

# Annual Report: July 1, 2005 - June 30, 2006

## Texas Speech-Language-Hearing Association



**PRESIDENT**  
**LYNDA BARBEE**

We have been celebrating the 50th anniversary of our great Association and enjoying every minute of it! Our Convention at the Gaylord in Grapevine was an affair to remember with a record number of attendees, exhibitors, continuing education sessions, and on-site registrants. Our many task forces and committees have been hard

at work implementing the Strategic Plan developed by both the Executive Board and Executive Council. This plan focused the energy and expertise of volunteers to:

- 1) advance our use of technology to more efficiently "do business"
- 2) unite the audiologists and speech-language pathologists across the state in a common bond that strengthens our profession; and
- 3) help to increase our profession's content knowledge among the membership in order to raise the overall quality of service to our customers.

### HONORS AND AWARDS

Chaired by **Melanie McDonald**

Members: **Cynthia Campbell, Donise Pearson, Sherry Sancibrian**

At the TSHA 2006 Annual Convention in Grapevine, Certificates of Appreciation were given to the following members who volunteered their time and talents: **Gina Glover, Lynette Austin, Jennifer Watson, Terri Haynes, Jennifer McGlothlin, Allan Bird, Donise Pearson, April Smith, Amy Marciniak, Lauren Mathews, Lisa Terry, Terri Haynes, Cherry Wright, Donise Pearson, Kathryn Martin, Tori Gustafson, Stacy Reaves, Lauren Sachar, Mary Stanberry, Julie Bishop-Leone, Sue Johnsen, Natasha Anderson, Jan Lougeay, Becky Gonzalez, Delores Castor, Marie Belgodere, Gail Totten, Cynthia Garcia, Michelle Albornoz, Diana Gonzales and Desiree Penn.**

The *Award of Honors* was given to **Janice Stroud**, a member of TSHA for 10 or more years who has contributed significantly to the Association and demonstrated outstanding leadership in the professions while providing an example of professional excellence.

**Roy Bohrer** and **Stephanie McNickle** were honored with the *Public Service Award*, given to those not in the profession, but who have consistently supported the goals of TSHA, and whose outstanding contributions and efforts have resulted in significant improvements in the quality of life for individuals with communication disorders.

The *Jack L. Bangs Award*, given to speech-language pathologists and/or audiologists who have been members of TSHA for 10 or more years, have contributed significantly to TSHA and ASHA, and have demonstrated outstanding leadership in the professions while providing an example of professional excellence, went to **Lynn Flahive** and **Sherry Sancibrian**.

### NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Chaired by **April Smith**

Members: **Judy Erwin, Dee Kirby**

Stacy Reeves was elected to the office of VP for Social and Governmental Policy by unanimous vote from the floor at our 2006 Convention, as was **Amy Marciniak**, VP for Educational and Scientific Affairs.

### ETHICAL PRACTICES COMMITTEE

Chaired by **Sue Johnsen**

Members: **Lucinda Dean, Erin Schafer, Martha Elder**

The committee is pleased to report that no ethics issues needed to be addressed this past year.

### PUBLIC SCHOOL VACANCY TASK FORCE

Chaired by **Cherry Wright**

Members: **Lynda Barbee, Lynn Flahive, April Fox, Carol McClendon, Judy Rudebusch**

Four meetings of the Joint (TSHA/Texas Council of Administrators of Special Education, Inc.) Committee were held this year.

- October 2005: Short, Mid and Long-range goals were reviewed and revised.
- December 2005: Goals were refined and progress reviewed. **Kathy Clayton** from the Texas Education Agency (TEA) was in attendance to provide input and guidance in reference to the involvement of the Regional Education Service Centers (ESCs) and TEA in the actions of the Committee. The Committee decided to focus on best practices and quality of SLP services rather than shortages of SLPs in the public schools as the action plans of the Committee were broader than just the shortage issue. The Committee prioritized proposals to be developed and submitted to TEA for discretionary funding.
- April 2006: The Committee discussed the status of action plans, developed the reporting format for Directors of Special Education in response to the licensure rule change and reviewed marketing materials.
- June 2006: Meeting is scheduled to review action plans designated for completion by January 2007.

Other activities have included:

- Presentations by the Joint Committee at the TCASE Conference in January 2006 and the TSHA Convention in March 2006.
- Publication of 5 articles related to the activities and action plans of the Committee.
- Select members of the TSHA Task Force met with ASHA representatives at the ASHA Convention in November 2005 to determine how ASHA can support TSHA in addressing the problem of shortages in the public schools.
- TSHA Joint Committee members represented the Committee at the State Board of Examiners Meeting in January 2006 to support the request by the Joint Committee for a rule change to allow SLP-As to attend all annual review admission/review/and dismissal (ARD) meetings with stipulations. The rule change became effective in March 2006.
- Joint Committee representative attended the Response to Intervention Summit in February 2006 at the invitation of TEA.
- Two Texas Education Telecommunications Network (TETN) presentations were made in May 2006 to Region ESCs to develop their awareness of the activities of the Joint

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Committee and to solicit their involvement in the professional development of SLPs in the public schools, particularly in reference to the Eligibility Guidelines.

