

Board of Directors

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Vote for your Board Members *Deadline approaching soon!*

We are seeking votes for Board Members after receiving eight outstanding nominations. There are three positions for a term beginning Jan. 1, 2016 and ending December 2018 as well as two positions for a term beginning Jan. 1, 2016 and ending December 2017. All votes must be received by **September 14, so please act quickly!**

Board members must hold current status as a BCS-CL in good standing. Responsibilities include attendance at the annual meeting typically scheduled on the pre-conference day of the ASHA Convention, attendance at an additional meeting in late spring or early summer, participation in a one-hour monthly teleconference, and committee participation.

All current ABCLLD specialists may vote by visiting www.surveymonkey.com/s/RXVRS8N. The Chair of the ABCLLD will notify all applicants of the results of the election, announce the results to all specialists by email, and post on the [website](#).

Continuing Education

The ABCLLD will offer two continuing education events at the 2015 ASHA Convention in November. Don't miss these opportunities to obtain advanced level continuing education, required for renewal of your certification!

[Katharine G. Butler Symposium in Child Language \(pre-Convention session\)](#)

Spelling Error Analysis: A Clinical Tool for Assessing & Planning Intervention for Reading & Writing

Presenter: Jan Wasowicz, Ph.D., CCC-SLP, Learning By Design

Wednesday, Nov. 11 from 1 – 4 p.m.

Learn how specific language deficits manifest as specific patterns of misspelling in students' writing. Receive hands-on practice with methods of analyzing spelling errors, review and discuss case study assessment data, and learn to use this data to plan speech-to-print, multi-linguistic intervention. Bring samples of your students' misspellings for error analysis.

Social Perspective and Executive Functioning Considerations: Supports for Conversation and Reading Comprehension

Presenter: Sylvia Diehl, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

Friday, Nov. 13 from 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

This session will provide an overview of the influence of social perspective and executive function on conversation and reading comprehension. Case examples will demonstrate intervention strategies, which utilize evidence-based practices in academic applications. The strategies will focus on summarization, perspective taking, topic maintenance, and continuing a conversation.



AMERICAN
SPEECH-LANGUAGE-
HEARING
ASSOCIATION

Kudos to ASHA award recipients

The ABCLLD offers congratulations to the following BCS-CLs who were elected among the 2015 ASHA award recipients:

- Sue Ellen Krause, ASHA Fellow
- Linda R. Schreiber, ASHA Fellow

Fellowship to ASHA is one of the highest forms of recognition awarded by ASHA of an individual's accomplishments and is public declaration of outstanding professional achievements.

Please join the ABCLLD and other specialists in celebrating Sue Ellen and Linda at the ASHA Awards Ceremony on **Friday, Nov. 13** at the ASHA Convention in Denver.

News You Can Use

Congratulations to recently named Board Certified Specialists in Child Language and Language Disorders (BCS-CL)

Shirit Megiddo MS, CCC-SLP, BCS-CL

Shirit has practiced as a speech-language pathologist for about 14 years, working mostly in the private sector collaborating with OTs and multi-disciplinary teams. She received her Master's degree in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology from California State University, Hayward in 2002 and her Bachelor's degree in Biology with a minor in Linguistics from the University of Santa Cruz in 1998. Shirit has been a member of ASHA and the California Speech/Hearing Association (CSHA) since 2003. She is certified in Social Communication Emotional Regulation Transaction Support (SCERTS) and Prompts for Restructuring Oral Motor Targets (PROMPT).

Shirit's excels in working with toddlers through early elementary school age with autism and disorders of child language, pragmatics, articulation/phonology, auditory processing, and fluency. She has worked with several private clinics in the San Francisco Bay area and growing her own private practice. She sought the BCS-CL because of her passion for Child Language and pragmatics disorders, and to strengthen her platform as a private practitioner and business owner. Shirit is also a bilingual speaker of English and Hebrew, and is passionate about bilingualism issues in the field of speech-language pathology.

Alisha Springle MS, CCC-SLP, BCS-CL

Alisha is an alumnus of Bowling Green State University in Ohio and Purdue University in Indiana, where she was the recipient of the Andrews' Doctoral Fellowship.

She has 17 years of experience working in the public schools of Ohio and Florida. She has also provided speech-language services within a private school environment, as well as pediatric outpatient speech, language, and swallowing therapy through a local skilled nursing facility. She spent several years supervising graduate student clinicians through the OMNIE program in Ohio and is thrilled with her recent move to full-time graduate supervision at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia.

