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PRESIDENT'S CORNER. BY: Gregg Thornton

Greetings to everyone receiving our spring NCSB newsletter. 2020 is well under way, and the start of a new year or a new decade is always a good time for organizations to reinforce their mission and goals. NCSB is active in engaging licensing boards, their administrators and their members in discussions of relevance to the regulation of the professions.

You are encouraged to send one or more Board representatives to the 33rd annual NCSB conference. Plans are underway to bring you an invigorating and information-filled conference this year related to licensure. We'll have more details to share about the speakers and topics in the next newsletter, but please save the dates, and we'll look forward to seeing you at the Drury Plaza Hotel in Santa Fe from October 22-24, 2020. Thanks to Doreen Oyadomari for once again working her magic!

Please join me in welcoming our newly elected Board of Director (BOD) Members: Larry Molt (AL), Vickie Pullins (WV), and Doreen Oyadomari (AL). I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Traci Grammer (OK) who completed her three year term on the Board at the end of last year. If you did not attend last year's conference in San Antonio, based on the evaluations and feedback, you missed an engaging experience. The conference theme was Regulating Smartly in a Deregulating Climate: Threats to Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology. The Pre-Conference Workshop presented by Ayn Stehr, Theresa Rodgers, and Glenn Waguespack received high praise from participants who completed the new board member training. Our keynote speaker was James R. Puente, MS, MJ, CAE with the National Council of State Boards of Nursing who spoke on administering licensure compacts. Matthew Lyon, Au.D., from the Texas Academy of Audiology spoke on issues related to over-the-counter hearing aids. There was a good cross-mix of speakers who shared their expertise on emerging topics to equip attendees with ideas to take back and share with their respective audiences. I invite you to review the conference proceedings on our website for further details. Many of the speakers made their presentations available for download. The NCSB board would like to thank our sponsors, exhibitors, presenters and attendees for making our 2019 conference outstanding.

I would like to invite all of you to share your stories with NCSB this year. Whether your story is shared in Santa Fe during the State Information Exchange or in our newsletter, we encourage everyone to share their stories of how you are smartly regulating the professions for consumer protection. Now, more than ever, it is important that our role as regulators are being heard and understood. This will be an exciting year for us to take that journey together.

32nd ANNUAL CONFERENCE HELD IN SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

In San Antonio, Texas, from September 26-28, 2019, NCSB hosted its 32nd annual conference. The conference opened on Thursday with Board Member Training and began with a statutory authority presentation by a board attorney. Following the statutory authority session in the morning, attendees participated in a mock compliance hearing, a mock disciplinary hearing, examined complaints, and discussed resolution of ethical decision-making utilizing board scenarios.

Much of the program September 27 & 28 was devoted to licensure compacts and deregulation. However, time was allotted in the program for updates on states' licensure issues and professional issues impacting regulatory Boards. A representative from the nursing board presented information regarding the nursing licensure compact, one of the earlier established compacts. Following was an update on the status of the audiology and speech-language pathology interstate licensing compact. There was also information presented on Board consolidation and efforts to deregulate the professions.

In addition there were updates to the Praxis and the ASHA CFCC certification standards, as well as an AAA update. Of particular interest was information regarding the new ethics requirement for maintenance of the CCC and information from regulators regarding the status of ethics CE requirements in their respective states. A specific session was devoted to ethical challenges faced by audiologists and speech-language pathologists. The session on over-the-counter hearing aids gave both audiologists and speech-language pathologists information to relay to their state Boards. As was expected, the state information exchange proved to be a very interactive session where attendees shared successes and challenges in their respective states. New perspectives regarding lobbying, clinical simulation, and cultural competence was also well-received and provided attendees with current information regarding these topics.

Members of the NCSB Board of Directors will meet later this Spring to plan the 33rd annual conference. A number of timely topics have been suggested, and NCSB welcomes input from state boards regarding issues that are impacting licensure in their respective states.. Information regarding the 33rd conference will be made available to licensing agencies this summer, along with registration materials.

2020 CONFERENCE AT DRURY HOTEL IN SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

The 33rd Annual NCSB Conference will be held at the Drury Plaza Hotel in Santa Fe from October 22-24, 2020. Relevant hotel information is as follows:

Conference Hotel

Drury Plaza Hotel in Santa Fe
828 Paseo de Peralta
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501
Phone: 505-424-2175
www.druryhotels.com

Guest Room Group Rates

Single/Double: \$109; Triple: \$119; Quad: \$129 per night, not including taxes.

