

Laurie Grisham, Great Falls
Carlee Johnson, UM Student representative
Shelby Midboe, Secretary of Board and Chair of Scholarship Committee
Lezlie Pearce-Hopper, President
Anne Juel
Emily S
Kristy Foss
Janis Hayes-Strom
Carol Morse
Kristina Hanson - observer
Julie Wolter, UM Rep

9:02 Lezlie covered some board meeting rules

9:06 Lezlie called to order

9:08 Kristy will make motions, Carlee will second motions

Kristy moved to approve the consent agenda, Carlee seconded. Motion passed

Emily: Website information

- In contact with Corinne, our website designer
- Ideas about creating member center and drop-down look for website
- Corinne works for WordPress, not square space. We will need to give Corinne more information about what we want things to look like.
- Upgrade needed: We need a member center where people can log in. Currently Corinne is on retainer from MSHA to do updates for us. Emily has ability to do day-to-day things but Corinne has to change structure and format.
- Emily and Corinne need specific details and a firm timeline
- Lezlie is interested in knowing how long everything will take.
- Lezlie and Emily think it might be good to bring on someone else to help get documents and information uploaded in a timely manner as we head into the legislative season.
- Carol will speak with her son who is an IT person to see if he can help or can recommend a good idea

Membership:

- Many SLPs are not members of MSHA, which impacts the amount of work we can do. We need to try to get more members early on and create a steady base of membership in order to fund the things we need to.
- Discussed again making conference the deadline for membership and wrapping up convention and membership fee
- Regional reps - MSHA night out is effective in other places, need to have a way to reach more people in the state. Need to have packets and membership information available at those meetings.

- Laurie said having membership information available and Why Become a Member information would be great to have during her meetings.

ASHA Grant

- Lezlie applied for \$12000 grant to help cover the cost of lobbyist - grant of \$5000 from last year did not cover the cost

Christina Hanson, Billings Public Schools: ASHA Leadership Training Program

- In person training and then other virtual meetings later. Monthly webinars and monthly team meetings.
- Project required for program completion: Christina described her project, which she collaborated with ELL teacher to create a better flow-chart to help teachers go through the process of RTI/Avenues to help ELL learners in school and when to seek out SLP assistance before initiating a referral to SLP. Her project also included a large body of information for educators regarding sounds in other languages, etc.
- Graduates from leadership program in 2 weeks. Christina highly recommends the program to other members.
- Julie Wolter mentioned she was a member of the inaugural ASHA Leadership program in 2008 and she and Christina shared the ways in which the program has changed since then and the general benefits of being a member of that program.

Assistant Survey Results:

- 39 respondents. Most who responded are supervising aides in their settings.
- Most respondents fall into the strongly agree/agree
- Audiologists and SLPs both want to move forward on this path and draft a position statement
- Julie Wolter volunteered to be a reader for the position statement, which is the next step in the process with the licensure board
- Hours of supervision: Respondents do want hours of supervised clinical work, but they do not want them all to happen at the first job.

ASHA guidelines for support Personnel requirements (see document in March Meeting Document folder)

- There are not 2 states that do it the same
- Statues: don't want to be too specific about setting- let settings determine if SLP-A will be beneficial in their setting.

Julie Wolter: University of Montana report

- UM wants to provide curriculum pieces that will help with SLP-A
- Department is working through Board of Regents system to develop new program. Board of regents is looking very carefully at all new programs with funding crunches.
- Online Post-Bac leveling program is available currently. CSD department is looking at those 10 courses and they are looking at creating "stackable" courses that could be

tacked on. SLP-A curriculum would include these 10 classes and the 6 extra credits specific to being an SLP-A. These additional courses would include information on clinical setting and professional practices.

- Department has looked at models in many different states in developing this program
- UM Prioritization has been going on and CSD is in a good place. SLP-A program proposal will go before board of regents next week. If it is approved there then CSD can add other courses and create a certificate associated with Assistantship started in the fall.
- Lezlie asked Julie to send written information after it goes through Board of Regents. Lezlie hopes to have information by May 1st to present at the June Licensure Board Meeting. They want to see that if we move forward with the bill that there is backup
- Supervision - there is already a shortage of supervisors for graduate level students. It will be difficult for University to commit to a significant in-person supervisory system. We will have to think as a state about our expectations of students without a lot of supervision. We need to understand that it is not fiscally possible to make, for example 100 hours of training available.
- Lezlie said that MSHA might be able to provide continuing ed that could help with supervision for new SLP-As.

Licensure Board meeting Update: Lezlie

- Todd Yonken, Division Administrator
- Lezlie brought the award that was announced at the MSHA conference. The board and Todd were very excited to have received the award, so there will be a press release soon with the award.
- Lucy will continue in her position but will no longer do a newsletter.
- Fiscal report that our board is in good shape and no increase in dues is foreseen
- Board did revoke a license on Feb. 1st, audiologist who misrepresented himself Keith Convit
- In MT there is one entity who does audits, and board is going to decrease the amount of auditing they are going to do.
- Lucy will be invited to Business Luncheon meeting in October
- Public comment on telepractice: one license for many states - universal to simplify things for people. She will bring it up again.

Conference:

- One application from a student who is interested in conference set-up
- Lezlie has begun to get information from vendors
- Julie mentioned that students are trepidatious with their time and that they don't want to let anyone down.
- Lezlie wants to include more students in the conference this year
- We are about to put out the call for presenters and awards
- Student posters - can submit until this fall. Julie hopes UM could give a tentative list this spring and know they might be able to add in the fall.

