

2016, Volume III  
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The OSHA Communicator is a publication of the Oregon Speech-Language and Hearing Association and is edited by **OSHA Publications Chair Daniela DeYoung**. If you are interested in submitting an article or advertising in the newsletter, contact the [OSHA office](#).

## President's Message—Stay Tuned!

By Karen Aguilera, OSHA President



I was listening to a podcast presented by a public radio station the other day about an audiologist who treats balance disorders. At the end of the story, the presenter admitted that prior to this story she had not known what an audiologist was. She “had to look it up”!

How can we, as professionals, effectively communicate who we are, what we do, and why we are needed to the public?

Many of us have long been perplexed about why SLPs and Audiologists, experts in human communication, find it so difficult to explain the value and role of our professions and services? The lack of understanding of our field by the general public has a tremendous impact on our ability to reach those who need our services.

It is a barrier that results in lower identification rates of people with communication disorders, under-utilization of our expertise, and reduced leverage for influencing policy and legislation.

Part of the challenge is the scope of communication sciences and disorders is so broad and encompasses so many different disorders, diagnosis, and treatments across all populations and ages. It is impossible to describe our field in a 30-second elevator speech. What is clear, however, is that *everyone* may likely be in need of our services at some point during their life.

This spring, we obtained a grant from American Speech-Language and Hearing Association to help tell our stories through a series of short documentaries. “Making Connections” is a five-part series that will examine relationships among patients, students, speech-language pathologists, and audiologists in a variety of different practice settings.



We hope these videos will be both engaging and informative and will help us better communicate in a compelling way about our professions.

Stay tuned for more information as this project unfolds!

# Mark Your Calendars for the 2016 OSHA Fall Conference

By Karen McLaughlin, VP for Science & Education/Conference Chair

I hope you have the date saved for our upcoming fall conference, October 14-15 at the Salem Convention Center. We expect to have the conference brochure and registration available in July. In the meantime, I wanted to give you a preview of the Friday speakers.

**Magaly Gonzalez Hiltner** and **Emily Gibson, Hillsboro School District**, will present in the area of collaborative service delivery for school SLPs, including strategies and sample lessons.

**Brooke Ingersoll, Michigan State University**, will present in the area of parent strategy training and using telehealth to deliver parent mediated training.

**Jennifer Larsen, Portland State University**, and **Carrie Thomas Beck, Oregon Department of Education**, will present *Dyslexia and School Based SLPs*, covering implementation of the new dyslexia legislation in Oregon and the SLP's role in identifying and working with children with dyslexia.

**McKay Moore Sohlberg, University of Oregon**, and **Robyn Walker, Oregon Health & Science University**, will present a half-day talk on creating therapeutic alliances in medical and outpatient settings.

**Teresa Ukrainetz, University of Wyoming**, will present two talks - *Expository Intervention: Teaching How-to-talk* and *Teaching Phonemic awareness: What, How, When, and How Much?*

**Julie Wambaugh, University of Utah/VA Salt Lake City Health Center**, will present in her two areas of expertise, aphasia and acquired apraxia of speech.

I'm thrilled to have a range of topics and exceptional presenters for our Friday sessions. I look forward to seeing you at the conference. Have a wonderful summer!



## Save the Date!

OSHA Fall Conference—*Doing More Together*  
October 14-15, 2016  
Salem Conference Center



## *The Way We Talk* at the 2016 OSHA Conference

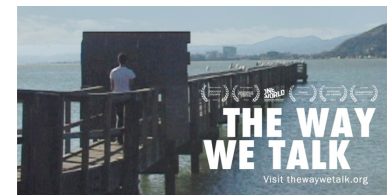
By Karen Aguilera, OSHA President

In keeping with this year's theme, "Do More Together," OSHA will be offering an evening event at the conference in Salem this year. A special presentation of *The Way We Talk*, a personal documentary by filmmaker Michael Turner, will be featured entertainment at the OSHA Fall Conference on Friday, October 14, at 7 p.m. Michael will be available following the movie to answer questions from the audience.

Michael's film explores stuttering through his own history and the perspectives of people who stutter. The movie has been described as "impactful," "empowering," "inspiring," and "an intimate journey of self-discovery."

*The Way We Talk* challenges long-standing assumptions, leaving viewers with a deeper understanding of the experience of stuttering, the role and goals of therapy, and the acceptance of stuttering by the person who is affected, as well as by others.

The film will be shown at no charge to conference attendees and their guests. Donations to support bringing this film to OSHA will be accepted at the door. Please come and demonstrate your support for this extraordinary film.



# OSHA Board Welcomes New PSU Student Rep



My name is Erin Welp and I am the new student representative from Portland State University. I am now entering my second year as a graduate student in speech-language pathology. I am a licensed kindergarten through fifth grade teacher and am passionate about merging my experience in education with my career as an SLP.

I hope to one day work with children in a medical or private practice setting and I have a specific interest in serving children with autism. I decided to get involved with OSHA because it is a great way to make sure that my fellow students have a voice at the state level.