Room Reservation Procedures

Reserve your room online at www.druryhotels.com. Select "Drury Plaza Hotel in Santa Fe – 828 Paseo de Peralta, Santa Fe, New Mexico" and enter the group number of 2358321. Or, you may call 1-800-325-0720 and refer to the same group number.

Cutoff Date: In order to receive the group rates, reservations must be made on or before Saturday, September 19, 2020.

Parking

On-site parking is valet only. Self-parking is not available on-site. The negotiated group rate is \$10 per day for meeting guests and \$10.00 per night per vehicle for overnight parking. (Advertised on-site parking non-group rates are \$23/night.)

Transportation

Groome Transportation (formerly Sandia Shuttle) from Albuquerque Airport: \$72+tax round trip or \$36+tax one-way. Reservations may be made by calling (505) 474-5696 or by going online at www.groometransportation.com/santa-fe/

About the Hotel

This renovated historic property offers unique accommodations like private terraces and premium suites. The hotel is LEED® Certified by the U.S. Green Council for energy-efficiency in the design and features an on-property restaurant, Eloisa. The hotel is a short walk from downtown Santa Fe's many attractions, including the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum and historic churches. Palace Avenue Arts designed the artwork for the interiors of the hotel by curating the most creative artists from a wide array of art markets. You will enjoy the variety of mediums displayed on all floors. The hotel features beautiful new rooms, free long distance for one hour every room every night and free wireless internet access in all rooms, in the lobby and in all meeting space. Also offered is a free HOT breakfast including pancakes, scrambled eggs, biscuits & gravy and more. There is Soda and Popcorn from 3:00 to 10:00 pm every night in the mezzanine lobby and a 5:30 KICKBACK each evening with a rotating menu of free hot food and cold beverages. There is a heated outdoor rooftop pool and whirlpool. Plan to take advantage of historic downtown Santa Fe which is in walking distance of the hotel. Stroll along the sidewalks and view the wares for sale by local crafts people. Most restaurants are also within walking distance of the hotel and offer varied menus.

Note: The locals want to remind you to stay hydrated at all times since Santa Fe is at a higher altitude than many other locations around the country.

HOTEL REGISTRATION INFORMATION AND PROGRAM INFORMATION WILL BE PROVIDED IN THE BROCHURE SENT THIS SUMMER

Interstate Licensing Compact in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology

Note: Some of the background information regarding the role of NCSB in the development of a licensure compact for the professions was included in a previous edition of Licensure. The background information is being repeated along with an update on the current status of legislation related to the formation of a licensure compact. A designated group has been working to develop guidelines and procedures for the implementation of licensure compacts in audiology and speech-language pathology.

NCSB and its Role in the Development of a Licensure Compact for Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology

The Council of State Governments (CSG) worked collaboratively with its Advisory Committee and its Drafting Team to produce a Draft Licensure Compact for Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology. A diverse group of audiologists, speech-language pathologists, board administrators, legislators, board attorneys, representatives from professional associations, and a member from the Department of Defense have drafted a document that was presented at the Fall Conference of the National Council of State Boards of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (NCSB) in October 2018. The draft has since been revised based on input from stakeholders and is currently being utilized for states that wish to introduce legislation related to the formation of a compact. Highlights of the revised language and proposed sections are as follows:

Section 1. Purpose

The purpose of the Licensure Compact is to facilitate interstate practice of audiology and speech-language pathology with the goal of improving public access to audiology and speech-language pathology services. The practice of audiology and speech-language pathology occurs in the state where the patient/client is located at the time of the patient/client encounter. The Compact preserves the regulatory authority of states to protect public health and safety through the current system of state licensure.

Section 2. Definitions

Section 3. State Participation in the Compact

Section 4. Compact Privilege

Section 5. Compact Privilege to Practice Telehealth

Section 6. Active Duty Military Personnel or Their Spouses

Section 7. Adverse Actions

Section 8. Establishment of the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Compact Commission

Section 9. Data System

Section 10. Rulemaking

Section 12. Date of Implementation of the Interstate Commission for Audiology and Speech-Language pathology Practice and Associated Rules, Withdrawal, and Amendment

Section 13. Construction and Severability

Section 14. Binding Impact of Compact and Other Laws

A number of questions have been posed regarding the purpose and formation of a licensing compact for audiology and speech-language pathology. Following are some of these questions:

What is a Compact?

An interstate compact is a contract between two or more states. It carries the force of statutory law and allows states to perform a certain action, observe a certain standard, or cooperate in a critical policy area. Compacts establish a formal, legal relationship among states to address common problems or promote a common agenda; they create independent, multistate governmental authorities that can address issues more effectively than a state agency acting independently, or when no state has the authority to act unilaterally; and they establish uniform guidelines, standards, or procedure for agencies in the compact's member states.

