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Georgia Speech-Language-Hearing  
Association  
20423 State Road 7, Suite F6-491  
Boca Raton, FL 33498  
561-477-8100 (phone)  
561-910-0896 (fax)  
execdir@gsa.org  
www.gsha.org



Meet the New GSHA  
Executive Council!

Save the Dates  
2011 GSHA Convention  
February 11-12  
The Classic Center  
Athens, GA

## From the President

Wow! It has already been a year! Time flies when you are having fun. This year has been one of the most rewarding, yet one of the most challenging. In a time when the economy and financial security of many are uncertain, ensuring that GSHA continues to run efficiently, effectively, and financially were my big battles this year! However, I am proud to say that GSHA was successful this year.

Our success this year is a result of our dedicated membership, our amazing volunteers, and our wonderful Executive Director. The economy continues to be uncertain, but as professionals we should remain loyal to GSHA. Membership renewals have been mailed to all, and, as President of GSHA, I ask you to please RENEW. Maintain your VOICE in your profession! Without our membership, we cannot be a FORCE that monitors legislation, provides networking opportunities, and offers wonderful CEU courses. As professionals, we have a vested interest to ensure that GSHA continues to operate. Without GSHA, difficulties with insurance companies would not be addressed, legislation may pass that would harm us as a profession, and wonderful networking/job opportunities would be missed. GSHA is fighting for YOU, so please fight for YOUR profession by joining or renewing your GSHA membership!



Erica Chatelain, M.Ed., CCC-SLP  
GSHA President, 2009-10



# Convention Corner

## 2010 Convention Re-cap

By Tiffany Markey, CCC-SLP

GSHA held its annual convention March 19-21, 2010 at the Atlanta Marriott Gwinnett Place in Duluth, Ga. Our theme for this year's convention was "Promoting Responsible Professionalism." The convention opened on Friday, with great speakers like Dr. Hortencia Kayser, who presented on "The Preschool English Language Learner: Intervention Strategies for Home and School" and "Collaborating with Interpreters in Assessment and Intervention." We also enjoyed presentations from ASHA's Director of Health Care Regulatory Advocacy, Kate Romanow and ASHA's immediate Past President, Sue T. Hale. Our Friday sessions ended with a great Wine and Cheese reception where we announced the winners of our Silent Auction.

For the first time, GSHA opened on Saturday with a Schools Track that attracted a number of school-based SLPs. Dr. Wayne Secord presented on "Speech Sound Disorders: Let's Get Practical." We had a variety of school's topics that included topics such as: writing IEPs, speech modification skills, pediatric dysphagia, speech intelligibility and supervision/mentoring. We also had featured



speakers, Dr. Charles Ellis and Sheryl C. Amaral. Our Association Luncheon and Awards was also held on Saturday, where we recognized a number of GSHA members for being great service providers and exhibiting outstanding service. Saturday closed with nine facilitators at our Roundtable Mixer. We had great participation at each table where conference attendees were able to discuss a variety of different topics, pose questions, and acquire some new ideas to take back to the workplace. We also announced the winner of the laptop giveaway and the 50/50 raffle.

Convention came to a close on Sunday. We had great presentations by a number of members of GSHA on Sunday and throughout the entire convention. We also had great poster sessions with immense participation from students.

We had a very exciting convention this year, and we look forward to seeing you next year!

