



# Resound))))

Spring 2009

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

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## Remember When? Well, Let's Do It Again!



Each Board member oversees at least one major area of NBASLH's operations single-handedly in many cases. During a recent board meeting in Atlanta, Michelle Norman nudged us to "remember when" groups of members formed committees that assisted in Association tasks. Experiencing an "ah ha" moment, the Board immediately established a series of committees to provide power for more people for tasks as well as to provide additional avenues for member engagement. Designed for all members and especially those not currently part of an Affiliate, these committees will work with a Board member to move new projects forward and to expand current ones already begun.

The Board established seven committees which are listed below. The next step is up to you to select your first and second choices and then sign up today. One or more committees will resonate as your choices where your talent can be used or a new one nurtured. Snail mail, e-mail or fax your name and selections to the NBASLH Office the moment you finish reading this. We want to recognize you at our Convention in Atlanta April 16-18, 2009, but, more importantly, we need your ideas for ways to keep our Association moving forward.

The old adage, "Associations are only as strong as their members" and my addition of, "investment of their time," bears truth. The return on your investment and energy will pay great dividends for NBASLH so that in spite of this economic down time, both you and NBASLH will grow. Sign up for committee involvement (*see committee descriptions and volunteer form on Page 8*). Let's do it again.

*Cathy Runnels*

Cathy Runnels, M.S., CCC-SLP, Chair

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS



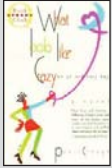
**NBASLH 2009 Convention**

April 16-18, 2009

**PRAXIS Review**

April 16-18, 2009

# 2009 NBASLH Convention April 16-18 Hyatt Regency Atlanta Convention Highlights



## **Opening Session**

Thursday, April 16, 2009 – 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

NBASLH Speaks: Literacy and Literally comes to life in our Opening Session with author Pearl Cleage. Her book *What Looks Like Crazy on an Ordinary Day* was one of Oprah's Book Club selections. This renowned poet and journalist will explore challenges and opportunities faced by Americans following the historical election of Barack Obama.

## **Opening Reception and Book Signing/Promotion\***

Thursday, April 16, 2009 – 7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Relax with colleagues, old and new, while nibbling on light fare hors d'oeuvres. NBASLH members are encouraged to Speak Literacy by bringing books they have authored or edited to display/promote during the opening reception/information exchange.

## **Round Table Discussion – School-Based Issues**

Friday, April 17, 2009 – 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

This year's Round Table Discussion will focus on Hot Topics concerning School-Based Issues.

## **NBASLH Annual Awards Dinner**

Friday, April 17, 2009 – 7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Featured Speaker – Dr. Deneese Jones

Adorn yourself in semi-formal attire as NBASLH recognizes and applauds excellence in student research, service to the profession and a communication hero. Dr. Deneese Jones, Professor and Dean at Longwood University, will give food for thought and inspire attendees as she Speaks Literally about *"21st Century Hope and the Challenge for Education in a Diverse Society."*

## **Student-Mentor Luncheon**

Saturday, April 18, 2009 – 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

The Student-Mentor Luncheon presents the opportunity for students and mentors to enjoy a program specifically designed for students. During the luncheon, the Student Research Award recipient will present a synopsis of their research.

## **Sunday Serenade – Farewell Gospel Brunch**

Sunday, April 19, 2009 – 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Bid a fond farewell to old friends and new colleagues as you enjoy the sounds of soulful gospel music at the reinstituted Sunday Serenade.

## **Do You Have a Literary Penning?**

*If you would like to display your  
literary penning at the  
NBASLH Convention,  
contact the NBASLH Office by March 13.*



***The NBASLH Convention is always  
changing and improving!***

***Check the NBASLH website and e-mail notification  
from the NBASLH Office  
for Convention updates and highlights.***

# NBASLH Executive Board

September 1, 2008-August 31, 2009

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## Minority Students Receive Training for Careers in Research in Communication Sciences

**T**raining for Research and Academic Careers in Communication Sciences (TRACCS) is a six-week intensive research training program at Indiana University for minority students interested in learning about research career opportunities in the field of communication sciences and disorders (CSD). Anyone interested in psychology, medicine, physics, linguistics, physiology, engineering, biology, sociology, anthropology or other similar fields will find the CSD field of interest. Students and recent graduates (both undergraduate and graduate levels) of an accredited four-year institution are encouraged to apply.

