



SASLHA's Monthly

Newsletter

Issue 6: June 2024



Dear SASLHA Community,

As the air grows chilly, SASLHA's enthusiasm remains warm and vibrant!

Our team's dedication to serving our members and advancing our professions is unwavering. We extend our gratitude to everyone who contributes to SASLHA's ongoing success.

MAY-JUNE '24 OVERVIEW

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1 FAREWELL TO ANITA EDWARDS

SASLHA PRESIDENT 2021-2023

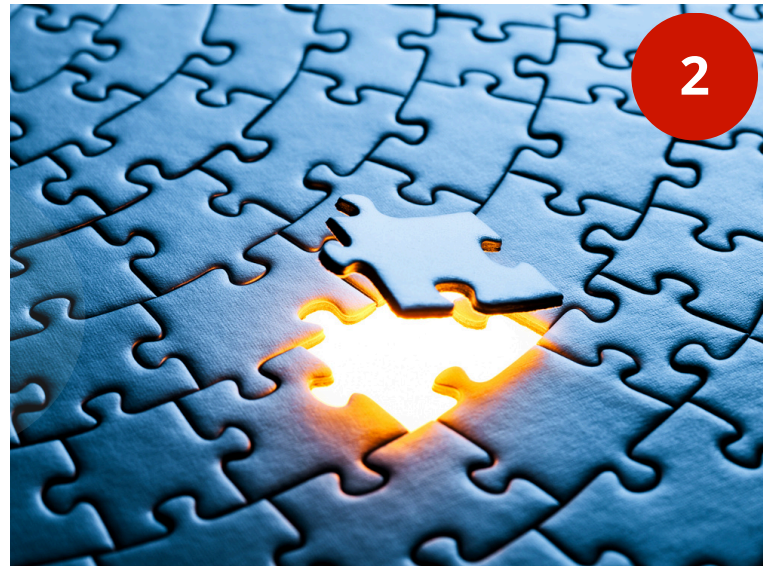


**Anita
Edwards**

We extend our heartfelt gratitude for Anita's exceptional leadership and vision.

Her dedication has been instrumental in guiding SASLHA towards new heights. Thank you for your unwavering commitment and invaluable contributions.

We wish her well in her future endeavours.



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SASLHA AGM

SASLHA's 2024 Annual General Meeting was held online on June 20, 2024, with 35 members in attendance.

Key highlights included the President's report, the Finance report, and the announcement and introduction of the new Council, who will lead SASLHA for the next three years.

The minutes and associated reports from this meeting will soon be available on our website.



3 SASLHA's NEW COUNCIL

2024 - 2027 TERM

We are delighted to introduce the new Council, poised to lead SASLHA into an even brighter future.

The Council will soon embark on the nomination and voting process to appoint the positions of President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Ethics Officer. Stay tuned to our platforms for the announcement, coming towards the end of next week!



**Dr. Skye
Adams**



**Erika
Bostock**



**Karyn
Casey**



**Prof. Faheema
Mahomed-Asmail**



**Dr. Xoli
Mazibuko**



**Dr. Alida
Naudé**



**Christopher
Rorke**

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WORLD HYPERTENSION DAY 17 MAY 2024

RADIO & TV INTERVIEWS

A big thank you to Nancy Barber and Sunaika Lakha for representing SASLHA to share the vital connection between hypertension, stroke, and communication challenges with viewers and listeners. Missed it?



WATCH NOW



LISTEN NOW



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MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who has signed up to be part of SASLHA's mentorship program, both as mentors and mentees. Your enthusiasm and commitment to fostering professional growth and development are truly inspiring.

During the month of July, our Mentorship Team will begin the matching process to facilitate the start of the sessions. We are excited to see the positive impact this program will have and look forward to receiving feedback from all participants.

Are you interested in receiving mentorship?
Submit your application [HERE](#)

**CALL FOR
MENTEES!**

**Are you an emerging speech therapist
or audiologist seeking mentorship?**



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EDU-SERIES

Our Edu-series events are designed to enhance your clinical practice, and our CPD Committee and Events and Project Coordinator have worked diligently to curate a calendar of events that achieve just that. In May, we offered "Faceless Marketing," led by Tasneem Abrahams. If you missed it, don't worry—you can access this session and many others in our [ONLINE STORE](#).