*Tiffany Markey was the 2010 Convention Chair and will serve as the 2011 Convention Co-chair along with Akilah Heggs*



## 2011 Convention Highlights!

February 11-12, 2011  
The Classic Center  
Athens, GA

*Continue to check out the GSHA web site [www.gsha.org](http://www.gsha.org) for updates!*



# The Clinical Exchange

By Cathy Carney Thomas M.A. CCC-SLP

## Our Mission

*The Georgia Speech-Language-Hearing Association is a professional association of individuals specializing in the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of human communication disorders that (a) advocates for the professional interests of its members and the individuals they serve, and (b) provides for the exchange of professional information and ideas.*

## Our Vision

*The Georgia Speech-Language-Hearing Association and its members shall be recognized as authorities in speech-language pathology and audiology at the local and state levels.*

COMMUNICATION LINES is published three times a year by the Georgia Speech-Language-Hearing Association (GSHA). The Editorial Committee welcomes and appreciates articles, news items, and comments. **The next submission deadline is September 15, 2010.**

*Let us know if you have moved - please send or fax us your name, new address, and telephone number. Or, you can update your profile directly at [www.gsha.org](http://www.gsha.org).*

Wow, it has been hot here. The temperatures have been in the 90's for the last month or so. The kids have been around the pool for most of the summer so far. Most of the teachers are out of the classroom and quickly catching up on all their reading and continuing education time. I hope that all of us are enjoying some summer time fun.

Did everyone vote for the new GSHA year elections and board changes? Are we all aware of the amount of work that our representatives do for us on a regular basis?? Let's all give them a word of thanks for the job well done! One thing that isn't changing is our newsletter - it is still the voice for all of us to communicate with each other on the events, the conferences, the political changes and the clinical events that are necessary for us to do the jobs we do every day. The Clinical Exchange section is the area where you can pose questions, suggestions and therapy tips to your colleagues and get ideas for your daily interventions.

Last issue we discussed dysarthria and apraxia - we took a look at the similarities and the differences and how each clinically presents. It was suggested that this issue we take a look at the comparisons between Articulation and Phonology, and hopefully, add to the knowledge that we have as clinicians.



## Become a GSHA Volunteer

We would love for you to volunteer with GSHA! Committees we need volunteers for include the following: Membership; Convention, Continuing Education; Communications; Student Affairs; Healthcare and Private Practice; Higher Education; Public Relations; Strategic Planning; and Finance. If you would like to volunteer, go to the homepage of the GSHA website, and click the green "Volunteer Now" button. If you are not sure which committee you would like to volunteer with, please contact us with your interests, and we will match you with the one that best suits you.

# News from ASHA

by Jennifer Sunseri

There is a new device being created to assist people with hearing loss, and it's happening right here in Atlanta, Georgia! This new device enables people with hearing loss to have accessibility to view captions anywhere - from sport venues to classrooms to movie theaters. The director of the Landmarc Research Center at the Georgia Tech Research Institute (GTRI), Leanne West, is responsible for developing this wearable, wireless captioning system. West first decided to develop this product after speaking with colleagues ten years ago about lawsuits filed against movie chains by patrons with hearing loss. She said there "had to be an optical solution to provide captioning." A prototype is now being used at the Mystic Aquarium in Mystic, Connecticut where users view captions related to various exhibits. On January 3, 2010 during the Dallas Cowboys final regular season home game, DURATEQ Assistive Technology Version (ATV) handhelds were made available for fans that are deaf, hearing impaired, low vision or blind. The venue's transmitter sent captions to consumer's wireless-enabled personal digital assistant (PDA), smartphone, or laptop via standard wireless technology. Eyewear is also being developed that provides captioning - similar to that being used to watch movies on a personal DVD player. It is being customized for use at public venues. The wi-fi used to deliver the captions are already installed and in use in many facilities including coffee

shops, restaurants, and sports arenas. Consumers can view captions by downloading an inexpensive software application that is under development. A court reporter will provide the venue with pre-recorded captions or computer-assisted real-time translation (CART). After conducting a needs-assessment survey through the Georgia Council for the Hearing Impaired, West tested a prototype at a Hearing Loss Association of America conference where volunteers provided valuable feedback. West received funding to develop this technology through the GTRI and the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research. Along with West, GTRI research scientist Ethan Adler started a company called Intelligent Access to bring this product to market. West believes that this technology can assist people with hearing loss in a variety of settings. It can also transmit captioning or subtitles in multiple languages simultaneously. She believes that this device will eliminate the need for people with hearing loss to sit near a projection screen or near an interpreter. The system will be brought to market this year.

