



Resound))))))

Spring 2012

Newsletter of the National Black Association for Speech-Language and Hearing

National Black
Association for
Speech-Language and
Hearing

Website:
www.nbaslh.org

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On behalf of the Association, I am delighted to invite you to attend the 34th National Black Association for Speech-Language and Hearing (NBASLH) Annual Convention in the splendid state capital city of Raleigh, North Carolina. The theme for this year's convention is *NBASLH Shaping the Future*.

The Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitors Bureau promote Raleigh as a city that *"bursts with energy and excitement but never forgets its fine Southern manners."* So as your Convention Chair and being the Southern lady that I am, I would like to first say thank you to the Executive Board, Convention Committee and the Members of NBASLH for providing me with the opportunity to develop the programs and

organize the annual conventions for past three years. This will be my last convention as your Chair and I must say it has been a remarkable experience. I have truly been encouraged and motivated by the various encounters that I have shared with all of you.

From the results of the Call for Papers, it appears that we are already taking some of the burst of energy and excitement from Raleigh and putting it to brilliant use on our pathway to Shaping the Future. For the first time in a while, I am pleased to publicize that we had more than 100 submissions to choose from in order to establish our amazing program. The Convention Committee has worked diligently to select gifted presenters and to offer outstanding sessions on a variety of topics that relate to our fields of speech-language pathology and audiology. Additionally, we will continue to honor founding member of NBASLH, Dr. Bailey, by highlighting the fourth presentation of our Donn F. Bailey Memorial Lecture Series.

If that wasn't enough to entice you to attend this year's convention let me share with you some additional excellent and wonderful news. I am thrilled to announce that at our Opening Session we will have an authentic representative of the city of Raleigh and the epitome of NBASLH and convention theme as our speaker, **Mrs. Doanne Ward-Williams**. Mrs. Ward-Williams is young professional who is always full of positive energy and exciting professional events taking place in her life. For that reason, I cannot wait for you to hear how she would like to enhance and strengthen the future of NBASLH.

On Friday, we welcome a session from ASHA President **Dr. Paul Rao**. Dr. Rao's presentation will address ASHA's Revised Code of Ethics. As he states, the revised ASHA Code of Ethics is the invaluable compass for staying "on course" in your professional conduct. In addition, we will have a highlighted presentation from the illustrious **Dr. Joan Payne**. Later on Friday evening, at our Awards Dinner, we will have the pleasure to hear words of wisdom from our invited speaker **Dr. Ida Stockman**. Both of these distinguished ladies have certainly provided us with significant contributions in the past and continue to lead us into the future by their astounding actions.

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September 1, 2011 - August 31, 2012

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NBASLH Annual Convention

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Our schedule for Saturday will again continue to support our NSIG members with a highlighted presentation by notable **Dr. Charles Ellis**. Dr. Ellis' presentation will give us a glimpse into the future by providing an overview of the use of Activation Likelihood Estimate (ALE) and the BrainMap database for studies in CSD. Also, the focus of our programming efforts on Saturday will be geared toward our students and young professionals. Our Student Representative, **Mr. Frederick Turner** is planning to inspire these groups with interesting topics for discussion during the Student-Mentor luncheon and at the Student/New Professionals Chat Session. Furthermore, Mr. Turner has a way of persuading all of us to get involved in order to support our students by providing stimulating fund raising events such as the Men of NBASLH Live Auction. If you missed the auction last year, I suggest that you come to North Carolina with a few extra dollar bills in hand, so that you can enthusiastically participate in what he has in store for us. Lastly, speaking of the Men of NBASLH, we will hold a special session for our male attendees. This open panel presentation will include a comprehensive question and answer dialogue with some of our prominent male members from a variety of professional settings.

With that said, I know that Raleigh is the perfect place for us to come together to take pride in who we are as an association and get the creative forces flowing to mold us into an influential culturally and linguistically diverse group ready to take on the challenges of the 21st Century and beyond.

See you in Raleigh,



Rachel Williams, PhD, CCC-SLP
NBASLH Convention Chair

Why NBASLH???

Lately, there has been a lot of discussion on the topic "Why NBASLH?" Personally, I could give a long list of reasons on why NBASLH is important to me. I could talk about how the organization and the seasoned and younger professionals have been essential in my growth as a professional and leader in the field of Communication Disorders and in life. However, I have to say the greatest benefit I have received in NBASLH is watching my colleagues and future colleagues as they skyrocket through life and the profession. They not only encourage me, but they inspire me to maximize my potential, and I am sure they must do the same for others. Beginning with this issue of **Resound)))**, we will highlight individuals that not only answer the question of "Why NBASLH?" but remind us of the impact NBASLH has made in shaping and molding the best and the brightest. These individuals will remind each of us that "I AM NBASLH" We hope you will enjoy this new feature. In honor of the 2012 NBASLH Convention's theme "NBASLH Shaping the Future", you will meet four beautiful, intelligent young women, who are either in the process of completing a PhD or have completed a PhD. If these young women don't answer the question "Why NBASLH?", I encourage you to visit our website and remind yourself of the mission, vision, and purpose of NBASLH. Then, I encourage you to share with your colleagues and others on why our great organization is relevant, necessary, and important.



