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A home to our GSHA Convention for the second year in a row, the Atlanta Marriott Gwinnett Place is easily accessible and is providing an even LOWER nightly rate this year! Don't forget to make your reservation by February 24 to secure our special GSHA Convention rate of **ONLY \$99/night!** Reserve today by calling 770-923-0017, and make sure to let them know that you are with the GSHA Convention!



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Bringing back the Wine N' Cheese Reception, generously sponsored by Integra Rehabilitation, the annual Association Luncheon, and Roundtable Mixer, don't miss the best opportunity to network with peers from all over the state of Georgia at the 2010 GSHA Convention.



*Enjoy these networking benefits, outstanding programming, and great location all for your low GSHA Member registration rate of \$225, if you register by the Early Bird deadline of February 24.
So, don't miss out and register today!*

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 June 16, 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.

2010 GSHA CONVENTION RATES

	Early-Bird Discounted (postmarked by 2/24/2010)	Regular Registration (after 2/24/2010)
Full Conference		
GSHA Member	\$225	\$275
Non-Member	\$360	\$410
Student Member	\$50	\$100
Student Non-Member	\$135	\$185
Friday Only		
GSHA Member	\$150	\$200
Non-Member	\$200	\$250
Saturday Only		
GSHA Member	\$180	\$230
Non-Member	\$230	\$280

SPECIAL SCHOOLS TRACK

New this year, GSHA is offering a one-day program for Speech-Language Pathologists who work in the public/private school setting. This program is offered Saturday only, with specialized programming. Selecting this option entitles you to attend "schools track" only designated courses. You will receive a special name badge indicating this option. Also included in this option are breakfast, breaks, and the Association luncheon on Saturday.

	Early-Bird Discounted (postmarked by 2/24/2010)	Regular Registration (after 2/24/2010)
GSHA Member	\$125	\$150
Non-Member	\$150	\$180

Members of the Speech-Language-Hearing Associations in Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, South Carolina, and North Carolina may register at the "Member" rate with verification of state association membership. Contact GSHA at execdir@gsha.org for details.

If you have any questions about the convention, please feel free to contact the GSHA Office at 561-477-8100 or via e-mail at execdir@gsha.org.



President's Message

by Erica Chatelain



Happy New Year! As we start 2010, I would like to wish each one of you a healthy and prosperous year! Entering a new year gives us a chance to make New Year's resolutions. Generally these resolutions are "I will work out 5 days a week" or "I will save so much money per month." While these resolutions are great, I challenge each one of you as members of GSHA to make a resolution about your state organization. Maybe you want to get involved, making your resolution "I will contact GSHA about Volunteer Opportunities." Or maybe you

are interested in growing membership so your resolution may be "I will encourage colleagues to join GSHA." Regardless of your resolution, my point is to get out there and support GSHA! GSHA needs its members' support and volunteerism to continue to thrive as the only state association for speech, language, and audiology that is nationally recognized by ASHA!

If becoming involved would be your resolution, then I have a great upcoming opportunity to spotlight! GSHA's Convention Committee has been working diligently to provide you with a great program at GSHA's Annual Convention in Atlanta, Georgia March 19-21, 2010. During the convention, you have a wonderful opportunity to earn CEUs by attending informative sessions on various topics and you will also have the opportunity to network through special events like our "Wine and Cheese Social" and our "Roundtable" event. The convention offers something for everyone no matter your interests, but most importantly it offers you the opportunity to connect and share with SLP's and Audiologist from across the state.

So make a resolution about GSHA and stick to it! Your membership in GSHA offers you many benefits; however, the more involved you are in YOUR state organization the more benefits YOU will gain! I hope to see you all at Convention 2010 and I hope to have you all knocking down my door to get involved and commit to the state organization that is looking out for your profession and issues that may affect our careers as audiologists and speech-language pathologists!

We have a new and improved website—please take a look: http://www.armstrong.edu/Health_professions/Communication_sciences_disorders/csd_welcome.

Georgia State University

Georgia State wishes a Happy New Year to our colleagues and alums throughout the state! We also congratulate our most recent graduates (December, 2009): Courtney Baker, Allison Diemer, Crystal Gambrel, Katie Geismar, Amy Glasco, Kristen Hudgins, Jessie Procter, Kimberly Prohasca, Patricia Spicknall, Marianna Stambolsky, Jake Tabor, and Kimberly Woodall. We wish you all the best!