- Plans were developed for Roundtable Discussions at the TCASE Conference scheduled for July 2006.
- Submission of a grant proposal in April 2006 was made to ASHA for maintenance of standards in the State under ASHA's 2006 Focused Initiatives. Grant was awarded in May 2006 in the amount of \$5,000.
- Submission of proposal was made to TEA in April 2006 for discretionary funding to support Eligibility Guidelines training.
- Application was made for a Joint Committee member from TSHA and one from TCASE to attend ASHA's National Forum in September 2006 to brainstorm and discuss implementation of innovative solutions to address the shortage of SLPs.

### **AUDIOLOGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Co-Chaired by **Tori Gustafson** and **Kathryn Martin**

Groundwork to enhance the audiology aspect at Convention this year met with great success for audiologists and speech-language pathologists alike. The audiology praxis bowl was introduced and featured speakers for sessions and short courses were included. Our featured speaker, Dr. **James Jerger**, one of the "founding fathers" of Audiology, provided a very well-attended and well-received presentation. We look forward to next year!

### **50TH ANNIVERSARY TASK FORCE**

Chaired by **Donise Pearson**

Members: **Lynda Barbee, Denise Barringer, Lynn Flahive, Tiffany Leach, Sherry Sancibrian**  
History Committee Members: **Benna Askew, Judi Keller, Martha McGlothlin, Cherry Wright**

The 50th Anniversary Committee encompassed a wonderful wide-range of participation from current Council Members, former Executive Board members and active members from all over the state. The exciting celebration began at the ASHA 2005 Convention with a fabulous Open House in San Diego, CA. February 2006 brought the unveiling of a beautiful 50 year commemorative masthead for the *Communicologist*. All 2006 *Communicologist* issues will display the anniversary masthead. Various members working on the committee recommended a commemorative *Tejas* Issue featuring the past 25 years of TSHA's history and that project is well underway. The TSHA website also displayed a 50th anniversary announcement and the logo.

The 2006 Membership cards display the anniversary logo on the background. Special anniversary stickers were made available to be used on all outgoing mail from the State Office, as well as used on the TSHA 2006 Convention name tags.

A History Committee was formed as a subset of the Anniversary Committee. Many former TSHA presidents spent several days updating information from 1971-2006, organizing archives, laughing at unearthed documents, and reliving memories.

The TSHA 2006 Convention began with a fun-filled array of history during the Keynote Address at the Opening Session. The beautifully decorated ballroom was filled with laughter as TSHA members reminisced the days of old! Everyone who

attended the opening session received an anniversary logo computer mouse pad. Five \$50 cash prizes, one \$500 cash prize, five free TSHA 2007 Convention Registrations, five free TSHA 2007 Memberships, and one free Southwest Airline ticket were given away.

TSHA co-sponsored the annual TSHFoundation event with a lovely luncheon. Honors and awards were bestowed upon worthy members and a special anniversary donation of \$10,000 was graciously denoted by TSHA to the Foundation. Each person at the luncheon received a junior pad folio with a pen and note pad with TSHA anniversary logo on them.

The Anniversary Committee helped to set up the well attended Student Luncheon and the Friday Night Leadership Dinner was a huge success and lots of fun with Willie Nelson and Elvis Presley impersonators providing entertainment. The current and former leaders in attendance received a brass embossed coaster and leather embossed business card holder.

The Committee Chair, along with the State Office, provided great Convention memorabilia for everyone who registered for Convention! Special anniversary name tags were used and tote bags with the anniversary logo were given to everyone who registered. Inside each tote bag was a fingernail file, note pad, and ink pen, all with TSHA logos.

The Exhibit Hall was especially festive with several gold and white balloon columns used as well as the letters TSHA formed with tiny balloons hanging from the ceiling. Special anniversary Exhibit Breaks featured an Anniversary Cake, special cupcakes and pastries.

The Gaylord Texan's jumbotron on the Lone Star Tower displayed Happy Anniversary announcements and commemorative room keys with the anniversary logo were used by members staying in the Convention hotel.

### **AD HOC COMMITTEE**

Chaired by **Judith P. Keller**

Co-Chair **Heather Soper**

At the June Executive Board Meeting, an ad hoc committee was formed for the purpose of bringing all regional associations in the state together to help unite professionals, tap potential leaders, and develop a stronger relationship with the state association. In January, 14 regional Associations met to discuss the possibility of forming a coalition. The 2005 list of area Associations suggested that 100% of the regional associations were in attendance. The weekend meeting was met with wholehearted enthusiasm and the Texas Regional Association Coalition (TRAC) was formed. Facilitator **Judy Rudebusch** led the group in identifying needs and goals. TRAC met again at the state Convention in Grapevine to renew friendships, review goals, and plan for a work session this summer. TRAC co-chairs **Heather Soper** and **Jan Ward** are hard at work coordinating the coalition's plans. In addition, TSHA has created a packet offering a detailed plan for professionals wishing to form a new regional association that includes financial support from TSHA and a template for by-laws.