How Many Interstate Compacts are There?

There are currently more than 200 active interstate compacts. Twenty-two of them are national in scope, including several with 35 or more member states and an independent commission to administer the agreement. More than 30 compacts are regional, with eight or more member states. Compacts are not exclusively for health-care professions but involve agreements with other professions as well.

When Are Interstate Compacts Created?

Compacts have been created to establish state boundaries; to establish advisory commissions to study interstate policy issues and report back to the respective states on their findings; and to create administrative agencies to regulate and manage a variety of interstate policy concerns.

Are all Regulatory Interstate Compacts Alike?

No, depending on the needs of the profession, interstate compacts addressing regulatory matters can be structured differently. There are several professions utilizing interstate compacts to address regulatory matters and expand service delivery, and each may take a different approach when writing compact language. For example, medicine constructed its compact to address expedited licensure; nursing's compact creates a multistate license; and physical therapy creates a privilege to practice. **Audiology and speech-language pathology chose to follow the privilege to practice model.**

What is Currently Happening with Formation of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Compacts?

1. The Council of State Governments (CSG) held a meeting in Washington, D.C., in August 2019 to bring together representatives of allied health professions and to share experiences in the formation of individual licensure compacts. Also invited to attend were legislators from states planning to introduce legislation to develop licensing compacts in audiology and speech-language pathology.
2. CSG also held a summit of the states in Puerto Rico in December, 2019. They reported that five professions have compacts in place—medicine, nursing, physical therapy, psychology, and emergency medical technicians. Audiology and speech-language pathology, occupational therapy, and counseling are actively working on the establishment of these compacts. The goal is to expand compacts to 50 professions. **It was reiterated that with a licensure compact, state licensure processes remain in place, state practice acts are not impacted, and licensees voluntarily become part of the compact.**

How Many States are Needed to Legislate an Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Compact, and What is the Current Status of this Legislation?

Kerri Phillips, Past President of NCBP and the NCSB representative to CSG, has been working with CSG and its staff to assist states wanting to introduce compact legislation. Ten states must pass legislation for an audiology and speech-language pathology compact to become effective. As of February 14, 2020, the states of Oklahoma, West Virginia, Nebraska, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Texas, Alabama, Kansas, Pennsylvania, Utah, Wyoming, and Louisiana, have already introduced legislation or have become actively involved in the process of bill writing and securing sponsors for the legislation.

Where Do I Go for Additional Information?

The National Center for Interstate Compacts has information on its website (www.csg.org) or Dan Logsdon, Director of CSG can be reached at (859) 244-8226.

NCSB SOLICITS NOMINATIONS FOR AWARDS

Each year at its Corporate Business meeting, NCSB recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the professions through involvement with licensure. Two awards have been established to honor individuals, and these include Honors of the Association and the Special Recognition Award. Briefly, Honors of the Association is intended to recognize an individual for his/her exemplary contributions to NCSB, to a licensing board in the state, or to an individual employed by an organization or other entity that addresses regulatory concerns for the professions. The Special Recognition Award is given to individuals who have demonstrated exemplary commitment and contributions in the area of regulation at the state level. Criteria for these awards and detailed nomination procedures can be found at www.ncsb.info. NCSB encourages member boards to respond to the Call for Nominations for these two awards. Recipients will be recognized at the Business Meeting at the upcoming 2020 Conference.

At its meeting in San Antonio, NCSB was privileged to present two individuals with **Special Recognition Awards**. **Senator Stephan Pappas** from Wyoming was recognized for his dedicated support to the professions of audiology and speech-language pathology. He was an advocate in the State Senate for SF44 (2017), an act that modified requirements for licensure and also the suspension, revocation, and renewal of licenses. The bill expanded the list of persons eligible to serve on the licensing Board; in addition, it modified fees, provided new and revised definitions, and removed obsolete language. As a member of the SLH Advisory Group, Senator Pappas worked with the Council of State Governments and assisted in drafting interstate compact language. It was noted in the nomination information that he increased public access to professional services by providing for the mutual recognition of other member state licenses. He has agreed to introduce compact legislation in Wyoming in 2020. NCSB is pleased to recognize him for his contributions to the profession and his continuing support of audiology and speech-language pathology.