TRACCS recently concluded its second year of service this summer to students at Indiana University. A select group of four students ranging from undergraduates to recent master's degree graduates participated in the program. Students were given the opportunity to work one on one in a research lab of their interest with established mentors in CSD. In addition to individual time with mentors, students attended weekly meetings geared towards learning the ins and outs of research. Topics such as research methods, research ethics, poster board presentations, applying to graduate school and life as a professor were covered.

At the end of the program, students presented their research findings at a poster board presentation for faculty and students to attend. Colette Lantéme, a second-year master's student at North Carolina Central University stated "Without this research opportunity, I would have thought research was a piece of cake. I am grateful that I was able to learn the entire research process from the ground up. As a result of TRACCS, I was able to gain all the necessary tools to conduct my thesis at my university."

Susan Yao-Tresguerres, a San Francisco State University graduate explained "TRACCS really did a great job of teaching me about all the skills that are needed to pursue a research career. Before TRACCS, I didn't really feel confident that a regular student like me had any right considering a research career. Now, not only do I see it as a real possibility, but I have the tools to make it happen."

Funding for the TRACCS program is provided by The National Science Foundation (NSF) Alliances for Graduate Education in the Professoriate (AGEP). AGEP awards institutions grants to increase the number of underrepresented minorities receiving science, mathematics and engineering degrees. Scholarships are available to students for travel expenses to and from Indiana University plus room and board in a campus residence hall.

Requirements for the TRACCS program include an application and letter of intent, an official transcript and two letters of recommendation. The application deadline for summer 2009 is March 1, 2009. For more information about the program, visit the TRACCS website at [www.indiana.edu/~sphs/traccs](http://www.indiana.edu/~sphs/traccs).

## KUDOS

**Constance Dean Qualls, Ph.D.**, Professor and Chair of Speech-Language Pathology at the State University of New York College at Buffalo and ASHA's Vice President for Science and Research, has been named Editor-In-Chief of The Open Applied Linguistics Journal, Bentham Science Publishers (<http://www.bentham.org/open/toalj/index.htm>). The Open Applied Linguistics Journal is an Open Access online journal that publishes original research articles, reviews, and short articles in all areas of Applied Linguistics. This peer reviewed journal aims to provide the most complete and reliable source of information on current developments in the field with an emphasis on publishing quality articles rapidly and freely available to researchers worldwide.

*Email KUDOS info to [nbaslh@nbaslh.org](mailto:nbaslh@nbaslh.org)*

## Awards from the ASHA 2008 Convention

### ASHA Fellows

Travis T. Threats, Ph.D.

Deirdre R. Trent

A. Bernadette Mayfield-Clarke, Ph.D.

### Certificate of Recognition for Special Contributions in Multicultural Affairs

Kay T. Payne, Ph.D.



Janna Oetting from the Louisiana State University would like to announce that Brandi Newkirk, a doctoral student in Communication Sciences and Disorders at Louisiana State University, was awarded a 2009 New Century Doctoral Scholarship from the American Speech Language and Hearing Foundation. She was awarded this scholarship from a pool of more than 350 applications. Ms. Newkirk was the 2003 recipient of the NBASLH Student Research Award.

## Grant Program for Projects on Multicultural Activities

<http://www.asha.org/about/leadership-projects/multicultural/funding/rfp.htm>

ASHA recognizes the value of supporting the infusion of multiculturalism into our clinical, educational and professional programs; and the activities of allied/related associations and organizations. In response, beginning in 1996 ASHA has been allocating funds, annually, for projects on multicultural activities. In 2009, for the fourteenth consecutive year, ASHA has allocated funding for grants for projects on multicultural activities with a maximum of \$15,000 awarded for a single grant. It is expected that the average individual award given will be between \$7,000 and \$10,000. Applications must be submitted by April 3, 2009. Proposals receiving funding will be announced by July, 2009.

## Howard University Communications Department Sweeps ASHA Awards

Faculty, alumni and students of the Howard University Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders captured a total of 10 awards at the 2008 Convention of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) in Chicago during November 19-21.