We are thrilled to announce that Dr. Julie A. Washington will be joining our faculty in August of this year, coming from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Dr. Washington is a leading researcher in the area language and literacy skills of African American children and the impact those skills have on academic achievement, clinical performance, and overall school success. She has been hired through a University-wide language and literacy initiative which will support and encourage interdisciplinary research.

The Georgia State NSSLHA chapter will be holding a Job Fair on February 20th from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. There will be a large number of employers at the fair, all seeking to hire speech-language pathologists. We invite students from all programs in the state and the region, as well as alums, who will be seeking jobs in the coming year to attend the fair. The Job Fair promises to be a great opportunity to learn about employment opportunities – for additional information contact Dr. Jacqueline Laures-Gore at spejls@langate.gsu.edu.

The Communication Disorders Research Colloquium and the College of Education Research Wednesday's program are hosting Dr. Gary Weismer, Oros Bascom Professor of Communication Disorders at the University of Wisconsin-

What's New At The "U"?

Armstrong Atlantic State University

Greetings from beautiful Savannah and AASU! We are pleased to have several newsworthy items to share. Stan Cooke, Ed.D. (Professor Emeritus) was named Program Coordinator

of communication sciences and disorders. He joins us from Western Kentucky University, where he served in various clinical, teaching, and administrative capacities during his tenure there. Dr. Cooke takes the place of Dr. Donna Brooks, who was named Assistant Dean of the College of Health Professions in 2009. In other faculty news, Dr. Maya Reynolds Clark is currently serving as the Southeast Region Representative for GSHA. In addition, Dr. Clark and Dr. April Garrity are currently serving on the GSHA Convention Committee. Faculty members Dr. Lynn Adams and Dr. Garrity will be presenting at the 2010 GSHA Convention.

On the student front, we were thrilled to welcome our new cohort of 14 students into our Master of Science program in speech-language pathology in the fall of 2009. Our second year graduate students are currently completing their educational and medical clinical externships and are looking forward to being CFY-ready in 2010! In addition, our undergraduate program is thriving and we anticipate continued growth. We are especially excited about offering a new sequence of sign language courses beginning Spring 2010.

What's New at the U? Contd. from Page 3

Madison, on March 3rd at noon. He will be presenting on the use of nonspeech motor tasks during the motor speech assessment.

Spring semester is a busy time for our Clinic and we are happy to have Ms. Michelle Bartolozzi, Ms. Laurie Ben-Moshe and Ms. Kristin Hanna returning as part-time instructors to join our full-time faculty supervisors, Ms. Mary Rambow and Dr. Stacey Wallen. We are also pleased to have Dr. Dan Sisterhen teaching our Advanced Audiology class again this spring semester.

With our graduate program application deadline in January, spring semester is the time to make those difficult admissions' decisions. The program faculty and current students will be interviewing applicants in February. We look forward to meeting these prospective students and having them learn more about our program as they tour the Clinic and meet with faculty and current students. In faculty news, Dr. Laures-Gore and her colleagues, Scott Russell (Grady Hospital) and Rupal Patel (Northeastern University), are presenting a poster, *Treating expressive aprosodia: A case study*, at the Conference on Motor Speech in March in Savannah. Dr. Colleen O'Rourke will be participating in a panel discussion on models of academic program capacity building at the Council of Academic Programs in Communication Sciences and Disorders annual conference in April in Austin, Texas.

Mark your calendars for our Twelfth Annual Summer Institute to be held on June 24-25, 2010. Dr. Geralyn Timler from Miami University of Ohio, a specialist in child language, will be our featured presenter. We hope to see you there!

For additional information about the graduate program in Communication Disorders at Georgia State University, please call 404-413-8044.

University of Georgia

Congratulations to our most recent graduate, Joanna White, who completed her graduate degree in December 2009. We wish you a very successful career! We also are excited for our 21 second-year students who began the new year by completing their comprehensive exams and beginning their final spring internships. Many thanks to all of the supervisors in school and medical settings who are providing these students with excellent opportunities to continue their clinical skill development.

UGA welcomes a new clinic supervisor, Ms. Marilyn Cary, who will be providing part-time supervision. We are pleased to have her join our faculty and share her many years of clinical expertise with our students.

