

THE OSHA COMMUNICATOR

A PUBLICATION OF THE OREGON SPEECH-LANGUAGE & HEARING ASSOCIATION



This Month's Featured Stories

President's Letter
Time Sensitive Message from OSHA
OSHA Spring 2023 Conference
What's New in Higher Education
Legislative Committee Work
People of OSHA
OSHA Virtual Job Fair
Open OSHA Board Member Positions



Letter from the President

By Ana Lia Oliva, OSHA President

Dear Members of the Oregon Speech Language and Hearing Association,

As we begin this new year, I am honored to serve as the President of this esteemed association founded in 1955. I am excited to be a part of an association with a long history of advocating for communication health and the driving force for advancing the speech-language pathology and audiology profession.

Our association is committed to advocating for communication health, supporting professional development, and continuing education, promoting ethical practice and diversity, equity, and inclusion, and advocating for quality service delivery. These priorities have been identified to make a difference in the lives of individuals with communication disorders. As members of this association, we have the unique opportunity to contribute to these efforts.

I want to emphasize the importance of our volunteer Board's commitment to this association. Our collective efforts make it possible for us to achieve our goals and support the needs of our members. We can contribute to advocacy for communication health by engaging with policymakers and raising public awareness about the importance of access to speech-language intervention services. This will ensure that individuals with communication disorders receive the support they need to achieve their full potential.

As speech-language pathology and audiology professionals, we are responsible for providing our clients with the highest quality of care. This requires us to stay current with the latest research and best practices in our field and to ensure the delivery of services in a way that promotes diversity, equity, and inclusion. Another critical way we support the professional growth of our members is through our focus on professional learning via our spring and fall conferences. Promoting ethical practice and diversity, equity, and inclusion are core principles of our association, and we must ensure that all individuals with communication disorders receive culturally responsive and sustaining care. By adhering to these principles,

Cont. on page 2...

President's Letter, cont.

we can continue to serve our clients with the highest quality of care. Together, we can continue to advance our profession and improve the lives of members of our communities.

OSHA has also been instrumental in shaping policy and legislation related to speech-language pathology and audiology in Oregon. We have been hard at work to advocate for the working conditions of school SLPs. OSHA's ongoing proactive advocacy and lobbying efforts in addressing workload considerations for school-based practitioners in collaboration with other allied health associations contributed to the significant advancement of HB 2618 – Workload Study Bill during this legislative session.

In closing, I would like to acknowledge all our Board members' dedication and hard work. Your contributions make our association so dynamic and effective in our mission. We encourage members to remain informed about our initiatives and priorities as we progress. Given the expansive nature of our field and work settings, we welcome member connection to identify areas of need across our state. By staying engaged and working together, we can make a real difference in the lives of individuals with communication disorders, ensuring they receive the care and support they need to achieve their full potential.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to our association and your hard work to serve within communities.

Sincerely,

Ana Lia Oliva, Ed.D., CCC-SLP

Oregon Speech-Language-Hearing Association President

A Time Sensitive Message from OSHA Regarding Telepractice

OSHA is sharing some time sensitive information about upcoming changes related to the end of the Public Health Emergency. Please see information below and consider attending the ASHA Telepractice Zoom listed below:

- [This recent ASHA Leader Live article from Feb. 3rd discusses each of the areas in which we can expect changes](#)
- [This document outlines Oregon-specific Medicaid changes](#)
 - A key takeaway is starting April 1, 2023, state Medicaid programs can disenroll beneficiaries who no longer meet eligibility requirements. Those former Medicaid beneficiaries will need to identify alternative health insurance coverage. Oregon will be implementing this in batches (see Timeline on pg. 6) and current Medicaid beneficiaries will be notified by mail regarding eligibility and reenrollment.
- ASHA is hosting a free Zoom event with information specific to Telepractice changes: Telepractice Considerations for the End of the Public Health Emergency. This live Zoom event is hosted by SIG 18 but open to anyone and will occur April 4th at 8:00 PM ET. [**Register here.**](#)





Friday, April 7, 2023 – 9:00 am – 3:00 pm
Streaming live on ZOOM

8th Annual OSHA SPRING CONFERENCE

With seven successful years of informative topics and motivating speakers, the OSHA Spring Conference has become an important annual event for speech-language communities in the Northwest. The Spring Conference is tailored for school-based SLPs and encourages interprofessional collaboration that extends to our rural ESD colleagues across Oregon. The 2023 Spring Conference will be live-streamed to individual participants on ZOOM. Please contact OSHA to request accommodations: OSHAoregon@gmail.com.