It seems that SLPs are continuously faced with issues related to Medicare. Most recently, speech-language pathologists are now able to bill Medicare directly for laryngeal function studies. This is a product of two years of ASHA advocacy. This change appears in the 2010 annual update to the

therapy code list from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). It has added Current Procedural Terminology® (CPT) code 92520, "Laryngeal function studies (i.e., aerodynamic testing and acoustic testing)" to the therapy code list. From this update, it is reimbursable by Medicare and is also included as an expense under the speech-language/physical therapy cap. Also in recent Medicare news, President Obama signed legislation relating to an amended version of H.R. 4851, the Continuing Extension Act of 2010 into law. This amended version avoids the implementation of the 2010 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS). This schedule includes a 21.3% reduction from the 2009 schedule on Medicare Part B payments. This new law is retroactive with an effective date of April 1. For Medicare contractors who have already begun processing claims based on the reduced rates of the 2010 MPFS, they will now be required to reprocess those claims to reflect current rates. In June, Congress will likely consider a more long-term solution to Medicare Part B reimbursement.

# What's New At The "U"?

## **Armstrong Atlantic State University**

The 2009-2010 academic year has been an eventful one for the communication sciences and disorders program! The fall semester got off to a great start as we happily welcomed our new class of 14 graduate students hailing from all over the United States. That number of students represented a 100% increase over our typical first year graduate class enrollment! Dr. Donna Brooks was appointed Assistant Dean of the College of Health Professions, and Dr. Stan Cooke took over the day to day operations of the program, serving as Interim Program Coordinator.

Midway through the spring semester, AASU administrators announced that several clinical health programs, including communication sciences and disorders, might be discontinued due to Georgia's expected budget shortfalls for the coming fiscal year. Following this announcement, students, clients and their families, and other community stakeholders mobilized and advocated at all levels -- from the administration at AASU to the Board of Regents to the General Assembly -- for the continuation

Summer 2010 Communication Lines]

of the program. ASHA and GSHA also wrote letters of support. In May 2010, AASU administrators announced that the program in communication sciences and disorders would not be eliminated as had been proposed. Instead, the program is still going strong!

Seven students received the Master of Science in communication sciences and disorders at Spring Commencement, and will be beginning clinical fellowships. We will welcome another cohort of 16 new graduate students in August, in addition to our growing numbers of students in the undergraduate major. We bid a fond farewell and sincere thank you to Dr. Cooke as he continues his retirement, and we welcome Dr. Brooks back as Program Coordinator while she continues to serve as Assistant Dean of the College.

## **Georgia State University**

Spring semester was a productive time at Georgia State University! We interviewed 85 applicants to our master's degree program and are looking forward to fall semester when a cohort of 19 new students will begin the program. Congratulations to our most recent graduate (May, 2010) Meredith Avren. Faculty and students received a number of awards this past semester. At the GSHA Convention in March, Dr. Debra Schober-Peterson received the Volunteer Appreciation Award, Ms. Mary Rambow received the Clinical Achievement Award, and Dr. Colleen O'Rourke received the Robert A. Hull Leadership Award. At the College of Education Honors Day the following students

received awards: Anna Sheppard, Outstanding Master's Student in Special Education; Amy Glasco, Outstanding Clinician in Communication Disorders; and Brittany Carroll, Andrea Davis, Carrie Forde, Elizabeth Omaivboje, and Janet Williams all were awarded the Glenn A. Vergason Scholarship. Graduate student Michaela DuBay also received a NIDCD Fellowship to present her thesis work at the 2010 Clinical Aphasiology Conference in South Carolina in May. Her thesis work is under the direction of Dr. Jacqueline Laures-Gore and investigates coping resources in individuals with aphasia. We are proud of our faculty and student accomplishments!