Looking ahead, mark your calendars for these upcoming not-to-be-missed events in July:



2 CEUs
Accredited by SASLHA

MASTERCLASS

THE POWER OF SOCIAL COMMUNICATION

WEDNESDAY 3 JULY 2024 START AT 18:00 – 21:00

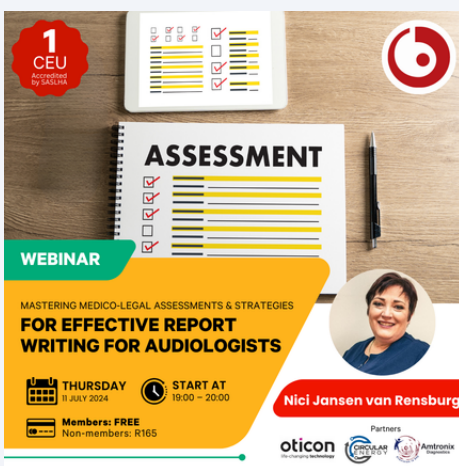
Members: R170
Non-members: R330

Nicki Mirkin

Partners: oticon, SAKS, Ambrosia



LEARN MORE



1 CEU
Accredited by SASLHA

WEBINAR

ASSESSMENT

MASTERING MEDICO-LEGAL ASSESSMENTS & STRATEGIES FOR EFFECTIVE REPORT WRITING FOR AUDIOLOGISTS

THURSDAY 11 JULY 2024 START AT 18:00 – 20:00

Members: FREE
Non-members: R165

Nici Jansen van Rensburg

Partners: oticon, SAKS, Ambrosia



LEARN MORE



2 CEUs
Accredited by SASLHA

WEBINAR

MULTIDISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVES ON ORAL SURGERIES FOR ADULT PATIENTS

MONDAY 15 JULY 2024 START AT 18:00 – 21:00

Members: R170
Non-members: R330

Dr Kim Coutts, Dr Matthew White, Vanessa Kotze

Partners: oticon, SAKS, Ambrosia



LEARN MORE

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LAUNCH AUDIOLOGY COMMUNITY WHATSAPP GROUP

Are you an audiologist seeking to stay current, get your questions addressed, and network with other professionals?



SASLHA
South African Speech-Language-Hearing Association



AUDIOLOGY

COMMUNITY

Join our SASLHA members only

Audiology SASLHA WhatsApp group!

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WHAT'S COMING IN JULY?



MEMBER IDEA BOX

Our Member Idea Box is a platform for members to contribute their ideas about SASLHA and its website. This feature enables us to gather feedback and allows members to vote for their favourite suggestions. Engaging with the Member Idea Box goes beyond individual participation; it fosters collective empowerment, collaboration, and the shared advancement of our association and its members.

INTERPROFESSIONAL TEAM & COLLABORATION LEADERSHIP COURSE FOR SPEECH THERAPISTS

SASLHA expresses gratitude to Prof. Juan Bornman and Prof. Brenda Louw for offering their course exclusively to our members. Registration for the second intake for this online self-study program will be available from 10 July 2024 and is designed to equip SLTs with essential leadership skills.

Did you miss the Leadership Course Introductory Webinar presented by the course developers in March? WATCH IT HERE <https://youtu.be/k9k4a-u5tyg>



SASLHA DAY SEMINAR

COMMUNICATION ACROSS THE LIFESPAN

Our association's strength lies in your active participation. Your contributions, big or small, are vital in shaping the future of SASLHA. Have you registered to attend our hybrid Day Seminar taking place on Saturday, 27th of July at the University of KwaZulu-Natal Westville campus and online?

Don't miss an exciting event with presentations by speech therapy and audiology experts! Join the ethics Q&A, Tech Cafés, and the launch of SASLHA's Literacy Toolkit.



27 July 2024



09:00 – 15:00



**UKZN Senate Chamber
Westville Campus **OR** Online**



**Members: FREE
Non-members: R300**



**DR. VULEDZANI
NDANGANENI**

Supporting
communication
through AAC across
the lifespan



**JENNI
BESTER**

Building a listening
brain across the
lifespan



**PROF. VINAYA
MANCHAIH**

Internet-based
intervention for clients
with hearing loss



**DR. SHELLEY
O'CARROLL**

Launch of SASLHA's
Literacy Toolkit for
Speech Therapists



**ERIKA
BOSTOCK**

Your tricky ethical questions answered



**DR. XOLI
MAZIBUKO**

VIEW THE PROGRAMME



REGISTER NOW



Partners



**Amtronix
Diagnostics**

Exhibitor



We are thrilled to have collaborated with Dr. Shelley O'Carroll, who will be presenting the Resource Toolkit during her session at the SASLHA Hybrid Day Seminar on July 27, 2024. Dr. O'Carroll developed the Resource Toolkit in response to the SASLHA Literacy Task Team's Action Plan and recommendations to the Council.

Overview of Dr. O'Carroll's Session:

"In an attempt to solve the reading crisis in South Africa, the Department of Basic Education has focused on improving the teaching of reading in Grades 1 to 3. However, we know that reading and writing has its roots in homes, ECD Centres and Grade R classes where children develop oral language, learn about stories and books, become aware of sounds in words and learn about letters.

