

Featured Speakers

2010 Annual Speech and Hearing Convention
“Advocacy in Action”
April 21-24, 2010
Sheraton Imperial, Durham

Short Course 1: Advanced Topics in Flexible Endoscopic Evaluation of Swallowing

Susan Butler, Ph.D., CCC-SLP, BRS-S

Dr. Butler is an Associate Professor in the Department of Otolaryngology, Center for Voice and Swallowing Disorders at Wake Forest University Health Sciences in Winston-Salem, NC. Dr. Butler is an active researcher and publisher in swallowing and swallowing disorders, and has won the prestigious scientific presentation award of the Dysphagia Research Society. Currently, Dr. Butler’s NIH funded research targets identifying the range of normal swallowing function across the lifespan as assessed endoscopically (NIH NIDCD R03DC009875) and assessing the associations between swallowing function and tongue strength, tongue composition, pharyngeal strength, and overall physical functioning (Wake Forest University Claude D. Pepper Older Americans Independence Center, P30-AG21332). Dr. Butler has held over 50 seminars nation-wide training individuals in Flexible Endoscopic Evaluation of Swallowing (FEES) and has provided 100s of clinical and scientific presentations on advanced dysphagia evaluation and management.

Strength Assessment and Treatment for Dysphagia

Heather Clark, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

Dr. Clark is Professor of Communication Disorders at Appalachian State University. Her clinical and classroom teaching activities are in the area of neurogenic communication and swallowing disorders. Over the past ten years, her research has included a review of neuromuscular treatments, drawing heavily from the literature of related disciplines, including exercise physiology and physical rehabilitation. Through review of the neuromuscular physiology of the speech and swallowing musculature, Dr. Clark continues to explore the application of neuromuscular treatments to dysarthria and neurogenic dysphagia.

Practical Tips for Implementing Response to Intervention (RTI)

Susan L. Hall, Ed.D.

Ms. Hall, Ed.D. is a consultant specializing in teacher training and early reading. She is founder and president of an educational consulting and professional development company called 95 Percent Group Inc. The company provides consulting and teacher training to districts and schools in Response to Intervention (RTI) in early reading. They specialize in how to use early literacy screening data to place students in groups for tiers of intervention, as well as instructional strategies to address specific skill deficits. Susan is a nationally certified trainer of DIBELS and LETRS. Susan is author of *Implementing Response to Intervention: A Principal’s Guide* and *I’ve DIBEL’d, Now What?* and coauthor with Louisa Moats of two books, *Straight Talk About Reading* and *Parenting a Struggling Reader*.

The Genetics of Early Onset Hearing Loss and Common Genetic Verbal Communication Disorders

Tamison Jewett, M.D.

Dr. Jewett practices Medical Genetics at Wake Forest University Health Sciences. She cares primarily for children who are abnormally formed, developed, and/or grown. Her goal is to provide a unifying diagnosis, whenever possible, in order to guide management of care and to educate patients and families about natural history, recurrence risk, prenatal testing, and resources. She thoroughly enjoys her patients and their families, and there is never a dull moment in her clinic!

Literature-Based Activities to Teach Social Communication in Autism Spectrum Disorders

Helen Nychka, M.S., CCC-SLP

Ms. Nychka, M.S., CCC-SLP has been a speech-language pathologist, specializing in the treatment of autism, for over 25 years. Her approach includes elements of TEACCH, Applied Behavior Analysis, the Floortime approach (Greenspan), Relationship Development Intervention (Gutstein), the Denver Model (Rogers, et al) and the SCERTS model (Prizant, et al). Helen has completed graduate course work in Behavior Analysis and is a certified Hanen instructor. Helen has given workshops, trained school personnel, and consulted with families across the U.S., and in Denmark, Sweden, and Nigeria. She is currently Senior Clinical Consultant at the Alta Vista Center for Autism and maintains a private practice serving children from pre-school to late adolescence in Boulder, Colorado.

ASHA's Compass: The Revised Code of Ethics

Paul R. Rao, Ph.D., CCC, CPHQ, FACHE

Dr. Paul Rao is the VP of Inpatient Operations and Compliance at the National Rehabilitation Hospital (NRH) in Washington, D.C.. Dr. Rao is a Visiting Professor at the University of Maryland and a CARF rehab hospital surveyor and in 2000 became a Certified Professional in Healthcare Quality and a Certified Healthcare Executive. Dr. Rao received his Bachelors Degree in Philosophy from St. Vincent College in Latrobe, PA., his Masters in Speech Pathology from Catholic University in Washington, D.C., and his Ph.D. in Hearing and Speech Science from the University of Maryland in College Park, Maryland.

