

# News For Oregon Licensees

SPRING 2006

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## Nancy Dunn Voted New Board Chair

Brenda Felber  
Executive Director

The Board voted Nancy Dunn the new Board Chair at their September 9, 2005 meeting. Mrs. Dunn, an Audiologist member of the Board, is now serving her second term, and previously served as vice-chair under Joanna Burk. Members are chosen for their education, expertise and commitment and Nancy has already demonstrated that she meets these criteria and more!



## Proposed Rule Change Notice

Brenda Felber  
Executive Director

The Board has proposed changes to four divisions of Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 335: Division 5, 70, 80, and 95. A public question and answer session is scheduled for these rule changes on April 28, 2006 from 10:00am to 10:30am in Room 445 of the Portland State Office Building. The Board will subsequently hold a public rulemaking hearing from 10:30 to 11:00am. If you would like to send comments by fax, they will be accepted until 9:00am on the 28th; the fax number is (971) 673-0226. The Board invites your opinion and comment on the changes.

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## Professional Development for Speech-Language Professionals

Carol Clupny, MS CCC  
SLP Board Member

Speech-Language Pathologists in Oregon have different licensing requirements dependent upon their employer and work settings. Those working in the education setting must have either a teaching license with a speech endorsement from Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC), or a license issued by the Oregon Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (BSPA). Many SLPs in Oregon hold both licenses. Those working in health care settings hold the BSPA license.

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## THE BOARD

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Brenda Felber

Office Assistant & Editor  
Tim Anderson

(971) 673-0220  
fax (971) 673-0226  
speechaud.board@state.or.us  
[www.bspa.state.or.us](http://www.bspa.state.or.us)

"News for Oregon Licensees" is a publication of the Oregon Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, published annually or as needed.

The Board welcomes your suggestions for articles as well as news items. Neither the Board, its members, nor its staff are responsible for factual statements or opinions published in this newsletter. The Board reserves the right to refuse or edit all articles submitted.

# Attention Audiologists!

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Nancy Dunn  
Board Chair, Audiologist

Proposed rules changes important to all audiologists who dispense hearing aids are posted on the Board website (<http://www.oregon.gov/BSPA/OAR335Changes.shtml>). Please read these carefully. The rules are scheduled to be adopted on April 28. The rules hearing is 10:30-11:00 AM on the April 28. Submit comments via email, phone or mail before 9 AM on April 28, or attend the hearing in person. All comments will be discussed and considered at the rules hearing.

Also, the Health Licensing Agency is in the process of making major revision to rules regarding hearing aid dispensing. The rules are scheduled to be adopted July 7, 2006. The proposed rules are posted on the HLA website ([http://egov.oregon.gov/OHLA/HAS/HASlaws\\_rules.shtml](http://egov.oregon.gov/OHLA/HAS/HASlaws_rules.shtml)). Take time to review the new rules and consider attending the rules hearing. The date of the hearing is not yet posted. 🎧

## From Your Board Chair

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Nancy Dunn  
Board Chair, Audiologist

The Board staff has been kept busy the last few months with license renewals. The process is almost complete. For those of you who like statistics the current numbers of individuals licensed by this Board are:

	Active	Inactive	Conditional
Audiologists	193	14	7
SLPs	940	116	38
SLP Assist.	142	5	--
Permit to Supervise SLPA	6	--	--
	<b>1281</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>45</b>

The last process in license renewal is auditing professional development reports. A minimum of 5% will be chosen for random audits. This process will begin in April. If you are lucky enough to be chosen, please send all requested materials promptly and all will go smoothly!

The Board has recently initiated new avenues of communication:

**SPAList:** Sign up for the listserv and you have a direct communication link to all other licensees on the listserv. (<http://listsmart.osl.state.or.us/mailman/listinfo/SPAList>).

**Email notices:** To save time and money, the Board is using email whenever possible to communicate with licensees. Make sure the Board has your current email address. To send your email address, follow the link under "Contact Us" ([http://www.oregon.gov/BSPA/contact\\_us.shtml](http://www.oregon.gov/BSPA/contact_us.shtml)). Important items will still be mailed to those of you who do not use email.