The Georgia State NSSLHA chapter hosted a successful job fair in February. Eight vendors including school districts and contract rehabilitation companies were actively recruiting for speech-language pathologists. Students from Georgia State, the University of Georgia, and Auburn University attended. Our NSSLHA chapter plans to make the job fair an annual event so watch for announcements about the date of the 2011 fair. NSSLHA members also participated in Autism Walks in May raising money for this important cause. New chapter officers were elected in April and are excited about the year ahead.

Georgia State successfully celebrated our Twelfth Annual Summer Institute on June 24-25. Dr. Geralyn Timler from Miami University of Ohio, a specialist in child language, presented

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# New GSHA Constitution and Standing Rules Approved

Please click on the blue links below to view the Constitution and Standing Rules online.

The new [Constitution](#) and [Standing Rules](#) for GSHA were approved by membership and will be implemented effective July 1, 2010. We would like to thank the Strategic Planning committee who worked on the revisions. Strategic Planning committee members are: Julie Bonner; Jane Frobose; Kristin Hanna; Colleen O'Rourke; Bonnie Schaudé; and Debra Schober-Peterson (chair).

## Call for Articles

*Communication Lines* is a newsletter published electronically four times a year by the Georgia-Speech-Language-Hearing Association (GSHA).

**Information for Contributors:** News items and position statements on current professional issues are invited for publication. Manuscripts must be typewritten, single-spaced and submitted on disk (or via e-mail) in Word or Works format. The name, address, and telephone number of the author must be included. Letters to the Editor should be 200 words or less. Unsigned letters will not be published. The author's name may be withheld upon request if a valid reason is provided. GSHA reserves the right to keep any manuscript submitted and does not guarantee that all submissions will be published. GSHA also reserves the right to edit letters and articles for purposes of clarity and space.

**Permission to quote** a portion of any article in the issue is granted if credit is given to author(s) of the paper and the magazine. Articles or news items may be sent to:

Jody B. Rosen, APR  
Executive Director  
20423 State Road 7  
Suite F6-491  
Boca Raton, FL 33498  
Office: 1-800-226-4742  
E-mail: [execdir@gsha.org](mailto:execdir@gsha.org)

### CIAO Seminars *Affordable CEUs in Georgia!*

<p><i>Atlanta - Sept 24</i> <b>Pediatric Feeding - The Big Picture 1</b> (Sensory, Motor &amp; Behavioral issues with Feeding Disorders) Learn the three primary components of feeding disorders and how to address them in a comprehensive treatment program.</p>	<p><b>CEUs: 0.8</b> (Each course) <b>EACH COURSE:</b> \$130 Early Group \$140 Early Individual</p>
<p><i>Atlanta - Sept 25</i> <b>Pediatric Feeding - The Big Picture 2</b> (Medical and Family Dynamics issues with Feeding Disorders) Explore the effects of different medications on swallowing and the effects on a family having a child with a feeding disorder. Walk away with concrete ways to support and empower your families.</p>	<p><b>OR</b> <b>BOTH COURSES:</b> \$230 Early Group \$240 Early Individual</p>
<p><b>Myofascial Release and Other Manual Techniques in Dysphagia Management</b> This course addresses evaluation and current treatment techniques appropriate for soft tissue and joint limitations that contribute to an abnormal swallow. Hands-on application and case study discussion will be used to identify impairments and show the use of manual therapy through myofascial release techniques. More details online!</p>	<p><i>Atlanta - Sept 11-12</i> <b>CEUs: 1.6</b> (Incl online course) <b>Price:</b> \$260 Early Group \$275 Early Individual</p>
<p><b>VitalStim® Therapy Certification</b> VitalStim® Therapy is the only FDA cleared treatment approach that successfully combines Neuromuscular Electrical Stimulation (NMES) and traditional dysphagia techniques. Through extensive hands-on labs, attendees will apply NMES theory to the treatment of dysphagia. More details online!</p>	<p><i>Atlanta - Aug 28-29</i> <b>CEUs: 2.8</b> (Incl online course) <b>Price:</b> \$475 - \$675 Group Rates \$775 Individual</p>
<p><b>Advanced VitalStim® Therapy (2 Day)</b> This course includes a variety of advanced topics such as advanced kinesiology, exercise physiology, best clinical practices, patient selection, treatment planning and specific treatment protocols, goal writing, electrode placement selection and more. Must be VitalStim® Certified; more details online!</p>	<p><i>Atlanta - Oct 21-22</i> <b>CEUs: 1.3</b> <b>Price:</b> \$240 - \$255 Group Rates \$260 Individual</p>