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### PUBLICATIONS

Chaired by **Jennifer Watson**

Members: **Sidney Chambers, Janet Lanza, Tim Meline, and Julie Noel**

*Communicologist* Editors: **Dee Kirby and Carolyn McCall**

*Tejas* Editor: **Jeff Cokley**

A new website management company was employed to revise and manage our website. The site was modified to enhance its look, navigability, and usefulness. The following features are examples of the revisions/additions that have been, or are in the process, of being made:

- Rotating photos on the home page
- Site search feature
- Advertisement opportunities
- Online CE Approval Application
- Volunteer application
- TSHA directory with additional information
- Employment opportunities and resume postings

Policies and procedures for posting on the website have been revised to accommodate changes in our practices. In addition, photo release forms for website photos were developed and distributed to the Executive Board. The website enhancements have been announced to the membership in publications and at the Convention (Cyber Café and bookmarks).

### TEJAS

In October, 2005, more than 4,000 issues of the 2004-2005 issue of *Tejas* were distributed to the TSHA membership and other groups outside of the state, including state associations and the ASHA Executive Board. This issue included a new cover, a revised format/organization, and different paper. It featured 20 authors from Texas, Oklahoma, New York, Florida, and California.

**Martha McGlothlin** is serving as issue editor of the 2006 issue of *Tejas* which is due out by the end of the calendar year. This issue is the 50th anniversary issue that will provide the history of our association over the years. Several contributors have been invited to submit manuscripts for this historical overview.

### COMMUNICOLOGIST

Two new editors have been appointed, **Dee Kirby and Carolyn McCall**. In honor of the 50th anniversary, 2006 issues of the *Communicologist* feature the celebratory seal and include enhanced color on the front and back pages, subsidized by an independent corporation.

Lastly, criteria were developed for future Publications Board Chair applicants and announcements for the chair's position were developed and distributed to the membership.



**PAST PRESIDENT  
LYNN FLAHIVE**

### MANAGEMENT SEARCH

Chaired by **Lynn Flahive**

In July 2005, the Executive Board decided that TSHA needed to make a change in the Association's management firm. A search was begun and a Request for Proposals was sent out. Seven companies expressed interest. The search committee conducted

phone interviews with all and invited three firms for an extensive interview. Professional Association & Event Managers, Inc (PAEMI) was hired and began working with TSHA in October. Over the past 10 months, they have learned about TSHA and helped to put on a successful 50th anniversary Convention. They continue to make suggestions for improving operations, as well as helping explore ways to increase membership.

### BYLAWS

Chaired by **Lynn Flahive**

The Executive Board (EB) proposed a bylaws change that would allow for two students to sit on the EB as nonvoting members. The bylaws proposal stated:

#### Article VII Officers

##### Section 9. Student Representative

Two student representatives shall be appointed as non-voting members of the TSHA Executive Board. Appointments will be made no later than May of each year by the President in consultation with the Executive Board after a thorough review of each student's resume or portfolio, in order that the student can begin his/her duties with the term beginning July 1st. Appointments will be made on a rotating basis so that one student is named each year.

This bylaws change was approved by the membership at the annual business meeting during the 2006 TSHA Annual Convention. The application process took place in May and the EB selected **Erin Ludeke** (Texas Christian University) and **Amanda Hensal** (Texas Tech University) to serve on the Executive Board, beginning their terms on July 1, 2006.

### FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Chaired by **Lynn Flahive**

Members: **Benna Askew, Alan Bird, Donise Pearson, Ross Roeser, Sherry Sancibrian, April Smith** and Ex Officio, **Don Canada, Lynda Barbee**

The financial advisory committee (FAC) was apprised of the completion of the audit conducted in October as TSHA changed to the new management company. Additionally, an audit of the TSHA PAC was done in May. This will allow for the PAC to be audited at the same time as TSHA. The FAC also developed an investment policy. TSHA now has funds in reserve and thus needed a policy for the FAC to use as a guide.

TSHA is fortunate that our leaders more than 10 years ago began to think about the financial stability of the association. Through their early planning and the help of careful budgeting over the past decade or longer, TSHA has been able to build up reserves to help cover the Association's operation expenses in case of an unforeseen emergency. It should be noted this was done without raising dues since 1997 and without raising Convention registration since 2000.

### STRATEGIC PLANNING

The Executive Board worked with **Judy Rudebusch** to develop a Strategic Plan to guide TSHA in developing goals. The Executive Council also participated in developing goals during the Executive Council meeting in August. The vice-presidents and their committees used these goals to guide their projects and activities during the past year.