Congratulations also are extended to Dr. Holly Kaplan, who has recently been appointed as the Audiology Committee Chair for the Council for Clinical Certification of ASHA. If you need assistance with any certification issues, feel free to contact her at hkaplan@uga.edu.

Kudos to first-year student Camille Corica, who is serving as the GSHA Student Representative this year. Camille is currently

working on establishing communications with students at the other Georgia programs to increase student membership and is enthusiastically developing a student membership campaign and program for the Convention student forum. We know she will be successful in this role to provide leadership for our student members.

Several of our faculty (bolded names) had sessions accepted at the recent ASHA convention in New Orleans, including:

- Richardson, J., **Bothe, A.** & **Marshall, R.J.S.** (2009, November). *Generalization Effects in Individuals With Aphasia Following Constraint-Induced Aphasia Therapy.*
- Peaster, L., Semrad, M., **Keller-Bell, Y.** (2009, November). *The language-literacy connection: A collaborative enterprise*

Posters that were presented were:

- **Iyer, S.N.**, Hsu, H.C., & Fogel, A. (2009, November). *Effect of normal and perturbed social games on infant vocalizations.*
- **Keller-Bell, Y.** (2009, November). *Structural complexity in the narratives of children with Down syndrome.*

Additionally, Dr. Holly Kaplan and graduate students Caroline DeCelles, Casey Garvin, Caroline Loss, and Kayla Madden presented the poster session *Tommy Can you Hear Me? Hearing Conservation for Concert-Goers*. The poster was the culmination of this group's community prevention project that included an informational booth on noise awareness and hearing loss prevention during Athfest, a weekend long rock music festival held annually in Athens. Attendees also received free earplugs and coupons for free hearing screenings and completed surveys about attitudes toward hearing and hearing protection. As a result of the project, Caroline DeCelles has started a foundation, We're hEAR for You, to continue work in the Athens music community by promoting awareness of noise-induced hearing loss and providing free earplugs to local music venues. The foundation is working closely with the NSSLHA group and further research collaboration may be possible with the University of Florida AuD program. We are very proud of their efforts to increase noise awareness in our community!

Our program, in conjunction with Georgia State University and Valdosta State University, hosted the annual Southeastern University Clinical Educators (SEUCE) conference, which was in October at the Foundry Park Inn in Athens. Over 50 supervisors from 24 different universities shared information to improve skills in clinical education. Thanks are extended to the planning committee, Carol Ann Raymond and Alisa Schultz (UGA) and Debra Schober-Peterson (GSU). Additionally, CEUs were provided by Ruth Stonestreet (VSU). Many thanks also to Linda Lauderdale for opening her historic home for a lovely welcome dinner the evening before the conference. We appreciated the presentations from our faculty, which included Dr. Anne Bothe, who opened the conference with the keynote presentation, "*But How Do You Know?*" *Pseudo-science and Evidence-Based Practice in Clinical Education*; Kellie Bauer and Alisa Schultz, who presented *The Challenges of Teaching the Clinical Application of Evidence-based Practice*, and Dr. Rebecca Shisler Marshall, who helped relax participants with her presentation on *Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction*.

What's New at the U? Contd. from Page 4

Watch for more information on the CSSE Summer Institute, which will be June 10-11, 2010 at the Georgia Center for Continuing Education in Athens. A variety of speakers will provide information that will be relevant to SLPs and special educators. For more information, contact Carol Ann Raymond at raymond1@uga.edu, 706-542-4559.

Valdosta University

Greetings from Title Town and the Azalea City home of Valdosta State University and the Blazers. We have begun a wonderful semester with students as far away as Los Angeles, California. We are proud of the 24 new students who have enrolled in our graduate program for the spring semester. Our first semester graduate students are a very diverse group coming from a number of states across our beautiful country. We have students from states such as Michigan, Maine, Ohio, New Jersey, and of course Georgia.

Many of our students are excited that their posters have been accepted to the Georgia Speech-Language Hearing Association (GSHA). They are busy working with clients and of course preparing for GSHA. VSU NSSLHA organization is also busy with projects as they ready to collect necessary provisions for Haiti Relief.

Congratulations to Dr. Jade Coston for her proposal titled "Preparing Scholars of Tomorrow to Effectively Analyze Language Sample Data for Parent-Child Turn Taking" by the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP). Drs. Myers-Jennings and Stonestreet will be assisting her with the proposal.

