

BSC NSSLHA NEWSLETTER

Volume I, Issue I

Fall 2006

2006-2007 BSC NSSLHA BOARD

Susan Deahn

President

deahs19@mail.buffalostate.edu

Kerry Champlin

Vice President

chamk147@mail.buffalostate.edu

Katherine Coppola

Secretary

coppkw38@mail.buffalostate.edu

Lauren Crehan

Treasurer

crehla41@mail.buffalostate.edu

Angela Stranahan

Editor

straae39@mail.buffalostate.edu

Sarah Gedraitis

Web Editor

gedrs52@mail.buffalostate.edu

Dr. C. D. Qualls

Faculty Advisor

quallsd@buffalostate.edu

Who's New in the Speech-Language Department?

Angela Stranahan

The speech-language pathology department is pleased to welcome several new faculty members. Some faces are new, others are joining the department in another capacity.

Dr. Fletcher received her doctorate from the University of Memphis. She practiced as a speech-language pathologist for 14 years in Colorado, a child-find coordinator for ten years, and taught at Fredonia for three years. Her knowledge is incredible when it comes to diversity and the different dialects. We are privileged to have her experience brought to our program.

Dr. Fletcher is enjoying our campus and the diversity of the students and staff. She stated, "her colleagues have been very supportive and knowledgeable during her transition." Dr. Fletcher is also thrilled to be living so close to her daughter. We hope you enjoy teaching here at Buffalo State College.

Ms. Scott, known as the "Acronym Queen," is in the process of finishing her doctoral dissertation from Wichita State. Ms. Scott will be presenting some of her research at the ASHA convention in Miami FL in November. She has over ten years experience in the field and has traveled up and down the Atlantic seaboard for most of her career.

I asked Ms. Scott if she likes Buffalo and she quickly remarked, "Ask me after winter." She has three dogs who may not like the cold weather in Buffalo.

The clinic also has made changes in staffing. Christopher Heximer was hired as a full-time clinic supervisor after having served as an adjunct lecturer in the department. A graduate of the University of Buffalo, Mr. Heximer has worked as a speech-language pathologist for 13 years and has teaching experience as well. His expertise is in stuttering, particularly, stuttering therapies. He also coaches varsity wrestling and junior varsity football.

Amy Petrunyak began as an adjunct at BSC and is enjoying her new responsibilities as a part-time clinic supervisor. She graduated from Buffalo State in 1995. In addition to working here, Ms. Petrunyak is very busy at Bornhava, Elmwood Franklin School, and Buffalo Hearing and Speech. She believes our field is exciting because of the diversity it offers.

Another addition to the clinic is Allison Dudek who has joined us as evening clinic supervisor. Allison is a certified speech-language pathologist with a master's degree from Adelphi University, Long Island NY.

NSSLHA MEETINGS

Last meeting:

What a great turnout! Thank you to Dr. Qualls for lunch. Stephanie from the CDC came and helped us with preparing for Graduate School.

Next Meeting:

November 7th

*Anyone interested in ordering a pizza for the meeting, please put \$1 in an envelope with your name and put it in the NSSLHA mailbox.

**Congratulations
are in Order!**

**Interview with Dr.
Qualls on page 3!**

Bornhava Date Nights

From 6-10 p.m.

November 3rd

December 2nd

Clinic Corner

Once again, we are beginning a new academic year and there is great excitement as first year graduate students begin their clinical practicum on campus. Currently the clinic is in full operation offering screening, prevention, evaluation and treatment services to the Buffalo State College and Western New York communities. We are welcoming two new clinic supervisors this fall, Christopher Heximer and Allison Dudek. They each bring a unique expertise to the clinic. Sara Mann Kahriss, Amy Petrunyak and Heather Gibson are also returning this fall.

If you have not seen the facility, I would be happy to give you a tour. You can reach me at 878-3083. The clinic is located in Caudell Hall off parking lot U.

Karen Bailey Jones
Clinic Director

Realizing a Vision for the SLP Department

What is vision? Webster's II New College Dictionary defines vision as "...intellectual foresight; the way in which one sees or conceives of something." Upon joining the department as chair in fall of 2005, I shared with the faculty and staff my vision that the department of speech-language pathology become a center of excellence. At the August 2006 faculty retreat, there was unanimous agreement that we articulate our vision as *striving for excellence in teaching, clinical service, and research*. I envisioned the department as having a solid and substantial core faculty—we recently hired two additional academic faculty and a full-time,

permanent clinic supervisor. I envisioned a department that would be welcoming for everyone whom we serve. We *embrace and celebrate diversity* throughout the curriculum, in hires, and in our student recruitment and clinic services. Just recently, our students were described as being "positive ambassadors" for the department—what a compliment! I envisioned a department where research and scholarship is encouraged and supported. One of the department's core values is to *promote creativity and excellence in academic, research, and clinical learning environments*. In addition to our graduate course in research methods and the

graduate master's project, we are offering, for the first time this fall, an undergraduate course in research. This also meets the goal of enhancing our educational offerings. Our mission is to educate and graduate highly qualified professionals to serve all persons with speech, language, swallowing, and hearing disorders. The faculty and staff in the department are fully committed to *providing excellent service to our students, the college, professional communities, and the public*. It is only through the collective efforts of these individuals that our vision will be realized.

