

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER. BY: Kerri Phillips

Are you ready to remember the Alamo and of course indulge in mango ice cream! The 32nd NCSB conference will be held at the historic Menger Hotel in San Antonio, TX on September 26-28, 2019. Our outstanding President Elect, Gregg Thornton, has developed an agenda that will certainly add spice to our discussions. The conference theme "Regulating Smartly in a Deregulating Climate: Threats to Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology" will equip boards with ideas to take back and share with our respective consumers and legislative bodies.

We will continue to discuss the implementation of licensure compacts and threats to our regulatory boards nationwide. Jim Puente, Director of the Nurse Licensure Compact, will share with attendees tips on how to administer a compact. Matt Lyon, Governmental Liaison for the Texas Academy of Audiology, will provide information regarding over the counter hearing aids. Tammy Brown, Board President for the Ohio Board of Examiners, and Cheryl Hawkinson, Ohio Assistant Attorney General, will discuss Ohio's board consolidation.

Two of the ever popular events continue to occur: the Pre-conference workshop and popular state information exchange. Gregg Thornton and Amy Goldman have provided new discussion topics for boards. Keep an eye out for Amy's email requesting slides! As we continue in this deregulation climate, this conference is poised to be one of our best.

San Antonio's Riverwalk will provide a fantastic setting to shop, network, and dine.

We are excited to provide a venue for you to acquire more knowledge equipping you to return to your respective states to advocate for occupational licensure and the protection of consumers since the primary purpose of NCSB is to:

- ◇ Facilitate communication and interaction among state boards
- ◇ Promote the protection of consumers
- ◇ Stimulate interest in and discussion of issues pertaining to licensure boards
- ◇ Provide a forum for discussion
- ◇ Assist licensing boards in fulfilling statutory, professional and ethical obligations
- ◇ Promote uniform standards for licensure

Grab your boots and join NCSB in San Antonio as we advance our purpose and learn how to prepare for the battles that lie ahead in our respective states. See you in San Antonio!

NCSB's 32nd ANNUAL CONFERENCE
"Regulating Smartly in a Deregulating Climate:
Threats to Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology"

September 26-28, 2019 - Menger Hotel, San Antonio, Texas

Registration brochures announcing the 32nd annual NCSB Conference have been mailed. If you or your state board did not receive one of the brochures, a registration form and hotel information are included in this newsletter. As in past years, a pre-conference workshop on Training for Board Members will be held on Thursday, September 26, 2019, and the one and one-half day conference will follow on September 27 and 28. NCSB invites boards to participate in both the board training and the conference. Following is a synopsis of the pre-conference workshop and the conference. You can also visit the conference website at <http://www.ncsb.info/conference> for more information.

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP "Training for Board Members"
Thursday, September 26, 2019, 8am - 5pm
Facilitators: Ayn Stehr, Attorney; Theresa Rodgers, SLP; and Glenn Waguespack, AuD

Participants in the training include members of the NCSB Board of Directors. The workshop is designed for speech-language pathologists, audiologists, board administrators, board attorneys, and all others involved in the regulatory process, the training will focus on all aspects of board service. Attendees are invited to bring a copy of their state law and rules/regulations.

Highlights include:

- ◇ A Board attorney with experience in administrative law will discuss statutory authority, including rulemaking and the disciplinary process.
- ◇ A mock compliance hearing will be conducted to illustrate a way in which Board members can obtain additional information in cases where an application for licensure may be denied. Based on the information presented, attendees will make the final decision regarding issuance of the license.
- ◇ A mock disciplinary hearing that will trace the process from the initial letter of complaint through testimony of witnesses to imposition of sanctions. Attendees will serve as the hearing panel and will learn how to report sanctions to the NPDB.
- ◇ Ethical situations and dilemmas will be utilized to provide experience in receiving, reviewing, and resolving complaints. Participants will be asked to share dilemmas that have been experienced by their individual Boards.
- ◇ A flash drive containing important regulatory statistics, state licensing laws, examples of licensure board exams, and other pertinent information will be provided to all attendees.

DAILY CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

View the daily schedule at <http://www.ncsb.info/2019/schedule>.