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**VICE PRESIDENT FOR  
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES  
DEBRA BANKSTON**

**COUNCILORS**  
**Becky Gonzalez and Judy Erwin**

**PUBLIC SCHOOL ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE**

Chaired by **Tina Harris**  
Members: **Jane Kellum, Ceci**

### **Hermosillo, Jamie Wilson, Gwen Cooper**

The Public School Advisory Committee members researched "hot topics" which were presented at the Public School Forum during the TSHA Convention. The Committee had invited guest speakers, including **Linda Roth** to update the public school SLPs on the eligibility template trainings, **Rosario Brusinak** for updated licensure information, and **Kathleen Whitmire** from ASHA. **Dr. Whitmire** presented information regarding ASHA's commitment to public school SLPs and about documents that are available from ASHA that would be beneficial to public school clinicians. The Committee members continue to advertise the public school list-serv. Bookmarks were handed out with instructions for logging on to the list-serv. Chair **Tina Harris**, who also represents TSHA as the ASHA State Education Advocacy Leaders (SEALs) attended the meetings at the ASHA Schools Conference over the summer and at the ASHA Convention in November. Summaries of the proceedings from these meetings were reported in the *Communicologist*. **Tina** presented at the ASHA Networks workshop during the TSHA Convention.

### **TRAINING OF TRAINERS**

Chaired by **Linda Roth**

Members: **Lynda Barbee, Allan Bird, Sue Johnsen, Cindy Gill, Natasha Anderson, Jan Lougeay, Judy Erwin, Judy Rudebusch, Debra Bankston, Becky Gonzalez**

The Voice Eligibility Template and the Language Disorders in Children with Other Disabilities Eligibility Template Training of Trainers (TOT) were successfully completed at Convention. This task force was responsible for seeking and selecting the applicants for the TOT. The members have monitored the ongoing trainings of the Articulation and Speech Impaired Language Only Eligibility Templates which are being conducted statewide. Plans are underway for the TOT for the Fluency Template at the 2007 Convention. A CLD Template is being developed with considerations about how it will interface with the current templates.

### **PRIVATE PRACTICE**

Chaired by **Barbara Samfield**

Members: **Lisa Famiglietti, Lauralee Campbell, Debbie Krafcheck, Jolene Seabourne, Eva Kozlovsky, Elizabeth Parker, Laura Pollard**

This year the Private Practice Task Force has been busy working on their objectives: developing a strand for the 2007 Convention; compiling a statewide directory of private practitioners; marketing private practice as employment opportunity; increasing awareness of private practice opportunities among students; and getting the "Job Classifieds" page on the TSHA website. On June 16, the "Job Classifieds" webpage on the TSHA website began operations. This page will enable employers in any setting to purchase a four month job listing on the website.

Future plans would enable TSHA members to post resumes securely on this same page. The group has been busy working on compiling data for the private practice directory. They met as a group in Grapevine at the 2006 TSHA Convention. The Chair has been actively working to identify suggested speakers for the private practice programming at the 2007 TSHA Convention in Houston.

### **CULTURAL AND LINGUISTIC DIVERSITY**

Co-Chaired by **Becky Gonzalez, Lynette Austin**

Members: **Marie Belgodere, Dolores Castor, Gail Totten, Nelda Hinojosa, Gina Glover, Cynthia Garcia, Jennifer Watson, and Lynita Yarbrough**

The CLD Task Force had a successful year, accomplishing many of the goals outlined in August. In October, the Executive Board of TSHA adopted the document crafted by the CLD Task Force entitled "Linguistically Diverse Populations: Considerations and Resources for Assessment and Intervention." This document was posted on the website as a resource for members. Following its adoption, training modules were developed for half and full day presentations based on the contents of the document. Trainings utilizing these presentations are now being provided in school districts and region service centers. An overview of the trainings was presented at TSHA. In addition to posting the document, the CLD Task Force also continued efforts to answer members questions regarding CLD issues and to publish these answers in the "CLD Corner" for each issue of the *Communicologist*. This information was posted on the website. A major project this year was to network with academic programs and to try to identify ways in which TSHA can serve academic programs as they attempt to provide students with the necessary training in CLD issues. This goal was accomplished by inviting program representatives to a networking luncheon, where everyone present participated in round table discussions of a number of issues touching university programs. The Task Force members were pleased to have 14 programs represented at the luncheon, and through this participation were able to identify other areas in which the CLD Task Force/TSHA can provide support to programs as they work to prepare students, and also as they work to recruit and retain students from CLD backgrounds.

### **ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY**

Chaired by **Angela Standridge**

Members: **Jessica Alvarez, Heidi Armenariz, Nancy Baden, Kathy Clapsaddle, Rodney Culpepper, Jackie Farmer, Teresa Freeman, Donna Goldstein, Sherry Haeusler, Erin Hagag, Debbie Jones, Rachael Martinez, Cheryl McKnight, Julie Miller, Anita Neff, Michelle Nielson, Shannon Pauge, Trudy Potts, Becky Rainbolt, Chery Rippee, Dawn Schokne, Theresa Tanchak, Lisa Terry, Debra Tietje, JC Tucker, Julie Vannorsdel, Lisa Walton, Mary Claire Welch, Carolyn White**

Over the year, the Task Force submitted a number of articles for publication in the *Communicologist* to provide the TSHA membership with updates in assistive technology (AT) devices and services. In addition, the chair presented a session at Convention. A list-serv for those interested in AT has been created and members were solicited to join at Convention and through notices and articles in the *Communicologist*.