Sharing the limelight with actress, Julie Andrews who received the "Annie" presented by Senator John Glen and wife (for whom the award is named), the Howard celebrities continued an established tradition of recognition for their professional excellence.

Associate Professor, Dr. Kay T. Payne garnered recognition for her contributions in multicultural affairs in honor of her distinguished achievement in research, education and clinical service. Dr. Payne directed 17 federal grants, totaling \$7 million which have supported more than 75 students at Howard. Twice a Fulbright Fellow, she has traveled to 22 nations conducting study and research.

Dr. Wilhelmina Wright-Harp, Associate Professor, and alumna, Dr. Patricia Cole received the National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association's (NSSLHA) Editors Award for their recent article, "A Mentoring Model for Success in Graduate Education." Dr. Cole also received the highest Honors of NSSLHA.

Alumnae, Dr. Bernadette Mayfield-Clarke and Dr. Deirdre Trent were inducted as Fellows, one of the highest honors of ASHA. Alumnus, Dr. Tommie Robinson has been elected 2009 President of this 130,000-member organization. Current doctoral students, Nayda Torres, Alayna Townsend and Miguelina Zapata were selected for the Minority Student Leadership Program.

In addition to this year's awardees, the Department boasts in having produced three ASHA Presidents, 11 Fellows and three Association Honors recipients among its faculty and alumni. Ranking in the upper 15th echelon of US News and World Report's Best Graduate Programs, the department also received the 2008 Diversity Incentive Award from the Council of Academic Programs in Communication Sciences and Disorders.



Left to right: Bernadette Mayfield-Clarke, Patricia A. Cole, Kay T. Payne, Wilhelmina Wright-Harp, Deirdre Trent

## Passings

**Mr. Samuel P. Geraldts** - Mr. Geraldts, long-time member of NBASLH, created the Speech Pathology and Audiology Program at Southern University, Baton Rouge in 1956 and remained there for almost 50 years.



# CSD Students Survey Gullah Culture



Keisha Matthews poses with St. Helena native Rosa Greene

Imagine the opportunity to go to a place such that you leave seeing the world in a completely new way. This was exactly the experience of students in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD). In October 2008, seven graduate students visited the Gullah

Islands of Georgia and South Carolina.

Students not only had the opportunity to reside at the historic Penn Center, but to tour historic St. Helena's Island, Charleston, Beaufort and Savannah. The journey began with the wonderful opportunity to interview older inhabitants who inspired them with their love, connection to nature and dedication to their community and families. When asked to share some of her infinite wisdom and advice, Ms. Rosa Greene (95) challenged students to simply be good people and remember to love one another. A daughter of slaves, her loving words and open invitation to her home and memories were awe inspiring.

In their quest to understand the culture, students learned that the Gullah culture began with the importing of slaves from West Africa who brought many languages, cultures, traditions and occupations. West African languages and traditions merged with North American culture to form Gullah. Because of their isolation from the mainland, the Sea Islands served as an ideal location for preservation for the culture.

Gullah was maintained by elders passing down the language and culture as children were nurtured in a matriarchal society, taught spirituality, given a formal rite of passage and taught to be stewards of the land. Unfortunately, however, over the past 50 years, Gullah culture has begun to decline, with three factors mainly contributing to this process: the development of resorts,

the migration of Gullah descendants, and integrated education of Gullah descendants. As younger Gullah descendants are assimilating into mainstream culture, their culture and mother tongue are disappearing.

Yet in no danger of dying is the delicious food of the Gullah people. After a long day of traveling students had the opportunity to dine at Geneva's where they were bombarded with rich, delicious food. The table soon became quiet as all endeavored to fully savor the wonderful shrimp, fish, chicken, collard greens, macaroni and cheese, as well as the cornbread placed in the center of the table.

On the final day, they were invited to a true Gullah breakfast consisting of shrimp and grits, homemade milk biscuits and salmon cakes. All were in agreement that it was one of the greatest dishes they ever had, as they savored the Gullah tradition through the aromas and spices. Simply put, it was Southern hospitality at its finest, and the students were most grateful.

Students had the opportunity to view the authentic artwork of the Gullah people and to take history tours. In another memorable experience, students attended a church service. After being warmly greeted with southern charm they were moved by sounds of worship and praise. As they sat among the congregation, the strong faith, support and unity were felt, making this experience which was new for some and well-known to others, inspiring for all.

