



# Montana Speech - Language - Hearing Association

...Improving communication for life

PO BOX 1065  
Glasgow, MT 59230  
1-406-228-3530

## May 2016 Communicator

### President's Message

Dear MSHA Members,

Happy Spring! The grass is turning green and there are new calves in the fields. There is talk of graduation which signifies the end of one adventure and the start of another one. There is something about this time of year that is just so special.

I recently had the opportunity to participate in a career fair at the high school here in Lewistown. It was a great opportunity to talk about careers in Speech/Language Pathology and Audiology. During the career fair I had 8 sessions that were 11 minutes long. I was ready! I had my pamphlets, college information, poster boards and every statistic you could think to give. The first session was a little nerve wracking but I got all the information in and everyone left with a pamphlet whether they wanted one or not. Success! The second session started and I was joined by our Occupational Therapist, Lyndsay, so I didn't have to fill up all the time. Secretly, I was relieved! We had not rehearsed anything so we looked at each other and said "just tell them what you love about the job." So I did! It was easy and the participants asked questions. They were involved and I noticed they did not have the glossy eyed look the first group had as they left. It is easy to talk about what I do because I love it. I hope that you do too. I really encourage you to get involved with your local high schools and participate in career fairs. It was a great day. So, in continuing with our "YES" campaign- Why did you say "yes" to be a Speech/Language Pathologist or Audiologist?

On the legislative front, we are still working on the licensure fee issue. MSHA has received a grant from ASHA to help specifically with our ongoing fight to lower our licensure fees. Thank you to ASHA for their support! Thank you to all of the members who have stepped up to help with this issue. A special thanks to Rachel Stansberry, Lezlie Pearce-Hopper and Jessica Reynolds for taking the lead on this project.

Looking ahead, we are working with the Montana School Psychologist Association (MASP) and are planning a joint conference, October 20-22, 2016 at the Great Northern in Helena! It is really going to be exciting. We have a great list of speakers! For the SLP and School Psychologist tract Dr. Lisa Ruble and Dr. Misty Tarsly, Audiology, Dr. Jay Hall, Medical SLP Tract, Katlyn McGrattan PhD, E & M Codes with Dr. Debbie Abel. I would recommend you sign up and book your rooms early!!

May is Better Speech and Hearing Month! MSHA is doing some great promotions this month! Look inside to see what is going on! I hope that you will join MSHA again this year, your membership does matter!

Thank you for what you do each and every day to make MSHA a great organization and Montana a great place to work!

Sincerely Yours,  
Jennifer Rindal/2016 MSHA President

**MSHA**  
[www.mshaonline.org](http://www.mshaonline.org)  
Email: [msha@fmdh.org](mailto:msha@fmdh.org)

### Special points of interest:

- *Membership Update*
- *University Graduates*
- *ACE Award Recipients*
- *MSHA Memorial Scholarship*
- *Legislative Update*
- *Membership Drawing*
- *SEAL Report*
- *Joke*

Membership  
Drawing  
Details Inside  
Page 3

### Dates To Remember

**U of M Graduate  
Reception  
May 13, 2016**

**MSHA Fall  
Convention  
October 20-22, 2016  
Helena, MT**

## University Information

The University of Montana Communicative Sciences and Disorders Department would like to welcome our new colleagues! Graduates will be treated to lunch by MSHA on Friday, May 13<sup>th</sup> at noon. MSHA members are welcomed and encouraged to attend. The U of M CSD faculty is very proud of the newest group of SLPs for Montana.

### *Congratulations to the 2016 Graduates of the CSD Program*

*Graduates are: Camarin Lawlor, Jamie Nelson, Isabel Archilla, Melissa Bunch, Jessica Camp, Jessica Dilworth, Molly Jones, Lacey Kvam, Julianne Lally, Kelsey Lindquist, Bridget Loomis, Minako May, Kristine McElmurry, Marissa McGrath, Jon Metropoulos, Allison Mincks, Dani Perry, Robert Sears, Sonia Sherwood, Jenny Silvernale, Shelby Swant, Janelle Wilson, Amanda Edwards, Crystal Emmerich, Olivia Jeske, Susan Krueger, Julia Scherbenske Nicholson, Tina Poncin, Jessica Potter, Jill Raad-Couture, and Shari Scribner*

## MSHA Memorial Scholarship

On June 3, we will award our third set of scholarships. The MSHA Memorial Scholarship was established to honor the memory of our great colleagues who served MSHA and our profession throughout their lifetime. If you would like to make a donation in honor of any of these individuals, please send it to MSHA and indicate scholarship on your check.