Dr. Rao has published numerous articles and chapters on such topics as Customer Service, Policy and Procedures, Supervision, Health Literacy and Management. In 1999 and again in 2005, Rao edited the Winter issue of Topics In Stroke Rehabilitation. He is the primary editor of Managing Stroke: A Guide to Living Well after Stroke published in 2000 by NRH Press and is the lead editor for the second edition of this text in 2009. He is a sought after speaker on a variety of clinical and administrative topics, having presented over 100 lectures in over 30 states, Canada, and New Zealand. He was the Commencement Speaker at the University of Maryland's Department of Hearing & Speech Sciences in 2002 and at the Boston University's Sargent College in 2007. He serves on the editorial board of Topics in Stroke Rehabilitation and Advance for Directors. In 1989 and again in 2001, the American Speech - Language Hearing Foundation recognized Rao with its Clinical Achievement Award. In 1994, Dr. Rao was selected as NRH's Manager of the Quarter and received the Maryland Speech and Hearing Association's Honors and Service Award. Dr. Rao is a Fellow in both the American Speech language Hearing Association and the American College of Healthcare Executives. In 1997, NRH recognized Dr. Rao as the recipient of the 9th Annual John W. Goldschmidt Award for Excellence in Rehabilitation. In 2001, the D.C. Association for Healthcare Quality conferred on Dr. Rao the Janis Willis Annual Award for Educational Excellence and in 2003 awarded him the Beth Lang Award for Outstanding Leadership. In 2002, Gallaudet University presented Rao its Outstanding External Collaborator Award. In addition to being a member of ASHA, Rao is a member of the National Association for Healthcare Quality and the American College of Healthcare Executives.

Dr. Rao has been an invited member of "expert panels" convened by ASHA, Joint Commission, GAO, Rand Corporation, National Stroke Association, American Heart Association, Institute of Medicine, CARF and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid. Dr. Rao has served on a number of national committees such as ASHA's Chair of Honors and the Board of Division of Co-ordinators and currently Chairs ASHA's Board of Ethics. Dr. Rao is Past-President of the Maryland Speech and Hearing Association, the Maryland Board of Examiners, and the DC Association for Healthcare Quality. He Co-Chairs the D.C. Hospital Association's Quality & Compliance Committee and was a member of the National Patient Safety Improvement Corps in 2004-2005. Dr. Rao is a Board member of the National Aphasia Association and Stroke Comeback, Inc.. Finally Dr. Rao has been elected to begin his term as President Elect of the American Speech-Language Hearing Association, a 140,000 member organization serving the Discipline of Audiology, Speech Language Pathology and Hearing and Speech Science, in 2010.

**Short Course 2 - Stuttering and Other Fluency Disorders in Children and Adolescents:
An Avoidance-Reduction Approach to Treatment**

Vivian Sisskin, M.S., CCC-SLP, BRS-FD

Ms. Sisskin is an instructor and clinical supervisor in the department of Hearing and Speech Sciences at the University of Maryland. She was awarded the 2008 Excellence in Teaching Award by the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences. She is an ASHA Board Recognized Specialist in Fluency Disorders and served as Coordinator for ASHA's Special Interest Division 4, Fluency and Fluency Disorders. She has authored articles and continuing educational materials related to the treatment of stuttering for school-age children. In addition to assessment and treatment of fluency disorders, her workshops include strategies for effective group therapy, communication strategies for children with autism spectrum disorders, and clinical supervision. Vivian is also a private practitioner in the Washington D.C. area.

Revisiting Linguistic Diversity in SLP: Resources and Opportunities

Walt Wolfram, Ph.D.

Dr. Wolfram is William C. Friday Distinguished Professor of English Linguistics at North Carolina State University, where he also directs the North Carolina Language and Life Project. He has pioneered research on social and ethnic dialects since the 1960s, authoring or co-authoring more than 20 books and more than 300 articles on regional, social, and ethnic dialects of American English, including primary research books, texts, and trade books for the public. Professor Wolfram is vitally concerned with the application of sociolinguistic information to social and educational problems and the dissemination of knowledge about dialects to the public. In this connection, he has been involved in the production of more than 10 regional and national television documentaries on dialect diversity. He also has directed the construction of several museum exhibits on language and developed the first state-endorsed dialect awareness curriculum for the middle schools in North Carolina, Voices of North Carolina. Wolfram is former President of the Linguistic Society of America as well as the American Dialect Society, and the recipient of the Holladay Medal at NC State University, the NC Humanities Council's Caldwell Laureate (2008-09), and the Language, Linguistics and the Public Award by the Linguistic Society of America (2010).