I am very excited about my new role on the board and am very honored to represent my amazing peers from PSU.

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## BSPA Working Groups Forming—Join Today!

The [State of Oregon Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology \(BSPA\)](#) has requested OSHA's help in seeking interested professionals to participate within several working groups. These work groups are being formed to examine issues and concerns regarding the regulation of the profession in the state. The following working groups have been proposed:

- SLPA working group
- Telepractice working group
- Audiology Assistant Licensure
- Professional Development



To get involved, please contact the Oregon Board of Examiners at 971-673-0220.

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## BSPA Telepractice Working Group

By James Huffman, OSHA Historian

I am pleased to have been selected to serve on the Telepractice working group of the Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology. The Board of Examiners will be reviewing the current rules and developing



regulations governing telepractice by speech-language pathologists and audiologists in Oregon. There has been a proliferation of telepractice and use of remote means using skype or other technology in Oregon, bringing with it the need for oversight in this area of our profession.

Oregon created a Board of Examiners because our OSHA leaders, including Bob Blakeley, Ph.D., and others, along with then Governor Barbara Roberts, helped bring about licensure in Oregon in the 1970's when the original law was passed. On a deck at JoAnn Smithpeter's home, overlooking Lake Oswego, our own leadership celebrated when the

Board of Examiners came into existence! Now, as OSHA leaders and members, we need to continue that same kind of tradition and involvement and provide feedback to the Board of Examiners in order to keep a high bar of excellence in the practice of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology.

I look forward to meeting with the Board of Examiners in the month of August to begin this important work as our profession evolves using new kinds of technology. I am deeply honored to be selected to serve on this working group and to serve as a liaison between OSHA and the Board of Examiners.

# What You Need to Know Before You Present in Oregon

Editorial by Linda D'Onofrio, MS, CCC-SLP

Most SLPs spend some time each year looking for continuing education hours (CEUs), weighing the pros and cons of traveling to a live event, waiting for something to come to town, or choosing an event online. As we develop professionally, we may begin hosting CE events and study groups, or we may speak to our peers about concepts we've learned, or present on our areas of specialty. For decades, these events earned CEUs toward Oregon licensure and ASHA certification. In many states and in many cases, we could also earn CEUs for the first time we taught a course at a university. And for decades the obvious rule was an SLP could only count a CE event one time. No one could watch or host the same event and receive repeated CEU credit.

In 2013, the Oregon Board of Examiners changed the rules. I am embarrassed to say I have no memory of this, even though I was president of OSHA that year. I had no realization how it would impact me personally, impact my colleagues, as well as future presenters in this state.

I didn't change my behavior because of the rule change. I continued to do what I have always done when I hosted or spoke at a CE event. I counted myself as an attendee, as it was typically a one-time event. I counted those hours both at the state and national level. I counted them in Oregon and when I presented original material in other states.

In May of this year, I completed a 15-hour original workshop for Kaiser Permanente with ASHA-approved CEUs. I turned in unnecessary paperwork to the Oregon Board of Examiners by accident and was informed that I could not earn any hours toward my own licensure. As it happens, I paid hundreds of dollars for the honor of the ASHA CEU approval process; and they awarded me CEUs, as they always have.



I also had the foresight to have an ASHA-approved group record the event, so I can watch myself, be an attendee, and I can turn that in for Oregon licensure. I find this ridiculous. Not everyone who presents can secure ASHA approval or film themselves. And no one should have to.

Now I'm in a bind. I have two more contracts in the state of Oregon. I am supposed to create professional developmental material - but now I realize I have to choose between my own continuing education and that of others. I could just sit on my behind or work it off. What will I do?

[Read More](#)

## OSHA Sunshine Fund Established

The OSHA Sunshine Fund has been established to provide cards of sympathy or acknowledgement, small gifts, or gift cards for OSHA members who have experienced a significant medical or family emergency or crisis. All monies donated to the OSHA Sunshine Fund are restricted to this purpose. Members are encouraged to contribute to the fund at any time, and all contributions are voluntary.

OSHA members who wish to solicit a gift from the OSHA Sunshine Fund on behalf of a colleague must complete a Sunshine Fund application, providing the name and address of the intended recipient and an explanation of their circumstances. Any dollar amount allocated for a gift or gift card will be determined by the OSHA Sunshine Committee and will be based on need, any recipient-specific donations received, and available fund balance.



Members may contact OSHA staff at [oshaoregon@gmail.com](mailto:oshaoregon@gmail.com) for a Sunshine Fund application or if you wish to contribute to the fund.

# Proposed Amendments to OSHA Bylaws

By Andy McMillin, OSHA Past President

As I wrote in the last newsletter, the OSHA Board of Directors has been reviewing the organization's bylaws over this past year. At our most recent Board meeting on June 4, the Board voted to approve a set of proposed amendments. The amended Bylaws will be presented to the membership during our Business Meeting, at lunch during the Fall Conference, on Friday, October 14, 2016.