Submitted By: Rachel Stansberry

## OPERATION SMILE

Operation Smile has primarily been focusing fundraising activities and volunteer work this semester. Some of the fundraising activities Operation Smile has participated in this semester are- Give BOCK Nights, March Madness Bracket tournament, Pi day fundraiser, Bake Sales, and Bingo night. Operation Smile and its members have been very involved in volunteering the last couple of months. Our student group has participated in about ten different volunteer projects including- Service Saturday for the Village Senior Health Center, Hospice Ball, Service Sunday at secret seconds, Special Olympics, Relay for Life, RiteCare Charity Golf Classic, and Kyiyo Pow Wow just to name a few. Operation Smile also made a video in support for ASUM and the University of Montana to show how much we appreciate all they do. As of right now Operation Smile has enough money to donate five smiles, our goal for this spring semester is seven surgeries.

Submitted By: Kendall Alley

## ACE Award Recipients from ASHA

MSHA received notification from ASHA that there are some professionals in our state who earned an Award for Continuing Education (ACE). They earned 7.0 ASHA CEUs within a 36 month period. Please join MSHA in congratulating the following individuals from Montana who were recognized. These listed individuals are also members of our state MSHA organization.

Name	Award Presented	City, State
<b>Lisa Banuelos-Martin</b>	November 2015	Emigrant, MT
<b>Molly Beck</b>	November 2015	Great Falls, MT
<b>Susan Erickson</b>	October 2015	Billings, MT
<b>Janis Hayes-Strom</b>	October 2015	Billings, MT
<b>Kristine Holzer</b>	November 2015	Helena, MT
<b>Carol Morse</b>	November 2015	Billings, MT
<b>Carol Wylie</b>	October 2015	Jefferson City, MT

Thank you all for your obvious dedication to this profession.  
Thank you also for your dedication to MSHA.

### May is Better Speech and Hearing Month

This would be a great time to “**SAY YES TO MSHA**” by asking a colleague to join MSHA. It's also a great time to donate to our Memorial Scholarship or our Legislative fund.

Need to Update Your Membership? Please go to [www.mshaonline.org](http://www.mshaonline.org) to get this updated. If any of your contact information has changed please email [msha@fmdh.org](mailto:msha@fmdh.org) so those changes can be made in the database....

**Membership Drawing:** On June 9th there will be a drawing for everyone who is a current MSHA member by that date. There will be two winners. Whoever is drawn first will get first choice of either an Ipad Mini or a refund of the annual full membership fee that was paid by the recipient.

**2 WINNERS!**

### Montana Audiology Guild—MAG

Audiologists met in Chico Hot Springs for some Oticon hearing aid training May 6th and 7th. The meeting provided some great information and the weekend was wonderful. Renewed and continued friendships, good meals, beautiful landscapes, hot springs, shuffleboard, and lots of laughs were enjoyed by all who attended. Thanks to Lisa Cannon for her years of work to provide this small but mighty event!

## ANSWERING YOUR QUESTIONS about ASHA vs MSHA CEU's

### What's the difference between ASHA vs. MSHA sponsored CEU's?

In Montana, our licensure requires 40 CEUs every two years. The Licensure Board will accept both ASHA and MSHA approved events. MSHA facilitates this process through our CEU administrator, Valeria Schmauch. Valeria and the MSHA Board screen, endorse, and submit the necessary paperwork to MSHA and/or ASHA. Any event or organizer can request these CEUs if they follow the proper steps which can be found on either ASHA or MSHA websites or by contacting Valeria at [msha.vs.cea2014@gmail.com](mailto:msha.vs.cea2014@gmail.com)

**Is it free?** MSHA has been providing this service to all workshop participants.

As a service to MSHA members, we now cover the cost of administering these CEUs. Non-MSHA members are given a choice to either join MSHA or pay a fee to have their CEUs processed. When a workshop advertises “free MSHA / ASHA CEUs” this means that the processing of CEUs is free, not that the workshop is free. The costs for non-MSHA members for CEUs are as follows: MSHA: \$15 ASHA: \$25

**What do I do if I want to have an event sponsored?** Follow the steps on our website or contact Valeria or MSHA for more information. You will need to be present at this event to collect fees.

## Continuing Education Information

**Valeria Schmauch** is the Continuing Education Administrator for both MSHA sponsored and ASHA sponsored CEUs

State licensure requires 40 hours of continuing education every odd year, and ASHA certification requires 30 hours during each 3-year certification maintenance interval. MSHA sponsored CEUs follow the same standard set by ASHA. Anyone interested in organizing workshops and wish to provide documented attendance and offer CEUs, contact Valeria at [msha.vs.cea2014@gmail.com](mailto:msha.vs.cea2014@gmail.com) and she will send you the necessary forms for documentation. Note that this can take up to 60 days!