Approved Provider  
 GSHA CONTINUING EDUCATION

Caregiver and Advanced Opportunities is approved by the Continuing Education Board of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) to provide continuing education activities in speech-language pathology and audiology. See course description for number of ASHA CEUs, International Board and course name. CEUAs are provided upon successful completion of course content, specific projects or clinical procedures.

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1/4 Page Square	\$110 per issue

attendees the opportunity to learn the latest information on addressing social communication problems in school-age children and to network with colleagues. If you have not joined us for our Summer Institutes in the past, we hope you will do so in 2011. Watch for information about our Thirteenth Annual Summer Institute to be held in June 2011.

Another milestone for the Communication Disorders Program here at Georgia State will be the celebration of the 35th Anniversary of our Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic. We are planning a week of special events for September 20-23 culminating with an open house on September 23 from 4:30-7:00 p.m. We hope alums and friends of the program will be there! Contact Dr. Debra Schober-Peterson at [dspeter@gsu.edu](mailto:dspeter@gsu.edu) for the complete schedule of events.

Speech-language pathologists interested in pursuing a research doctorate focused on neurosciences now have an opportunity to earn a Ph.D. in Neuroscience here at Georgia State. For additional information visit the website: <http://www.neuroscience.gsu.edu/3622.html> and contact Dr. Jacqueline Laures-Gore [jlaures@gsu.edu](mailto:jlaures@gsu.edu). This fall we will be announcing the opportunity for speech-language pathologists to pursue a Ph.D. in Education of Students with Exceptionalities with a concentration in Communication Disorders (focused on language and literacy). Look for more information soon.

For additional information about the graduate program in Com-

munication Disorders at Georgia State University, please call 404-413-8044.

### University of Georgia

The University of Georgia Communication Sciences and Disorders (CMSD) Program would like to congratulate the 22 graduate students who completed internships this semester and will be graduating July 31. We are certainly proud of your accomplishments and wish you success as you are pursuing career opportunities.

Our Speech and Hearing Clinic welcomed a new supervisor this semester, Ms. Marilyn Cary. Ms. Cary has many years of experience in medical and school settings and has also served on our CMSD Advisory Board. We are fortunate to have her share her expertise with our students! We also welcomed a new Advisory Board member, Ms. Kelley Claas, Athens Regional Medical Center, who attended our CMSD Advisory Board meeting in March. Our department appreciates the input that our Board provides to support and improve our program.

Students were busy with screenings again this semester and participated in various events, including Georgia Special Olympics hearing screenings, Oglethorpe County Roundup, preschool speech and hearing screenings, and our on-campus free speech and hearing screenings in April. Members from our NSSLHA chapter were involved in the publicity of this event and also assisted with greeting and registering clients who attended.

Prevention activities also included participation in International Noise Awareness Day. To increase awareness of this event, several students sponsored a booth at the campus student center, distributing earplugs and hearing loss screening questionnaires with coupons for free hearing screenings. The booth featured information on noise and its negative effects on hearing. Dr. Holly Kaplan worked with UGA Graduate Students Britany Kemp, Melissa Iandoli, and Christine Costello to manage the booth with help from NSSLHA member undergraduates.