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### MEDICAL SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

Chaired by **Marte Hersey**

Members: **Amy Hendrick, Amber Chauncey**

The two main achievements this year were the completion of the medical SLP survey and the organization of new task force members who prioritized the results of the survey to establish current goals. Survey results indicated that medical SLPs want a website referral or list-serve through TSHA to address many concerns such as: low pay, scope of practice, managers from other professions, preparation of students, ethical issues, and billing/productivity concerns. Survey respondents were interested in more advanced level topics for the Medical Speech Pathology Strand at TSHA and offered a variety of topics. Establishing a pool of competencies on the TSHA website was strongly supported. As a result of this survey, a list of SLPs willing to serve on the Task Force was established. Those attending TSHA Convention participated in the Round Table Discussion.

### VOICE AND FLUENCY ELIGIBILITY

Voice Chaired by **Jan Lougeay**

Fluency Chaired by **Natasha Anderson**

Members: **Diane Altuna, Holly Sullivan, Melanie Randall, Ellen Germain, Rossanna Portley**

The Voice Eligibility Guidelines and Procedures (formerly called Voice Template) document is complete. Trial training was completed at Region 10 in October, 2005. The feedback from participants was overwhelmingly positive. Some changes were made as a result of participant comments which improved the efficiency of the procedures and the clarity of the instructions. After that training, it became clear that trainers would need a "teaching resource" to help them plan effective strategies to teach the information to others. The Task Force completed a training manual consisting of power point slides and speaker's notes to be provided to the TSHA designated trainers in the workshop at the TSHA Convention. The speaker's notes, essentially, provide a script for the trainers. The Task Force also created a second power point lecture that expands the training to include a unit on teaching strategies. They have called this section, "Tricks for Teaching." The "Tricks for Teaching" module includes speaker's notes as well. The first cadre of trainers were trained at the TSHA Convention. The plan is to pull together resource materials for SLPs to use. This would allow the trainers to send their participants home with ideas to enhance their intervention programs as well as teaching them to use the assessment procedures.

This year has been a productive one for the Fluency Eligibility Task Force. The Task Force spent the first half of this term sending the document out to leading fluency researchers and specialists in the field to assure the document was firmly based in the literature and was in agreement with the experts who specialize in working with individuals with fluency disorders. The latter half of the year was devoted to letting TSHA members know that the document would soon be available and to the training itself. The Task Force presented the template for the first time in January, 2006, at Region 10 Educational Service Center in Richardson, Texas. The team looks forward to completing the Training of Trainers for the fluency template at TSHA in the spring of 2007. Lastly, the Task Force is hoping to produce a training DVD to be used as an adjunct for the Training of Trainers presentations.

### COMPETENCY BASED UNIVERSITY TRAINING

Co-Chaired by **Sherry Sancibrian** and **Ann Hillis**

Members: Representatives from the Texas universities are invited and currently include **Mary Ann Acevedo, Debra Bankston, Jenny Clark, Mary Curl, Jane Davidson, Kathy Ermgodts, Ruth Fernandez, Tom Fields, Lynn Flahive, Keri Gonzalez, Dee Kirby, Jan Lougeay, Teri Mata Pistokache, Carmen McGee, Laura Moorer-Cook, Deborah Rainer, Sonya Salinas, Lori Stirtz, Jeri Sullivan, Kathy Thomas, Jan Ward, Renee Wendel, Kathy Whipple, Ginger White**

The task force held a dinner meeting at Convention with discussions about ideas for prevention activities, concerns over background checks, and updates on the accreditation visits recently conducted in the state. They are planning a task force meeting in June in Austin to begin the development of a handbook of guidelines for supervising licensed assistants. A presentation was made at Convention to discuss the supervision of licensed assistants. The members continue to discuss issues related to accreditation, the KASA document, and clinical practicum.

### PEDIATRIC DYSPHAGIA

Co-Chaired by **Melody Smith** and **Jana Tieding**

Members: **Kelly Lauck**

A Question and Answer column was initiated in the *Communicologist* during the spring. The members are soliciting questions and concerns from the TSHA membership.

### TELEPRACTICE

Chaired by **Allison Morgan**

Members: **Diana Christenson**

The chair authored an article for the *Communicologist* summarizing the proceedings from the American Telepractice Association (ATA) Convention. She maintains membership in that Association in order to provide the TSHA membership with the national trends in telepractice.



### VICE PRESIDENT FOR EDUCATIONAL AND SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS DENISE BARRINGER

The 50th Anniversary TSHA 2006 Convention, "Communicating for Life," was a tremendous success with over 3,700 attendees who had an opportunity to attend over 116 sessions including 14 dealer demos, 5 advanced level courses and 6 short courses. Convention attendees were able to

walk through the Exhibit Hall filled with 176 exhibitors. The new Cyber Cafe was launched at Convention allowing people to navigate through the new TSHA website, the introduction of the new on-line CE application and check email.