Remember--this is your Board! Feel free to contact the Portland office by phone, letter, or email. Email address for the Board is: [Speechaud.Board@state.or.us](mailto:Speechaud.Board@state.or.us) or follow the link under "Contact Us":

[http://www.oregon.gov/BSPA/contact\\_us.shtml](http://www.oregon.gov/BSPA/contact_us.shtml). Brenda and Tim will respond as quickly as possible, usually within 2 days. Email your Board members if you have questions or concerns. Email addresses are on the website. 🎧

## Refresher

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Nancy Dunn  
Board Chair, Audiologist

Our licensees operate under two sets of documents: the licensing statute (ORS 681) and administrative rules (OAR 335). Changes to the statute can only be made by the legislature. Our statute was most recently revised in 2005. Administrative rules are written and revised by the Board of Examiners. Rule revision is an ongoing process. There have been four revisions in the last three years! Here are highlights of recent rules changes:

**Record keeping:** (actually changed in 2004, but important nonetheless!) Your clinical records are now regulated by specific rules (OAR 335-010). The rules recommend, but do not require, a SOAP note format for recording patient contacts. The intent of the rules is “complete documentation of clinical services” (OAR 335-010-0050). The amount of documentation is determined by the type of service performed. Clinical evaluations require more extensive documentation. Brief patient contact, such as cleaning a hearing aid, would require minimal chart notes. All clinical entries must be signed and dated, and all records be maintained for seven years. For more detail, review the rules; they are posted on the website. Please contact the Board if you have questions about the requirements for record keeping.

**Audiologists and Hearing Aid Dispensing Businesses:** Audiologists who work with businesses that advertise audiology services must be on site at least 30 hours per month and must provide clinical services at that site (OAR 335-005-0025 (11)). The intent of this rule is to prevent businesses from advertising audiological services if they are not in fact providing them. In the next rules revision, this rule will not apply if licensed audiologists are the only providers of hearing aid services at the business site.

**Some Suggestions for Inexpensive PD**

<b>Journal Study Groups</b>	<b>Book Review Clubs</b>
<b>Supervision of a Clinical Fellow</b>	<b>Prepare and provide instruction to others through classes, conferences, workshops or seminars</b>
<b>Supervision of a Speech-Language Pathology Intern (Just SLPs)</b>	
<b>Inservices pertaining to your clinical practice which are provided by your employing clinic, hospital, school district or ESD</b>	<b>Gather colleagues for an ASHA teleseminar or instant replay, or participate in one of many ASHA professional development activities listed on their website</b>
<b>Have a speaker come to you worksite and invite neighboring SLPs to help defray the cost</b>	

**Support Personnel:** Licensees may not sign documents describing clinical services unless the licensee personally performed the service. If support personnel (or supervised students) provide services, the name of the person or student and description of duties performed must be clearly referenced in any formal documentation (OAR 335-005-0025 (11) (12)).

## **Professional Development for Speech-Language Professionals (continued from Page 1)**

Each one of these licenses/certificates requires professional development for renewal, but has different rules, guidelines and timelines. How do we busy practicing speech pathologists keep it all straight?

Here is some information that might be helpful to you:

**TSPC** requires 125 hours of professional development to renew the standard or continuing license, within the life of the five year license. A Continuing Professional Development Plan is made with the employing ESD or School District. There are 6 domains of professional competency for TSPC: subject matter or specialty, methods and assessments, understanding diversity, state and national education priority, use of technology in education. As you can see, there is a broad range of activities accepted and just about any training the school based Speech-Language Pathologist acquires will fit into these categories. The employee keeps documentation and the employer verifies the professional development to TSPC upon the license renewal application.

In contrast, the **Oregon Board of Examiners for Speech Pathology Audiology (BSPA)** has a different set of rules for the professional development that must be acquired within the two year licensing period. SLPs must attain forty hours of professional development and the licensed speech-language pathology assistants must obtain 20 hours. As described in OAR 335-070-0020 these hours must “directly relate to the performance and practice of speech-language pathology and audiology”. There are nine types of sponsored activities that are approved as listed in the rule.



These include professional development for activities approved for CE credit by ASHA, OSHA, other identified organizations, and accredited university coursework. All activities must directly relate to the practice of speech-language pathology whether they are provided as classes, workshops or inservices.

A large number of licensed renewals this year listed Activity #8 “Inservices offered by schools, hospitals and clinics”. In these tight economic times we obtain and provide more professional development closer to home. A reminder here to the SLP or SLPA using Inservice activities for professional development: the training must relate to speech-language pathology or audiology as described in the Administrative Rule. To clarify to the Board, a specific name given to the Inservice activity is needed. Titles such as “Umatilla-Morrow ESD Fall Inservice” or “Providence Hospital Workshop” do not identify the speech or audiology related training received. Titles such as “Assessment and Documentation of Speech and Language Eligibility” or “The Use of Biofeedback in Speech Pathology” are much more descriptive.

There are a number of professional growth opportunities that don’t seem to fit into the rule, yet may be very applicable to the practice of speech pathology. For these, the board has provided an “Application for Special Board Approval of Professional Development Activity”. The BSPA website has the necessary forms for Special Activity Approval, which once completed may be submitted 60 days prior to or 30 days after the activity.

