



March Editor: Diane Collins

**WE ARE CSAP!**

## CSAP-ASHA Conference to Meet in San Antonio, Texas

By: Judith P. Keller, CSAP president

Note: The CSAP brochure has been mailed. If you do not receive your brochure in the mail, or receive registration materials via email, please contact the CSAP Management firm:

Craven Management  
700 McKnight Park Drive  
Suite 708,  
Pittsburgh, PA 15237  
412-366-1177  
csap@robertcraven.com

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Bienvenidos a San Antonio!!! May 13, 14 and 15, 2010, San Antonio, Texas, will welcome the Council of State Association Presidents, and we hope that you will be there to enjoy all the charm that San Antonio has to offer. We have invited speakers who will bring vital messages to your leadership questions, and we have even programmed some fun in between sessions. We have made sure that the features that you look forward to, like the "Bring, Brag, and Moan," are maximized. Socials are always important to CSAPers. You will enjoy an ASHA reception on Thursday night, the traditional auction on Friday night, and a special treat on Saturday night when we will be hosted by the Texas Speech-Language-Hearing Association. We will then take a few steps next door to the legendary Alamo where we will dine on the grounds that are soaked with Texas history. We will be staying at the historic Menger Hotel with legends and ghosts of its own. We will be only steps away from the famous San Antonio River Walk, an urban sanctuary that winds along the San Antonio River, one story below the bustling street level. You'll have time to wander along the lush landscapes and quaint pathways to dozens of cafes, bistros, and elegant restaurants. Perhaps you will want to cruise the river in a water taxi or shop for a memorable piece of art. All in all, this will be a meeting that you will never forget!

This year will be the first year for the long-awaited CSAP-ASHA collaboration. You will earn ASHA CEUs while you learn the fine art of leadership. You will connect with other state leaders and share information that will be vital to your state's governance. You will also learn a little about CSAP's history while you bask in the rich and colorful history of this beautiful, old city.

I hope that some of you will bring your families and stay a few extra days to enjoy the many activities in San Antonio, such as the missions that date back to the colonial period, the famous zoo, the Tower of the Americas, the Hemisfair, and Market Square. Don't forget Sea World and Fiesta

Texas, and the newest amusement park, Morgan's Wonderland, which covers 25 acres and was created for individuals with special needs. This is the first ultra-accessible family fun park designed so that children with physical challenges can enjoy amusement parks just like their less-challenged counterparts.

Make your plans now, and remember to mention the CSAP-ASHA special rate when you call the Menger Hotel. We hope that everyone will stay at the CSAP hotel so that we can continue to offer our members these special rates. Remember, this year you will register for only one conference, and this conference will begin on Thursday evening with the ASHA Welcome Reception. Programming will start bright and early Friday morning when Tommie L. Robinson, President of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, joins me in opening the conference.

If this is your first CSAP meeting, you may have questions about the Friday night auction. State presidents bring a representative item from the representative item from their states that will be auctioned off in a fast-paced and fun-filled live auction. The auctioneer will invite you to present your item in order to show it to its best advantage (and thus increasing its potential auction value!!!) Proceeds from this auction help to support CSAP activities. We hope you will consider bringing items in the \$75 to \$100 range, but all items are welcome! Don't forget to bring your checkbook or credit card so that you can take some treasures home! This is a fun evening and a big revenue generator for CSAP! Items that have been popular in the past include art, jewelry, wine, pottery, baskets, books, scarves and food items.

So, make your travel plans now! Reserve your room at the Menger!! Send in your registration and start making plans now to join us for CSAP-ASHA in San Antonio, Texas!!!

## SLPA PROGRAMS: NOT ALL ALIKE by Diane Collins

When I attended the Fall 2009 CSAP meeting in New Orleans, I was surprised to discover a variance in information about SLPA Programs and requirements from state to state. As a result, I contacted all CSAP members, requesting data on each state's SLPA programs. A compilation of the information I received from various states follows.

Virginia, Kentucky, South Dakota, and Ohio reported that they do not have any SLPA programs. In South Dakota, a technical institute has proposed, and been approved, to offer an SLPA program. The state association wants to be a resource for setting up this program to ensure that SLPAs are regulated in the capacity that is required.

Ohio's Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology has administrative rules for SLP and Audiology aides. The administrative rules do not indicate what kind of training the aides must have other than that they must work under a licensed SLP or Audiologist.

The state of Washington had one SLPA program. Its program is being discontinued

as the enrollment has dropped. The state association worked very hard to require SLPAs to be licensed; however, after a long and exhausting legislative process, SLPAs are now certified, but not licensed. The issue was that there was a dichotomy of licensing between medical-based SLPs and school-based SLPs, and who would be supervising these SLPAs. Since school-based SLPs do not have to be licensed via the Board of Health, having a licensed SLPA being supervised by a Board of Health non-licensed school-based SLP was problematic to the legislator who headed the committee which reviewed and approved the bill. The legislation has been passed and rule writing implementation will begin soon.

North Carolina, Alaska, and California have SLPA programs that require one to obtain a two year AA degree. Also, qualifications for supervision are specified for a licensed SLP to have an assistant registered under his/her license. In California, licensed SLPs must attend an initial six hours of coursework on supervision, with three hours every two

years afterwards, in order to supervise an SLPA.

In North Dakota, SLPA students have three educational choices:

1. Complete an Arts and Science 2 year program, with the SLPA program as their "major" receiving an SLPA Certificate;
2. If a student already has the arts and science requirements, (from another 2 year college), the student only has to complete the SLPA classes to earn the SLPA Certificate.
3. If a student has a bachelor's degree in Communication Disorders, the student needs only to take one hands-on practicum class in the public schools to complete 100 intervention hours.