There are excellent resources in South Africa that can be used by caregivers, teachers and professionals to support young children's language and emergent literacy. Although some resources are widely accessible, many are not well known or only available within a small network. The SASLHA Literacy Task team felt that it would be a valuable contribution to the sector to create a list of language-literacy resources targeting birth to 7 years. In this presentation she will share the Resource Toolkit and give an overview of the types of resources available to professionals, teachers and caregivers. "



PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENT SESSION WITH US DELEGATION

On June 6, 2024, a SASLHA delegation met with a US delegation led by Dolores Battle, Professor Emeritus of Speech-Language Pathology at SUNY Buffalo State and former president of both ASHA and the IALP, along with Dr. Kia Johnson, Director of the Arthur M. Blank Center for Stuttering Education and Research Satellite in Atlanta, and immediate past chair of NBASLH (National Black Association for Speech-Language and Hearing).



On June 11, 2024, the US delegation met with Elizabeth Nadler Nir, chair of SASLHA's Literacy Task Team, and Dr. Shelley O'Carroll, in Cape Town to learn about the Task Team's initiatives. Presentations on the team's work and the Resource Toolkit were shared. The US delegation generously donated books to a local NPO in Cape Town, for which we are very grateful.



Key Focus Areas

1. Professional Overview: The interaction provided an opportunity to share an overview of speech therapy and audiology as professions in South Africa. Discussions included the importance of promoting these professions to both scholars and the public, the various sectors of work, and the shortage of available positions for qualified professionals.
2. Service Provision Challenges: The session highlighted challenges in service provision, emphasising the critical distinction between 'disorder' and 'difference' and its impact on assessments for children from diverse linguistic and cultural backgrounds. The SASLHA delegation acknowledged that many therapists feel unprepared to work with South Africa's vast cultural and linguistic diversity. The US delegation introduced the KASA framework (Knowledge, Awareness, Skills, and Attitude) for professional development, underscoring the importance of culturally responsive education. They stressed recognising cultural and linguistic diversity, including bilingualism and multilingualism, and discussed the need for advocacy for the professions and clients to influence relevant stakeholders.
3. A SASLHA representative was invited to join ASHA as an International Affiliate offering access to a wide range of benefits for the association. NBASLH extended an invitation to SASLHA to join them at a future Congress.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT FEEDBACK

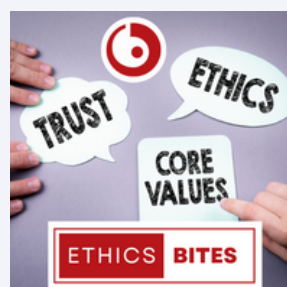
- **Stakeholder Engagement Plan:** We have been diligently updating our Stakeholder Engagement Plan to highlight each committee's priority stakeholders, goals, and corresponding action plans.
- **HPCSA SLH Board:** The SASLHA Council continues to engage with the HPCSA SLH Board, advocating for SASLHA's support in developing guidelines for the use of NMES in dysphagia treatment.
- The **18th meeting of the Interprofessional Rehabilitation Indaba (IPRI)** was held on 6 June 2024. Key action points include:
 - The IPRI will **develop a comprehensive rehabilitation plan** to present to the NDoH and prepare a **grant proposal for funding and research**.
 - Representatives will share potential solutions to problems identified during **Community Service placements at the ICSP workshop** on June 7, 2024.
 - IPRI members have attended numerous provincial NHI meetings in KZN, Mahikeng, Gauteng, Northern Cape and Mpumalanga to advocate for the inclusion and provision of rehabilitation practitioners. They **emphasised the importance of maintaining a strong profile and regularly reminding others of their presence**. Despite challenges, the team has made significant efforts to engage with facilitators
 - **NDoH**
 - Representatives from the Interprofessional Rehabilitation Indaba (IPRI), met with **Dr. Luvuyo and Dr. Ravhengani from the NDoH HRH Cluster** on 12 June 2024. Key items added to the action plan include:
 - **Dr. Bayeni will organise a PHC HRH symposium** to discuss the HRH platform in primary healthcare settings, including the value of mid-level workers.
 - Dr. Bayeni will discuss a **mentorship program for community service interns** with the ICSP team and explore integrating it into the ICSP platform.
 - The IPRI will prepare a proposal for an **extended training platform for students** and plan for a future meeting to discuss it.



Join our WhatsApp
communities



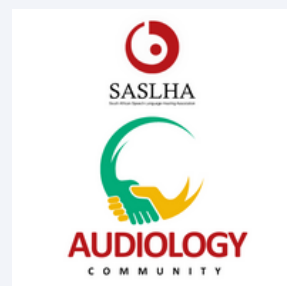
Click [HERE](#) to join the
Social community
(open to all)



Click [HERE](#) to join the
Ethics community
(members only)



Public Sector
WhatsApp Community
[Join us now!](#)
(members only)



Audiology
WhatsApp Community
[Join us now!](#)
(members only)



We hope this update reaffirms our commitment to working with you, our members, and supporting our professions across all sectors. Our dedication to advocating for and supporting you remains unwavering as we continually strive to improve.

SASLHA working with you!

Annaline Jack
SASLHA CEO