Friday, September 27, 2019

8am - 8:30am	<i>Registration & Continental Breakfast</i>
8:30am - 8:45am	Howdy Yall; Welcome Kerri Phillips, NCSB President Gregg Thornton, NCSB President-Elect
8:45am - 10am	The Rough Riders; Administering Compacts Jim Puente; KEYNOTE SPEAKER
10am - 10:15am	<i>BREAK</i>

Friday, September 27 (continued)

- 10:15am - 11am **Three Amigos; Licensure Compact Update**
Nahale Kalfas, North Carolina
Kerri Phillips, Louisiana
Gregg Thornton, Ohio
- 11am - 11:30am **Ain't My First Rodeo; Update on Antitrust Case Law**
Nahale Kafas, JD
- 11am - 1pm *Welcome to the Fiesta; LUNCH and CORPORATE BUSINESS MEETING*
- 1pm - 2:15pm **A Walk Along The River; Board Consolidation - Who's in Your Canoe: Tammy Brown & Board Actions in the Climate of Deregulation**
Cheryl Hawkinson, Ohio
- 2:15pm - 2:30pm *BREAK*
- 2:30pm - 3:15pm **Over the Counter Hearing Aids: A Prickly Pear or a Fruit Ripe for the Picking**
Matt Lyon, Texas
- 3:15pm - 4pm **Holy Guacamole; Ethical Trends and Challenges Facing the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Professions**
Donna Euben, ASHA
- 4pm - 5pm **The Whole Enchilada; New Ethics Requirement**
Todd Philbrick, ASHA
Panelists Include: Tracy Grammer, Oklahoma; Matthew Lyon, Texas; Patty Nesbitt, WV

Saturday, September 28

- 8:30am - 9:30am **Round Up - Part 1: State Information Exchange**
Facilitator: Amy Goldman, Pennsylvania. A state representative should be prepared to speak for 5 minutes on successes and challenges in the respective state.
- 9:30am - 10am **Head'em-up-Mov'em Out - ETS Updates**
Kathy Pruner, New Jersey
- 10am - 10:15am *Break*
- 10:15am - 11:15am **Round Up - Part 2: State Information Exchange**
Facilitator: Amy Goldman, Pennsylvania
- 11:15am - 12noon **New Territories in Licensing; Clinical Simulation, Lobbying for your Board & Cultural Competence and Sensitivity**
Kerri Phillips, Louisiana
Tracy Grammer, Oklahoma
Jayme Pultro, Mississippi
- 12noon - 12:15pm **Take off your boots and Hang up your Hat: Wrap-up and 2020 Conference Preview**
Kerri Phillips, NCSB President
Gregg Thornton, NCSB President-Elect

2019 CONFERENCE AT MENGER HOTEL IN SAN ANTONIO

The 2019 NCSB Workshop and Conference will be held Thursday, September 26, 2019, through Saturday, September 28, 2019, at the Menger Hotel, 204 Alamo Plaza, in San Antonio, Texas. The Historic Menger Hotel is the oldest continuously operating hotel west of the Mississippi. Across from the Alamo and located on the historic Riverwalk, the hotel has hosted generations of guests who are amazed by the architectural grandeur of the structure. From its museum-worthy furnishings, walls and display cases with mementoes and photographs that capture its esteemed history to its celebrated mango ice cream, the Menger is the essence of San Antonio. The hotel is next to the Shops at Rivercenter, a shopping mall that includes retail shops as well as a number of restaurants and fast-food places.

Hotel Group Room Rates: \$129 Single, Double, Triple, or Quad plus 16.75% tax. Effective 1/1/19, hotel guests are assessed a 1.25% San Antonio tourism fee for each taxable room night. The group rate may be honored three days before and three days after the group block ends (subject to availability). Check-in time is 3:00 PM, and check-out time is 11:00 AM. If a guest leaves earlier than the scheduled departure date, there will be a charge of \$75.000 plus 16.75% tax.

Hotel Reservations: Individuals may make reservations directly with the hotel reservations department by call 24 hour toll-free at 800-345-9285. Reservations cancelled after 48 hours prior to the arrival date will be assessed one night's room and tax. Book your room online at <http://www.ncsb.info/2019/venue>.