Dr. Ruth Renee Hannibal will be traveling to ASHA's national office during March (GSHA convention) for the first meeting of ASHA's Speech-Language Pathology Advisory Council. If you have any concerns that you want ASHA to hear about, please email her at rrhannib@valdosta.edu.

We will see you at the GSHA Convention.

Healthcare Committee Updates

by Kelly Ball, Chair, SLP/Healthcare Committee

Tri-alliance – Since our last GSHA meeting, the tri-alliance presented a list of systematic problems that therapists are experiencing with Medicaid, including the CMOs, to Jerry Dubberly's office. The CMOs were required to respond to the list of concerns but provided vague answers and did not offer any resolutions to the majority of the problems. Our next step is to try to resolve some of the issues through legislation. A tentative bill was introduced at the end of the last legislative session and will be pursued this session.

GSHA members were notified of the tri-alliance efforts and were asked to contact this committee with concerns. I have fielded numerous phone calls regarding problems with TRS, who is now handling therapy services for the CMO Peachstate.

GSHA members are encouraged to meet with their legislators and share the list of CMO concerns developed by the tri-alliance to encourage them to vote for our bill this session.

Call for Articles

Communication Lines is a newsletter published three 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:

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The Clinical Exchange

by Cathy Carney-Thomas

Well, it's cold outside. Many areas of Georgia saw something this year that they haven't seen in a very long time – snow! For those of us who love the idea of a white Christmas and donning of hat, scarf, and gloves it was a wonderful experience. Many people are passing pictures around of their little ones playing in the snow. It is a delightful scene, the child's first glimpse of snow – the ability to make a snow angel, build a snowman or just get on a sled and go down a snow covered hill. For those of us who aren't as delighted by the colder temps and the snow, the experience was still delightful from inside the house – to see the flakes falling and covering the tree branches with a fluff of white.

The colder weather gave me a chance to catch up on some reading, do some long needed reviews and put some continuing education credits under my belt. Amazing how some things have changed in our field and others stayed relatively the same. We need to stay abreast of the latest research and developments in our field and at the same time provide the best care we can to our clients using the skills we have known for a long time. Let's take this issue of the clinical exchange to review apraxia and dysarthria.

Dysarthria involves the transfer of information from the nervous system to the muscles. The errors in dysarthria are predictable and consistent and mostly distortions, although omissions do occasionally occur. The production of the initial and final consonants in dysarthria is imprecise. Vowels are not generally affected, however, will frequently sound alike due to weakness of tongue muscle movements. Dysarthric speech characteristics include phonation, resonance, prosody, rate and respiration as well as articulation. Many will describe the speech as sounding slurred. Dysarthric speakers may also show chewing and swallowing deficits due to the muscular weakness or incoordination. The dysarthric speaker will produce diadochokinesis slowly. It will contain distortion or omission of phonemes but syllable production will be in correct order. As the rate of the production of speech increases, the intelligibility is also affected; slower speech produces improved articulatory skill. The treatment of dysarthria is completely compensatory. Because motor pathways are damaged, the patient with dysarthria must learn to use techniques in conversation for added clarity.

Apraxia is a planning problem, unlike dysarthria, which is a movement problem. Apraxia results from damage to the cortical or central nervous system impairing the ability to generate motor programs for speech movements. Apraxic errors are unpredictable and inconsistent; the same word may be produced several different ways. Generally, the speaker's spontaneous

speech has fewer errors than repetition tasks. Substitutions are the most common error in apraxia of speech. Errors are perseveratory and show groping or trial and error productions. During automatic or overlearned tasks, the speech is generally error free. Single consonants are easier to produce than blends; final consonants are easier to produce than the initial; and vowels are not usually hindered during speech production. Fricatives and affricatives are the most complex movements and the most difficult to produce. Unlike dysarthria, apraxia is a disorder of articulation. Apraxia does not affect the voice, resonance, rate, or respiration of speech. There is probably not a difficulty with the involuntary motor control for chewing or swallowing. Diadochokinesis will be slow and abnormal with the syllables produced out of order. Errors will increase as the complexity of the utterance increases; single syllables are much easier to produce than multisyllables. As the rate of the speech increases, the intelligibility of the speech may increase. As noted in most of the literature, checking the effect of increased rate of speech on the intelligibility may be one way to differentiate apraxia from dysarthria. Therapy for apraxia will often focus more on retraining rather than compensatory strategies.