Continuing Education Information

ASHA CEU Processing Fee: There is a \$5.00 processing fee for the Oregon Speech-Language & Hearing Association to report your CEUs to ASHA. This fee is charged by OSHA, not ASHA. To record your ASHA CEUs, you must include \$5.00 with your registration fee and complete an ASHA Participant form and course evaluation form by end of day April 10, 2023. These forms will be shared in the chat at the end of the event and also emailed out to all attendees.

Program Completion Requirements: Participants are expected to be present for the entire program. Individuals who are not present for the full program will not be recommended for ASHA CEUs. You must sign out at the end of the day to earn CEUs. No partial credit will be provided.

ASHA CE Registry Info: An annual ASHA CE Registry fee is required to earn ASHA CEUs. The participant pays ASHA CE Registry fees directly to the ASHA National Office. The annual ASHA CE Registry fee allows registration of an unlimited number of ASHA CEUs for the calendar year. Contact the ASHA CE staff at 800-498-2071 for CE Registry fee subscription and CE Registry eligibility information.

State Licensure Hours: A Certificate of Attendance will be emailed to attendees, by end of day April 17, 2023, who complete the course evaluation. Retain the certificate for upcoming license renewal with Oregon Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology.



ASHA CE
APPROVED PROVIDER

Oregon Speech-Language &
Hearing Association
Intermediate Level
0.45 ASHA CEUs

This course is offered for **0.45**
ASHA CEUs (Intermediate Level;
Professional Area).

Supporting Autistic Students: Neurodiversity-Affirming Practices

Course Description

The workshop will explore the topics of neurodiversity and ableism, particularly as they relate to partnering with autistic students, and provide school-based professionals support in developing and implementing affirming practices within their environments, across communication partners, and within their teaching. Participatory research practice and autistic-based strategies will be discussed and modeled. Case study examples will provide opportunities for applied learning.

Learning Objectives

After completion of this conference session, participants will be able to:

1. Define at least two models of disability and describe how adherence to a disability model might impact a professional's clinical practice.
2. Identify at least three neurodiversity-affirming practices and how they might be implemented within their own professional setting.
3. Define participatory research methods and identify ways of locating literature that incorporates neurodivergent first person perspectives.

About the Presenters

Amy Donaldson, Ph.D., CCC-SLP is an Associate Professor in the Department of Speech & Hearing Sciences at Portland State University. Using a participatory research model, she is interested in investigating social communication and social interaction, particularly within the autistic community, as well as disability representation.

endevery* is a semi speaking autistic self-advocate who is multiply disabled, trans, and queer. They enjoy sharing their lived experience and expertise as an AAC user with professionals, caregivers, and peers.

Presenter's Disclosures

Dr. Donaldson: Financial Disclosures include receiving honoraria speaker fee. No non-financial disclosures.

endevery*: Financial Disclosures include receiving honoraria speaker fee. No non-financial disclosures.

Workload Management for SLPs: Creative Suggestions to Apply Across Educational Settings

Course Description

Are you feeling overwhelmed at work? Managing workload is a massive task. This session discusses workload management strategies, ways to advocate for yourself, and how working efficiently can improve your work/life balance. With a focus on practical solutions for workload management, you will leave with ideas you can implement immediately.

Learning Objectives

After completion of this conference session, participants will be able to:

1. Describe the application of two workload management strategies.
2. Develop advocacy strategies to improve workload management.
3. Describe two ways that streamlining workload practices positively impacts SLP mental health.

About the Presenters

Katie Mason, MS, CCC-SLP has worked as a SLP since 2005 and currently works in the Eugene School District-4J. Katie is a clinical supervisor in the UO-CDS program. At UO she teaches an undergraduate course (Developmental Disorders) and a graduate course (Special Education Law as it applies to SLPs).

Sara Starlin, MA, CCC-SLP has worked as a SLP since 2006 and currently works as the evaluation program coordinator at Early Childhood CARES, Lane County's early intervention/early childhood special education program. Sara is also a licensed general education teacher, reading specialist and administrator, as well as having coursework for an autism specialization.

Presenter's Disclosures

Katie Mason: Financial Disclosures include receiving honoraria speaker fee. No non-financial disclosures.

Sara Starlin: Financial Disclosures include receiving honoraria speaker fee. No non-financial disclosures.