Also honored with a **Special Recognition Award** was **David Blalock** from North Carolina. A retired speech-language pathologist, David is a former member (14 years) and former Board Chair from North Carolina. He currently serves as an investigator for the North Carolina Board, and in addition to his Board service, he has held leadership positions in the North Carolina Speech, Hearing, Language Association. As a Board member, he always advocated for public protection and assisted in the establishment of rules for supervision of speech screenings, for the development of the continuing education requirement, and for the revision of the scope of practice for speech-language pathology and audiology. His meeting with the NC Department of Public Instruction was the first step in convincing the State Department to create a policy that made the license issued by the NC Board the credential required for public school speech-language pathologists and audiologists. Mr. Blalock attended many NCSB conferences, and although he was not able to be present to receive the award in person, NCSB is pleased to recognize his contributions to the professions.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

NCSB is seeking nominations to fill the positions of President-Elect and two Board members. In keeping with the Bylaws, the President-Elect must be selected from the current Board of Directors.

Directors eligible to serve as President-Elect are:

| | | | |
|----------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Amy Goldman | Glenn Waguespack | Doreen Oyadomari | Vickie Pullins |
| Nahale Kalfas | Jayne Pultro | Larry Molt | Gregg Thompson |
| Kerri Phillips | | | |

The requirements for a member of the Board of Directors are that the nominee be either a board member or an individual member from a state board that is currently an NCSB member. Such individual may be a licensed speech-language pathologist, a licensed audiologist, a board administrator, a board attorney, or a public member of the board. The Bylaws stipulate that at least two Directors be speech-language pathologists and two be audiologists.

A call for nominations will be sent to member boards in late Spring. Member boards may submit nominations from this notice as well as by sending nominations to www.ncsb.info. Once the nominations have been received and nominees have agreed to serve, an official ballot will be forwarded to member boards for voting. The individual(s) elected will be recognized at the Fall Business Meeting and will take office January 1, 2021.

MEMBERSHIP IN NCSB

NCSB encourages interested individuals/board to join NCSB. Categories of membership are as follows:

1. Full Membership—Organizations eligible to apply for Full Membership are those boards, advisory councils, committees, or comparable bodies which conduct and maintain programs for the licensing of speech-language pathologists and audiologists in their respective states or provinces. The cost for Full Membership is \$450.00
2. Individual Membership—This category is available to any individual who presently has served as a member, executive director, administrator, or attorney affiliated with a speech-language pathology and/or audiology board. Additionally, any SLP or AUD holding current licensure and with an interest in regulatory matters is entitled to apply for this affiliation. Individual members from states that are member boards in good standing shall receive discounted membership. The cost for Individual Membership is \$35.00 for individuals whose state is a member board and \$50.00 for individuals residing in states that do not hold membership in NCSB.
3. Association Membership—This category refers to organizations that either directly or indirectly provide services to individuals with communication disorders and whose members are impacted by licensing or certification of SLPs and AUDs. Individuals may also apply for this level of membership; however, membership is restricted to individuals who are members of an organization eligible to apply for Association Membership. The cost of Association Membership is \$450.00.

All levels of membership can be accessed by logging on to www.ncsb.info.

NCSB WELCOMES NEWLY ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

Last year during the election process, Larry Molt was elected to join the NCSB Board of Directors. Doreen Oyadomari and Vicki Pullins, who previously served on the NCSB BOD, were-elected to another term. The Board of Directors is pleased to have these individuals with experience in the regulatory process and looks forward to their participation as board members.

Both Doreen Oyadomari and Vickie Pullins are well-known to NCSB attendees. Vickie and Doreen have both served as President of NCSB, and Vickie continues to provide information for the Spotlight on Boards in each newsletter. Doreen has been in charge of local arrangements for a number of years, and NCSB is grateful to her for the work she does in selecting meeting sites and accommodations.

Larry Molt is currently a member of the Alabama Board and is employed by Auburn University as a Full Professor in the Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences Department. In addition to numerous

committee appointments at ASHA, Larry previously served on the NCSB Board of Directors and during that tenure was elected as NCSB President. He holds certification in both audiology and speech-language pathology.

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>

NCSB PRESENTS POSTER SESSION AT ASHA

At the ASHA convention in Orlando in November, NCSB presented a poster session entitled “Deregulation of Professional Licensure: Will Licensure Compacts Resolve the Problem?”. The poster utilized a series of maps to depict trends and characteristics in licensure across the country. The trends included the history of legislation by state, states with merged boards, states that have enacted legislation to require the doctoral degree as the entry-level credential for audiologists, states permitting hearing aid dispensing with the audiology license, continuing education requirements, telepractice regulations, and the regulation of support personnel. A section of the poster presentation was devoted to the concept of interstate licensure compacts and presented information about the formation of compacts and their benefit to the professions of audiology and speech-language pathology. It is hoped that the professions of audiology and speech-language pathology will enter into interstate compact agreements, and maps featuring these states can be included in future poster presentations. Handouts were provided to those who viewed the poster, and the handouts included a description of licensure characteristics as well as contact information for the National Center for Interstate Compacts.

