American Journal of Speech-Language Pathology

General Information

The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association publishes the American Journal of Speech-Language Pathology; the American Journal of Audiology; the Journal of Speech and Hearing Research; Language, Speech, and Hearing Services in Schools; and Asha.

The American Journal of Speech-Language Pathology and the American Journal of Audiology pertain to all aspects of clinical practice. Submissions may include such topics as screening, assessment, and treatment techniques; prevention; professional issues; supervision; and administration. Contributed manuscripts may take the form of clinical forums, clinical reviews, letters to the editor, and research reports that emphasize clinical practice.

The Journal of Speech and Hearing Research pertains broadly to studies of the processes and disorders of speech, hearing, and language, and to the diagnosis and treatment of such disorders. Contributed manuscripts may take any of these forms: reports of original research, including single-subject experiments; theoretical, tutorial, or review articles; research notes; and letters to the editor.

Language, Speech, and Hearing Services in Schools pertains to speech, hearing, and language services for children, particularly in schools. Contributed manuscripts may deal with all aspects of clinical services to children, including the nature, assessment, and remediation of speech, hearing, and language disorders; program organization, management, and supervision; and scholarly discussion of philosophical issues relating to school programming.

Asha pertains to the professional and administrative activities of speech-language pathology, audiology, and the Association. Asha serves as a "house organ." Contributed manuscripts may take the form of articles, special reports, news items, committee reports, reviews of books and materials, and letters.

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If, while on the corner of your world, I touched your life, but for a moment, and left you greater freedom to be...

—meng

These words were written by a speech-language pathologist some 25 years ago. They seem to reflect what I would have to believe is the desire of basic and applied communication scientists and clinical practitioners alike...to make a difference. It was my motivation when I accepted this Editorship; a similar tug pulls at your incoming Editor, Marc Fey.

In 1990, in response to our Association’s recognized need for a scholarly journal with an entirely applied perspective, six Associate Editors and I gathered at the ASHA office and began to crystallize the form of what it should be. These outstanding clinical scientists were Marty Adams, Kevin Kearns, Steve McFarlane, Nicki Nelson, Jeanne Wilcox, and David Yoder. At the close of our weekend together, the mission of the Journal was enunciated, the formats defined, even the cover largely designed. We hoped we were on the road to making a difference.

Over these 5 years, Nicki and Kevin stayed the course while other clinical scholars came on board to assist the process. As Marty, Steve, Jeanne, and David returned to their other professional commitments, Gordon Blood, Ed Stone, Betsy Crais, Brenda Terrell, and Jeff Higginbotham joined the team. As Brenda and Jeff departed, Marc Fey and Julie Masterson picked up their loads. Throughout, an unusually committed cadre of Editorial Consultants ensured that the peer review process was working at its best. And what was being reviewed? The works of both well-established scholars and new authors. As we close Volume 4, close to 500 submissions have been received in my office. All of us who have been involved in the editorial process certainly feel a part of the Journal’s success; but without the authors’ verification of what they believed the Journal was to stand for and was becoming, we’d have had little success in which to place our pride.

In just 5 years, AJSLP has developed the widest circulation of any of our Association’s scholarly journals, nearing 60,000. Further, when ASHA began to require “deselection,” the Journal was most often selected by our membership. These are nice bits of data to underscore the success of AJSLP. On a personal note, however, I regret that financial exigencies led to the deselection process. I particularly regret that many speech-language pathologists no longer receive our other scholarly publications. It would be an extremely rare basic or applied researcher in our field who does not have the ultimate research goal of making a difference in the lives of individuals with communication disabilities. With all of its success, AJSLP is only one of ASHA’s journals with an applied perspective. We’re different...but we’re not alone.

There are others who played major roles in the Journal’s success. The members of the Publications Board, with Tanya Gallagher at the helm, were a real source of support as I assumed the Editorship. During the last 2 years, Katherine Harris has been in the driver’s seat, and the membership has shifted; but the support has never wavered. Joanne Jessen, Director of ASHA’s Publications Division, has remained a saint though saintly behavior was often a challenge; and Ellen Caswell, as Production Editor, has consistently and calmly met deadlines when I had not. And do you remember Radar on TV’s M*A*S*H? My Administrative Assistant, Kaye Leverette, has been my Radar. She began, and has stayed with me; kept an eye on the compass when I was lost, and always made me appear a far better sailor than I was naturally.