*Feel free to contact Valeria if you have any questions related to CEUs.*

SCHWA has had a wonderful year! Our members have put in about 4,000 hours of service to our program and the community. Some highlights from the year include volunteering at the ALS Evergreen Chapter Walk, volunteering at the Ronald McDonald House, joining MSHA members in Helena to address licensing fees, and hosting our annual Advocacy Day regarding the theme “Quality of Life”. SCHWA will be ending the year with the annual celebration, ‘Speech Olympics,’ a time to play games, socialize with graduating seniors and graduate students and faculty!



Submitted By: Cailen Bosch,  
SCHWA President

### Remember:

Please send speech,  
language, or hearing  
related jokes to  
[sharlene.schmidt@fmdh.org](mailto:sharlene.schmidt@fmdh.org)

## SEAL Report Submitted by Janis Hayes-Strom

State SEALs have monthly conference calls and also meet at the summer ASHA Schools Conference. The convention this year is in Minneapolis and for the first time will be a combined convention with the ASHA Medical Summer Conference. SLPs will be able to obtain CEUs for both school and medical topics. The most recent conference call topic was "Successfully Building Bridges With Your Department of Education." A PowerPoint of their presentation is available from Janis.

Another discussion involved SLPs from several states reporting that Music Therapists who can be licensed in some states providing speech and language therapy. Several SLPs from other states reported Music Therapists are providing therapies that fall under the skill set of the SLP and they are addressing it with their licensure boards.

Another group SEALs discussed for several months are ABA therapists with various credentials providing speech therapy, and giving parents information that has no evidence base such as use of Assistive technology resulting in children never speaking. In my personal experience we were told that children enrolled in an early childhood Autism program called STAR in Billings could NOT receive any speech therapy services because we would not be following the ABA protocol and their trainers were better suited to provide speech and language services. As a result, we now have some of those children in elementary school who are nonverbal or not functionally verbal when they could have received early intervention from SLPs.

SEALs from every state submitted their determination of eligibility for Special Education and related services in educational settings. There is wide variability and even lack of consistency in our own state. Most states defined "Speech/Language Impairment" as a speech/language disorder in the areas of articulation, morphology, syntax, semantics and/or pragmatics/discourse which adversely affects a student's educational performance and is not due primarily to an auditory impairment. Montana does not specify which assessments are required in most districts and students performance may be anywhere from the 2nd to 10th percentile and between 1.5 and 2 SD on standardized assessments.

### MSHA Legislative Update

On April 14, the Economic Affairs Interim Committee (EAIC) of the Montana Legislature met to consider proposals for restructuring professional boards in Montana. The committee heard testimony from a representative of the Federal Trade Commission recommending adoption of active board supervision in line with current legal guidelines. This would require professional boards in Montana to be supervised by an impartial party outside of the market. In addition, Lezlie Pearce Hopper and Jessica Reynolds proposed changes to the current board structure on behalf of MSHA. The proposal included adopting a model based on Colorado's recent license fee structure, which includes yearly audits by the state treasurer. MSHA also proposed allowing online license applications and renewals, prorating renewals, and allowing renewal cycles to reflect CEU cycles. The EAIC will meet again this summer to discuss proposals.

Submitted By: Jessica Reynolds

**JOKE**

A speaker on a platform, addressing a group of people without benefit of a microphone, raises his voice and says, "Can you people in back hear me?" A man up front says, "What?"

## License Fee/Telepractice/Legislative Update

April was a busy month for our License Fee Action Plan. We received a grant from ASHA to continue our work to bring our license fees inline with the national average. Our license fee committee met and planned testimony and representation for two important meetings in April.

On April 14, the Economic Affairs Interim Committee (EAIC) of the Montana Legislature met to consider proposals for restructuring professional boards in Montana. The committee heard testimony from a representative of the Federal Trade Commission recommending adoption of active board supervision in line with current legal guidelines. This would require professional boards in Montana to be supervised by an impartial party outside of the market. In addition, Lezlie Pearce-Hopper and Jessica Reynolds proposed changes to the current board structure on behalf of MSHA. The proposal included adopting a model based on Colorado's recent license fee structure, which includes yearly audits by the state treasurer. MSHA also proposed allowing online license applications and renewals, prorating renewals, and allowing renewal cycles to reflect CEU cycles. The EAIC will meet again this summer to discuss proposals.

On April 29, 12 MSHA SLP and student members attended the Board of Speech-language Pathologist and Audiologist meeting in Helena. MSHA was allowed to share concerns regarding the fee increase and telepractice concerns. At this meeting, the Board listened to MSHA's concerns about the amount of the increase, the necessity of the increase, the fee in relation to the national average and its deterrence to students staying in the state after graduation. MSHA also noted that license fees for similar professions such as OT and PT are half of our fees. MSHA recommended auditing expenses and considering a two year renewal. The response from board members was mixed. The discussion within the board cited that the fees amount to only \$16.66 per month and that the cost of a rule change to change the fee again would be approximately \$6000 and this may not be worth it as the fees would at some point increase in the future. The board directed the new Executive Officer to investigate if a two year renewal would be adequate to cover board expenses. MSHA will continue to work on this issue as we recognize that the initial fee is indeed a hardship to a newly employed professional and that since the fee is due all at once and is not prorated in the year, it is not simply a small monthly fee. MSHA would like to determine how to cut costs. This may be a challenge as the board now has to catch up on business since it did not meet last year.