The annual spring NSSLHA awards banquet held at the Georgia Center Magnolia Ballroom again provided an opportunity for recognition of outstanding students and faculty. NSSLHA Advisors Nancy Dellaria and Alice Sanderson were commended for their ongoing commitment to NSSLHA. Holly Kaplan was selected by NSSLHA as the "most influential" teacher. Beth Lewis, who was also the NSSLHA president, won NSSLHA Honors Student, which is awarded by the CMSD academic and clinical faculty for academic excellence, service to NSSLHA, and professionalism. Deepali Tripathi was the recipient of the Alicia Stramiello Award, which was established in memory of Alicia Stramiello, a CMSD undergraduate student. The recipient is chosen by the CMSD Junior Class and is based on excellence in character. Congratulations to all of these recipients!

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# 2009-2010 Executive Council

## President

Erica Chatelain, M.Ed., CCC-SLP

## President-Elect

Melanie Hudson, M.S., CCC-SLP

## Past President

Ruth Stonestreet, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

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## Executive Director

Jody B. Rosen, APR

## ASHA CE Administrator

Erica Chatelain, M.Ed., CCC-SLP

## Lobbyists

Stan Jones, Esq.

Helen Sloat

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Many thanks to NSSLHA for their donation of \$800.00 to the Speech and Hearing Clinic Arch Foundation, which was also presented during the awards banquet. We are very appreciative of NSSLHA's contribution, which will be used to provide funding to clients needing financial assistance. Additionally, NSSLHA has purchased a paper cutter and laminator for the Clinic. Thanks to all of you for your efforts to raise funds that benefit our Clinic!

Kudos also to Sarah Hutcheson, who recently graduated with her Bachelor's degree as a CURO Scholar and received the Outstanding Honors Student for the College of Education. Sarah was honored at the Honors Banquet in April.

Faculty and student presentations and publications have continued this semester, including:

- **Bauer, K. L., Iyer, S. N., Boon, R. T., & Fore, C. III** (2010). 20 ways for classroom teachers to collaborate with speech-language pathologists. *Intervention in School and Clinic, 45*, 333-37, originally published online Apr 16, 2009; DOI: .1177/1053451208328833.
- **Hutcheson, S., & Iyer, S. N.** (2010, April). *Directedness and canonical babbling in prelinguistic vocalizations and their relationships to later language measures.* Poster presented at the International Child Phonology Conference, Memphis, TN.

- **Iyer, S. N.** (2010, April). The development of prelinguistic vocalizations in infants with typical hearing and infants with severe to profound hearing loss. In D. J. Ertmer (Chair), *Early speech and vocal development in infants and children with hearing loss.* Invited symposium conducted at the International Child Phonology Conference, Memphis, TN.
- **Laures-Gore, J., Marshall, R.S. & Verner, E.** (in press). Digit span differences in aphasia and right brain damage. *Aphasiology.*
- **Raymond, C.** (2010, March). *New regulations affecting our professions: Are you in compliance?* Presentation at the annual meeting of the Georgia Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Atlanta, GA.
- **Bauer, K., & Schultz, A.** (2010, March). *Making evidence-based practice work: Mission impossible or mission accomplished?* Presentation at the annual meeting of the Georgia Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Atlanta, GA.

**Dr. Holly Kaplan** published an article in *Seminars in Hearing* with Alice Holmes, *Can You Hear Me Now? The Validation of a Self-assessment Scale for Telephone Abilities through Structured Conversation Ratings*, which was

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in the recent edition highlighting conversational level therapy techniques for adults with hearing loss. We also commend **Camille Corica**, GSHA Student Representative, who organized and led the Student Forum at the recent GSHA Convention. Additionally, **Olga Clark**, graduate student, collaborated on a poster presentation with **Dr. Edie Hapner**, *Comparison of Two Acoustic Analysis Systems to Aid Outcome Reporting*, which was presented at the Voice Foundation 2010 Annual Symposium in Philadelphia.