Cut-Off Date: Cut-off date for making reservations in the group room block is September 8, 2019.

Complimentary internet access will be provided to hotel guests both in guest rooms and in the meeting spaces. Overnight parking rates are \$25.00 plus tax per day. Day or event parking is \$20.00 plus tax.

Airport Transportation: There is a city shuttle called "Super Shuttle" that leaves the airport every 15-30 minutes from outside baggage claim. Cost is \$15.00 one way or \$20.00 round trip. Taxis from the airport range from \$25-\$30 and will charge flat rate for one to three people.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Conference Fee

- ◇ NCSB Members - \$325
- ◇ Multiple Attendees from a Member State - \$300
- ◇ Non Members - \$500
- ◇ Exhibitors - \$450.00

Pre-Conference Workshop

- ◇ Member - \$225.00
- ◇ Non Member - \$325.00

Registration Cancellation

- ◇ On or before August 26: 90% of registration fees
- ◇ After August 26: No refund due to cancellation

Signup online at <http://www.ncsb.info/2019/registration>.

NCSB TO PRESENT POSTER SESSION AT ASHA

Please view the NCSB poster during the ASHA Convention. Plan to attend and share your licensure experiences with others who have an interest in licensure. The poster will include demographic data on a number of topics, including continuing education, hearing aid dispensing, telepractice, universal licensure, support personnel, and others. In addition, an update on licensure compacts will be presented, along with the most recent draft of the compact proposal. Handouts will be provided, as will a listing of web addresses for audiology and speech-language pathology boards.

“Deregulation of Professional Licensure: Will Licensure Compacts Resolve the Problem?”

Session Number 7331, Poster Board 150

Friday, November 22, 2019

9:30-11:00 AM

Location: Hall D2/E1—Orange County Convention Center

Hope to see you at the Convention Center in Orlando.

NCSB AWARDS

At the 31st annual conference held in Vienna, Virginia, NCSB presented two awards during its corporate business meeting and luncheon.

Honors of the Association - Presented to Dr. Michael Zagarella from West Virginia. Bio information indicated that Michael has been a member of the West Virginia Board of Examiners since 1997. He served as President of that regulatory board from 1999 to 2017. Michael was recognized for his initiative to pass universal licensure in WV. He also led the Board in developing a jurisprudence examination that every new licensee must complete prior to receiving a WV license. Since 2011, Michael has advocated for his board’s participation in NCSB, both with their presence and with their financial support. Michael was also commended for his service to the WV Speech and Hearing Association, having served as their ethics trainer as a means of educating licensees and encouraging them to follow the statute and rules. The recommendation for Honors of the Association recognized his exemplary service that changed the direction of the Board in West Virginia.

Special Recognition Award - Presented to Barbara Conrad from Ohio. Bio information focused on the positive influence Barbara has had on the practice of speech-language pathology in Ohio through her leadership, mentoring, and involvement in state level initiatives. Much of her work occurred in the school setting as a founding member of the Ohio School Speech Pathology Educational Audiology Coalition (OSSPEAC). Through her work in this capacity, she was able to forge relationships with the Ohio Speech-Language-Hearing Association, the Ohio Department of Education, and the Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology. She was instrumental in creating the Ohio Master’s Network Initiative in Education (OMNIE), which resulted in 58 school-based SLPs receiving their Master’s degrees through distance learning. The recommendation for a **Special Recognition Award** was based on her and national levels.

NCSB is pleased to recognize these two dedicated individuals and encourages state boards to submit nominations as a tribute to individuals who have made a difference in the professions of audiology and speech-language pathology.

LICENSURE COMPACTS NCSB: State Compacts Update

The NCSB Task Force has met and has drafted a licensure compact applicable to the professions of audiology and speech-language pathology. Ayn Stehr, Task Force Chair, drafted the initial document and presented it to committee members. Committee members have reviewed the document, and discussions are on-going with the

draft compact. The draft compact was shared with the NCSB Board of Directors and other stakeholders for additional input upon completion. Remember that this is a process that will take time (years) to develop and finalize. The National Center for Interstate Compacts and the Council of State Governments have made plans to convene a legislative educational summit on August 19-20, 2019. At that time representatives from each state will discuss the final compact and make decisions regarding the best way to implement the compact in those states that have expressed an interest.