ASHA members have received notification of the phase-in for professional development for the CCC. As stated earlier, the CCC is a certification, not a licensure to practice in Oregon. However, those activities approved by ASHA for professional development are accepted by BSPA.

Keeping in mind that each agency has differing professional development requirements will help you as you trudge through the paperwork at renewal time. The Board of Examiners and office staff are available to answer specific questions that come up. Please feel free to call!

## Meet the New Board Members

Brenda Felber  
Executive Director

Last July brought many changes to the Board. Members who had served two terms were replaced with new members at the direction of Governor Kulongoski.

Practitioners and Oregon citizens are fortunate to continue to have such a dedicated group of professionals volunteering to serve on this Board.

### **Carol Clupny, MS CCC SLP Member**

I began working as a Speech/Language Pathologist in 1980. My primary focus has been public schools with some private practice experience.



I became a resource specialist in the Speech-Language Program in 1996 and was appointed the Director of Speech/Language and Hearing Dept. for Umatilla-Morrow ESD in 2002. My husband Charlie is also a Speech-Language Pathologist. We have two very active boys who keep us occupied and feeling young. Numerous dogs, cats, cows and horses roam our small acreage in Hermiston.

I became interested in serving on the Board to represent consumer needs and concerns for speech and language services in school based programs and rural or remote regions.

*Carol is on the committee responsible for reviewing professional development requests for Speech-Language Pathologists.*



**Ashley Northam, MS**  
**ccc-SLP**  
**SLP Member**



I expressed interest in serving on the Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology because as Coordinator of the SLPA program at Chemeketa Community College, I've spent a lot of time pouring over the BSPA website and rules & Statues. I initially got a taste of volunteering and becoming more involved in the profession by serving on the Oregon Speech Language and Hearing Association Board for the past 7 years. I have always been drawn to public service and volunteerism.

I look forward to my service on the Board, and continue to learn more about the process of making policy and protecting consumers as well as strengthening the professions of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology.

*Ashley is the Board vice-chair and serves on the application review committee.*

**Joyce Erickson**  
**Public Member**



My son sustained a traumatic brain injury in 1997. He was in a coma for 10 months. My son had to relearn every living skill, from eating and talking to walking with a walker to personal hygiene.

I credit the speech therapist who became involved in our lives with much of my son's recovery. This speech therapist suggested I join this Board due to my experience as a consumer.

My supervisor, Kim Blumenstein, is very supportive of my efforts to use my experience to try and help someone else.

**Harold Kim, MD**  
**Otolaryngologist**  
**Member**



I'm a Pacific Northwesterner true and blue. I grew up in the Portland Metropolitan area, and went to the University of Washington for college. So, predictably, I'm suffering greatly with other Husky alums used to better football.

I went to medical school at Albert Einstein as well as performing my residency there before going to Northwestern for my Neurotology fellowship.

The board was an area I was drawn to as my practice let me see the vulnerability in those with difficulties with communication in a world where communication is critical. Unfortunately, this is often exploited by unscrupulous people and it falls in the board's jurisdiction to protect those with this vulnerability.

When at home, I keep my plate full with my 2 boys age 3 and 1 who keep a constant ruckus around.

*[Editor's note] And let's not forget our members continuing into their second term:*



**Carolyn Dowd**  
**Public Member**



**Gloria Schell**  
**Audiologist Member**

*Thanks for your commitment!* 🧠

# Proposed Rule Change Notice

(continued from Page 1)

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## Division 5

**Summary of Changes:** Defines requirements for sales of hearing aids and revises record-keeping requirements for audiologists.

**Need for the rule/amended rules:** Chapter 335 needs to address the consumer protection requirements when audiologists sell hearing aids. The amended rule requiring additional recordkeeping was not intended for audiologists who are the sole hearing aid dispensers at a business location.

**Fiscal impact:** The Board anticipates the amended rule to have a positive fiscal impact for audiologists as less recordkeeping will be required.

As a result of the new rule an audiologist may retain less of the purchase amount of the hearing aid when the consumer rescinds the sale during the rescission period. There may be a positive fiscal impact for the consumer who will receive more of a refund during the rescission period. No other fiscal impact is estimated for the audiologists to comply with this rule as they currently must conform to similar rules in OAR Chapter 331.

## Division 70

**Summary of Changes:** Clarifies professional development requirements.

**Need for the amended rules:** Amended rules allow undergraduate coursework as a pre-approved activity for speech-language pathology assistants, clarifies that pre-approved inservice topics must directly relate to the practice of speech-language pathology or Audiology, and allows consideration of late requests for approval of professional development activities at most times during the licensing period if the delinquent fee is paid. Final amended rule removes obsolete language regarding professional development requirements for dual licensees.

**Fiscal impact:** Amended rules in Division 70 may result in a reduction of cost in terms of time and postage for speech assistants and the Board in that assistants will no longer be required to submit undergraduate courses for special approval.

