

Friday Presentations/Workshop Abstracts

Plenary Session Sam Trychin, Ph.D.

Focus: *Helping People Prevent/Reduce Communication Hassles*

Abstract: Dr. Trychin is famous for helping people reduce communication hassles. His workbooks, presentations and support of Hearing Loss Association of America is legendary.



Presenter: Jackson Roush, Ph.D. and Stephanie Sjoblad, Au.D.

Focus: *The Audiologic Evaluation: From Infants to Older Adults*

Abstract: Drs. Roush and Sjoblad will cover everything you want to know about audiologic evaluations.



Presenter: Janet Trychin, Au.D.

Focus: *Early Intervention: Getting Parents Through the Early Years*

Abstract: Dr. Trychin's presentation will address coaching parents-enhancing language for the infant/toddler with hearing loss. She'll cover three strategies to encourage receptive/expressive language skills for the infant/toddler with hearing loss and how routine daily activities (eating, bathing, dressing, etc.) can become rich language learning opportunities for infants/toddlers with hearing loss.



Presenter: Cynthia Harmon

Focus: *Appearance Can Be Deceiving: Misperceptions of a Hard of Hearing Person's Character*

Abstract: Possibly every hard of hearing person has been unfairly accused of being a snob, unintelligent, contrary, domineering, demanding, or something equally negative. Few people know how hearing loss contributes to these damaging misperceptions, or more importantly, can explain this to others. This workshop highlights some of the most common misperceptions of a hard of hearing person's character that stem from the effects of his or her hearing loss. It sheds light on what factors of hearing loss cause these misperceptions and gives strategies on how to avoid them.



Presenter: Patty Conway

Focus: *Employment Needs and Services for Workers Who Are Hard of Hearing*

Abstract: Workers who are hard of hearing or late deafened face a multitude of communication difficulties and a variety of other problems on the job. Many people who are hard of hearing or late deafened do know how to find solutions and resources to address work problems. This session will discuss recent initiatives by Vocational Rehabilitation agencies and other programs to improve services to persons who are hard of hearing or late deafened. Specific service models will be described and other available resources will be discussed.



Presenter: Jennifer Compagna

Focus: *The Cochlear Implant Process: A Spousal Perspective*

Abstract: The decision to receive a cochlear implant is not an easy one. Individuals must make the decision for themselves, but spousal/family support is vitally important. Recipients often need assistance understanding the vast amount of information presented during evaluation. They certainly need much support post-op and families must understand what recipients may be experiencing during the days and weeks following surgery. There are many strategies that families can use to assist their loved one so that progress with the cochlear implant can reach full potential.



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Presenter: **Jeff Mobley**

Focus: *Older Adults & Hearing Loss: A Road Map to State Services*

Abstract: Jeff will cover issues of hearing loss in the senior adult community, its impact and where assistance can be found within the confines of state governmental agencies and programs. Participants will learn of the rapidly changing increase in the senior adult population within North Carolina, the implications on the citizenry and the effect that hearing loss brings when figured into the equation.



Presenter: **Barbara Winslow, Au.D.**

Focus: *Hearing Aids are Cool: Latest Technology Update*

Abstract: Learn about the latest in hearing aid technology. This presentation will cover advances in digital technology, terminology and hearing aid jargon, telecoils, Direct Audio Input, realistic expectations and the importance of proper follow-up.



Presenter: **Debara L. Tucci, M.D., M.S., F.A.C.S. and Craig Buchman, M.D., F.A.C.S.**

Focus: *Cochlear Implants: Medical and Surgical Issues in Adults & Children*

Abstract: Learn about the medical evaluation process for cochlear implant candidacy and the surgical procedure for cochlear implantation. From two surgeons with extensive cochlear implant experience.



Presenter: **Denise and Terry Portis, Ed. D.**

Focus: *How To Avoid Unhealthy Responses to the Challenge of Hearing Loss*

Abstract: When Denise began losing her hearing at the age of 25, she learned to “cope” in a very negative way. It wasn’t until much later that she and Terry, a psychologist himself, learned that the dangerous ways she tried to cope with her disability was really an effort to control something... anything! Progressive hearing loss is not something an individual can control.