The board also heard testimony on the telepractice rules. As telepractice is still relatively new to our state, we need to continue our efforts to educate our fellow professionals about the value of this method of service delivery. The board did formally pass a motion that clearly stated that the four hours of required training would be accepted if the course met the same standards as stated in the CEU rule. This means that ASHA, MSHA, MAG, AAA telepractice offerings will be recognized. At the next board meeting, they will look over the telepractice rules. MSHA recommended removing the four hour training rule as well as the rule for an in person initial assessment.

We are grateful to our fellow professionals serving on this board: Dr. Lucy Hart-Paulson, Dr. Tina Berg, Dr. Leah Jacobsen and Sharon Dinstal as well as the member at large from Big Timber, Richard Turner. We thank them for giving their time to this service. If you would like to make a donation toward our legislative actions, please send it to MSHA and indicate legislative action on your check.

Submitted By: Rachel Stansberry



## Mark Your Calendar

Montana Speech-Language Hearing Association Annual Convention  
 October 20-22, 2016  
 Great Northern Hotel in Helena, MT 406-457-5500  
 835 Great Northern Blvd.

Please mention the MSHA Block when making your reservations.

We will host the MSHA conference collaboratively with the Montana Association of School Psychologists. SLP/School Psychologists - Dr. Lisa Ruble and Dr. Misty Tarsly; Medical SLP - Katlyn McGrattan, Ph.d (all day Saturday); E&M Codes - Dr. Debbie Abel (for SLP's and Audiology); Audiology - Dr. Jay Hall. New this year we will have all day Saturday session on pediatric feeding and swallowing. Of course we're planning on poster sessions and a social. STAY TUNED for more info.

**GET A ROOM! Really!**  
**Helena is hosting MSHA and MEA**  
**so book early, like right now.**

## WEBSITE

**Do you need to renew or join MSHA?**

**Do you want to find out about upcoming conferences  
 and CEU opportunities?**

**Are you looking for updates on what MSHA is doing?**

**Then go to [mshonline.org](http://mshonline.org)!**

**We want our website to be the go to place for MSHA.**

**We'd love your photos and feedback and we are also seeking guest bloggers.**

**For those of you interested in receiving this newsletter in an emailed version rather than a printed version please let Sharlene know by emailing her at [sharlene.schmidt@fmdh.org](mailto:sharlene.schmidt@fmdh.org) so your preference can be accommodated....**

We are now on Pinterest as  
 Montana MSHA

May is Better Hearing & Speech Month  
 MSHA will have activities on Facebook  
 throughout the month.

We are at 307 Likes on Facebook



Montana Speech-Language & Hearing  
Association  
PO Box 1065  
Glasgow, MT 59230

Phone: 406-228-3530  
Fax: 406-228-3689  
Email: msha@fmdh.org  
Email: sharlene.schmidt@fmdh.org  
Website: www.mshaonline.org  
Check us out on Facebook also

*Improving communication for life...*

**MAY IS BETTER HEARING AND SPEECH MONTH**  
**Ways to Celebrate**  
 Check out Montana MSHA on Pinterest  
 Call to reserve your room in Helena for Convention  
 Have fun with us Facebook  
 RENEW YOUR MSHA DUES  
 I **am** a current MSHA Member (We thank you) ☺

## Executive Board Members

Title	Name	Contact Information
President	Jennifer Rindal	jrindal@lewistown.k12.mt.us
Past President	Rachel Stansberry	rachelstansberry@uwalumni.com
President Elect	Catherine Drescher	cdrescher@rmeecc.com
Secretary	Bridgitte Watters	brigittewatters@gmail.com
Treasurer	Sharlene Schmidt	sharlene.schmidt@fmdh.org
Audiology member at large	Kristy Foss	kfoss@billingsclinic.org
Speech Pathology member at large	Kathleen DeLapp-Cohn	delappk@earthlink.net
UM—CSD Chair	Amy Glaspey	amy.glaspey@umontana.edu
UM—CSD Student Liaison	Sarah Schied	sarah.schied@umontana.edu

How many MSHA members do we have currently?

- 16 Audiologists
- 3 Dual (Speech Pathologist/Audiologist)
- 117 Speech Pathologists
- 43 Students
- 6 Speech Aides

185

**May is Better Speech and Hearing Month**-this will be a great time to 'SAY YES TO MSHA' by asking a colleague to join MSHA. It's also a great time to donate to our Memorial Scholarship or our Legislative fund.