

Biography:

Kelsey Hatton, Au.D. joined The University of Texas at Austin Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences January 2022. She received her Bachelor's in Communication Sciences and Disorders from the University of Texas at Austin in 2008 and her Doctorate of Audiology from Vanderbilt University in 2013.

She is passionate about working with students and promoting interprofessional care for her patients. Since 2022, she has been the Audiology representative for the Center for Health Interprofessional Practice and Education, which includes 9 health professions training programs at UT-Austin. She has contributed programming and participated as an Audiology Education Committee member for the TSHA convention since she returned to Texas in 2022. She was previously a speaker, convention volunteer coordinator, and member of the Tennessee Association of Audiologists and Speech Language Pathologists from 2016, earning Association Honors in 2021. She is currently participating in a Vestibular Best Practices working committee for AAA for 2023-2024. Dr. Hatton started as a member of the American Balance Society in 2013 and has held in a variety of committee roles annually for ABS since 2015. She has maintained membership in the American Auditory Society and ASHA organizations since becoming a clinician in 2013.

Dr. Hatton's clinical specialties include vestibular and hearing evaluations for all ages. She also fits hearing aids and programs cochlear implants. During her clinical work, she has supervised audiology graduate students as well as being shadowed by undergraduate students, physicians in training, and physical therapy graduate students. Her research interests include validity and specificity of audiological test battery, outcome measures, migraines with balance disorders, and falls risk assessment.

-----  
Position Statement

My name is Kelsey Hatton, and I am a Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of Texas at Austin. I am pleased to accept the nomination and be considered for TSHA's next VP of Audiology.

I returned to Texas in January 2022, then immediately attended the TSHA conference. I enjoyed networking and learning at that convention, appreciating the welcoming attitudes of the membership. I was inspired to volunteer for the Audiology Educational committee to recruit speakers for our members to hear from those who are contributing new research to the field. Dr. Pho has brought passion and energy to the Audiology VP role, and I hope to support continued growth of audiology professional and student memberships, expansion of advocacy activities, and recruitment of excellent educational programming that she initiated as VP.

One of my specific aims as VP would be to collaborate with the educational programs in the state to increase student engagement, especially recruiting undergraduate and graduate students into the SLAC. Introducing students to advocacy is critical if we want future professionals to be equally or more engaged in promoting legislative actions that positively impact our profession and our patients. Participation in advocacy also fosters leadership and a sense of belonging in our profession as they educate legislators and their staffers about our profession. Being in Austin, an advisor for the UT SAA chapter, and working closely with the UT NSSLHA chapter advisors should help me be impactful in this arena.

Another aim as VP would be to promote evidence-based practice by connecting students, clinicians, and researchers to our educational platforms. I would like to recruit a variety of contributors to cover student issues, ethics, clinical cases, and research activities. The communicologist and webinars are an excellent platform we should continue to develop and distribute to our members. Another avenue that supports professional and clinical development is the formulation and availability of “practice toolkits” in specialty areas, which I would like to explore and make available to our student and young professional members. Support for seeing patients in Spanish, completing cerumen management, or being familiar with vestibular screenings to help understand when to refer for formal testing are two potential toolkits that would be valued greatly by students, new clinicians, and clinicians who are changing clinical focus areas.

More general aims would be promotion of interprofessional practice, aiming to recruit co-presenters in audiology and speech-language pathology or other healthcare professions for future conference programming. I also believe strongly in supplying students and young professionals with programming to support their growth like: resume review, specialty round tables, mentorship connections, ability to contribute to research symposium, and poster presentations.

I believe my goals as VP of Audiology align with TSHA’s strategic plan and would contribute positively to how Audiology members perceive the organization’s value and service to them. Thank you for your passion and time - which is what ultimately makes TSHA an excellent organization - and I appreciate being considered for this role.

Synopsis:

Kelsey Hatton hopes to serve TSHA at large and the audiology membership by promoting advocacy activities and supporting diverse educational opportunities for students and clinicians alike. She will work to promote interprofessional collaboration as well as young professional and student mentorship in her service to TSHA.