The Communication Sciences and Special Education Department recently sponsored the 2nd Annual CSSE Summer Institute: *Current Topics and Trends in Communication Sciences and Special Education*, which was June 10 -11. More than 250 attendees enjoyed speakers from various disciplines at the Georgia Center for Continuing Education. We want to thank all of our speakers and participants who took advantage of topics related to special education and speech-language pathology.

**Valdosta State University**  
Greetings from Valdosta State University and sunny South Georgia.

**Student Spotlight!** We welcomed a class of 24 new graduate students in spring 2010. Our students came from far away as the Los Angeles, CA area, Mid Atlantic Michigan, and far Northeast as Maine. We have 26 new summer graduates who got

off to a very intense maymester.

### **Georgia Speech Language Hearing Association**

Last spring we congratulated the following students who presented at the 2010 Georgia Speech-Language Hearing Association (GSHA). Brittney Stribling, Hayley Sheppard, Cassie Quick, Caroline Brown, Maria Hall, Sarah Nettles Parten, Laurie Anna Pittman, Sarah Richardson, Christopher Rydzewski, Kelly Williford, Amanda Danielle Redding, Elizabeth James, Amy S, Didier, Bryn Petty, and Karena Hall. The VSU NSSLHA chapter also was recognized at GSHA for Student Participation Award and Student Membership Award.

### **Valdosta State University Research and Scholarship Symposium**


Several of our students and their mentors presented at the 2010 Graduate Research and Scholarship Symposium: Rachel Cortellino and Tanya Enloe, Laurie Anna Lee and Susan Miller, Hayley Sheppard and Amy Struble, Kari Hodges and Tanya Enloe, Whitney Chitty and Robert G. Johnston, Cassie Quick and Robert Johnston, Karena Hall and Diane Andrew.

**Faculty Spotlight.** The faculty spotlight shines on Dr. Ruth Stonestreet who was awarded Honors of the Association at the 2010 Georgia Speech Language Hearing Association in Atlanta, Georgia.

Drs. Jade Coston, Corine Myers-Jennings, and Ruth Stonestreet's project: Preparing scholars of

tomorrow to effectively analyze language sample data for parent-child turn-taking was funded under the Valdosta State University Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) for undergraduate engagement in discipline-based inquiry.

Dr. Ruth Renee Hannibal traveled to ASHA's national office March 18-21, 2010 to be trained as ASHA Speech-Language Pathology Advisory Council Member. She learned valuable information about issues that face the profession as well as spent a day on Capitol Hill visiting with Senators and Congressman advocating for speech, language and hearing issues.



# The GSHA Executive Council passed the following resolutions for this past fiscal year (*July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010*):

EC 2009-8-1: To approve the budget. *Passed*

EC 2010-1-1: To establish the Robert A Hull, Jr. Leadership Award effective Convention 2010. *Passed*

EC 2010-3-1: To approve the new GSHA Constitution. *Passed*

EC 2010-3-2: To approve the new GSHA Standing Rules. *Passed*

EC 2010-3-3: That the decision for student membership competition procedures be referred to the Student Representative and Membership Committee with recommendations to be presented at the fall 2010 EC meeting. *Passed*

EC 2010-3-3: That GSHA approve convention policies to include:

Call for Papers: (1) Presenters are not required to be GSHA members, and (2) All presenters listed on application are not required to attend the convention, but those who do attend must register for at least the day(s) they are scheduled to present. *Passed*

Poster Sessions: (1) Presenters are not required to be GSHA members, (2) All presenters listed on the submission are not required to attend convention, but those who do attend must register for at least the day(s) they are scheduled to present, and (3) If the presenters are listed as student(s) and faculty, then the faculty member is encouraged to attend and present the poster with the students. *Passed*

Invited Speakers: (1) An invited speaker, who is requested by the Convention Committee to provide a convention presentation, may be offered compensation, ranging from waive of registration fee, payment for travel/hotel, and/or payment of an honorarium, (2) An invited speaker is not required to be a GSHA member, and (3) An invited speaker is not required to register for the Convention. *Passed*