How to Register

Completed registration (online or paper) must be received by the OSHA office by March 29, 2023 to be eligible for the early registration discount. Online registration will remain open through 5pm on April 6, 2023. If you need to register after this time, contact the OSHA office at 503-877-2042.

Additional Policies

Cancellations/Refunds: If OSHA cancels a program, registration fees will be refunded in full. If OSHA reschedules a confirmed program and a registrant can no longer attend, registration fees will be refunded in full. If registrant cancels 24 hours prior to the event (before 9:00 am Thursday, April 6, 2023), the registration fee will be refunded, less a \$10 processing fee. To cancel 24-hours in advance, registrants can notify the OSHA office by phone, fax, or email. Registrants that do not attend and/or do not notify the OSHA office before 9:00am Thursday, April 6, 2023, will not receive a refund.

Complaints: Complaints regarding a continuing education offering should be directed to the OSHA office (www.oshastaff@gmail.com) within 30 days of the event. If the complaint is not satisfactorily resolved, the registrant may petition Jordan Tinsley, Vice President of Science and Education, at OSHA for a full refund of registration fees or another agreed-upon resolution of the complaint. Contact the OSHA office at oshastaff@gmail.com for additional information.

Registration Fees

Early Registration on or before March 29:

\$55.00	Professional, OSHA member
\$55.00	Professional, Affiliated State member
\$70.00	Professional, non-OSHA member
\$35.00	SLPA/Paraprofessional, OSHA mbr
\$45.00	SLPA/Paraprofessional, non-member
\$15.00	Student, OSHA/NSSHLA member
\$25.00	Student, non-member
\$ 5.00	Optional - ASHA CE Processing Fee
\$15.00	Optional – Sponsor a Student

Registration after March 29:

\$75.00	Professional, OSHA member
\$75.00	Professional, Affiliated State member
\$90.00	Professional, non-OSHA member
\$55.00	SLPA/Paraprofessional, OSHA member
\$65.00	SLPA/Paraprofessional, non-member
\$25.00	Student, OSHA/NSSHLA member
\$35.00	Student, non-member
\$ 5.00	ASHA CE Processing Fee

Online registration is open and available at the OSHA website.

<https://www.oregonspeechandhearing.org/event-5149728>

What's New in Oregon Higher Education

Portland State University – Maria Kapantzoglou, Ph.D. CCC-SLP

- Beginning this quarter, there will be an aphasia caregiver/care partner support group offered twice weekly, most likely Tuesdays in-person at the Scottish Rite Speech & Hearing Clinic and Thursdays virtually. This is a new and valuable clinical service organized in collaboration with the Aphasia Lab, led by the lab's Research SLP Stacey Steel, as well as Susan Ginley, Susan Poulsen, and Dr. Manaswita Dutta. Susan G., CCC-SLP, and Susan P., RN, PhD in communication specializing in counseling and group processes, are both now retired PSU faculty but have kindly offered to volunteer their time and expertise to co-facilitate the group. Through this group, we hope to encourage relationships, relieve feelings of isolation and burnout, and ultimately expand beneficial services for the aphasia community and clients in the clinic.
- Dr. Carolyn Quam was selected for a Faculty in Residence (FIR) program at the Research and Graduate Studies office, which involves working on a focused project for two terms. The goal of her project is to promote and expand undergraduate research opportunities at PSU. The program provides a \$10,000 salary award.
- We have a Fulbright Scholar in the department for three months. Dr. Evandro Cunha is an Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Letters at Federal University of Minas Gerais, Brazil. He did his Ph.D. studies in the Netherlands focusing on computational linguistics. He will be working in Dr. Quam's lab, the Child Language Learning Center, collaborating on research projects focusing on speech-sound learning and language processing in adults with and without language-based learning disabilities.
- Dr. Megann McGill was interviewed and featured on OPB's "Think Out Loud" program which will air in the next month or so. This interview and episode is about telepractice and reaching rural areas of Oregon for speech therapy services.
- Dr. Maria Kapantzoglou was invited to participate on the committee for Accreditation Review of the Speech & Language Therapy department of University of Ioannina, in Greece. The European Union collaborates with the Quality Assurance Association of the Hellenic Authority for Higher Education for the external reviews of academic programs in the country.
- Dr. Amy Donaldson and endever* have a new ASHA podcast on their work on AAC and Autistic people. endever* uses AAC to talk about various topics including why early access to AAC is so critical, and why it is so important that clients get input into their own communication goals. [The 30-minute podcast and its transcript are available here.](#)





Legislative Committee Work

A Busy Legislative Season

The OSHA Legislative Committee has been engaged in supporting the passage of [HB 2618 - Workload Study bill](#). This workload study initiative would lay a foundation for examining and establishing a methodology and tools, such as workload calculators, to support school district leadership with identifying and understanding appropriate workload for school-based healthcare practitioners.