The trip was a cultural immersion experience sponsored by a grant from the US Department of Education Cultural Competency Project administered by Dr. Kay T. Payne, associate professor at Howard University.

Overall, the experience proved to be both remarkable and memorable. To quote first-year graduate student, Tinita Ortega, "A glimpse into African-American history was simply more than any graduate student could hope for."

## Resound))))

*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 speech-language pathologists 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  
NBASLH Business Manager  
nbaslh@nbaslh.org



Clockwise: Tinita Ortega, Keisha Matthews, Dr. Kay T. Payne, Oluwatoyin Mayaki, Brittney Goodman, Ayodele Murphy-Higgs, Monique Cabellos and Katie McCarthy.

# Visiting the Real World – From Lansing to London

*In 1978, a committee concerned with meeting the professional needs of black professionals, students and individuals handicapped in communicating, incorporated the organization currently known as the National Black Association for Speech-Language and Hearing (NBASLH). As a black graduate student, and sophomore NBASLH member, I am in pursuit of advocating for the black communicatively handicapped across international as well as local levels. It is my humble belief that a good professional is able to find solutions for their problems related to this profession. One interesting situation involving black professionals is the concept of cultural sensitivity or lack thereof. Below I share my experience of studying abroad to encourage us as NBASLH members to continue to promote the mission that our needs as black scholars, professionals and handicapped citizens are met accordingly to all.*

Studying Language Dialect Difference in Applied Contexts in London, England and Edinburgh, Scotland this summer was an amazing experience. Before leaving, a picture had been painted for many years regarding ‘the real world’ by professors and particular peer groups who insinuated that underrepresented professionals would constantly be stressed due to socially-constructed obstacles. Whether that raises eyebrows as truth or wrinkles noses as an untruth is not the concern of this author, but rather the introduction to an interesting thought, brought on by the cosmopolitan nature of the beautiful United Kingdom. Cultural sensitivity can be preached until individuals are blue in the face, but reality is when individuals are not only interested, but are also engaged in fully exploring areas outside of their comfort zone.

Not everyone is willing to be consciously aware of other cultures. A solid example would be a university faculty member who genuinely did not know anything about the black British Diaspora, or the generations of blacks inhabiting London, despite the fact that his institution had been traveling to London for more than 35 years. A consciousness of ‘the real world’ exposed students to the rich and tourist attraction side of London. Thought sits on if these students even caught a glimpse of cardboard city, a nickname for an area in the center of London, where individuals were so poor they lived in cardboard boxes. This area was pointed out to me by a local resident who was appreciative of the American who wanted to see all of London.

The first stop of my journey landed me in Oxford, England. The quaint buildings and left-side of the road drivers made me feel as if I had walked onto the set of a British sitcom. One of the first treasures I viewed was the Sheldonian Theatre, the first building designed by Christopher Wren who was a leading figure in rebuilding London after the Great Fire of 1666. My eyes slipped downward to the unpaved sidewalks, which were cobblestones and rugged bricks. Wheelchairs could not easily pass on such walkways. Concern for the welfare of individuals with disabilities raised my eyebrow, although some would argue and replace my accusation with a few muscles and possible corresponding cranial nerve. One of my instructors at the University College of London revealed that the sidewalks were constructed that way so that blind individuals could tell when they hit the street because of the contrast between the rugged walkway and smoothly paved road.

The second stop of my journey landed me in London, England. One of the class visits included the Royal National Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital, founded by Lenox Brown. An interesting fact found me when I went to the first floor, which in the United States we would consider the second (in the UK they count the ground floor as the first). When the hospital first opened, initially no referrals were needed. If a potential patient arrived with a presenting condition, it was concluded that the condition itself was referral enough.

Two non-ethnic/non-minority females from my study abroad group asked if myself and an African-American female present on the trip were going to visit “that place,” referring to Brixton, which she had overheard

was a black neighborhood. Not being interested in learning the name of the area did not dampen my interest in the two coming along. However, I did not need a referral to see that their comfort zone was being stretched in even asking the question.