- Samantha Schun is confirmed: Professor at U of Oregon. Swallowing topics and would be a good crossover
- Marilyn Nippold is not doing a full day, talking to her about a half-day, talks in process
- Lucy-Hart Paulsen is going to do preschool-early elementary talk, also currently scheduled for Friday
- Lezlie wants to expand the conference this year to have more speaker options. Julie has a list of people she could probably get in.
- Lots of positive feedback about the shorter blocks on Thursday this year.
- Janice asked about audiology speakers, and Lezlie reported there is currently one that Catherine Drescher said she confirmed. Janice gave Lezlie the name of another potential speaker.
- Mental Health and Suicide prevention speaker
- Move awards to luncheon on Saturday so more people see the awards.
- Conference advertising request form: have exhibitors sponsor wine and cheese for Thursday evening
- Lezlie hopes to have massage and yoga at conference in the mornings, provide more time to connect not just go-go-go.
- Needs more audiology speakers. 5 more audiologists have joined MSHA this year.
- We are offering a lot of services right now to non-MSHA members
 - Job posting and web-blasts will cost \$\$ now.
- Advertising to other states: Washington allows state association members to register at member rate if they want to come.
- **Christy moves to allow out of state members of other state associations to pay MSHA member fees for attendance. Carlee and Carol second. Motion passed.**
- Lezlie wants to be able to send speakers out to remote sites. She wants to also record some sessions to have available for CEUs at a later date to help us reach members in rural parts of the state who can't travel for conference.
- Carol Morse commented about having MT Convention speakers listed on the ASHA CE find. Christy mentioned that we might need to re-think the previous motion if we are going to allow people to join live-stream.
- "Creating, Connections, Communicating" Lezlie's idea for the theme

April 26 is the deadline for the newsletter.

Advocacy day:

- Julie Wolter and Carlee Johnson: many SLPs from different settings came and presented. Carlee was not able to attend, but she heard turnout was better and it was well promoted around campus. Neuro-diversity group and medical department was included and this inter-disciplinary approach is important on campus. Julie Wolter reported there were 100+ people in attendance, including the Dean of the Ed department, Special Ed, Counseling members were all in attendance. Survey by students to see what perception of SLP and working in different fields is.

- Carlee Johnson: Report on student group involvement to help raise awareness of our field in the community. Big projects are coming for next year.
- Jessica commented that she is happy Advocacy day is continuing and Julie agreed that we need to continue to educate others about what we do.

Kristy:

- Montana Audiology Guild: Spring meeting in Chico May 4-5. They will also push for membership in MSHA. Looking for input on how to get more members involved in MSHA, looking for new information or new approach to communicate membership in MSHA.

Jessica: Legislative Updates

- Cuts to Dept. HHS, 3% reimbursement to medicare providers. Press release on 26th on how this is going to affect providers. Latest report is revenue estimates won't be in until August, and governor's office does not think revenue will be high enough to give money back.
- Interim Education Committee hearings on SpEd funding: Talked about doing a waving funding for students on IEP. Rep from MSU, doing a study on SpEd teacher caseloads and requesting information on our workloads on schools. Jessica has not gotten a copy of the survey yet.
- Jessica is meeting with Tester and Daines next year and asking for IDEA increase to help with gaps in funding.
- Jessica asked that anyone who has information for meetings she is attending to email her so she can submit information.

Shelby reported she has not yet secured a new Chair of the Scholarship committee, nothing new to report.

Lezlie asked why we don't charge a processing fee for ASHA CEU independent studies. Anne Juel said that non-MSHA members do pay a processing fee. She said that most people who want to do independent studies are told they have to pay the fee or join MSHA, and most people choose to join MSHA. Anne talked about sending different prices at fees and how ASHA needs to be on board to make sure it is done correctly. ASHA has specific guidelines about how to get the ASHA CEUs.

Anne: Co-op with Billings lactation conference June 28-29. ASHA CEUs pending. One person doing independent study right now and there is new paperwork. Lezlie said she has been promoting the Independent study option to groups she goes to talk with. Anne reported that most people doing independent study are the Relias workshops through Doug Doty and the MT Autism Grant.

Ethics: Speaker was surprised to not have heard about the Audiologist whose license was revoked. Lezlie stated the person was not a MSHA member.

Janice:

- SEAL meets at the ASHA connect conference in the summer and they have monthly phone calls.
- Issues with BCBAs have been a hot topic. In NJ they are trying to pass a law that swallowing has to be taken care of by BCBAs.
- Another big topic is universal licenses for telepractice: telepractice in schools, trying to make it easier to do.
- Grant through the Bill Gates foundation to help charter schools provide services. No charter schools in MT right now.
- New websites for people making referrals - helpful to teachers.

STAMPS and STARS: Carol

- Therapy cap is going on- thanks to the OT and PT a national associations. Next step is to get speech therapy and physical therapy on separate lines.
- New code for cognitive: MT Medicaid will only reimburse for the G0515 code, BCBS MT will only reimburse for G code. In private practice, you have to find out which insurance covers which code for cognition.
- More information in STARS report from Carol, included in document file for this meeting

Telepractice conference coming up March 13.

May 5 meeting for MSHA. 9 am.

Adjourned 11:29