In this regime’s final issue, you’ll find refreshing writings, by fine clinical scholars, reflecting AJSLP’s now recognized mission: immediate clinical impact. And you’ll find ASHA’s first supplement in these pages...works previously presented to the Clinical Aphasiology Conference, where all participants are applied scientists.

It’s been a sometimes lengthy 5 years as Editor, but I share a great pride in AJSLP with the many involved in this inaugural term. We really worked hard to make a perceptible difference...all the while knowing full well that it is the clinician, who applied the knowledge contained in these pages, who stands to make the most palpable difference.

Thanks for this opportunity.

Marilyn Newhoff
Editor
Information for Authors

Editorial Policies

For the American Journal of Speech-Language Pathology: A Journal of Clinical Practice, all manuscripts are peer reviewed, typically by editorial consultants with relevant expertise, an associate editor responsible for manuscripts in a given area, and the editor.

The principal criteria for acceptance are direct clinical relevance and importance of the topic or research question, conformity to rigorous standards of evidence and scholarship, and clarity of writing. ASHA membership is not a factor in selection. No manuscript that has been published or is under consideration elsewhere may be submitted.

Manuscript Style, Requirements

Contributions are expected to follow the style specified in the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (4th ed.). Copies may be ordered from the Order Department, APA, P.O. Box 2710, Hyattsville, MD 20784 ($19.95 per copy, prepaid, plus $3.50 postage and handling).

To ensure the clarity of scientific communication in this journal, articles will not exceed 10 printed pages. This is roughly equivalent to 40 manuscript pages, including title page, abstract, references, tables, and figures. Editors may approve departures from this rule in exceptional circumstances.

ASHA policy requires the use of nonsexist language. Authors are encouraged to use person-first language in writing their manuscripts.

Five high-quality, typed, completely double-spaced, uninned copies of the manuscript should be submitted. A system of blind review is available to contributors to ASHA journals who choose such review. Authors who wish to remain anonymous to the editorial consultants during the review process should submit three of these copies with no names or institutional references by which a reviewer could identify the author. Responsibility for removal of identifying information rests with the author.

All manuscripts should be accompanied by a cover letter requesting that the manuscript be considered for publication and stating that the manuscript has not been published previously and is not currently submitted elsewhere. The contact author’s business address and phone number should be included.

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Copies of tables and figures should be attached to each copy of the manuscript. Use Arabic numerals for both tables and figures, and do not use suffix letters for complex tables; instead, simplify complex tables by making two or more separate tables. Table titles and figure captions should be concise but explanatory. The reader should not have to refer to the text to decipher the information. Glossy or otherwise camera-ready prints of figures should be submitted with the manuscript. Keep in mind the width of a column or page when designing tables and figures; consider whether legibility will be lost when reductions are made to fit a column or page width.

Acknowledgment(s)

Citation of grant or contract support of research should be given in an Acknowledgment(s) section at the end of the article.

If any part of the research was supported by an institution not named on the title page, that institution should be acknowledged in this section. Individuals who assisted in the research or were helpful in the review process may be acknowledged.

References

All literature, as well as tests and assessment tools and ANSI and ISO standards, must be listed in this section. References should be listed alphabetically, then chronologically under each author. Journal names should be spelled out and underscored for italics. Pay particular attention to accuracy and APA style for references cited in the text and listed in the References. Double space these sections, also, to facilitate editing and typesetting.

Editing

Manuscripts that are considered acceptable for publication may be returned to the author for revision. Authors are free to make additional minor changes at this stage. Once a paper has been accepted, the author should provide the complete final text in hard copy and on disk; graphics should be provided on disk or as camera-ready copy. At the National Office, the publications staff may edit further for style, clarity, and consistency. Page proofs are sent to the author for final proofreading. Only minimal alterations are permissible on page proofs.

Addresses

Manuscripts and editorial correspondence should be sent to Marilyn Newhoff, PhD, The University of Georgia, Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, Adelhold Hall, Athens, GA 30602. After acceptance, page proofs and correspondence about the publication process should be sent to the Publications Division of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, 10801 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852-3279.

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