



ANNUAL REPORT:

July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011

Texas Speech-Language-Hearing Association

DENISE BARRINGER ★ PRESIDENT

The Annual Report of the Texas Speech-Language-Hearing Association (TSHA) represents the outstanding and dedicated work of more than 300 TSHA volunteers who have diligently worked to ensure that TSHA is the recognized resource for consumers and speech-language pathologists and audiologists in the state of Texas.

ETHICAL PRACTICES

Chaired by **Gil Hanke**

No reports of ethical misconduct for the year were made.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Chaired by **Debra Bankston**

Cindy Gill and **Stacey Reaves** were presented with the Award of Honors of the Association for significant contributions to TSHA. Education Services Centers 10, 11, 13, and 15 were presented with the Public Service Award.

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Chaired by **Lynn Flahive**

Lynn and her committee submitted a slate of candidates for the 2011 election. Candidates for President were **Melanie McDonald** and **Bess Sirmon Fjordbak**; candidates for Public Information and Marketing were **Michelle Mendieta** and **Katie Stoneman**; and candidates for Vice President for Professional Services were **Gina Glover** and **Ellen Kester**. The TSHA Executive Board (EB) welcomes Melanie, Katie, and Gina to the board and looks forward to their leadership and contributions to TSHA.

Through online voting approximately 11 percent of the membership cast their votes for candidates.



GRADUATE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Kalli Donaway and **Rebecca Cockerham**

Kalli and Becca attended all of the Executive Board meetings and provided valuable input from a student's perspective. They did an outstanding job coordinating student volunteers for convention and wrote articles for the *Communicologist*. Best of luck to Kalli as she begins her career.

PUBLIC SCHOOL SLP VACANCIES COMMITTEE

Chaired by Cherry Wright

The TSHA/TCASE Joint Committee met three times in Austin with representatives from TSHA, the State Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, and the Texas Council of Administrators in Special Education (TCASE). The Joint Committee, at the request of the Texas Education Agency (TEA), created a document for TEA's consideration with recommendations regarding frequency and duration of services. A number of resources were provided to TSHA members via the web, *Communicologist*, and at the annual convention. The task force is continuing to work with TEA for additional clarification.

Cherry Wright was instrumental in securing a \$500 grant for ASHA to develop SLP-A Training Modules. Work has begun on this important endeavor with the goal to offer the training to both SLP-As and supervisors using on-line technology. Members of the Development Committee held a conference call and included members of the ESC Network (**Karyn Kilroy**, Reg.10 ESC; **Paula Chance**, Reg. 20 ESC; and **Martha Elder**, Reg. 15 ESC), university representatives **Sherry Sancibrian** and **Lynn Flahive**, and Cherry Wright. Paula will be attending the ASHA Schools Conference in the summer, and **JoAnn Wiechmann** and **Judy Rudebusch** will be participating in a special ASHA meeting regarding assistants in the summer. They will report their findings to the committee.



PUBLICATIONS BOARD

Chaired by Donise Pearson

The Publications Board, in conjunction with the state office, reviewed, edited, and approved hundreds of items for TSHA in the form of newsletters, brochures, booklets, posters, email blasts, press releases, flyers, advertisements, and website postings. Accurate dissemination of information to TSHA members in a timely manner continued to be a priority.

Ann Higdon and **Martha McGlothlin** served as alternating editors of the *Communicologist*, which was published on time each issue. **Julie Noel** was added as a member-at-large to the Publications Board and agreed to chair the Publications Board for the next two years. **Kathy Clapsaddle** oversaw a total redesign of the TSHA website in her capacity as TSHA website editor. President-Elect **April Smith** served as the Policy and Procedure Manual editor. President **Denise Barringer** served as an ex-officio member.

At the recommendations of the Publications Board, the Executive Board voted to hire a Publications Editor and Publications Designer. The production of the *Communicologist* will be outsourced. Each issue will be a four-color magazine format displaying a new header. Multiple recommendations were sent forth to the Executive Board for approval, such as moving to an electronic newsletter, adding an electronic bulletin called "TSHA Talk," restructuring the Publications Board to include at least one associate editor for every editor plus other members, and coordinating advertisement initiatives across all publications. Fee increases for advertising opportunities were also requested.



JAN LOUGEAY ★ VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

CONTINUATION OF GUIDANCE (COG) TASK FORCE Co-chaired by Judy Erwin and Becky Gonzalez

The COG Task Force moved toward accomplishing their goal of easily accessible training in eligibility procedures for all SLPs in Texas. In collaboration with the Eligibility Operations (EO) task force, they completed voiceover PowerPoint training modules available to members at no cost and at low cost to non-members. The training was made accessible on Educational Service Center (ESC) websites.



Completed modules include:

Generic Manual	ESC 11
Articulation	ESC 13
Articulation in CLD (Culturally and Linguistically Diverse)	ESC 13
Language and Learning Disabilities	ESC 13
Fluency	ESC 15
Voice	ESC 13

This task force intends to complete the remaining modules (Language, Language with Mental Retardation/Autism, and Language in Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Populations) by the end of the summer. Once all modules are completed, the COG will shift its focus to updating materials and developing strategies to determine the efficacy of the procedures.

ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES/TRAINING TASK FORCE Co-chaired by Judy Rudebusch and Kathy Clapsaddle

The EO Task Force accomplished their goal to facilitate development of online eligibility training. They also actively coordinated with TEA (Texas Education Agency) to develop strategies to monitor efficiency of the training process and collect data concerning districts found to be over- or under-identifying Speech Impaired (SI) students. A subcommittee was formed to develop a technical assistance packet for Education Service Center staff to use when working with identified districts.

EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE (EVP) TASK FORCE Co-chaired by Jenny Katz and Jamie Thomas

The EVP Task Force produced three articles for the *Communicologist* this year featuring TSHA members engaged in action research. The first, written by **Ellen Dupree**, discussed applications of the iPad as a therapy tool. The second and third provided results of research on narrative development completed by **Christina Chen** and **Rebecca Yates** with feedback and comments by **Christine Dollaghan**, a noted researcher in the area. The task force will be planning additional articles next year to provide members with information that will enhance their understanding and implementation of the principles involved in evidence-based practice.

GUIDELINES REVIEW/TRAINING Chaired by Ann Shaw King

The following Eligibility Guidelines sessions were presented as short courses in conjunction with the TSHA 2011 Convention in Houston:

- Voice
- Articulation CLD

CULTURAL AND LINGUISTIC DIVERSITY (CLD) COMPANION: LANGUAGE TASK FORCE

Co-chaired by **Ellen Kester** and **Margarita Limon-Ordonez**

The task force continued work on the guidelines and targeted a completion date of December 2011.

UNIVERSITY ISSUES COMMITTEE

Chaired by **Melissa Bruce**

The committee met at TSHA Convention to brainstorm concerning recent Medicaid changes and their impact on student training. An action plan was developed.



LAUREN MATTHEWS ★ VICE PRESIDENT FOR EDUCATIONAL & SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

The 2010-2011 fiscal year held many successful continuing education endeavors for TSHA. A few highlights under this vice presidency include the TSHA 2011 Convention in Houston, which drew consistent attendee numbers compared to previous years. TSHA also approved a record number of speech-language pathology and audiology seminars for continuing education credit. The online ethics course was still utilized by TSHA members and non-members to satisfy the State Board of Examiners requirement for ethics continuing education hours.

TSHA 2011 CONVENTION

TSHA hosted another successful convention March 3-5, 2011, in Houston, Texas. See below for the convention committee reports.

Overall Convention Statistics

Full Registration: Member	2,695
Full Registration: Non-member	252
Student Registration: Member	499
Student Registration: Non-member	285
Consumer/Parent	31
One-day Registrants	175
Total Registered Attendees	3,937



PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE

Co-chaired by **Robyn Martin** and **Rebecca Linke**

Robyn and Rebecca, along with nine program strand chairs, coordinated all aspects of the speakers at the TSHA 2011 Convention.

Total Number of Submitted Call for Proposals (CFPs)	175
Total Number of Traditional Presentations Accepted	163
Audiology/Hearing-impaired	12
Augmentative/Multi-handicapped	12
Birth-3/Preschool	11
Language Learning Disabilities	29
Medical Speech-Language Pathology	36
Professional Concerns	35
Speech	22
Student-related	6
Posters	24
Total Number of Presentation Cancellations	1
Number of Closed Sessions	0

SPEAKERS INCLUDED:

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Jill Bolte Taylor

Major Speakers: Joe Duffy, Carol Flexor, Cheri Fraker, Laura Walbert

Focused Topic Speakers: Noah Sasson, Ellayne Ganzfried, JoAnn

Wiechmann, Judy Rudebusch, Susan Hendler Lederer, Nneka Ifejika-Jones, Linda Daniel

Short Courses Speakers: Rebecca Gonzalez, Jan Lougeay, Judy Freas, Ellen Kester, Scott Prath, Lynly Stephen, Kimberly Coker, Shelby Diviney, Amy Hamilton, Rebecca Yates, John Tetnowski, Deann O'Lenick



EXHIBITS COMMITTEE

Co-chaired by Michelle Mendieta and Erin Bellue

Total Number of Exhibitors 627

Total Exhibitor Booths 202

Michelle and Erin were responsible for registering the exhibitors and handling all events in the exhibit hall. They put their creative side to work to design and implement the ever-popular exhibit hall game. Other exhibit hall activities included Cyber Cafe, beverage breaks for members, exhibit drawings, and door prizes.

JOB PLACEMENT COMMITTEE

Co-chaired by Katie Stollings and Monica Haynie

Job Placement Companies 73

Job Placement Applicants 236

Job Placement Interviews Held During Convention 582

Katie, Monica, and the many volunteers at job placement ensured a smooth interview process for the job applicants and companies.

TSHA CONVENTION VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Brittany Hall

Brittany Hall worked with the Student Executive Board members **Kalli Donaway** and **Rebecca Cockerham** to organize volunteers for the 2011 convention. They coordinated with all of the convention committees to organize the numerous professional and student volunteers who worked various shifts during the convention. The student volunteers were given \$2 bills for every two hours of work, and the professional volunteers were entered into drawings for great prizes. Thanks to all of the volunteers who made the convention a success!



LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE

Co-chaired by Alley Schupp and Suzann Muska

Local Arrangements helped make everyone feel very welcomed in Houston. The Local Arrangements subcommittees ensured a quality and efficient experience during convention, including registration, hospitality, transportation, photography, and coordination of the social events.

UNIVERSITY DAY COMMITTEE

Chaired by **Carolyn Perry**

Many fun events were held on University Day during convention. Eight universities had booths where alumni and current and prospective students could visit with professors. Approximately 150 students participated in fun games to earn points toward a prize basket for their university. The Praxis Bowl was a continued hit with approximately 500 attendees.



CONTINUING EDUCATION (CE) COMMITTEE

Chaired by **Karen King**

Karen and her committee worked diligently again with the online CE company to bring convention attendees a seamless online reporting system for continuing education credit.

The system was an overall success.

COUNCILOR FOR CONVENTION AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

Amy **Marciniak**

Amy provided support this year to all aspects of TSHA's continuing education activities. Amy coordinated all of the major speakers for convention and worked with the Local Arrangements committee to make sure the speakers were treated with TSHA's Texas hospitality. Amy continued her work once we arrived in Houston, assisting with all aspects of the convention.



VICE PRESIDENT-ELECT FOR EDUCATIONAL & SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

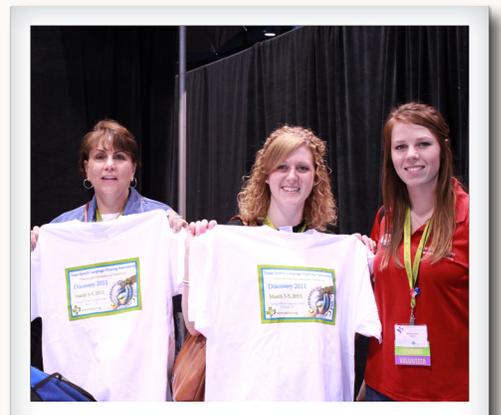
Tori Gustafson

Tori assisted with all duties under this Vice Presidency. She was specifically responsible for coordinating the Focused Topic speakers for convention. Tori continued her work once we arrived in Houston, assisting with all aspects of the convention.

REGIONAL SEMINAR GRANTS COMMITTEE

Chaired by **Melissa Whitaker**

The purpose of the Regional Seminar Grants is to allow local associations, National Student Speech Language Hearing Association (NSSLHA) chapters, or other nonprofit groups to defray costs incurred in providing regionally advertised seminars or workshops for speech-language pathologists and/or audiologists. The application for the regional seminar grants was again online to make the procedure easier and more efficient for the applicants. Melissa and her committee followed a criterion rating form to rate each individual program. Five grants of \$1,000 were awarded this year and were announced in the *Communicologist* and at the TSHA Annual Business Meeting held during the annual convention.

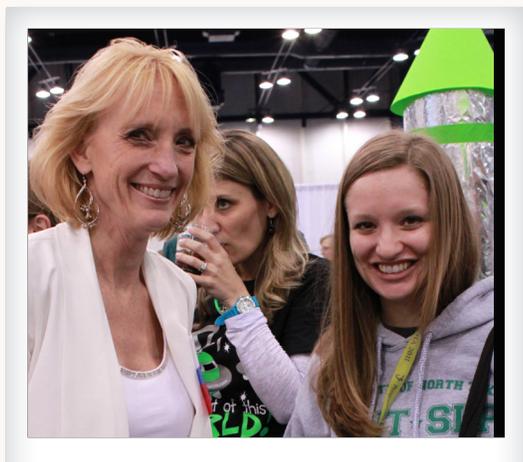


TSHA SUMMER SYMPOSIUM COMMITTEE

Co-chaired by **Lynn Flahive** and **Robyn Martin**

TSHA continued its tradition with three fun-filled days of educational and cultural discovery at the TSHA Summer Symposium in Santa Fe, New Mexico. **Patricia Prelock, PhD**, presented on autism spectrum disorders (ASD). This continuing education opportunity provided 64 attendees a small group

setting to learn about communication assessment and treatment of clients with ASD. TSHA looks forward to another successful TSHA Summer Symposium in 2012.



TSHA CONTINUING EDUCATION APPROVAL

Tammy Ybarra, TSHA CE Processor

Margaret McAughan, TSHA Speech CE Approver

Candice Hicks, TSHA Audiology CE Approver

- 697 applications processed for CE approval (a 33% increase over last year)
- 17 applications approved for web-based CE (web-based courses approved for the first time this year)
- 906 individuals completed the online ethics course since it became available in 2009
- 6 Eligibility Templates now online in collaboration with the Educational Regional Service Centers; 2 additional courses still to be taped before September 2011

Tammy, Margaret, and Candice work together to ensure the TSHA CE application process is efficient and easily accessible for course providers. Tammy worked with **Jennifer Stamps** in the state office to keep the TSHA-sponsored CE events current on the TSHA CE calendar online at www.txsha.org. Tammy also ensured that all CE hours were transferred onto the TSHA CE registry, which is free to all TSHA members. Additionally, Tammy assisted with the online CE submission process for the 2011 convention.