Through dedicated volunteers and an on-going collaborative effort with the state office, TSHA was able to bring members a variety of continuing education opportunities throughout the year. A special thank you to the following committee chairs:

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### TSHA COUNCILOR FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT Chaired by **Karen King**

**Karen** oversaw the tasks of the CE Processor, Independent Study Chair, and Speech and Audiology CE Approval Chairs. **Karen** helped to organize the CE processing during the annual Convention.

### CONTINUING EDUCATION PROCESSOR Chaired by **Leon Barbee**

**Leon** compiled and processed CE applications for approval by the CE Advisory Committee. He processed the approvals and sent necessary forms to the sponsoring individual or group. He submitted current CE information and opportunities to the *Communicologist*.

Under the direction of **Leon**, TSHA successfully launched the on-line TSHA CE application process at Convention which allowed members to complete the application and submit payment online. For more information regarding on-line application for TSHA CEUs, please go to the TSHA website, [www.txsha.org](http://www.txsha.org). Please watch for the upcoming TSHA CE registry for members.

### ASHA CONTINUING EDUCATION PROCESSOR Chaired by **Loretta Lee**

**Loretta** helps to ensure that all CE processes are in compliance with ASHA standards.

### INDEPENDENT STUDY Chaired by **Janice E. Stroud**

**Janice** met the needs and interests for many TSHA members by providing opportunities that were individualized. She processed the TSHA/ASHA independent study applications, supplied necessary information about the study and approved, monitored, and processed independent study projects. Information about independent studies may be found on the TSHA website, [www.txsha.org](http://www.txsha.org).

### SPEECH CE APPROVAL Chaired by **Roya Darapayma**

**Roya** received and approved the speech CE applications.

### AUDIOLOGY CE APPROVAL Chaired by **Pam Bender**

**Pam** received and approved the audiology CE approval applications.

### REGIONAL SEMINAR FUNDING GRANTS Chaired by **Michelle Neilon-McFarlin**

**Michelle** received and processed applications with her committee for the TSHA Seminar Grants. The purpose of the grants was to allow local associations, NSSLHA students/chapters, or other groups to defray costs incurred in providing regionally advertised seminars or workshops for SLP/As. Four grants were awarded this year and were announced in the *Communicologist* and at the TSHA Annual Business Meeting held during the Convention in Grapevine.

### COUNCILOR FOR ANNUAL TSHA CONVENTION Chaired by **Tiffany Sears Leach**

**Tiffany** coordinated the many details necessary to bring our invited major speakers to Convention. In addition,

Tiffany oversaw Advanced and Short Courses for the annual Convention.

### TSHA CONVENTION PROGRAM

Co-Chaired by **Amy Marciniak** and **Lauren Mathews**

**Amy** and **Lauren** oversaw the program committee in receiving the Call For Papers for Convention, meeting to review each submission, and approving all Convention sessions. It was their task to schedule each session and to collaborate with State Office to attend to needs such as handouts and audio-visual equipment. They also worked to inform members of the upcoming Convention by submitting information to the *Communicologist*.

Please go on-line to the TSHA website, [www.txsha.org](http://www.txsha.org) to complete the 2007 Call for Papers for the 2007 Annual Convention in Houston, March 29-31, 2007.

### LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS

Co-Chaired by **Teri Haynes** and **Lisa Terry**

Local Arrangements' chairs were responsible for the chairs of many various sub-committees in order to ensure quality and efficiency during Convention including registration, hospitality, signs, job placement, and social chairs.

### EXHIBITS

Co-Chaired by **Kathy Barker** and **LaVonda Brown**

These Chairs were responsible for dealing with exhibitors and their needs throughout Convention. They worked to provide over 176 exhibitors for TSHA's members this year. Other exhibit hall activities included an exhibit hall game, beverage breaks for members, exhibit drawings, and door prizes.



### VICE PRESIDENT FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION AND MARKETING ANN SHAW KING

### MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS/SHOPPE TSHA COMMITTEE

Co-Chaired by **Jennifer McGlothlin** and **Bobbie Kay Smithson Turkett**

This committee has worked diligently to identify and obtain items that can be purchased and used to create a heightened awareness of the professions of speech-language

pathology and audiology. The co-chairs interviewed several company representatives in order to obtain the best pricing for the highest quality merchandise, including: 50th anniversary t-shirts (sold out at Convention and re-ordered); 50th anniversary wine glasses; workout/capri pants; clipboards; pens; flip-flops; lanyards; travel mugs, caps, and sticky notes. Sales at Shoppe TSHA during the 2006 Convention exceeded our expectations. This committee has also worked with the State Office to get Shoppe TSHA online so that members may purchase merchandise year-round.

### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Chaired by **Jennifer McGlothlin**

This committee has been very active this year in its attempt to increase the membership of the Association. The State Office has provided invaluable support and has updated the list of



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active TSHA members. The State Office is working to help identify additional potential members by obtaining the names of licensed speech-language pathologists and audiologists who are not current members. **Jennifer** created a letter that is being sent to new members and another letter that is being sent to renewing members. Prior to Convention, **Jennifer** launched a membership drive in the school districts in the vicinity of the Convention site. She contacted speech-language pathologists and audiologists in those districts, encouraged those who were not current members to join, and offered incentives for joining. She also created a "pre-con" packet that was sent to non-members to encourage them to renew their membership and to attend the 2006 Convention.

The State Office is currently working with this committee to launch a statewide membership drive that will include letters to current members and non-members in the fall of 2006 and a postcard reminder in the spring of 2007. We are pleased to announce that **Jennifer** will be receiving the support of a student co-chair, **Jodi Manley**, beginning in July 2006.

### **STUDENT INTEREST COMMITTEE**

Co-Chaired by **Lora Carlini** and **Paige Preston**

The co-chairs of this committee have been very active this year and have worked tirelessly to create training, education, and entertainment for the student members of TSHA. The Praxis Bowl at the 2006 Convention was a resounding success, complete with T-shirts for participants and prizes for participants and attendees. The Student Strand at Convention is stronger than ever and will continue to improve through the collaborative efforts of this committee and the Convention committee.

### **VOLUNTEER MENTORING TASK FORCE**

Chaired by **Rachel Martinez**

Rachel has worked with this VP and State Office Staff to revise the volunteer information form and to get it placed online on the TSHA web site. She coordinated a volunteer information booth during the 2006 Convention. She is in the process of creating a new and returning volunteer packet that will contain information about being a TSHA volunteer and incentives for participation. She has responded to inquiries about volunteering and helped place those who were interested.

### **ADVERTISING COMMITTEE**

Chaired by **Kelly Lauck**

In the latter part of 2004, **Ann King** was given the charge of creating advertising packages that incorporated significant discounts for advertisers who purchased said packages. The State Office created an advertising brochure that explained each package, and single advertising venues as well, and this was mailed to the list of current TSHA advertisers. **Kelly Lauck**, who is now the chair of this committee, has collaborated with Ann and the State Office Staff to monitor the success of these packages. According to information received and logged by the State Office, only one package was sold during 2005-2006. In an attempt to collect data that would help TSHA more effectively meet the advertising needs of its current advertisers, and facilitate the identification and acquisition of additional advertisers, a focus group was planned during the 2006 Convention; no one attended this group meeting. The State Office Staff and the Convention Committee attempted to obtain information from the advertisers who participated in the post-con

meeting. Reportedly, our advertisers prefer the flexibility offered by single venue advertising as opposed to "package deals." Consequently, the packages have been discontinued and a new advertising brochure has been created and disseminated.

### **PUBLIC INFORMATION EXHIBIT (PIE) TASK FORCE**

Chaired by **Judith Erwin**

This has been a year of rejuvenation for this task force. During the January EB meeting in Austin the VP for this task force met with State Office staff to review the existing exhibit, or at least what could be found in the warehouse, and brainstorm ideas for updating/refurbishing it. It was decided, with the approval of the EB, that the existing exhibit was quite outdated, cumbersome, and under-utilized. State Office staff worked with this VP and chair to develop PowerPoint slides to replace the existing information panels. These slides were used to create a tabletop PIE for use during the 2006 Convention. This display was encircled with yellow and black "Under Construction" tape while it was in the Exhibits Hall. This committee is currently working to determine the most efficient and effective means of making PIE available to members and to other interested parties. Current ideas include creating a CD that can be obtained upon request, providing an "online PIE" on the TSHA website, and utilizing the Career Awareness video as soon as it becomes available. The efforts of this task force have been enhanced through acquisition of an ASHA grant. This grant was obtained through an application developed and submitted by **Cherry Wright**.

### **REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS MARKETING NETWORK (RAMN) COMMITTEE**

Chaired by **Heather Soper**

In addition to the duties and responsibilities that are inherent in this chair, **Heather** has been collaborating with President-Elect **Judi Keller** and the Regional Association Presidents to collect additional information about the activities, needs, and concerns of the regional associations and how TSHA might facilitate their efforts. To date, two meetings have been held, one in conjunction with the EB January meeting in Austin and the other in conjunction with the 2006 Convention in Grapevine. These meetings were well-attended and significant progress has been made. A third meeting is planned in Dallas on July 14-15, 2006. A packet containing information about "how to" form a regional association is currently being prepared. Upon completion, it will include practical suggestions, a sample of by-laws, and other related materials.

### **PUBLIC INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE**

Chaired by **Terri Haynes**

Thanks to the time, talent, and teamwork of the chair of this committee and the State Office staff, the distribution of *Matt Learns to Read* has increased dramatically over the past year. In addition to distribution via SLPs in the public schools and other job sites, **Terri** made copies available to preschool Katrina evacuees who were temporarily located in the Dallas area this past fall. We are currently undergoing a major reprint of *Matt* and the related brochure. State Office staff is facilitating **Terri's** goal of having information about *Matt* on the TSHA website home page. We are pleased to announce the addition of student co-chair, **Zita Inman**, who will be joining **Terri** in July 2006.