The main speaker of the duo was the same young woman who boasted of how diverse her experience had been in visiting London and in attending an institution where more than 120 nations were represented. This young woman sparked a revelation as to why the hospital of Lenox Brown changed its policy years ago and required referrals. The young woman spent a majority of her time in the West End, where the rich people of London resided and where the city was set up for tourists. Her trips to the East End-poor population were made on class hospital visits to the Whitechapel area. Observing her at her self-proclaimed diverse institution revealed friends that were from her same area and upbringing. Regarding her acquaintances from other cultures, she did not extend their friendship beyond polite classroom conversation or study-groups in the main library.

Perhaps for some individuals, merely being in a different country and around different cultures is referral enough for persons to diagnose an environment as being in a diverse condition. Dare I offer that accomplishing cultural sensitivity and true diversity involves physical engagement with people of another culture/ethnic-background as opposed to simply being around or near them and holding polite conversation. The field of speech-language pathology frequently promotes evidence-based practice which strongly suggests clinical expertise be supplemented with the welfare of the client, and scientific peer-reviewed research (i.e., Patterson & Avent, 2006). Therefore, in addition to personal expert opinion of diversity, I challenge individuals to tip-toe outside of their comfort zone in order to understand and serve a patient from another culture, metaphorically implementing the components of evidence-based practice.

My final journey landed me in Edinburgh, Scotland where I learned the slang “awk high deh new?” meant “Are you alright now?” It would be difficult for me to be a traveling speech-language pathologist in Edinburgh without a car. Many patients were housebound because a lot of the accommodations consisted of flats without lifts (elevators). A number of the patients were on waiting lists. Edinburgh speech language therapists (SLT) have duty of care, where they are legally obligated to assess a client on a waiting list. The obligation did not mention care/therapy, just assessment. That may place the SLT in a bit of a “stickywicket” (problem). A situation that did not pose a stickywicket for me was the charming environment of smiling Scottish people, the haggis, and the bagpipe songs.

A reality check for both sides of the world would be that “the real world” in its truth and entirety is an intangible reality to individuals who refuse to explore areas beyond their comfort zone. In the likes of evidence-based practice, a combination of opinion (preconceived notions), research (engaging not parallel to but with people of other cultures/ethnic backgrounds), and keeping in mind the welfare of the patient (approaching them with genuine interest and not assumptions) is warranted.

Patterson, J. & Avent, J. (2006). The Practice of Evidence-Based Practice: A Case Study Approach Neuropsychology and Neurogenic Speech and Language Disorders

*Terlenda Crawford*  
Terlenda Crawford

## A Debt of Thanks ...

2009 marks a 40-year legacy for the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association's (ASHA) commitment to diversity and inclusion. In celebration of that commitment; ASHA gratefully acknowledges NBASLH, and its precursor, the ASHA Black Caucus, for the action and initiative that laid the foundation for the level of commitment ASHA has today. ASHA is grateful to those NBASLH pioneers who insisted that ASHA address social issues impacting members and the professional practice environment in the 1960s, and for the continued impetus to ensure that ASHA was responsive and proactive in creating social change for our discipline. ASHA's Office of Multicultural Affairs was established in 1969, initially as the Office of Urban and Ethnic Affairs; and then in 1980, the Office of Minority Concerns. Through the activities of this Office and the support and assistance of staff throughout the ASHA National Office, ASHA is now esteemed as a leader among professional membership associations in advancing and leveraging diversity and inclusion, and taking strides to increase the cultural competence of its members.

Today, ASHA is especially grateful to NBASLH for its incomparable nurturing and development of students. NBASLH has set a high bar and is a role model for professional membership organizations in the support and encouragement provided to students both institutionally and on a professional to student basis. NBASLH members don't just suggest that students attend the NBASLH Convention; they bring them to the Convention by the busload. NBASLH has incorporated Student Forums into its convention structure, so that students are challenged to prepare and present their own research under the caring and expert guidance of NBASLH members at these student-led sessions. The student presenters at NBASLH receive constructive feedback and recommendations to strengthen their research and presentation skills, and encouragement to continue to build the body of evidence so sorely needed in our professions and in particular, related to diverse client populations. ASHA has been pleased to partner with NBASLH in support of their student activities at NBASLH Conventions and we are grateful for the reciprocal relationship we've come to enjoy.

The connection between our Associations has been extremely valuable and has become a viable source of mutual benefit. Thank you to each and every NBASLH member. We look forward to many more years of continued growth and collaboration.