Join Terry and Denise as they share their own story of healing and learning to cope in positive ways to the life-changing effects of hearing loss. Learn to identify the warning signs, and how to implement positive reflection, and coping skills in dealing with hearing loss. Hear excerpts from their now teenage children, on how hearing loss affected their own lives as well.

Presenter: **Joe Duarte**

Focus: *Assistive Technology in the Workplace for Persons who are Hard of Hearing*

Abstract: This workshop will touch a variety of topics focusing on workplace accommodations for people who are hard of hearing. Some of the technologies that will be covered include: sound systems, teleconference systems, inductive audio loops, FM and IR systems, telecommunication systems, visual alerting technologies, and other access enhancement technologies. Attendees will have an opportunity to participate in this workshop in a highly interactive structure. The last topic will cover different ways to convince employers to be responsive to your needs and how they can help you get effective accommodations.



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Presenter: Dianna Lee, Roxanne Dearman and Elizabeth Hopkins

Focus: *H.E.A.R. Chart (Hierarchy of Early Auditory Responses)*

Abstract: The “Hierarchy of Early Auditory Responses” H.E.A.R. Chart is a one page chart that describes normal developmental stages of audition from hearing ages 0-18 months. The H.E.A.R. chart was developed by aural habilitation specialists currently providing services to families with children who are deaf or hard of hearing. Categories: Awareness of Sound, Sound Source Localization, Social Responses, Comprehension, Imitation, and Vocalizations/Verbalizations. Hearing ages: 0-3 months, 3-6 months, 6-9 months, 9-12 months, 12-15 months, and 15-18 months.



Presenter: Pam Dickens and Ruth Miller

Focus: *Managing Your Health Care*

Abstract: Getting the most out of your healthcare requires you to be an active, informed ‘patient’. This session will cover ways to get the most out of your medical visit; how to get support at your medical visit, when needed; ways to learn about your own health; and tips on keeping thorough records of your health history. Discussed strategies will help participants with hearing loss learn how to improve the quality of their healthcare.



Presenter: Cynthia Compton-Conley, Ph.D.

Focus: *Auditory Technology for Face-to-Face Communication – Which Technology is Best for you?*

Abstract: So you are wearing state-of-the-art hearing aids, or maybe an implant. But you still find yourself having difficulty understanding your spouse or kids at the dinner table or when in the car. And you can’t always understand what your physician or attorney is saying. And you don’t like going to the movies or church or out to dinner anymore because you cannot understand what people are saying. And, to top it off, you’ve given up golf because you cannot hear what your partners’ comments. So what do you do? You come to this presentation where you will learn the basics about hardwired and wireless (FM, infrared, and audio loop) assistive technology for face-to-face communication. When you leave the presentation, you will understand how each technology works and how to choose among them.



Presenter: Carolyn Brown M.S., CCC-SLP/A

Focus: *A Program Model for Pediatric Implantation*

Abstract: This presentation will provide a description of the UNC pediatric cochlear implant program model. The Carolina Children’s Communicative Disorders Program (CCCDP)-Dept of Otolaryngology / Head & Neck Surgery of the UNC-CH School of Medicine has an approach to pediatric implantation which utilizes the team concept. The team has included physicians, audiologists, SLPs for more than 10 years and has been proactive in the inclusion of school professionals in the implantation process. In 2001, a model preschool and an expanded intervention program to the CCCDP were added. CASTLE (Center for the Acquisition of Spoken language Through Listening Enrichment) was established to provide direct services to families and children as well as training opportunities in the area of teaching spoken language through listening for teachers and therapists.



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Presenter: Rachael Ragin, Ed.D.

Focus: *Program Considerations for Children w/ Mild to Moderate Hearing Loss*

Abstract: This presentation will explore the affect of mild to moderate and unilateral hearing loss on the school aged child and what needs to be considered in development of a strong support system for learning. Etiology and assistive technology for this population will be discussed.



Presenter: Rob Dowling, Au.D.