Dr. Qualls
Department Chair

"Don't put limits on yourself. So many dreams are waiting to be realized. Reach your peak, your goal, your prize."
-Douglas Pagels

A Note from the President

Welcome everyone to a brand new year in the Department of Speech-Language Pathology. I hope everyone finds this year informative and fun.

Being the BSC NSSLHA president, I hope that we can have much more participation in NSSLHA activities than we ever have. If the first meeting is any indication, I am super excited. I truly am excited to get to know everyone in the department. One of the

advantages of being at Buffalo State and in this department is that there is a very small number of people, which makes it easier to get to know everyone.

As I have said before, we are going to have plenty of volunteer opportunities this year for everyone to get out and get involved. Again this year, we will have a gear sale and the end of the year banquet. I encourage everyone to attend this event. It is an opportunity to let your hair

down, have some fun, and be recognized for all of your hard work throughout the year.

If you ever have a question or a suggestion regarding BSC NSSLHA activities or life as a student in the department, please feel free to email me or stop me when you see me and talk to me.

Good Luck this year and Enjoy!

Susan Deahn
NSSLHA President

Dedication of NSSLHA Members at Community Service Projects



Susan Deahn is reading to the crowd!

Community Service Initiative

Attention Seniors!

Local Graduate School Application Deadlines are as follows:

- Buffalo State-February 1st
- Fredonia-January 15th
- UB-January 1st
- Syracuse-February 1st
- Ithaca-February 1st

Good Luck to all applicants!

Scholarship Information

- SHAWNY
- Laura Wells
- Buffalo State also offers many in-house scholarship opportunities; see the Student Affairs website

NSSLHA INFORMATION

Next Meeting:

November 7th

*We have lots of plans that need everyone's input! Be involved in making a difference.



Sarah and Betsy making cotton candy!

Dr. Qualls is ASHA's newly elected Vice President for Research and Technology

In an interview with Angela Stranahan, Dr. Qualls reveals more about her new position with ASHA.

What is your official position?

My official title is Vice President for Research and Technology of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA). The Vice President for Research and Technology is charged with: (1) identifying issues, developing policies and, where appropriate, initiating actions necessary to promote the scientific investigation of normal, disordered, delayed and different human communication, including research in the area of multicultural and multi-linguistic issues; (2) monitoring the emergence of new knowledge and technology pertaining to communication disorders, delays and differences and promoting its application to diagnosis, treatment, prevention and to the development of further research; (3) monitoring and facilitating the activities of the Research and Scientific Affairs Committee, the Advisory Committee on Evidence-Based Practice and the Publications Board in addressing research needs of the Association and in planning, coordinating and publishing the various professional publications of the Association; and (4) monitoring and facilitating other activities of the Association in promoting the understanding of research procedures, findings and new technologies in the professional preparation of students, continuing education and the general dissemination of such information to members of the profession, other professions and the general public.

When do you begin your position? I begin my official duties on January 1, 2007.

Are there terms for the position or is it an indefinite position?

This is a three-year term of office from January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2009.

How did you receive this admirable accomplishment?

I was elected by my colleagues. ASHA has more than 124,000 members in the U.S. and throughout the world. Each year, ASHA holds national elections for different Executive Board positions. This year (2006), elections for four positions were held: President-Elect, Vice President of Academic Affairs, Vice President for Professional Issues in Audiology, and Vice President for Research and Technology.

What does this mean for the department of Speech and Language at Buffalo State College?

I will continue my duties as chair and oversee the operations of the department, including the clinic. Throughout my term as ASHA's Vice President for Research and Technology, I will travel to the National Office in Rockville, MD to participate in the governance of ASHA by serving as an officer on the Executive Board and as an ex officio on the Legislative Council. Currently, I am a member of the Council for Clinical Certification in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology and Associate Coordinator and Publications Chair for Division 15-Gerontology. So, I already travel several times per year to the National Office. I will continue attending and presenting my research at the ASHA Convention annually, and I will also continue to represent our department on the Council for Academic Programs in Communication Sciences and Disorders (CAPCSD). At the 2007 meeting of the CAPCSD (Palm Springs, CA), I have been invited to serve as facilitator for the breakout session titled "Come Together: *Creating Solutions.*"

I believe my new position can only positively benefit the Department of Speech-Language Pathology and Buffalo State College – SUNY. We will be well represented in ASHA and in other national and international environments. My hope is to connect our students and faculty with educational and research opportunities in different countries around the world (i.e., England and China), encourage some of our students to pursue advanced study to become professors/researchers – as you aware, we really need you in these positions, and finally to assist our program here at Buffalo State with staying on the 'cutting-edge' of best practices in speech-language pathology. I think this will be a 'win-win' situation for all of us.

CONGRATULATIONS!! BSC NSSLHA
on publishing your first newsletter of the year.

The faculty and staff of the Speech-Language Department applaud you for the work you are doing in our department and in the Western New York community.
Keep up the good work :-)!

BSC NSSLHA website: <http://www.buffalostate.edu/speech/x623.xml>