Alisha is passionate about providing evidence-based and functional intervention to all language learners, and she helped to develop this year's literature-centered Summer Speech Club at ODU. She would like to take the opportunity to again thank Mr. and Mrs. Reed Thayer for allowing her to learn with the late Mr. Branson Thayer as he grew and learned.

Congratulations to both specialists for voluntarily advancing their knowledge, skills and expertise in the field!

Communications professional joins team

The ABCLLD is pleased to introduce Danielle R. Ziulkowski. With the increased responsibilities of each Board member, it was determined it would be most efficient and timely to engage Danielle in handling the newsletter.

Danielle graduated with a B.A. in Journalism from Indiana University, Bloomington in 2006. Her expertise served her well as a reporter for a county newspaper in La Porte County, Indiana for which she covered both local and national stories. In addition, Danielle served as Media & Communications Specialist for Indiana University Health La Porte Hospital and as Communications Director at an advertising agency. As an independent contracted writer, she continues to serve IU Health LaPorte Hospital as well as currently works part-time as Communications Manager for the Town of Burns Harbor, Indiana.

Danielle's letters of recommendation highlighted her professionalism, ethics, attention to detail, motivation to pursue challenging and novel tasks, strong work ethic, interpersonal and communication skills, writing skills, and independence in resolving problems and seeing through tasks to successful completion. We welcome Danielle to our team!

ABCLLD to begin clinical Practice Analysis in child language

The ABCLLD will conduct a Practice Analysis study for the purpose of enhancing the specialty certification program. Practice Analysis is standard operating procedure when transitioning from "recognition" to "certification." In fact, each Specialty Board will conduct a Practice Analysis.

To initiate the process, a Child Language Practice Analysis Taskforce was created, comprising 14 subject matter experts in child language and language disorders. Subject matter experts for the taskforce include members of the ABCLLD, specialists who currently hold board certification in child language and language disorders, and other child language experts. The taskforce will participate in web conferences and a face-to-face meeting this coming Sept. 25 – 26 at the National Office of ASHA.

ASHA contracted with Knapp & Associates International, Inc., a consulting firm that specializes in the revitalization of professional certification programs. They will lead the process for the clinical Practice Analysis in child language, working closely with members of the taskforce, the Council for Clinical Certification in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CFCC) and its Committee on Clinical Specialty Certification (CCSC). The primary goals of the Practice Analysis are to delineate the scope of practice in the specialty area of child language and language disorders and the specific competencies that the speech-language pathologist (SLP) must have acquired to be awarded board certification in the specialty area of child language and language disorders. The targeted outcome is development of a certification tool to be reviewed, revised, and adopted by the ABCLLD. An important step is to survey a group of current BCS-CLs and SLPs who meet criteria as "self-identified" specialists in child language but do not hold board certification in child language and language disorders. The purpose of the survey is to gather feedback on the identified competencies.

The taskforce will work on the clinical Practice Analysis over the next several months. Watch your email and the e-Newsletter for information and updates.

Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, and Handbook

In October 2014, the name of the Specialty Board on Child Language (SBCL) changed to the American Board of Child Language and Language Disorders (ABCLLD). The Council for Clinical Certification (CFCC) of ASHA then approved a change in designation from Board Recognized Specialist in Child Language and Language Disorders (BRS-CL) to Board Certified Specialist in Child Language and Language Disorders (BCS-CL), effective Jan. 1, 2015.

These changes necessitated revisions to the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws of the ABCLLD and the Manual of the ABCLLD. Board members prepared, reviewed, and discussed the revisions. Specialists received notification via email from Badger Bay with the recommended revisions to the Bylaws and a request for comments on the recommended revisions. The final revisions for the Articles were approved by the ABCLLD at its May 2015 meeting in Chicago. The ABCLLD was originally incorporated as the SBCL in the state of Nebraska, so the Articles needed updating to reflect the new Board name. The revised Articles that the ABCLLD members signed have been submitted to the State of Nebraska. The revised Manual was sent to the Council for Clinical Certification and approved.

When all approvals have been completed, all documents will be posted on the [website](#).

Advanced Knowledge, Skills & Experience

The mission of the American Board of Child Language and Language Disorders (ABCLLD) is to promote high quality services to children and adolescents ages birth through 21 years whose language learning may be characterized as typical, at-risk, or atypical. The ABCLLD is approved by the Council for Clinical Certification of American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA).