain Injury Movie Night

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honest. By highlighting the inherent silliness and unpredictability of life after brain injury, I try to cut off any "poor her" or "isn't life terrible" attitudes sneaking in to muddy the discussion about how we can work together to both accept and improve our situations.

In honor of National Brain Injury Awareness Month, Portland State University's NSSLHA chapter is presenting Brain Injury Movie Night on March 1st, 6:00-7:00pm as a fundraiser to support BIRRDsong. My film, "Cooking with Brain Injury," is a stylized documentary, showing how the simplest of steps in cooking made no sense to me for some time after my 2010 injury. Following the short film, there will be a Q and A with the actors. The evening will close with remarks from Dr. Rik Lemoncello, professor at PSU and enormous supporter of and contributor to the brain injury community. NSSLHA members will be selling their amazingly delicious baked treats to keep your bellies happy as you watch the chaos in my kitchen. Do not worry; I will not be providing any of the baked goods myself because I have been told charcoal is not a cookie flavor people want to pay to taste.

We do hope you can join us, even on such short notice. I invite you to write me anytime at the email address below to learn more about BIRRDsong's services, projects, and opportunities to volunteer with us or to talk to me about brain injury, disability arts and advocacy, and the odd limbo of being a brain-injured SLP in cognitive rehab.

#### Brain Injury Movie Night and Bake Sale Fundraiser for BIRRDsong

Thursday, March 1st, 2012 6:00-7:00pm Smith Memorial Student Union, room 296 at Portland State University

Suggested donation: \$10. No one turned away.

Please RSVP to: creativeprograms@birrdsong.org or 503-756-7540

> Venue is wheelchair accessible Event sponsored by NSSLHA

#### Oregon Speech–Language & Hearing Association Newsletter Advertising Rates

**Deadlines:** Copy must be received by January 7 for Vol. 1, April 1 for Vol. 2, June 15 for Vol. 3, and October 20 for Vol. 4. **Requirements:** All ads must be in black and white — Word or PDF format.

#### **Size Options and Cost**

Quarterly Newsletter: (8 1/2" x 11" format)				
Size	Single Issue	2 Issues	<u>3 Issues</u>	4 Issues
Business Card (3 1/2" x 2")	\$25	\$40	\$60	\$80
1/4 pg (3 1/2" x 4 3/4" vertical)	\$45	\$80	\$120	\$160
1/2 pg (7 1/2" x 4 3/4" horizontal)	\$110	\$200	\$300	\$400
Full Page (8" x 10 1/2")	\$180	\$300	\$450	\$600
The OSHA Newsletter is published 4 times per year: Vol. 1 (early February), Vol. 2				
(early May), Vol. 3 (mid July), Vol. 4 (early November).				

# **OSHA Membership**

### By Kameron Brief Beaulieu

I was recently asked to respond to an e-mail questioning the value of OSHA membership. I asked the author to consider what membership provides. Of course I spoke to our fabulous conference and the continuing education it provides over the course of a short weekend but I also spoke to advocacy and our legislative presence. I have to say I grew more proud of our membership and this organization as I was writing. OSHA is run through the volunteer efforts of your colleagues, your fellow speech pathologists and audiologists. It is amazing what a group of dedicated volunteers can accomplish and, hence, how beneficial membership can be.

#### mem·ber (měm'bər)

1. Is a distinct part of a whole.

As a distinct part of a whole, I am here to remind you that OSHA is only as great as its members. That means you!

In order to make the process of membership easier, the OSHA website has been refreshed and improved. The website enables members to review and update their membership profile, become a part of a referral network and to locate practitioners in other areas across the state. Take a look at the website at www. oregonspeechandhearing.org

Still trying to make up your mind? Here are some additional perks of membership:

- Complimentary subscription to the "OSHA Communicator", our quarterly newsletter to keep current on activities around the state.
- Continuing education opportunities, including a registration discount to the annual OSHA state conference.
- Complete access to the OSHA website, including the membership directory.
- Assistance with work-related issues, such as workload and ethics.
- Opportunities to network and find support with professionals in your region or those who are practicing in your area of expertise.
- Effective advocacy and legislation for your profession and the populations you serve.

Congratulations - and welcome to the club!

# **OSHA Conference 2012**

We are currently planning and inviting speakers for our conference this fall. I would like to thank the conference committee, Jennifer Larsen, Rik Lemoncello, Andrew Palmer and Phaedra Urban. These individuals have volunteered their time to assist in the planning of the conference and have offered many valuable and creative ideas in how to maintain its high professional caliber. If you would like to join the conference committee or have ideas for speakers to be approached and invited, please contact me.

We will be in Portland at The Red Lion Hotel on the River, Jantzen Beach, for our conference on October 12th & 13th. Presentations and Poster Submissions are due April 27, 2012 (see call for papers in this newsletter). If you have research or clinical evidence you would like to share with your colleagues from across the state, please consider submitting a poster or presentation. Students are invited to submit their research for 15-minute technical presentations. These students will also be invited to present posters so that they can be available to answer questions about their research. We will award two of the student presenters free registration to attend the conference. Please encourage students to submit their research!

If you have any questions about the submissions process, please do not hesitate to contact us by phone or mail.

Finally, this is the last year of my second term as conference chair and I have decided that it is time for me to step down for what I hope will be a short break. If you know of anyone who might be interested in taking over this challenging but rewarding position, please let me know.

Amy Costanza-Smith, Conference Chair costanza@ohsu.edu 503.418.1651

## University of Oregon Student Representative - Kelsey Oades

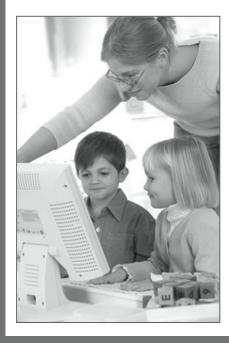
My name is Kelsey Oades and I am acting as the OSHA Student Representative for the University of Oregon for 2012. I am currently a senior in the Communication Disorders and Sciences undergraduate program and I will be graduating this spring. I just finished applying to graduate programs and I am eager to start my journey as a Speech-Language Pathologist. My interest in speech pathology developed when my younger brother was diagnosed with autism. Currently, I am an Inclusion Assistant for Portland Parks and Recreation and a Classroom Assistant for Early Childhood CARES through Lane ESD. I hope to use my personal and academic experience to add a valuable perspective to the OSHA board.



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### **OSHA Regions:**

**Region 1:** Clatsop, Columbia, Tillamook, Washington, Yamhill, Polk, Lincoln, and Benton counties.

**Region 2:** Multnomah, Hood River, Clackamas, Marion, and Linn counties.

**Region 3:** Lane, Douglas, Coos, Curry, Josephine, Jackson, Klamath, and Lake counties.

**Region 4:** Wasco, Sherman, Gilliam, Morrow, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Jefferson, Wheeler, Grant, Baker, Deschutes, Crook, Harney, and Malheur counties.

### Has Your Contact Information Changed?

Since OSHA's membership is now all online, you can check and make changes to your account information at any time on OSHA's website:

www.oregonspeechandhearing.org.

No paper dues notices were sent this year three reminders were sent by email. Some members found that those emails landed in their spam folder. Please add info@profadminserv.com to your address book to be sure you will receive any email notices that are generated from the website. Be sure to log in and check that the information (especially your email address) is correct. It is easy to make changes, and if you need help or don't remember your username and password, contact Julie McCulley at 503-370-7019 or julie@profadminserv.com.