As a reminder, the compact preserves the regulatory authority of states to protect public health and safety through the current system of state licensure. Its specific objectives are:

- ◇ To increase public access to audiology & speech-language pathology services by providing for the mutual recognition of other member licenses;
- ◇ To enhance the state's ability to protect the public's health and safety;
- ◇ To encourage the cooperation of member states in regulating multistate audiology and speech-language pathology practice;
- ◇ To support spouses of relocating active duty personnel;
- ◇ To enhance the exchange of licensure, investigative and disciplinary information between member states;
- ◇ To allow a remote state to hold a provider of services with a compact privilege in that state accountable to that state's practice standards; and
- ◇ To allow for the use of telehealth technology to facilitate increased access to audiology and speech-language pathology services

NCSB has been involved in the process since the outset and hopes to continue to take an active role in interstate compacts. Following is a letter of support sent by the NCSB President, Kerri Phillips, to Dan Logsdon with the Council of State Governments.

Dan Logsdon, Director
National Center for Interstate Compacts
Council of State Governments
1776 Avenue of the States
Lexington, KY 40511

Dear Mr. Logsdon:

On behalf of the National Council of State Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (NCSB), I am writing in support of the proposed Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact (ASLP-IC). We commend the Council of State Governments for working with the professions and associated professional associations in the publication of the proposed compact.

The NCSB is a national organization that represents state licensure boards in audiology and speech-language pathology across the country. In our work with licensing boards nationwide, we gather data relative to licensing characteristics and national trends and appreciate and respect the importance and effectiveness of statutory authority imposed by states in the interest of consumer protection.

NCSB's primary purpose is to:

- ◇ Facilitate communication and interaction among state boards
- ◇ Promote the protection of consumers
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- ◇ Provide a forum for discussion
- ◇ Assist licensing boards in fulfilling statutory, professional and ethical obligations
- ◇ Promote uniform standards for licensure

Although there is not a uniform practice act, and standards do vary to some extent from state to state, licensure boards nevertheless share the responsibility to protect consumers regardless of the mode of service delivery. The

establishment of a compact, whereby licensure boards can expand services to individuals with speech, language, or hearing problems, can remove barriers to care while also ensuring that protection of the public's health, safety and welfare is maintained. It shall be the responsibility of each state licensing board to develop rules, policies, and procedures consistent with the laws of that state for the regulation and enforcement of services provided by the compact.

NCSB supports licensure as an important means of consumer protection, and encourages your leadership in this matter with state licensure boards so that individuals are fully informed about the issue of the compact. If you have questions or comments concerning this matter, please donot hesitate to contact us.

Respectfully,
Kerri Phillips
2019 NCSB President

An update on the current status of the licensure compact, as well as an update on the legislative educational summit, will be presented at the NCSB Fall Conference in San Antonio. NCSB encourages regulatory boards to become involved in the formation of a licensure compact in their respective states as a means of facilitating the interstate practice of audiology and speech-language pathology with the goal of improving public access to those services.

Nahale Kalfas, Board attorney in North Carolina, has been actively involved with the Council of State Governments in the formation of the compact. Following are links that may provide Boards with additional information regarding licensure compacts.

<http://licensing.csg.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/NCIC-June-2019-May-pdf>

This link depicts a map of the United States showing the states that have formed compacts. Although the compacts are not specific to the professions of audiology and speech-language pathology, the second page depicts those professions that have formed compacts in related areas.

<http://licensing.csg.org/?=434>

This link refers to hair braiding, and although this is not specific to the professions of audiology and speech-language pathology, it is pertinent to the issue of licensure deregulation. Please share these links with your respective Boards as you discuss the formation of licensure compacts.

JOIN NCSB ON FACEBOOK



Keep up to date on the latest news and information from NCSB. Join Facebook and have access to early announcements of conference locations, accommodations, and programs. Get “social” with NCSB. Membership in the Facebook group is open to anyone who is a past or present member of your state's licensure board in speech-language pathology or audiology, state and national association leaders—or if you are interested in trending information and hot topics related to the regulation of the communication profession. Invite your friends to “like” and “follow” us. Connect with your colleagues about timely issues in the professions and share news about what is happening in your state.