Missouri has a position called Implementers. These individuals are to have a BS or BA in Communication Disorders, although this policy has not always been followed. A Schools Affairs MSHA board member has continuously consulted with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education members to remediate this issue and asked that more specific criteria be set and monitored by the state. MSHA is working with ASHA to facilitate changes by developing a plan to change this practice.

Arkansas requires a Bachelor's degree with ongoing training.

Colorado also requires a Bachelor's Degree in Speech Communication, Speech-Language Pathology or Communication Disorders/Speech Sciences. Completion of a school Speech-Language Pathology Assistant Program, plus a minimum of 100 clock hours of field experience, is required.

In a report presented by the National Council of State Boards of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology at the 2009 ASHA Convention, the additional states of Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Montana, New Mexico, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas and West Virginia also required SLPAs to have a Bachelor's Degree. Illinois, Indiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nebraska, New Hampshire and Oregon required an Associate Degree.

### ASHA Offers Membership to SLPAs

According to Lemmie McNeilly at ASHA, SLPAs are increasing in number and do not have an organization or mechanism for communicating with SLPs. An Ad Hoc Committee, that looked at SLPAs, made a recommendation to open lines of communication between SLPs and SLPAs by opening a category of membership. The Board of Directors approved a motion establishing an associate level of membership category. Individuals in this category are not able to vote, nor can they hold an office, or serve on a standing committee, board or council. They may join ad hoc committees.

## STATE HIGHLIGHTS



### Kentucky

The public school salary supplement for SLPs is moving forward. It passed out of the House, and is going to the Senate.

Kentucky just held its annual convention, and it was a huge success! Over 1400 SLPs, Audiologists, Hearing Instrument Specialists, and Speech and Hearing Scientists attended a line-up of 82 sessions. Craven & Associates provided much assistance with this convention which contributed greatly to its financial success.

A Convention liaison, that will remain constant from year to year, has been appointed to the Executive Council for future conventions. Convention chairs will rotate, and will

### Mississippi

Since July 2009, MSHA has waged a successful grass roots campaign to maintain the National Board certification supplement at \$6000. Mississippi has also been successful in partnering with the MS coalition for Citizens with Disabilities (MSCCD) in the collection and reporting of data triggering legislative review and public scrutiny of the MS Department of Medicaid policy changes which caused denial and/or reduction of services to children. Collaborative efforts between MSHA, MSCCD, and the MS Center for Justice are ongoing.

### South Dakota

South Dakota is actively working on proposing licensure legislation at the 2011 South Dakota Legislative Session. The state association has been doing a lot of ground work this year,

including a capitol visit with a display of lip-shaped cookies with ear plugs to promote speech, hearing and swallowing.

The SDSLHA will soon have a Facebook page.

### Ohio

OSLHA just held its first Student Leadership program. This program was designed to encourage Master and Doctoral level students in the state to become leaders, to include becoming part of the state association. This program was held one day prior to the annual convention.

OSHLA also initiated a research grant this year; offered online submission of convention CEUs by registrants; sponsored a Silence Event; and developed a new logo and slogan.

“South Dakota made a capitol visit bringing lip-shaped cookies with ear plugs to promote speech and hearing.”





# 2010 Executive Board

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**JUDITH KELLER**  
[judith.keller@ttuhsc.edu](mailto:judith.keller@ttuhsc.edu)

## **PRESIDENT-ELECT**

**CAROL FLEMING**  
[cbflem@swbell.net](mailto:cbflem@swbell.net)

## **PAST-PRESIDENT**

**SHERRY CURTIS**  
[spcurtis@aol.com](mailto:spcurtis@aol.com)

## **SECRETARY**

**ASHLEY NORTHAM**  
[ashleyslp@gmail.com](mailto:ashleyslp@gmail.com)

## **TREASURER**

**LONNIE HARRIS**  
[harris721@aol.com](mailto:harris721@aol.com)

# Committees and Chairs

## **Commissioner on Issues & Planning**

**Robbie Jackson**  
[rjackson@ewu.edu](mailto:rjackson@ewu.edu)

## **Commissioner On Communication & Technology**

**Erica Chatelain (Chair)**  
[ericaann0129@yahoo.com](mailto:ericaann0129@yahoo.com)  
**Tech Committee: Molly Thompson**  
[polarspeech@yahoo.com](mailto:polarspeech@yahoo.com)

## **e-Newsletter**

**Molly Thompson (Chair)**  
[polarpseech@yahoo.com](mailto:polarpseech@yahoo.com)

## **Time and Place**

**Carlotta Kimble (Chair)**  
[carliekimble@yahoo.com](mailto:carliekimble@yahoo.com)  
**Wendy Gunter**  
[wendy.gunter@slpservice.net](mailto:wendy.gunter@slpservice.net)  
**Tricia Buckles**  
[triciabuckles@aol.com](mailto:triciabuckles@aol.com)

## **Nominations**

**Tara Gregori (Chair)**  
[taragregori@bellsouth.net](mailto:taragregori@bellsouth.net)  
**Scott Rankins**  
[sdrankins@blueridqetherapy.com](mailto:sdrankins@blueridqetherapy.com)

## **Diane Collins**

[slpdicollins@aol.com](mailto:slpdicollins@aol.com)

## **CSAP**

*700 McKnight Park Drive, Suite 708  
Pittsburgh, PA 15237  
Phone: 412-366-1177  
Fax: 412-366-8804*

*[CSAP@robertcraven.com](mailto:CSAP@robertcraven.com)*



**The Mission of CSAP is to:**

**Provide leadership training for State Speech-Language-Hearing Association Presidents;**

**Be a forum for collaboration and networking among these leaders;**

**Promote communication of professional matters between State Speech-Language-Hearing Associations, ASHA and other related national professional organizations**