ASHA will continue its support of NBASLH and extends opportunities for NBASLH members to further multiculturalism within our discipline. There are a number of ways you can get involved, including:

- Sign up to mentor a student from an underrepresented racial/ethnic minority background through the ASHA Gathering Place and ASHA's S.T.E.P (Student to Empowered Professional) program <http://www.asha.org/students/gatheringplace/>
- Complete the ASHA Volunteer Pool Form to be considered for service on ASHA's Committees, Boards and Councils <http://www.asha.org/NR/rdonlyres/0559B3EF-C55D-4FF4-A567-B10F6D59F5C0/0/VolunteerPoolForm.pdf>
- Participate in the ASHFoundation research and scholarship programs <http://www.ashfoundation.org/foundation/>
- Submit a proposal to ASHA's Multicultural Grant Program <http://www.asha.org/about/leadership-projects/multicultural/funding/>
- Provide your story to ASHA's Share Your Stories effort to promote our professions and the difference we make to others. <http://www.asha.org/public/stories/>



**Pictured above (left to right) are:** Shemariah Farmer (undergraduate), Eddrina Frasier (graduate), Nancy Renee Smith (graduate), Emily Morris (undergraduate), and Nan Aycock (graduate)

## South Carolina State University Speech Pathology and Audiology Students Win National Knowledge Bowl !!!

At the 2008 Annual Convention of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) in Chicago, Illinois November 19-22, the National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association (NSSLHA) held its first National College Knowledge Bowl.

Similar to the popular television game show, *Jeopardy*, in the National College Knowledge Bowl, speech pathology and audiology students from all over the country were asked questions similar to those which appear on the National Examination in Speech Pathology and Audiology.

Five SCSU Speech Pathology and Audiology students (two undergraduate and three graduate students) Nan Aycock, Eddrina Frasier, Shemariah Farmer, Emily Morris and Nancy Renee Smith, at first were present just as observers of the event. When they realized, however, that there were no representatives from the South, Region 5, they decided to enter and participate in the competition at the last minute. Using the knowledge they obtained in the SCSU Speech Pathology and Audiology Program, they consistently scored exceptionally well throughout the competition.

When the final question appeared – “How many years has NSSLHA been in existence?” – our five students were overjoyed because they knew the answer when no one else did!

Emily Morris, a Senior undergraduate student, said that they were all very proud that, “We learned enough at SCSU to compete nationally with students from other universities in places like California and New York ... WE CAN MAKE IT ANYWHERE!!” They placed third out of 10 national regions, and won a prize of \$500. Dr. Gwendolyn D. Wilson, Department Chair and ASHA Vice President for Audiology Practice, said that she was proud to know that, “our students have the courage, confidence, and competence to participate and perform so well in a national competition.”

Kudos to Nan, Eddrina, Shemariah, Emily, and Renee! The faculty, students and staff of the South Carolina State University Speech Pathology and Audiology Program are all extremely proud of you!



# NBASLH Forges New Partnerships and Scholarship Opportunities for Graduate Student Members

**NBASLH** is very honored and fortunate to announce two new partnerships, Progressus Therapy and Staffing Options and Solutions, Inc. (SOS), that bring long-awaited scholarship/mentoring opportunities to our matriculating graduate students at the Master's level. During these difficult economic times, it is heart-warming to know that our student members will be able to receive assistance from these partnerships in completing their degrees and fulfilling the shortage of diverse speech-language pathologists and audiologists.



**Progressus Therapy**  
The power of what's possible

**Progressus Therapy** is a nationwide education solutions leader in school-based speech-language pathology, occupational therapy and physical therapy. This company clearly supports the mission and purpose of NBASLH by investing in the graduate students as a result of supporting their career growth through mentoring. This is indicative by the funding of this scholarship and nurturing of young professionals who are passionate about school-based service delivery. In addition, Progressus Therapy is committed to making a difference in the lives and education of children with disabilities.

This scholarship will be awarded to a graduate student whose primary career interest is in providing speech-language services to children in schools or early intervention settings. The **\$3,000** scholarship award is slated for educational and clinical expenses, such as books, clinical materials or equipment, tuition or other expenses related to the student's respective educational program. The criteria details and application process are available at [www.NBASLH.org](http://www.NBASLH.org).