Search under “NCSB” or go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/201684259941209/?fref=ts>

SPOTLIGHT ON REGULATORY BOARDS

This edition's spotlight shines on "The Sooner State." Oklahoma's nickname is in reference to the non-native settlers who staked claims on land before the official opening date of the western Oklahoma Territory through the Indian Appropriations act of 1889. Oklahoma, becoming the 46th state on November 16, 1907, is the 20th-most extensive and the 28th-most populous of the fifty United States. The state's name is derived from the Choctaw words *okla* and *humma* meaning "red people." The capitol, Oklahoma City, is in the middle of its' 69,899 square miles. Oklahoma is the birthplace of the parking meter, the shopping cart, the electric guitar, and the YIELD sign. With more man-made lakes than any other state in the nation, Oklahoma's terrain is diverse including four mountain ranges, prairies, and deciduous forests. Oklahoma is home to 3,943,079 "Okies" including 2725 speech-language pathologists, audiologists, audiology assistants, and speech-language pathology assistants. Famous "Okies" include Howard, Garth Brookes, Toby Keith, Reba McEntire, Will Rogers, Paul Harvey, Thomas P. Stafford, Chuck Norris, Gene Autry, Jim Thorpe, Kristen Chenoweth, and many others.

Speech-language pathologists, audiologists, audiology assistants, and speech-language pathology assistants are regulated by the **Oklahoma Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology**. Created in 1973, the mission of OBESPA is to regulate the practices of speech-language pathology and audiology for the protection of the health, safety, and welfare of the public as well as to support practitioners in their professional endeavors. Licensure is required for any practice of speech-language pathology or audiology in all non-exempt employment setting, including services provided through telepractice. Although many professionals in exempt settings chose to be licensed, licensure is not required for practice in federal, state, or county employment settings. Oklahoma is proud to participate in the interstate licensure compact.

OBESPA currently regulates the licenses of 2725 speech-language pathologists, audiologists, audiology assistants, and speech-language pathology assistants. Audiology assistants are authorized rather than licensed. OBESPA has regulated the practice of speech-language pathology assistants through licensure since 2013. Twenty hours of continuing education is required each two years for license maintenance to include two hours dedicated to ethics. Since 2017, six hours of continuing education are required in supervision for all practitioners who supervise speech-language pathology assistants or clinical fellows. Three of those hours are required specific to the nature of the person being supervised: clinical fellow or assistant. Speech-language pathologists must hold licensure for two years prior to supervising an assistant or speech-language pathologist in clinical fellowship.

OBESPA is comprised of three members of the professions with at least one speech-language pathologist and at least one audiologist; one lay member defined as a consumer of services or the family member of a consumer of services; and an otolaryngologist. The Board is represented by an assistant attorney general who is assigned to the Board. OBESPA is managed by an executive secretary. Each professional Board member is appointed by the Governor after a public nomination process to serve a three year term. The layperson and the physician are appointed by the Governor. OBESPA is required to undergo sunset review each three years to verify the necessity and benefit of licensure to the public. As a non-apportioned agency, OBESPA is required to pay 10% of its' earnings to the states' general revenue fund. Application for licensure and for licensure renewal may be completed electronically. Licensure fees are \$85.00 per year. Contact Amy Hall, Executive Secretary of OBESPA for more information.

Current OBESPA members:

- ◇ Suzanne Stanton, Speech-Language Pathology
- ◇ Tracy Grammer, Speech-Language Pathology
- ◇ April Waller, Audiologist
- ◇ William Livermon, Lay Member
- ◇ Wayne Berryhill, M.D.

Mailing Address:

- ◇ OBESPA, P.O. Box 53592, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73152
- ◇ Phone: (405)524-4985

NCSB BOARD OF DIRECTORSView online at <http://www.ncsb.info/board-members>**President**Kerri Phillips
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info@ncsb.infoMenger Hotel, site of the 32nd Annual NCSB Conference. Visit <http://www.ncsb.info/conference> for more

information.