ASHA CONTINUING EDUCATION PROCESSOR

Loretta Lee

Loretta processed ASHA CE applications as well as all the TSHA Annual Convention ASHA hours. All convention hours were approved this year for ASHA credit. She also helped to ensure that all CE processes were in compliance with ASHA standards.

BESS SIRMON FJORDBAK ★ VICE PRESIDENT FOR SOCIAL & GOVERNMENTAL POLICY

The fiscal year 2010-2011 was a very productive time for the committees and task forces under the Vice President for Social and Governmental Policy. For the past several years, the focus has been on Sunset Review, with the coordinated efforts of many volunteers dedicated to developing this agenda and disseminating this information. These well-laid plans have come to fruition in the past 12 months. In November 2010, the Texas Legislature's Sunset Commission met, and TSHA's Legislative Team provided testimony that focused on the need for continuation of the State Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology.

When the 82nd session of the Texas Legislature began in January, **Senator Robert Nichols** introduced a bill (SB 662) that TSHA supported, which would do exactly that. The TSHA Legislative Leadership team again provided testimony at House and Senate hearings, and the bill passed through both chambers. This bill was signed by **Governor Rick Perry** on June 17, continuing licensure for the professions of speech-language pathology and audiology for another six years. Passage of this bill represents a significant success for TSHA and the professions.

Other pieces of legislation of interest to TSHA were introduced during this session:

- **SB 613** was originally introduced on behalf of the Texas Academy of Audiology (TAA). TSHA worked with the staff of bill sponsor **Senator Jose Rodriguez** and leadership of TAA to refine substi-



tute language that addressed doctoral level education for audiologists and accreditation issues for the graduate programs in Texas that would be recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. This bill passed the House and Senate and is on the Governor's desk, awaiting his signature.

- **HB 653** was the current version of student loan repayment, again introduced by **Rep. Wayne Christian**, who has previously supported TSHA's legislative efforts. The bill was referred to the House Higher Education Committee but did not get scheduled for a hearing and died in committee.

- **SB 293** related to telehealth and telemedicine services to be provided to certain Medicaid recipients. This bill was somewhat controversial and required a conference committee to reach an agreement. It eventually passed both chambers and has been sent to the Governor for his signature.

- **HB 677** addressed concussion management, which would require baseline cognitive-linguistic assessment at pre-season for school-aged athletes. SLPs were included as healthcare providers in the language of this bill, allowing for participation on the concussion management team. This bill passed through the House but never made it out of the Senate Education Committee, where it died when the regular session ended.

- **HB 2038** also addressed concussion management but did not include the baseline assessment language. Although not specifically named, the language as written can accommodate for the participation of speech-language pathologists as licensed healthcare providers. This bill passed both chambers and was sent on to the Governor for his signature.

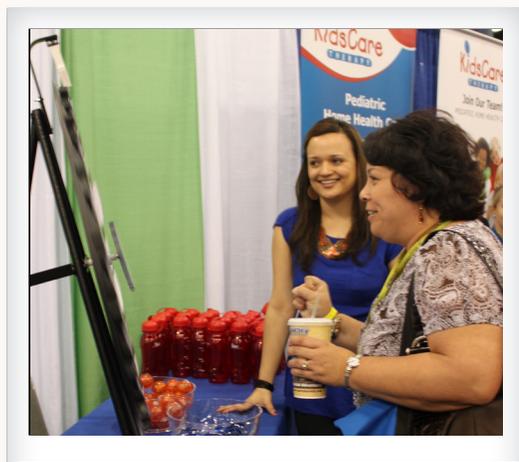
- **HB 270** dealt with Early Detection of Hearing Impairment (EDHI). TSHA contributed to formulation of language in the bill that made it acceptable to all stakeholders, but after passing through the Senate and out of the House Public Health committee, it was not placed on the agenda for full House consideration and died when the regular session ended.

- **HB 2946** addressed insurance reimbursement for speech-language pathology services. **Rep. Garnet Coleman** introduced the bill again this session, and because of the fiscal implications, it languished in committee without receiving a hearing and died with the close of the regular session.

The TSHA Legislative Team monitored a number of other bills dealing with public school employees, special education, Medicaid, higher education funding, insurance reimbursement for services for individuals with autism, dyslexia, newborn hearing screenings, and changes to the Texas Retirement System.

In an effort to keep members involved and aware of the events in Austin, the Legislative Team produced a weekly online news update, *Capitol Watch*, authored by **Larry Higdon** and **Mark Hanna**. This newsletter was posted on the website, sent to all members via email, and linked on Facebook and Twitter. Members were provided with specific information about relevant bills and committee actions and also received thoughtful analysis of bigger picture issues such as the budget and redistricting and how these could potentially impact speech-language pathologists and audiologists across the state.

Several other initiatives on the Social and Governmental policy agenda also were accomplished. These included a continuation of town hall meetings across the state hosted by the Texas Regional Association Coalition (TRAC) in Dallas, South East Texas Speech and Hearing Association (SETSHA) in Beaumont, San Antonio Speech-Language-Hearing Association (SASHLA), Speech Pathologists' Association Near Dallas (SPAND) in McKinney, Wichita Falls Area Speech and Hearing Association (WFASHA) in Wichita Falls, and El Paso Speech and Hearing Association (EPSHA) in El Paso. As directed



by the strategic plan, prior to the Sunset Commission hearing in November, TSHA hosted a gathering of leaders from related professional associations with similar legislative agendas. The goal of this event was open-door coalition-building, seeking support for our Sunset Review, and offering support for their legislative agendas. This meeting was attended by representatives from the Texas Physical Therapy Association, the Texas Classroom Teachers Association, and the Texas Nurses Association, among others. The outcome was very positive and served to build and strengthen relationships at the legislative level.