Be Blessed,
Jamila Perry Foreman, M.Ed. CCC-SLP
Resound))) Editor

I Am NBASLH ... "We've Got Next!"



Shameka N. Johnson, MEd, CCC-SLP, Communication Sciences and Disorders Doctoral Student has her Master of Education degree from North Carolina Central University in Durham, North Carolina and her Bachelor of Science degree from the Shaw University in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Ms. Johnson has been a licensed speech and language pathologist for three years working with both children in the school and medical setting and adults/geriatrics in skilled nursing facilities and hospitals throughout Washington, DC and Maryland. Ms. Johnson is currently enrolled in the Communication Sciences & Disorders Doctoral Program at Howard University Washington, DC. She is specializing in severe disabilities and Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC). Ms. Johnson's current research focuses on increasing AAC awareness and utilization internationally. In the last two years, she has traveled to more than three countries conducting research studies and increasing AAC awareness with workshops, seminars and training sessions. Ms. Johnson has just recently completed her course requirements and has entered the second phase of her doctoral program. She is expected to begin her dissertation research phase in the fall of 2012. Ms. Johnson's five–seven year plan includes receiving a post-doc, teaching at a research institute and establishing a laboratory dedicated to the advancement of AAC research and severe disabilities within third-world countries and underserved populations.



Jamila Minga, CCC-SLP, Communication and Sciences Disorders completed her BA in Linguistics and her MS in Speech-language and Hearing Sciences at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She is currently in the dissertation phase of her doctoral program at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Her primary

research interest is adult neurogenic communication disorders. She is currently investigating the impact of right hemisphere brain damage on conversational discourse performance. It is her long-term research goal to develop a comprehensive expertise in conversational discourse deficits as a precursor for engineering assessments and treatment regimes to enhance functional integration of persons with brain damage into their respective communities. This goal stems from her clinical experience providing adult neurogenic rehabilitation services in acute, subacute, and skilled rehabilitation settings. Other research interests include cultural language analysis, AAC, and dementia.



Jamie D. Fisher, MA, CCC-SLP, is a PhD candidate in the Department of Hearing and Speech Sciences at Vanderbilt University and speech-language pathologist/owner of Fisher Speech, Language, and Literacy Services. She received a BS in Speech Pathology and Audiology

from Tennessee State University and a MA in Communication Sciences and Disorders from the University of Cincinnati. Her research/clinical interests include language and literacy skills of typically developing children, children with specific language impairment, children from diverse cultural backgrounds (including children who use African American English and children of varying socio-economic status) and preschool teacher talk. As an undergraduate Jamie completed a summer research internship at the University of Maryland, College Park with Dr. Nan Berstein-Ratner. She completed a master's thesis, Head Start Teachers' and Low Socio-Economic Status Parents' Vocabulary Usage, with Dr. Nancy Craghead. She has presented her research at local,

regional, and national conferences. Currently, Jamie is conducting research for her dissertation: Preschool Teachers' Complex Syntax Production in the Classroom. She is a trainee on a Leadership Training Grant from the US Department of Education, Preparing Teachers/Scholars in Language and Literacy (PI: Schuele), and is a recipient of the Southern Regional Education Board Dissertation Award.



Kia Johnson, PhD, CCC-SLP

Dr. Kia N. Johnson is an assistant professor and Director of the Developmental Stuttering Laboratory within the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at James Madison University (Harrisonburg, Virginia).

Her current research interests include investigating the influences of psycholinguistic and temperamental variables on developmental stuttering in young children from a behavioral/observational and electrophysiological perspective. Dr. Johnson completed her doctoral training in Hearing and Speech Sciences at Vanderbilt University (Nashville, Tennessee). She received her Master's and Baccalaureate degrees in Communication Disorders from Howard University (Washington, DC) and Truman State University (Kirksville, Missouri), respectively. Aside from teaching and conducting research, she has presented her research at local, national, and international scholarly conferences and has first-authored research articles along with many co-authored publications. Dr. Johnson also holds a Certificate of Clinical Competence as a speech-language pathologist with the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and state licensure with Virginia.



Mark Your Calendars

NBASLH Scholarship Deadline
February 15, 2012

**NBASLH - Southern California Affiliate
CSHA Convention – NBASLH Special Interest Table**
March 15-18, 2012

**NBASLH - Southern California Affiliate
Diaspora Tea**
March 25, 2012

NBASLH 2012 Convention
April 19-22, 2012

Praxis Review
April 19-22, 2012

**NBASLH - Southern California Affiliate
Scholarship Book Fair**
May 20, 2012

Check www.nbaslh.org for Event Updates and Reminders!

The Other Brain

After reading *The Other Brain*, a book on the anatomy and physiology of human brain cells by R. Douglas Fields, my speech-language pathology practice has undergone significant changes in my approach to how I shape, establish, develop and maintain oral language behaviors. Fields' description of brain cells changed my understanding of how the human brain 'remembers and learns'. In the past, "our understanding of the brain was based on a century old idea: the neuron doctrine." But according to Fields, "this theorem is deeply flawed."

The following statements are quotes that will demonstrate how our knowledge about brain cells has grown over the years and why there must be changes in our clinical methodology;

1968

"Almost all of our behavior, the observable as well as the unobservable, is, in the final analysis, mediated by the nervous system. The nervous system is extraordinarily complex, being composed of millions of highly specialized cells called neurons." (Zemlin)

1998

"Zoom in close enough on a section of brain and you will see a dense network of cells. Most of them are glial cells – relatively simple – looking structures whose main known purpose is to glue the whole construction together and maintain its physical integrity. It is possible that glial cells also play a role in amplifying or synchronizing electrical activity within the brain, but that, to date, is speculation." (Carter)

2009

"Once dismissed as mere packing material, glia make up 85 percent of the cells in our brain and are now known to control many of the brain's functions. Astrocytes ferry nutrients and waste and mediate neuronal communication. Oligodendrocytes coat axons with insulating myelin, boosting signal speeds. Microglia fight infection and promote repair; when they fail, so does the brain." (Fields)

Traditionally, diagnostic and treatment speech-language pathology methodology has focused on defining and describing the communication problem, drawing conclusions about the possible nature of the disorder and reasons for it, and presenting specific recommendations for what to do about it. Traditionally, in our clinical management of a communication disorder we would constantly search the environment for predisposing factors, precipitating factors and perpetuating factors so we could adjust our management to best help the client. Currently we still use most of those management procedures but what has changed the most among those factors is our understanding of predisposing factors.

Predisposing factors are those factors or agents which predispose an individual to a problem – and most thought that we would probably never know what those predisposing factors were, so we were taught to "speculate." The brain was thought of as a 'black box' that no one could see inside, so we guessed or speculated about what was happening in the brain to cause the communication problem.

Today, neuroscience has taken away much of that speculation. Brain imaging with techniques like magnetoencephalography and brain analysis with the electron microscope has shown us what is happening in the brain during normal and abnormal oral language

functioning. This insight has revolutionized how we treat clients.

Today it is a known fact that the human brain is capable of neuronal and glial neurogenesis, especially as it relates to memory and learning. This neurogenesis is made possible by exercise and learning, so speech-language pathologists must search for interventions that promote neurogenesis. This approach differs from the traditional one in which we simply developed oral language behaviors through operant conditioning. Now we try and improve neurobiology or the mechanism that produces oral language behaviors. For example, in my clinic we have seen children's oral reading comprehension significantly improved through frequent and intense exercise interventions that increased the capacity of their working memory and developed sustained attention, without working directly on reading comprehension. We have seen severe speech disorders corrected in a short period of time, not by working on speech sounds directly, but by exercising motor planning and sequencing.

Fields calls glial cells the other brain because as he writes "We now know that the other brain works independently but cooperatively with the neuronal brain." ... Here are cells that can build the brain of a fetus, direct the connection of its growing axons to wire up the nervous system, repair it after it is injured, sense impulses crackling through axons and hear synapses speaking, control the signals neurons use to communicate with one another at synapses, provide the energy source and substrates for neurotransmitters to neurons, couple large areas of synapses and neurons into functional groups, integrate and propagate the information they receive from neurons through their own private network, release neurotoxic or neuroprotective factors, plug and unplug synapses, move themselves in and out of the synaptic cleft, give birth to new neurons, communicate with the vascular and immune systems, insulate the neuronal lines of communication and control the speed of impulse traffic through them." I agree with Fields this is 'The Other Brain.'



*Arnell A. Brady, MA, CCC-SLP/L
NBASLH Chairman, 2011-2013
National Board of Directors*

News From the Southern California Affiliate

The Southern California Affiliate is still on the move. Our affiliate was inaugurated in 1978 and has remained intact until the present time. Soloris Greene, Career Advisory Chair and Charter affiliate member was chosen as a "Beacon of Inspiration" by ASHA President, Paul Rao. Her career path and highlights of her service and innovation to action was presented during the opening session of the 2011 ASHA Convention in San Diego, California, November 17-19. Soloris gives all the glory and honor to God for the privilege to sow seeds that inspire others to serve in the field of communication.