These characteristics are applicable for both children and adults; however, the "formal" test administered may be different. And, as with most deficits, not all characteristics mentioned will be present in the person suffering from a speech disorder.

Hope that this refresher was helpful. Of course, it includes only a portion or summary of the information that is available from our texts and journals. No one suggested a question or clinical situation for our next newsletter, so I'll make a recommendation. For our next issue, let's look at the differences between dysarthria and phonological disorders in children. There is plenty of time to forward any information you have on the subject to me at cathycarney2@aol.com. We want to hear from you. You may also forward any questions you would like to see answered by your fellow speech-language pathologists in future issues of the this paper.

Looking forward to spring and our annual state convention. See you all there!

McCaffrey, P. Dysarthria and Apraxia in *Neuropathologies of Swallowing and Speech* Chapter 15.

Stoeckel, R & Hammer, D. *Childhood Apraxia of Speech Association Professional Advisory Board*. Retrieved at <http://www.apraxia-kids.org>.

ATTENTION STUDENTS! JOB FAIR ANNOUNCEMENT

The Georgia State University Chapter of NSSLHA is hosting a Job Fair on February 20, 2010 for graduate students in Communication Disorders programs in the Southeast. The event will be held at the Georgia State University Student Center, 44 Courtland Street, Atlanta, GA 30302 from 12:30 - 3:00 p.m. Examples of participating vendors include EBS Healthcare and representatives from County School Systems. All graduate students are welcome. The student fee for participating will be \$5. Fliers have been sent to the NSSLHA presidents of local chapters. For more information contact Alyssa Ferega, GSU NSSLHA President, at asevert1@student.gsu.edu.



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PAC Report

by Donna Davidson

The Georgia Speech-Language-Hearing Association is very involved in legislative affairs and works closely with key legislators to advance our legislative agenda. Working together, legislation has been enacted which will positively impact services for people with disabilities; as well as reimbursement rates and other issues that impact Speech-Language Pathologists.

The Georgia Speech-Language-Hearing Association has a political arm called **Political Action Committee (PAC)**. The purpose of the PAC is to promote the improvement of the health care and education of citizens of the State of Georgia by raising funds from GSHA members and others and by contributing said funds to worthy candidates for state office who believe in and have demonstrated belief in the legislative objectives of the GSHA.

The governing body of the PAC is the Board of Trustees composed of seven members. Five trustees are appointed by the Officer's Committee of the GSHA and include the President of the GSHA, the Chairperson of the GSHA Legislative Committee, and three members of the GSHA. Two trustees are appointed by the GSHA Legislative Committee. The members of the Board of Trustees are as follows:

Donna Davidson, PAC Chair
Ruth Stonestreet
Ginny Mayer
Jean Norman
Jill Shedd
Kelly Weber
LaRae Brown

The PAC Board of Trustees met to discuss PAC contributions using the funds from the 2008/2009 fiscal year. The following contributions were given to legislators who have helped to advance the mission of GSHA through their legislative support.

Senator Dan Moody: He sits on appropriations and has supported key legislation that was enacted that positively impacted child with disabilities. He supported HB549 that was sponsored my Rep. Burkhalter and then sponsored SB507 that was enacted. SB 507; a bill to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 4 of Title 49 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to public assistance, so as to establish requirements for basic therapy services for children with disabilities detected under screening activities required by federal law; to provide for legislative findings; to provide for definitions; to assure similar treatments and services for categorically needy and medically fragile children; to provide certain requirements relating to administrative prior approval for services and appeals; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

PAC Donation: \$200

Senator Renee Untermann: She is the chair of the Human Resources subcommittee on appropriations.

PAC Donation: \$200

Senator Jack Hill: He has been a key supporter on all of our legislative issues since 2005. He assisted us in increasing the rate of code 92507 after Medicaid changed this to an untimed code. He has also been very involved in the discussions surrounding the problems with the Medicaid Care Management Organizations.

PAC Donation: \$200

Senator Valencia Seay: She sits on appropriations and has been very supportive of all of our legislative issues. Her daughter is a Speech-Language Pathologist.