**Staffing Options and Solutions, Inc. (SOS)** is a therapy owned and managed company who provide contract therapy staff to schools and medical facilities in 13 states. The therapy owners are also committed to the association's mission in their endeavors to increase minority participation in the field of speech-language pathology, occupational and physical therapy. Therefore, to encourage their commitment, **SOS** has partnered with **NBASLH** in their efforts to fund two (2)-**\$500** scholarship to our graduate student members who meet the designated criteria and are enrolled in a master's degree program, full-time, in speech-language pathology.

We are extremely proud of these new joint ventures and applaud the efforts of these companies for recognizing NBASLH and promotion of its mission and purposes for the future of this professional organization.

The first year recipients for these wonderful scholarship award opportunities will be announced and recognized during the **NBASLH Annual Convention** at the **Hyatt Regency Hotel** in **Atlanta, Georgia** during the **Award's Dinner** on **Friday, April 17, 2009**.

***A.B. Mayfield-Clarke***

A.B. Mayfield-Clarke, Ph.D. CCC/SLP FASHA

COMMITTEE	BOARD LIASON	PURPOSE
Convention	Iris Arnold-Johnson Rachel Williams	To assist in convention planning for two years and beyond
Fund Raising	Jonathan Love	To procure funds for activities beyond the days of the Convention
Foundation	Cathy Runnels	To generate funds for special programs as a separate entity
Praxis	Michele Norman	To expand this unique training and develop on-line offerings
ASK NBASLH	Iris Arnold-Johnson	To set up a new on-line resource for professionals, students and other interested persons
Scholarships/Awards	Byron Ross	To establish guidelines for awards, review submissions and complete other tasks

## COMMITTEE SIGN-UP

Member Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

First Choice Committee: \_\_\_\_\_

Second Choice Committee: \_\_\_\_\_

*Sign, detach and return your Committee preferences to:*

**NBASLH Office**  
**800 Perry Highway, Suite 3**  
**Pittsburgh, PA 15229**  
**FAX: 412-366-8804**  
**E-mail: [nbaslh@nbaslh.org](mailto:nbaslh@nbaslh.org)**

*Questions? Call the NBASLH Office at 412-366-1177.*



# Presidential Inauguration



(pictured left to right) Arnell Brady, III, daughter Ashanta Brady, wife Dr. Patricia Brady and son Arnell Brady, II

The weather was very cold in Washington D.C. on January 20 2009, but our hearts and minds were warm as they radiated joy and positive anticipation of what the future would be like for the United States of America, as we witnessed the Presidential Inauguration of Barack Hussein Obama. Obama became the 44<sup>th</sup> President and the first black man in the history of America to hold that office, which is considered, the most powerful position in the free world.

Early that morning around 7:00 a.m., before the start of the inauguration ceremony planned for about 11:30 a.m., my family and I traveled by Metro from Maryland into the city. We were early, but the city was already packed with millions of people. The overwhelming crowds were pressing towards the Washington Mall, where the ceremony was to take place, so they could witness in person this historic event. It seemed as though everybody was happy, even the police as they cheerfully gave assistance to people requesting directions so that they could get closer to the Mall. The air was filled with the positive charge of hope, and people wanted to be there when it arrived. There were people talking, laughing, taking pictures, selling souvenirs and nobody seemed to mind the cold.

The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) had extended an invitation to members who would be attending the inauguration ceremony to drop by the Capitol Hill office (444 North Capitol Street) to warm from the cold and partake in refreshments. My family and I stopped by and were warmly greeted by Dr. Tommie Robinson, ASHA President-Elect, who was bundling up to also attend the ceremony.

Also offering warm greetings in the ASHA office were Ingrida Lusis (Director of Federal & Political Advocacy) and Katie Bromley (Director of Grassroots and Congressional Advocacy). We talked about the need for continued and increased collaboration on "Capitol Hill Visits" and grassroots' advocacy between NBASLH and ASHA as we increase awareness of the speech-language pathology & audiology professions.

The hour of the inauguration was drawing near so we had to leave the warm confines of the ASHA office and step back out into the frigid Washington air. I did not mind the cold at all! My thoughts of significantly improved access to adequate health care for all Americans and significant increases in funding for education (especially IDEA and NCLB) were keeping me warm.