NCSB 2021 in Williamsburg

The 2010 NCSB Conference will be in Williamsburg October 7-9, 2021. It will be held at the Williamsburg Woodlands Hotel and Suites, the site of a previous conference. The Williamsburg Woodlands offers a daily continental breakfast, wireless internet in all guest rooms, and access to the Historic Area Shuttle. More information will be forthcoming—plan to join us in Williamsburg in 2011.

Spotlight on Licensure Boards

Each edition of the newsletter provides a spotlight on a regulatory Board. The information may contain information about the members of the Board, how to file a complaint, and other pertinent information for audiologists and speech-language pathologists living in that state. State boards are encouraged to submit information about their Board, particularly if there is legislation in process or if there have been any recent changes to the law and/or the rules. This edition shines the spotlight on Utah.

Board Members

| Name | Appointed | Expires |
|---|------------|------------|
| VACANT/resignation (Public Member) | | 06/30/2020 |
| Kelly S. Spensko(Speech-Language Pathologist - Elem or Sec School) | 07/01/2013 | 06/30/2021 |
| Joseph Dansie(Audiologist - Non-School Clinic) Chair | 07/01/2016 | 06/30/2021 |
| Julia V. Lidgard(Speech-Language Pathologist - Univ Training Program) | 07/01/2015 | 06/30/2023 |
| Shannon Wnek(Audiologist - Private Practice or At Large) | 07/01/2019 | 06/30/2023 |

Contact Us

For general licensing questions call:
 (801) 530-6628
 (866) 275-3675 Toll-Free in Utah

Bureau Manager

Jana Johansen – janajohansen@utah.gov

Board Secretary

Bobbie Loy – B6@utah.gov

Exam Information

In order to be licensed as either a Speech-Language Pathologist or Audiologist in Utah, applicants must hold a current certification from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association or provide documentation of passing the PRAXIS exam for their profession. Applicants should submit documentation of their passing score with their license application.

License Fee Waivers

- ◇ Initial License
- ◇ DOPL requires a processing fee for initial license applications. This fee varies by profession. The Utah Legislature has authorized initial license fee waivers for qualifying military service members. Full-time active duty service members should submit the fee waiver request form with their initial license application.
- ◇ Inactive License

- ◇ Qualifying licensees, who wish to maintain their license but who are not currently practicing in the profession, can apply for inactive status. In some cases, changing a license to inactive status will remove certain CE requirements. The Utah Legislature has authorized fee waivers for qualifying military service members who change their license to inactive status or who renew an inactive license. Please note that not all professions have inactive status as an option. To check if your profession has inactive license status, refer to Utah Administrative Rule R156-1-305.
- ◇ Spouses of military service members stationed in Utah are permitted to work in licensed professions without obtaining a Utah license as long as they possess an active license from another state or territory of the United States. Since this benefit for military spouses is relatively new, you may need to explain to employers or the public who ask that your out-of-state license is valid because you are a spouse of an active duty service member. To help you, the Division has created a verification letter which you can show your employer or the public that explains this exemption.

Licensee Count – 01/09/2020

Renewal – every 2 years May 31 – odd years

| | | |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|-------|
| Speech/Audiology | Audiologist | 306 |
| Speech/Audiology | Speech Lang Pathologist & Audiologist | 16 |
| Speech/Audiology | Speech Language Pathologist | 1,101 |
| Speech/Audiology | Temp Speech Language Pathologist | 42 |

Speech or Audiology Renewal - \$47.00

NCSB thanks Utah for submitting information about the licensure board. The law and rules and regulations can be accessed in their web site.

NCSB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

View online at <http://www.ncsb.info/board-members>

President

Gregg Thornton

gregg.thornton@shp.ohio.gov

President-Elect

VACANT

Past President

Kerrilyn Phillips

kphillip@latech.edu

Secretary

Amy Goldman

amy.sue.goldman@gmail.com

Treasurer

Doreen Oyadomari

doreenphd@gmail.com

Editor

Glenn Waguespack

audmath1@aol.com

Board Member

Larry Molt

moltlaw@auburn.edu

Board Member

Nahale F. Kalfas

enkalfas@aol.com

Board Member

Jayme Pultro

drpultro@outlook.com

Board Member

Vickie Pullins

vickie@linguacare.com

Administrator

Robert Ranieri

info@ncsb.info