# Annual Report: July 1, 2005 - June 30, 2006

## Texas Speech-Language-Hearing Association

### CAREER AWARENESS

Chaired by **Christine Caspersen**

**Chris** spent much of the year researching the most effective means of creating a heightened awareness of the professions of speech-language pathology and audiology. She is now in the final stages of editing a "video" that will be made available to the membership and other interested individuals/entities. The EB previewed the video during the June EB Meeting and made suggestions for revision. **Chris** will be working with the current production crew, composed of staff and students in the Richardson ISD, to incorporate the recommended changes. These efforts will be enhanced through some funding made available through the previously mentioned PIE grant.

### MAY IS BETTER HEARING AND SPEECH MONTH TASK FORCE

Chaired by **Meredith Moore**

Over the course of this year, **Meredith** has been diligently collaborating with **Lauren Sachar** and **Martha Wristen** in an attempt to obtain a governor's designation of *May as Better Hearing and Speech Month* in Texas. Unfortunately, it was not possible to achieve this goal this year. **Meredith** has been identifying and obtaining information that members may use as part of their efforts on behalf of *May is Better Hearing and Speech Month*. Hopefully, her goal of making these materials more readily available to the membership will be realized during the coming year as part of the Association's website improvement efforts.

In closing, this VP cannot adequately express her gratitude to members of the State Office staff for all of the time, talent and teamwork that they so graciously have provided. We could not have accomplished what we've accomplished without their help.



### VICE PRESIDENT FOR SOCIAL AND GOVERNMENTAL POLICY MELISSA SWEENEY

### GRASSROOTS DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE

Co-Chaired by **Lauren Sachar** and **Martha Wristen**

The Grassroots Development Task Force was busy assisting TSHA members to become legislatively active this year. This task force

assisted a TSHA member in hosting the governor's wife to her work site. At the 2006 Convention, they offered information to TSHA members about "How to contact your legislator." This task force also had computer stations to help TSHA members look up their legislators and also had postcards available for TSHA members to write. These postcards were mailed for *May is Better Hearing and Speech Month*. Approximately 480 postcards were mailed.

### POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE (PAC)

Co-Chaired by **Tanya Benson** and **Maggie Thompson**

The TSHA PAC successfully created opportunities for TSHA members to contribute through fundraising activities at the annual Convention and through membership renewal forms.

Several Regional Associations and University programs joined the PAC in fundraising events at the 2006 Annual Convention by donating baskets for the silent auction. A plasma TV was donated by **Cecilia Cruz MacKay** and her husband and a drawing was held for those who made contributions at Convention. Other prizes were given away at Convention. The funds raised will assist the PAC to make contributions to legislators around the state.

### PROFESSIONAL COALITIONS TASK FORCE

Co-Chaired by **Keri Gonzalez** and **Debra Kerner**

The Professional Coalitions Task Force prepared a list of organizations that can act as alliances in future legislative sessions. These potential relationships will be valuable in the coming year.

### PUBLIC MEMBERS FOR LEGISLATION

Co-Chaired by **Kathi Martin** and **Amy Popp**

The Public Members for Legislation collaborated with the Professional Coalitions Task Force to create a list of consumer organizations that may serve as alliances and TSHA contacts in the future.

### UNIFYING LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS TASK FORCE

Co-Chaired by **Lori Clavin** and **Heather MacFadyen**

The Unifying Legislative Efforts Task Force collaborated with the Grassroots Development Task Force to create a description of the professions of speech-language pathology and audiology. This information was used in a document that was made available at the Grassroots table at Convention. This document is designed to give TSHA member a way to approach legislators. The Unifying Legislative Efforts task force also reviewed the *We Speak for Texans* booklets and identified needed changes for the reprints that will be necessary in the coming year.

### LEGISLATIVE ACTIVE STUDENTS TASK FORCE

Co-Chaired by **Angela Boyd** and **Amber Cardot**

The Legislative Active Students participated at Convention with PAC fundraising. Students from several universities volunteered at the PAC table to assist members in making contributions to PAC. These students also assisted with the PAC Silent Auction and the drawing that was held at Convention.

### REIMBURSEMENT TASK FORCE

Chaired by **Diana Asimakis**

This task force is made up of professionals from a variety of work sites. They have reviewed some previous TSHA documents related to reimbursement, most specifically the Medicaid Guide. Revisions have been suggested and it was recommended that this process continue. The Reimbursement Task Force has acted as a resource for TSHA members, answering questions related to reimbursement. The task force chair also participated in a conference call related to reimbursement to identify areas to address in the future.

For NEW TSHA website advertising options and TSHA 2007 Convention exhibit and sponsorship information, contact the TSHA State Office at 888-SAY-TSHA.