Prior to the session in January, TSHA participated in a Legislative Summit hosted by the Texas Society of Allied Health Professions (TSAHP). This association represents more than 50 medical professions and the educational institutions through which they are trained. Accordingly, there were legislative agenda items that were of concern to the group at large. Bess served as panelist in a discussion of legislative items that had the potential to affect professions across the board. This was another excellent opportunity for coalition-building, and TSHA will be an ongoing participant in this organization.

In an effort to build grassroots involvement, the Voter Voice program was implemented again during the 2011 legislative session. Several calls for action were sent at critical points of legislative activity, and although the overall response rate was lower than targeted, the total number of TSHA members who responded by sending messages to their elected officials was double that from the 2009 session.



COUNCILOR/VICE PRESIDENT-ELECT FOR SOCIAL AND GOVERNMENTAL POLICY

Bobbie Kay Turkett

Bobbie Kay served an indispensable role this year, participating in all the Executive Board meetings, attending coalition-building gatherings, observing legislative hearings, and being a resource of constant encouragement for all the committees and task forces under the Vice Presidency for Social and Governmental Policy. She also participated in presentations at the TSHA Convention and held a town hall legislative review meeting in Austin at the end of the session. She has worked closely with the other members of the legisla-

tive team and is well-prepared to assume the leadership role as VP.

LEGISLATIVE TEAM

Larry Higdon, Director of Governmental Relations

Legislative and Legal Counsel, Mark Hanna

Larry and Mark continued to lead TSHA's legislative advocacy work with expertise and diplomacy. They presented a positive and professional face to the elected officials in the Capitol, built relationships with key staffers, shepherded the Sunset Review legislation, coached the TSHA leadership on testimony, and carefully monitored more than 60 other bills related to the disciplines of speech-language pathology and audiology during the session. This team also produced the weekly legislative newsletter Capitol Watch to keep members updated on activities in Austin during the session.

SUNSET REVIEW TASK FORCE

Chaired by Sherry Sancibrian

Under Sherry's experienced guidance, an advisory group of seasoned TSHA leaders representing all parts of the state and all work settings established priorities for the Sunset Review agenda. Based on the input from this group, specific language was developed that addressed necessary changes in the licensure law. Sherry provided expert testimony at House and Senate hearings, and she was instrumental in the success of this legislative effort.

POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE (PAC)

Chaired by Larry Barnes

Under Larry's direction, the PAC went through significant reorganization and a rewrite of the bylaws this year with a new configuration that is more representative of the membership statewide. This was a busy year for the PAC as this was an election cycle, and new fundraising strategies were implemented. Convention was a particularly busy time as recognition lapel pins were produced denoting levels of support for PAC membership. These lapel pins served as significant incentives for increased donations. The massage chairs were a popular destination for convention delegates as was the silent auction. In addition, a PAC recognition breakfast reception was held at the convention to honor PAC donors.

CAPITOL VISIT

Chaired by Marcus Neal

On April 5, about 20 TSHA members from across the state gathered in Austin for a training session and then paid a visit to their elected officials. Members received packets of information, maps, and talking points to share with senators, representatives, and their staff members. The feedback from participants, as well as most of the legislators, was very positive. For some of the participants, it was their first visit to the Capitol for this type of interaction, but it certainly won't be the last. Thanks to Marcus and State Office staff for coordinating a memorable event!



GRASSROOTS TASK FORCE

Co-chaired by Lori Colletti and Allie Atkinson

Lori and Allie brought great enthusiasm and organization to their task of fostering member involvement in the Social and Governmental Policy agenda. At the annual convention, members who visited the grassroots booth were given the opportunity to become registered voters, to sign up for Voter Voice, and to learn more about TSHA's legislative agenda.

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVE STUDENTS TASK FORCE

Co-chaired by Kevin Van den Bogaard and Alyssa Valles

This task force is charged with the responsibility of identifying a key student contact at each university program in Texas. Kevin and Alyssa made contact with the NSSLHA chapters at each university and, at the convention, hosted the first-ever roundtable discussion for students regarding the legislative issues. Feedback was very positive as students recognized the importance of legislation on their future careers, particularly with bills such as student loan repayment.



CONSUMER ADVOCACY NETWORK

Chaired by Karin De la Fuente

Karin worked closely with Mark Hanna and developed specific forms to be used for recruiting consumer participants for legislative advocacy work. The protocol for consumer involvement is in the final stages of development as is a database for managing the lists of contact information.



REGIONAL ASSOCIATION TASK FORCE

Chaired by Adina Evans

Contact was made with regional associations to offer free continuing education workshops on the legislative process and TSHA's political agenda. As noted, seven meetings were held across the state, sharing information with about 300 speech-language pathologists and audiologists.