Focus: *Wearing CI & Hearing Instrument Together; Considerations & Implications*

Abstract: Dr. Dowling will address Provide pros and cons to wearing of cochlear implants with hearing instruments. He will cover the research and other considerations in this controversial area.



Presenter: Tom Ditt

Focus: *Prepare for Emergencies Now Because It's Only a Matter of Time*

Abstract: People with hearing loss face unique challenges in emergency situations. This presentation will help participants understand the threats they face and help them be better prepared for those challenges in the event of an emergency.



Presenter: Melissa Wagner

Focus: *Taking the road less traveled: The Wagner Family's journey with hearing loss*

Abstract: This presentation will be about our family's journey down the road less traveled. All the books and birthing classes couldn't have prepared us for the initial shock that comes with a failing newborn screen and what was about to come our way. We will be discussing what it was like to get the diagnosis, finding early intervention services and learning how to live with hearing loss. Part of our story includes how our daughter's Anna hearing lead us to the adoption of our youngest daughter, Julia, from China who has aural atresia and microtia.



Presenter: Terry Portis, Ed.D.

Focus: *So All May Worship*

Abstract: Churches are often not very accessible to people with hearing loss. That's somewhat surprising since the their message is important and many in their congregation can't hear that message. Dr. Portis will cover the needs and benefits for making churches more accessible.



Presenter: Denise Tucker, Au.D.

Focus: *Tinnitus Retraining Therapy, Hyperacusis & Ototoxic Drugs*

Abstract: Dr. Tucker will lead us on a tour of several interesting topics related to audiology. There's more to audiology than beeping headphones.



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Presenter: Kristin Avitabile, M.S., CCC-A

Focus: *The Vibrant Soundbridge Implantable Middle Ear Prosthesis System*

Abstract: This presentation will provide an overview of the newly launched Vibrant Soundbridge Implantable Middle Ear Prosthesis System from MED-EL Corporation. The presentation will include an overview of the device, candidacy criteria, and outcomes. Frequently asked questions will be addressed and future directions of this technology will be discussed.



Presenter: Craig Buchman, M.D., F.A.C.S.

Focus: *Meniere's Disease and Hearing Loss in Other Medical Conditions*

Abstract: Acquired hearing loss can occur from a variety of insults to the ear and/or brain including infectious, ototoxic, neoplastic, as well as from conditions that have an unknown cause. These disorders can manifest as either hearing loss alone or be associated with other symptoms such as tinnitus, vertigo, ear pressure or even systemic manifestations.



This presentation will review a variety of different acquired causes for hearing loss common among adults and children. Conditions such as Meniere's disease, acoustic neuroma, ototoxicity, CMV, otosclerosis, and autoimmune hearing loss as well as others will be covered. Details regarding the diagnosis and management will be discussed and an interactive format of questions and answers will be encouraged.

Presenter: Cindy Camp

Focus: *Hard of Hearing Students in Postsecondary Setting*

Abstract: Traditionally Deaf students attending college received interpreting services and hard of hearing students received note-taking services. However, the students don't fit a cookie-cutter mold. New technology offers new options, but has also led to new barriers.



This presentation will focus on the plethora of accommodations that are available to hard of hearing students at the postsecondary level. It will also discuss ways to work with the institution and Vocational Rehabilitation to find out what services will meet the needs of individual students in a variety of settings. Finally it will look at how the changes in education, such as increased distance learning, will affect students with a hearing loss.

Presenter: Steve Barber

Focus: *More Sophisticated Consumers: How to Be One and How to Serve One*

Abstract: The world of hearing loss is changing rapidly. Being hard of hearing or deaf isn't just a condition you had to live with as it once was. Hearing Aids are computers, becoming stylish and even fashionable. Cochlear Implants are becoming effective solutions for more people. Now, more than ever, you need to be good at dealing with hearing loss because you can. Steve's consumer focused presentation will tell you what you need to consider if you want to make the most of your hearing, and he'll provide ideas to help professionals effectively serve consumers who are becoming more savvy and willing to deal constructively with their hearing loss.