The full text of the proposed amendments to the bylaws is posted on the [OSHA website](#). We have posted it in two forms. One is a "[redline](#)" version, in which all changes are marked. Any text to be struck is crossed out with a red line, and any text to be added is underlined with a red line.

Because redline text can be difficult to read, we have also posted a "[clean copy](#)" that contains only the proposed final version of the amended bylaws. This clean copy can be compared with the current bylaws text, which is also posted on the website.

Most of the proposed changes are "housekeeping" changes, involving changing wording to achieve consistency or clarity without any intended changes in meaning. We do propose some substantive changes, though. Below is a summary of the changes the Bylaws Review Committee has considered to be substantive. This is not an exhaustive list of all changes, and we encourage all members to consult the actual proposed amended bylaws to evaluate the proposed changes in their entirety. For your convenience, however, here is a description of several proposed changes:

- 1) *Change status of Legislative Chair position.* This has been a committee chair position, which means that it does not have voting rights within the Board of Directors. We propose to change this status, making the position into a vice presidential position—Vice President for Governmental Affairs. As such, this position would be a seventh Executive Committee position and would be a voting member of the Board of Directors.
- 2) *Change terms of office for Vice President for Scientific & Educational Affairs (a.k.a. "Conference Chair") and Vice President for Governmental Affairs to three years from two.* This change is proposed based on the feedback from people who have held these positions in recent years, who believe that three-year terms would improve continuity while also allowing for increased mentoring of new Board members.
- 3) *Addition of language related to Board vacancies.* The current bylaws do not specify how a position should be filled if a vacancy occurs mid-term.
- 4) *Simplifications to the bylaws:*
  - a) Remove most "standing" committees as such. Most current committees called for in the bylaws are not necessary for the functioning of the organization. Therefore, we propose taking them out of the bylaws as standing committees. The three that remain are Budget, Conference, and Legislative, which perform the tasks that are essential to OSHA's work. Other committees are not dissolved; they are authorized under new language that allows the President to convene committees as needed to accomplish the goals of the organization. These committees are also ongoing committees and are separate from limited-duration, ad hoc committees, which also continue to be authorized as convened by the President.
  - b) Removal from the bylaws of language relating to the duties of specific Board Members. The intent of this is to place this language into the Policies & Procedures manual of the association. The reason for this is to make the organization more agile. If any changes need to be made to a Board Member's duties, currently this requires an amendment to the bylaws, which requires a vote by the membership. By placing this language into Policies & Procedures, changes to duties that may be necessary can be accomplished internally within the Board and would not require a Membership vote. Most non-profit organizations have their Board Members' responsibilities described in a Policies & Procedures document and not in their bylaws.

[Read More](#)

# OSHA Board of Directors Update

By Andy McMillin, OSHA Past President

I am pleased to announce that the OSHA Board of Directors already has a full slate of Executive Committee Officers for election in 2016. We will present this slate for a vote at the membership meeting in October:

- ✓ **President-Elect:** Lyndsay Duffus
- ✓ **Vice President for Finance:** Janet Wagner
- ✓ **Secretary:** Elizabeth Ebensteiner
- ✓ **Vice President for Governmental Relations:** Jonalyn Brown

In addition, we are seeking nominees for the following board positions:

**Advertising:** Primary duties include soliciting exhibitors for the conference, advertisers for the newsletter, sponsors for various events, and participating in the Communications Committee

**Public Education:** Primary duties include outreach education to the public and to related professional groups (including administrators in school districts, hospitals, and other healthcare providers), and participating in the Communications Committee

**Publications:** Primary duties include collecting and editing newsletter articles, reviewing other OSHA publications, and participating in the Communications Committee

**Healthcare Affiliate:** Primary duties include networking with members working in healthcare settings, identifying trends of relevance to this group, and possible involvement with the Legislative Committee

**Region 4 Representative:** Primary duties include outreach and representation for Wasco, Sherman, Gilliam, Morrow, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Jefferson, Wheeler, Grant, Baker, Deschutes, Crook, Harney, and Malheur Counties

**Region 3 Representative:** Primary duties include outreach and representation for Lane, Douglas, Coos, Curry, Josephine, Jackson, Klamath, and Lake Counties

Each of these positions is appointed by the Executive Committee. No election is necessary; the only requirement is active membership in OSHA (and if your membership has lapsed, don't worry – renewal is easy, and the OSHA office staff can help). If you are interested in one of these positions, or would like to nominate a colleague, please contact Andy McMillin, Past President, at [amcmill@pdx.edu](mailto:amcmill@pdx.edu) or at (503) 725-3653.

The Oregon Speech-Language & Hearing Association (OSHA) is dedicated to providing the highest level of communication potential to people of all ages. To learn more about OSHA, click on the links below:

[OSHA Board of Directors](#)

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| [OSHA Career Center](#)

[OSHA News & Events](#)

| [OSHA Resources](#)

| [OSHA Member Center](#)



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