Special thanks are extended to **Don Canada, Jennifer Stamps, Shana Spring, Melinda Daise, and Tammy Ybarra** of the TSHA State Office in Austin for their constant support, encouraging words, and unfailingly positive perspective on the work that needed to be done.

The successes in Social and Governmental Policy this year have been substantial, but rather than resting on our laurels, the TSHA Legislative Team is already beginning discussions and preparation for the next legislative agenda in 2013 to address issues that were left unfinished in 2011. Notably, the next Sunset Review of our licensure law has already been projected to occur again in only six more years in 2017. TSHA's work is not yet done.

OLIVIA WHITEFIELD ★ VICE PRESIDENT FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION & MARKETING

This year has proved to be very busy in the area of Public Information and Marketing in TSHA. Each of the following task force and committee chairs devoted a great deal of time and effort to reaching the goals for their individual task forces and committees and for TSHA and the professions. Sincere thanks go out to each and every one of these individuals!



COUNCILOR/VICE PRESIDENT-ELECT FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION & MARKETING/MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Chaired by Katie Stoneman

Katie was the driving force behind keeping this vice presidency organized. She collected and compiled Quarterly Reports from each task force and committee and submitted them for Executive Board reporting. Katie also worked with the TSHA State Office to provide regular updates on the TSHA Facebook page, which was initiated in January 2010. As of June 26, 2011, TSHA has 1,266 fans. She demonstrated dedication to leadership in TSHA and the

professions and will be an outstanding Vice President for Public Information and Marketing! This year the State Office worked closely with this vice presidency and developed a membership campaign that proved to be very successful. For the 2010-2011 fiscal year, TSHA's membership was as follows:

Active Members	3,905
Associate Members	764
Affiliate Members	20
Student Members	613
Life Members	149
Total Members	5,451

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS/SHOPPE TSHA COMMITTEE

Co-chaired by Jackie Molina and Linda Gonzalez

Jackie and Linda worked very hard throughout the year in collaboration with the State Office to select and develop items for sale at Shoppe TSHA at the convention. Shoppe TSHA was a huge success this year, and Jackie and Linda were the driving forces behind that success. They were leaders during convention, devoting their time to training volunteers and working in the Shoppe TSHA booth. Thank you both for a job very well done!



STUDENT INTEREST COMMITTEE

Co-chaired by Liz Mathukutty and April Davis

Liz and April worked to develop an outstanding event for students at the convention. At the Praxis Bowl, each university was represented by a team of students who played a game to test their knowledge of questions prepared by **Renee Bogschutz** and **Tonia Livingston**. This year, the team of students from the University of Texas at Dallas was the big winner. Congratulations, UTD!

PUBLIC INFORMATION EXHIBIT

Chaired by Jennifer Colvin

The Public Information Exhibit (PIE) is a benefit that all TSHA members may take advantage of that is completely free! Each PIE is compact, lightweight, and easy to assemble, and, best of all, the State Office will ship it anywhere you would like to take it! The TSHA PIE is the perfect display for any presentation or workshop. TSHA has two PIEs: one focused on career awareness and one focused on May is Better Hearing and Speech Month. To reserve one of the PIEs for your career fair, health fair, open house, seminar, or workshop, please visit www.txsha.org/careers/publication_info_exhibit.aspx.



PUBLIC INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION

Chaired by Amanda Curtis

Amanda was extremely busy this year spreading the word on ways to utilize *Matt Learns to Read*, a valuable, free benefit of being a member of TSHA. TSHA members across the state worked to improve literacy skills in students who may be at-risk and to promote public awareness about the role of speech-language pathologists in the area of literacy. During the 2010-2011 fiscal year, TSHA provided 1,032 *Matt Learns to Read* books in English or Spanish to TSHA members free of charge! As a member of TSHA, you may request 25 copies each year to distribute in your community. To receive your free copies, please download a request form at www.txsha.org/publications/matt_learns_to_read.aspx.



REGIONAL ASSOCIATION MARKETING NETWORK

Chaired by Michelle Mendieta

Michelle worked with the Texas Regional Association Coalition (TRAC) this year and has done an excellent job of continuing the connection among the various regional associations in Texas and with TSHA. The primary goal of the coalition task force is to help support and encourage each other, along with organizing the regional associations, coordinating events, main-

taining contact among the members, providing information, and generating articles for the *Communicologist*. The annual TSHA-hosted TRAC meeting, where all of the regional associations gather to network, brainstorm, and grow as leaders in their associations, will be held in Dallas August 12-13, 2011.

CAREER AWARENESS DISTRIBUTION

Co-chaired by **Jenny McGlothlin** and **Suzanne Bonifert**



Jenny and Suzanne worked with the State Office to coordinate the distribution of career awareness packets, a free benefit for all TSHA members. The career awareness packets include a dynamic PowerPoint presentation, brochures that list the speech-language pathology and/or audiology accredited universities in Texas, bookmarks to give away, and a DVD that highlights all of the great things that speech-language pathologists and audiologists do every day. It is never too early to get students interested in a career in speech-language pathology or audiology. Order your packets today, and start telling others about our rewarding professions. To order, visit www.txsha.org/careers/career_awareness.aspx.