Soloris J. Greene, MA, CCC-SLP

NBASLH Convention Highlighted Presenters



Charles Ellis, Jr., PhD

Dr. Charles Ellis, Jr., is an associate professor at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) in Charleston, South Carolina. Dr. Ellis' research emphasizes neurologically based disorders of communication and health disparities and minority health issues. He received his BS and MS from The University of Georgia and PhD from the University of Florida. Dr. Ellis has more than 40 publications related to neurogenic communication disorders and health disparities/minority health issues. Dr. Ellis was awarded the MUSC Foundation Teaching Excellence Award in 2007 and named the University of Florida College of Public Health and Health Professions Outstanding Young Alumnus in 2008. In 2011, he was awarded the ASHA Certificate of Recognition for Special Contribution in Multicultural Affairs.



Joan C. Payne, PhD, ASHA Fellow

Dr. Joan C. Payne is professor in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at Howard University where she has been an administrator at the Department and School of Communication. She has been an invited lecturer at the University of Maryland's University Center, the George Washington University Area Geriatric Education Center Consortium, the National Rehabilitation Hospital, the District of Columbia Speech and Hearing Association Winter Workshops, Conventions of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, the Maryland Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Columbia University, the Third World Congress in Communications in Dakar, Senegal, the University of Vermont, and the International Congress of Logopedics and Phoniatics in Tokyo, Japan. Her visiting professorships include the Universidade Tuiuti do Paraná in Curitiba, Brazil and Tennessee State University in Nashville, Tennessee.



Paul Rao, PhD

Dr. Paul Rao is the 2011 ASHA President and is the Vice President of Operations at the National Rehabilitation Hospital (NRH) in Washington, DC. Dr. Rao is a Visiting Professor at the University of Maryland, and in 2000, became a Certified Professional in Healthcare Quality and a Certified Healthcare Executive. Dr. Rao received his Bachelor's Degree in philosophy from St. Vincent College in Latrobe, Pennsylvania, his Master's in speech pathology from Catholic University in Washington, DC, and his PhD 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. He serves on the editorial board of *Topics in Stroke Rehabilitation* and *Advance for Directors*. Dr. Rao is a Fellow in both ASHA and the American College of Healthcare Executives.




Ida J. Stockman, PhD, ASHA Fellow

Dr. Ida J. Stockman, is professor emerita at Michigan State University. Her work has focused on multicultural issues generally and on speech-language acquisition and assessment of African American children, specifically. A founding member of NBASLH, she created its annual scholar-mentor award and student research scholarship award competition. In recognition of her research, teaching and service contributions to the profession, Dr. Stockman has received the teacher-scholar and professional services awards from NBASLH, distinguished faculty awards from Michigan State University and the State of Michigan's Governing Board of Higher Education, and the multicultural award from ASHA. Dr. Stockman is also an ASHA Fellow and a recipient of the ASHA Honors.



Doanne Ward-Williams, MEd

Doanne Ward-Williams, MEd, CCC-SLP, is a bilingual speech language pathologist and the director of two private practices in speech pathology. TheraPlay Bilingual Solutions, LLC, focuses on English and Spanish-speaking preschoolers in Wake County in the North Carolina Pre-K Program. Her second practice, Carolina Speech Consultants, PLLC offers services in accent modification and corporate communication training for professionals locally and via web-based videoconferencing. She holds a Certificate of Clinical Competence with the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) and is board licensed in the state of North Carolina. Mrs. Ward-Williams is a member of the American Academy of Private Practice in Speech Pathology & Audiology, the Corporate Speech Pathology Network (CORSPAN), the North Carolina Speech Hearing, and Language Association, the Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce, and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Mrs. Ward-Williams served as past treasurer of NBASLH and currently serves on ASHA's Political Action Committee Board of Directors.



SPECIAL PRESENTATION

A Man In A Woman's World: Advantages/ Disadvantages of Being a Male Speech-Language Pathologist, Steven G. Jackson, MEd

**Attention
Men of
NBASLH**

**This presentation will feature a
Men of NBASLH Panel Discussion
from 2:00-2:30 pm.**

Do you have news to share?

Members are encouraged to submit items for consideration and publication in the **Resound**!!!!). Topics include articles of interest to the membership and areas that pertain to SLPs or audiologists.

Share your good news and accomplishments!

If you have a story, announcement or event you would like to place in the **Resound**!!!!), please send your information to:

Diane Yenerall, MPM, CAE
NBASLH Business Manager
nbaslh@nbaslh.org



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- Professional growth (connect with certified specialists)

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