PAC Donations: \$200

Senator Tom Williams: He sits on appropriations and has been very supportive as it relates to our issues with the Care Management Organizations.

PAC Donations: \$200

LT. Governor Casey Cagle: He currently serves as the Lieutenant Governor.

PAC Donation: \$200

Rep. Ben Harbin: He sits on appropriations and has been supportive of our legislative issues.

PAC Donation: \$150

Rep. Micky Channell: He sits on appropriations and has been supportive of our legislative issues particularly as it relates to our reimbursement of 92507 and our issues with the Care Management Organizations.

PAC Donation: \$150

Rep. Amos Amerson: He sits on appropriations and has a long history of supporting services for people with disabilities.

PAC Donation: \$150

Rep. Katie Dempsey: She sits on Health and Human Services and has taken an interest in issues related to children with disabilities.

PAC Donation: \$150



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News from ASHA

by Jennifer Sunseri

During November 19-21, 2009, the city of New Orleans was invaded by more than 11,000 Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists from around the world. A total of 39 nations comprised this year's participants. All 50 states were represented, with Louisiana having the most attendees closely followed by New York. Some participants even traveled from Australia to attend this year's annual convention in the Big Easy. A total of 1,868 educational sessions were conducted during the three-day convention. "Two Professions, Powerful Partners" proved true throughout the many courses and sessions offered at the convention center. ASHA President, Sue Hale, kept the message clear throughout her convention address. She stated that "it is time we accept the need for collaboration in clinical service delivery and in the creation of our science." Many awards and honors were handed out with the "Annie" going to Vice President Joe Biden who stuttered through young adulthood. Annie Glenn also received her own "Annie" representing ASHA's appreciation of her role as an advocate for people with communicative disorders. Other highlights of the convention included acknowledging ASHA's 40 years of multicultural work and the 10 years of achievement by the Minority Student Leadership Program. Another special moment of the convention occurred at the ASHFoundation's annual Founders Breakfast where a record-breaking number of attendants gathered before dawn. More than \$376,000 was awarded to more than 35 researchers, students, and clinicians. ASHFoundation's President Nancy Creaghead stated that "despite the economic challenges of the past year, donors contributed 20% more than the previous leader". One of the unique opportunities that ASHA participants had this year was to help the city of New Orleans rebuild the Ninth Ward. Sixty-nine of your fellow professionals assisted in the rebuilding of houses for Habitat for Humanity. If you were not one of the lucky ones to make it to New Orleans for the convention you can log onto asha.org to gain access to the hundreds of handouts that were presented and to see more coverage of the convention.

Here's something to think about: it is predicted that by 2030 more than 40% of the entire school-age population will be English-language learners. What does this mean for school-based Speech-Language Pathologists? It means that we are faced with the challenge of providing services to the children who need them without over- or under-diagnosing communication deficits. Two universities have already stepped up the challenge and have begun programs to help SLPs become more competent in working with this diverse population. Penn State University created the Multiplying Opportunities for Services and Access for Immigrant Children (MOSAIC) program. This program will train speech-language pathology students to provide evidence-based services to English-language learners in the school setting. The students in the MOSAIC program will take classes like "Immigrants, America, and Language", "English-Language Learners with Disabilities", and "Rural Schools: Children with Communication Disabilities". The MOSAIC program focuses on targeting immigrant children in mostly rural areas and has partnered with education departments in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and West Virginia. According to the Census Bureau, these states are projected to have the next-biggest growth areas after traditional immigrant gateway states such as California and Texas. Indiana University (IU) has created STEPS – Speech Therapy Education, Practicum, and Services. The four-year program will focus specifically on Latino and Spanish-speaking population in Indiana. In order to fully participate in the STEP program, students are required to have intermediate-level fluency in Spanish. Requirements also include 50 clinical hours with bilingual children and a supervised externship in a school with a large Spanish-speaking population. An associate professor in IU's Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences says that the need for bilingual SLPs has been evident for some time. These programs are funded by the U.S. Department of Education.



SILENT AUCTION ITEMS FOR 2010 CONVENTION

Attention Members! GSHA is now collecting items for the annual Silent Auction at Convention in March. If you would like to donate something, please contact the GSHA Management Office at 561-477-8100 or execdir@gsha.org.

We appreciate your support!