When President Barack Hussein Obama was introduced to the world for the first time an enormously loud cheer rose from the millions that had gathered around him in Washington. It marked the beginning of a new administration for the American people and an awakened consciousness for our global society.

NBASLH should be carefully mapping its future because it has an instrumental and distinguished role in the healing and creation of the intellectual and cultural life of this new America.

*Arnell A. Brady*

Arnell A. Brady, SLP  
NBASLH Chair-Elect



## The Northeastern Illinois University Foundation Presents The Emotions

The Northeastern Illinois University Foundation presents a benefit concert for the Donn F. Bailey Legacy Hall renovation starring *The Emotions* in "Emotional Memory," a new musical featuring their 1977 pop classic "Best of My Love" and their other hits, with your Master of Ceremonies, Warner Saunders Channel 5 News anchor and NEIU alumnus.

**Thursday, February 26, 7:30 p.m.**

NEIU Auditorium

5500 North St. Louis Avenue

Chicago, IL 60625 (free parking)

***Tickets are \$100 and \$500\* each.***

**To purchase tickets, call (773) 442-4633.**

*\*\$500 tickets include premium seating and an exclusive post-concert reception the The Emotions.*

# Greetings From Your Student Representative!



I was introduced to NBASLH in 2004 and I have been in love with the organization ever since! I have had great opportunities as a result of the relationships I have formed and the mentors I have gained. NBASLH has been a resource, a role model and the encouragement I needed to be successful in my profession. The greatest honor was being elected by my peers as the 2008-2010 student representative. My goal is to advocate for students and highlight the issues and concerns of the student members of the organization. I hope that I will do a great job and represent all student members well. As the National Student Representative on the Board of Directors for NBASLH, many students always ask me, "Why should I be a member of NBASLH?" In addition to my own personal affection for the organization, here are some reasons YOU should be a student member of NBASLH:

## ***Ten Reasons to be a Student Member of NBASLH:***

- # 10. **Money, Money, Money!:** There are several scholarships available only to student members of NBASLH.
- # 9. **Networking:** Network with other students and professionals from multicultural populations in the field of communication disorders. The Student luncheon offers the opportunity to network with your student colleagues as well as leaders in ASHA and NBASLH.
- # 8. **Mentoring:** Gain mentors and advice from new and seasoned professionals on current practice and research issues in the field communication disorders, who can provide guidance on educational and professional development. Most importantly gain access to your peer mentors!
- # 7. **Professionalism:** Graduate School Admissions (Masters, PhD, Aud) and job hunting is very competitive. Membership to professional organizations shows your commitment to your profession and your willingness to stay abreast of current and best practices in the profession.
- # 6. **Leadership:** Students who have been members of NBASLH for two consecutive years are eligible to be nominated for student representative on the Board of Directors. As the national student representative you will represent all student members of NBASLH, and serve as the student leader on the Board.
- # 5. **Education:** NBASLH Conventions are the best place to become educated on the latest multicultural issues in communication disorders. As a student member, the cost of registration is less than it is for non-members. The NBASLH Convention also offers the Praxis review for students preparing to take the national exam.
- # 4. **Publications:** NBASLH's professional journal *ECHO* is a great place to publish your research results and to receive constructive feedback on your research design.
- # 3. **Presentations:** There are many opportunities for students to present their research to their peers in student forums and poster sessions.
- # 2. **Friendship:** NBASLH is the best place to make new friends and to reconnect with old friends.

...and the #1 reason: **FAMILY:** NBASLH above all else is a FAMILY! You can always go to family for support, guidance and encouragement when you need it. The relationships you build are priceless!

If you are a student member, thank you for your support of the organization. I hope that you will get actively involved in the organization, through volunteerism, leadership, advocacy and/or research. If you are not a student member, I hope that you will join and become active and experience all that NBASLH has to offer. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or just to say hello!

Make sure to join the NBASLH facebook group: <http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#/group.php?gid=31800981668> and visit [www.NBASLH.org](http://www.NBASLH.org) for the latest updates concerning issues related to students.

I look forward to meeting you all at the Convention!

*Jamila Perry Foreman*

Jamila Perry Foreman, M.Ed. CF-SLP