MAY IS BETTER HEARING AND SPEECH MONTH

Chaired by **Ashley Schmitt**

May is the designated month for promoting better hearing and speech. For many professionals, May means the end of the school year, well-deserved vacations, and the beginning of summer days spent in swimming pools. However, for many professionals, May is the busiest month of the entire year. This means that it is essential to plan ahead and be prepared for your May is Better Hearing and Speech

Month (MBHSM) celebrations! Ashley published an article in the February *Communicologist* highlighting ways to celebrate MBHSM this year.



PAST PRESIDENTS POWERHOUSE

Chaired by **Judi Keller**

Judi worked closely with the State Office and a team of volunteers in TSHA and the Texas Speech-Language-Hearing Foundation, including **JoAnn Wiechmann**, **Judy Rudebusch**, **Denise Barringer**, **April Smith**, **Peggy Kipping**, **Sue Shirley-Howard**, and **Debbie Sears** to plan this year's Oscar Mauzy Leadership Conference. The event took place July 29 to July 31 at the beautiful Canyon of the Eagles Resort on Lake Buchanan in the Texas Hill Country. **Tommie Robinson**, ASHA Immediate Past President, was the keynote speaker, and TSHA leaders presented topics related

to growing new or young leaders in the professions. Approximately 30 new or young leaders around the state registered for a dynamic weekend focusing on "The Amazing Race to Leadership!"

Additionally, Judi coordinated a meeting of the past presidents in Dallas in June to provide insight and feedback regarding TSHA's strategic plan. This group of seasoned and committed leaders assisted with identifying association priorities, which will be shared and discussed with the Executive Board and the Executive Council in September. Thanks to TSHA's past presidents for their continued support and love of the association.

UNIVERSITY VISITS

Chaired by **Meredith Potts**

Meredith's work on the University Visits Task Force this year helped organize the TSHA Executive Board members as they prepared to coordinate their visits to 16 of the 20 Texas universities that have undergraduate and/or graduate programs in speech-language pathology and/or audiology. The university visits are a great way for the students at each university to hear about TSHA and visit with various professionals and leaders in the Association.

JOANN WIECHMANN ★ VICE PRESIDENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

JoAnn Wiechmann was invited to participate in the ASHA-sponsored event, "A Professional Summit: Clarifying and Promoting the Regulation of Clearly Differentiated Provider Roles" held in Vienna, Virginia, in late July. She was also invited to participate as one of four Regional Champs with ASHA to help educate members on the ASHA Roles and Responsibilities for Public School SLPs. She participated on collaborative conference calls in preparation for a meeting at the ASHA Schools Conference in July.

COUNCILOR/VICE PRESIDENT-ELECT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Gina Glover

Councilor for the Vice President of Professional Services Gina Glover assisted with emails, date reminders, and *Communicologist* articles. She also served as the communication liaison between collaborative projects. She attended the TSHA/TCASE Joint Committee meetings and linked communication among the various task forces and committees in this vice presidency.

ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY TASK FORCE

Co-chaired by Tina Lombardi and Laura Zimmerman

The Assistive Technology (AT) Task Force made progress on the white paper, AT Resource Guide. They provided guidance and support for Texas SLPs in the area of assistive technology via the AT email distribution list. The Task Force provided articles to the *Communicologist*.

CULTURAL AND LINGUISTIC DIVERSITY TASK FORCE

Co-chaired by Ellen Stubbe Kester and Margarita Limon-Ordonez

The Cultural and Linguistic Diversity (CLD) Task Force provided information in the *Communicologist* and on the TSHA website. Articles included language differences in Vietnamese, Indian, and Chinese. The Task Force has maintained current information on the TSHA website. They have developed guidelines for members about the competencies needed to be a bilingual SLP.



MEDICAL TASK FORCE

Chaired by Kate Hutcheson

The Medical Task Force was established in the fall of 2010. Members of the task force were identified, and goals were developed. The task force has been working on developing a searchable directory for TSHA members. Thus far, this has been a joint effort with the Membership Task Force. The Medical Task Force provided input on a joint document among the Medical Task Force, Private Practice Task Force, and Public School Task Force. The purpose of this document was to provide a one-page handout for members and consumers on the aspects of SLPs in the various work settings.

PRIVATE PRACTICE TASK FORCE

Co-chaired by Downie Mathis and Elizabeth Parker

The Private Practice Task Force informed members about specific healthcare business issues through ongoing discussions on a subscriber email list. They provided articles in the *Communicologist* on private practice issues such as insurance, business management, and advocacy. The Private Practice Task Force organized and provided the TSHA Business Institute Programs, Networking Dinner, and



ASHA ACE Award Listing

January - March 2011

TSHA Members

Terry Ball
Denise Barringer
Amy Kathleen Bartelt
Ashley Brodie
Virginia Burgess-Noll
Stephanie Marie Cooper
Linda Curington
Shana Deal
Susanne Feske
Valerie Garcia
Ian Gillespie
Cheryl Hawley
Kimberly Briar Head
Catherine Herrera
Deborah Hughes
Lori Koonce
Jan Lewin

Deborah Lindsey
Kristi Lynn Wright
Catherine McMahon
Melissa Mendoza
Mary O'Truk
Jane Peterson
Barbara Putnam
Linda Rubenfeld
Sara Simpson
Angela Standridge
Amy Sterling
Claudia Vela
Priscilla Vela
Leticia Wang
Lynda Webster
Kimberly White
Mary Yarbrough

Business Roundtable at the TSHA 2011 Convention. Approximately 150 participants attended the Business Institute. Members of the Private Practice Task Force participated in a working group that is focusing on an issue with Amerigroup. This working group has had several conference calls and provided expertise in developing guidelines for insurance coverage for SLP/Audiology services.