EC 2010-3-4: That the decision for student membership competition procedures be referred to the Student Representative and Membership Committee with recommendations to be presented at the fall 2010 EC meeting. *Passed*

EC 2010-4-1: To pass GSHA listserv policy as presented. *Passed*



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# Introducing . . . . the 2010-2011 Executive Council

Dear GSHA Members:

It is with great pleasure that I announce the new Executive Council members for the 2010-2011 membership year, beginning July 1, 2010:

## **Officers' Board**

**President:** Melanie Hudson

**President-Elect:** Kelly Ball

**Past-President:** Erica Chatelain

**Vice President of Association Affairs:** Carol Ann Raymond

**Vice President of Professional Practice:** Ruth Renee Hannibal

## **Executive Council**

**Chair, Membership:** Maryanne Weatherill

**Co-chairs, Convention Committee:** Tiffany Markey and Akilah Heggs (co-chairs)

**Chair, Schools Committee:** Charlette Green

**Chair, Public Relations Committee:** Pat Wahoske

**Chair, Continuing Education Committee:** Vince Clark

**Chair, Communications Committee:** Emily Wooten

**Chair, Healthcare and Private Practice:** Cathy Carney-Thomas

**Chair, Student Affairs Committee:** Camille Corica

**Chair, Higher Education Committee:** Debra Schober-Peterson

**Finance Committee - Members-at-Large:** Jill Shedd and Sarah Chaney (Chair to be elected by the committee members)

**Strategic Planning Committee:** Jane Frobose, Colleen O'Rourke, Kristin Hanna, Bonnie Schaudé, Julie Bonner, Ruth Stonestreet (Chair to be elected by the committee members)

Our next Executive Council meeting will be held on **Saturday, August 28, at the University of Georgia College of Education, Aderhold Hall, Athens, GA.**

Thank You!

Melanie W. Hudson, M.S., CCC-SLP  
GSHA President-Elect, 2009-10



# Reception for Senator Moody

*by Kelly Ball, M.Ed., CCC-SLP*

*Chair - SLP Healthcare Committee*

A reception was hosted by Georgia Speech-Language Hearing Association (GSHA) members and lobbyists, Stan Jones and Helen Sloat, in honor of Senator Dan Moody at the offices of Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough in Atlanta, Georgia on June 16th . Senator Moody was presented with the **GSHA Legislator Appreciation Award** with members and lobbyists from both GSHA and the Georgia Occupational Therapy Association (GOTA) present. Senator Moody was nominated for this award by members of the Healthcare Committee due to his tireless efforts to enable children with speech, language, hearing, and swallowing disorders to receive the therapy that is needed to improve their quality of life. Senator Moody has worked with the tri-alliance regarding system wide Medicaid problems which are causing therapists undue hardship and are preventing children with disabilities from getting the therapy services they require. He sponsored Senate Bill 507 the intent of which was to require Medicaid and the CMO's to grant prior authorizations for 6 months of therapy at one time to children with chronic conditions in addition to several other issues. He also hosted several meetings with the Department of Community Health, the medical directors of the CMO's, and tri-alliance members to work out ongoing Medicaid problems. Overall, he has been a champion for children with disabilities and the therapists that serve these children.

Senator Moody is retiring from the Georgia Senate. When asked what he would recommend regarding the continuing efforts of therapists to get problems resolved, he indicated that therapists should meet with their local legislators throughout the year to make them aware of SLP issues so that when these issues come up in the legislature they will be educated about them. The tri-alliance has enjoyed working with Senator Moody, and we wish him the best with his retirement.



From Left to Right: Kelly Ball (GSHA Chair, SLP Healthcare Committee), Cathy Carney-Thomas (GSHA SLP Healthcare Committee Member), and Senator Dan Moody.