In the state of Oregon, there are currently no guidelines, measurements or requirements for how public education programs (birth-21 years of age) determine the workload assigned to SLPs, OTs, and PTs. The lack of a standardized workload approach in education programs may contribute to, but does not exclude the following adverse consequences:

1. Impact to student educational outcomes;
2. Potential violation of State & Federal mandates, including Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), IDEA, and FAPE;
3. Potential violation of professionals' codes of ethics;
4. Professional attrition and transition from school-based to other workplace settings such as hospitals, out-patient clinics, and private practices.

OSHA has been working in partnership with the Occupational Therapy Association of Oregon (OTAO) and American Physical Therapy Association Oregon (APTA Oregon) to improve working conditions for school based providers and promote accessibility of services in educational settings.

OSHA has been awarded an ASHA State Association Grant of \$2000 to support our statewide workload lobbying efforts



People of OSHA

Meet Kristi Atkins, EdD, CCC-SLP

People of OSHA is a new feature we are adding to our quarterly newsletter to get to know the different voices and perspectives of speech-language pathologists throughout Oregon. If you'd like to be considered for an upcoming issue, please email the Publications Chair at sophiemillon@gmail.com.

Kristi Atkins is OSHA's Region II Representative, representing OSHA members in Multnomah, Hood River, Clackamas, Marion, and Linn counties.

What is your job and the population you work with?

I am an Associate Professor at [Oregon Health and Science University](#). I work primarily on pediatric interdisciplinary diagnostic teams in the Autism and Developmental Evaluation Clinic programs.

Why did you volunteer to represent your region with OSHA?

I love being a part of OSHA! As a region rep I hope to help folks in the region connect with each other and with the OSHA community.

Why did you decide to become a speech-language pathologist?

I was studying linguistics and psychology in undergrad and was looking for a practical way to apply my skills. Speech-language pathology was perfect.

What is something people may be surprised to learn about you?

I grew up on a century farm in Helvetia. My dad's family has been farming the land for over a hundred years.

What is one of your favorite clinical resources?

[The Communication Matrix assessment and the site's community of practice.](#)

Describe yourself as a speech-language pathologist in three words:

Curious, efficient, compassionate.

How do you practice self-care as a speech-language pathologist?

I like to drink tea and read fiction.



Save the Date!

OSHA Virtual Job Fair

Thursday, April 20th

6:00–8:00 pm PST

Zoom

[More Info for Interested Attendees](#)

[More Info for Interested Vendors](#)

OSHA Board Position Openings

The following positions on the OSHA Board are open beginning in January 2023. 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

Early Intervention/Early Childhood Special Education (EI/ECSE) Professional Affiliate

(2-year term – Jan 2023 through December 2024)

QUALIFICATIONS

- The EI/ECSE Speech-Language Pathology Professional Affiliate shall be an OSHA member in good standing.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Serve as a voting member of the OSHA Board.
- Advise the OSHA Board on issues pertaining to the practice of speech-language pathology in the EI/ECSE setting.
- Assist the Conference Committee in developing the Fall Conference continuing education activities specific to the needs of the members practicing in EI/ECSE.
- 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 EI/ECSE setting.
- Gather and report information pertinent to practice of speech-language pathology in the EI/ECSE setting to the OSHA Board and to the membership at the annual business meeting, newsletter, bulletins, social media, etc.
- Recruit committee members and chair meetings as needed to fulfill the duties of the position, and maintain appropriate records of committee meetings.
- Represent OSHA with other groups/organizations that work in the area of EI/ECSE.

The following position continues to be vacant and can be filled prior to January 2023.

Website Committee Chair

(1-year term, additional one-year terms may occur as approved by the OSHA President)

QUALIFICATIONS

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

RESPONSIBILITIES

- 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 Website Committee.
- Solicit and generate material for the Association website.
- Plan, organize, design material on the Association website.
- Update website as needed.
- Coordinate with the Advertising Chair for acceptance and placement of advertisements on the Association website.



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