PUBLIC SCHOOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Chaired by Janet Leone

Four regional sessions were offered at the TSHA convention. These sessions were designed to provide an opportunity for public school SLPs to provide feedback to the TSHA Executive Board regarding issues specific to their region of the state. Members of the Public School Advisory Committee have provided feedback and information to the Texas Education Agency, TSHA/TCASE Joint Committee, and the Executive Board related to public school issues.

PUBLIC SCHOOL TASK FORCE

Chaired by Brandi Stephenson

The Public School Task Force (PSTF) was established in the fall of 2010. Members were identified, and goals were established. The task force worked collaboratively with the Public School Advisory Committee and TSHA/TCASE Joint Committee and provided data and input on various issues, including missed sessions, schedule of

services, critical shortages, and dysphagia in the schools. The public school survey has been sent out to school-based SLPs and special education directors. The results of the survey will be pulled from Survey Monkey and analyzed. The PSTF coordinated and worked collaboratively with the Medical Task Force and Private Practice Task Force on the development of a document that defines roles and responsibilities of the SLP in the medical, clinical, and educational work setting. The document is near completion.

The PSTF developed a tri-fold brochure that provided information about the roles and responsibilities of the SLP in the public school setting. The brochure was developed as an educational tool for use with special education directors, campus administrators, diagnosticians/LSSPs, and educators. This document is available on the TSHA website for member use.

RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION TASK FORCE

Co-chaired by Lisa White and Judy Rudebusch

The Response to Intervention (RTI) Task Force interfaced with the Texas Education Agency (TEA) regarding the TSHA RTI Guidance document. They encouraged TEA to post the document on their website. The Guidance document was revised and reposted to the TSHA website. The Guidance document is available for members to download and use. The RTI Task Force presented a session at the TSHA 2011 Convention that highlighted RTI practices from around the state. The TF has achieved their goals and decided to dissolve at the end of June 2011. Any additional issues related to RTI will be absorbed by the Public School Task Force.

TELEPRACTICE TASK FORCE

Chaired by Angie Geurin

The Telepractice Task Force members have presented sessions at ESC Region 4, TSHA, and the AT Conference. The purpose of these presentations was to educate membership on telepractice applications and limitations. **Diana Christiana** attended the ATA conference in Tampa, Florida, to gain information related to third-party reimbursement. She also participated in the ATA Telerehab SIG conference call regarding third-party reimbursement.

APRIL SMITH ★ PRESIDENT-ELECT

BYLAWS

Chaired by April Smith

Much work has been done this year to update the TSHA Policy and Procedure Manual to bring the activities of the association current with best practices. Bylaws changes previously voted on by the TSHA Executive Board were presented at the business meeting during convention. Thank you to our Publications Board chair, **Donise Pearson**, for her unwavering diligence in seeing this project to fruition.

FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Chaired by April Smith

Members: **Lynda Barbee**, **Becky Gonzalez**, **Lynn Flahive**, **Amy Marciniak**, **Larry Barnes**, **Diana Christiana**, President and ex-officio **Denise Barringer**, and Executive Director and ex-officio **Don Canada**.

The Financial Advisory Committee was able to look ahead and recognize the need for making changes in TSHA's investments. Despite the recent changes in the financial markets resulting in overall pullbacks, our gains outweigh any losses.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Chaired by April Smith

This year, the TSHA Executive Board met in January at the Hyatt Lost Pines for strategic planning, looking ahead to plan goals for the association. The strategic planning session was led by **Christopher Williston**, president and CEO of the Independent Bankers Association of Texas. Mr. Williston surveyed the voting and non-voting members of the Executive Board along with other key association members prior to the meeting. Results of the survey and observations from the Executive Board and Executive Council meeting in September were utilized to help formulate our strategic plan. There was much insight gained during this time and new directions to consider as TSHA continues to evaluate the needs of members and goals of the association. The Executive Board looks forward to the next year as we work to bring these new ideas in line with TSHA goals and needs. The EB is commended for its ever-valuable input and commitment to the professions in evaluating these new ideas.

TSHA OPEN HOUSE AT THE ASHA 2010 CONVENTION

Chaired by April Smith

The Texas Open House at the ASHA 2010 Convention was well-attended and enjoyed by all. TSHA honored two outstanding TSHA members for their accomplishments. **Lynn Flahive** received the honor of ASHA Fellow, and **Jennifer Watson** is the newly elected ASHA Vice President for Standards and Ethics in Speech-Language Pathology. Congratulations to both of them for these accomplishments.

Thank you to all the TSHA members, universities, and companies that helped to sponsor this annual event. It is a hallmark of ASHA events and a great time for friends across the country to gather and visit. ★

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