The clarification of pre-approved inservice topics may result in some fiscal impact in terms of time and postage for speech-language pathologists in the hospital and school settings in that they may need to submit questionable topics to the Board for special review and approval.

The amended rule allowing for late submissions of these requests by paying a late fee may impact the licensee who files the late request. On the other hand paying the delinquent fee may be less of a fiscal impact than paying for additional professional development or facing a civil penalty.

*Note: The Board plans a more extensive review of Division 70, Professional Development in the near future. You will receive notice and the Board welcomes your input.*

## Division 80

**Summary of Changes:** Revises conditional licensee supervisory requirements to conform to law.

**Need for the amended rule:** Rule is revised to conform to the 2005 statute change that no longer allows a non-Board licensed speech-language pathologist with a Certificate of Clinical Competence from the American Speech and Hearing Association to provide supervision of the Board conditional licensee in the professional setting.

**Fiscal impact:** No fiscal impact is anticipated as a result of this clarification in Division 80.


## Division 95

**Summary of Changes:** Defines means for assistant applicants to obtain clock hours in work settings and the supervisory permission qualifications.

**Need for the amended rules:** In some areas of Oregon there is a shortage of qualified speech-language pathologists and speech assistants. These rule amendments will allow for speech assistant applicants to obtain the required clock hours in a supervised work setting in place of a college practicum. Amended rule further clarifies what licenses a speech-

language pathologist may hold through the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) to assume supervision of speech assistants through permits issued by the Board.

**Fiscal impact:** Amended rule to allow speech-language pathology assistant applicants to complete their training in a work setting may have a positive financial impact on the applicant in that they will not pay a college practicum fee. The fiscal and economic impact on the school where the setting will take place will be positive in that the applicant will be able to work under supervision for up to 12 weeks prior to receiving the certificate from the Board. Amended rule to clarify what license a speech-language pathologist may hold through the TSPC will probably have no fiscal impact as the amendment just clarifies the types of qualifying licenses.

You can view the proposed rules showing the changes on our website at <http://www.bspa.state.or.us/BSPA/OAR335Changes.shtml> or you can contact the Board office for a hardcopy. 


## **A Listserv? Is that like Izzy's?**

Tim Anderson  
Administrative Assistant

The Board recently created a listserv for our licensees to use to discuss topics related to Speech-Language Pathology and/or Audiology. For those of you unfamiliar with what the heck a listserv is (the first time I heard the term, I thought it was some sort of new buffet place), a listserv (according to wikipedia.org) is “a special usage of e-mail that allows for widespread distribution of information to many Internet users.” In a nutshell, it’s software that redirects an email sent to it to everyone on its recipient list. The State Library offers free use of their mailing list software to all state agencies to create such mailing lists.


If you would like sign up to be part of the discussions on the newly hatched “SPAList”, you can visit <http://listsmart.osl.state.or.us/mailman/listinfo/spalist> to sign up. Once you have signed up, you should receive an introductory email from the server that gives you

information about the list. We encourage you to reply to posts and to create new posts to the list, but please stay within the topic of Speech-Language Pathology or Audiology. The list is up to 110 members so far.

We hope this will be a valuable tool for you as a licensee and as a professional. 

## **What would you like to see?**


Tim Anderson  
Administrative Assistant

This newsletter is intended to be both a source of information about licensing to you and a help in your profession. To that end, we would love to hear what kind of topics you would like to see in upcoming newsletters. Email us at [speechaud.board@state.or.us](mailto:speechaud.board@state.or.us), call us at (971) 673-0220 or mail us and let us know! 

## **Survey online**

Tim Anderson  
Administrative Assistant

The Board is required to perform a survey of our customer service. We have put a pop-up on the forms page of the web site that asks the user to complete a quick survey. If you are visiting the web site, please take the time to fill out this short survey.

If you would like to directly visit the survey, you can go to <http://bspa.oregonsurveys.com>. 

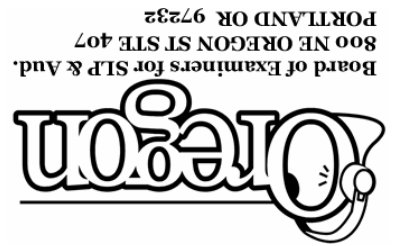


### **Recent Board Actions**

The Board agreed that, as a **policy decision**, Board staff will suggest that future complainants consider filing the complaint to ASHA and to the American Academy of Audiology as well.

### **Thanks for your Involvement!**

Thank you for your attention to matters of administration and legislation of licensure. Your involvement continues to make a difference!



Board of Examiners for SLP & Aud.  
800 NE OREGON ST STE 407  
PORTLAND OR 97232