Invited Speakers

Ian Windmill, Ph.D.

Dr. Windmill serves as the Clinical Director of Audiology at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center and an adjunct faculty member of the Department of Otolaryngology at the University of Cincinnati. He received his Bachelor’s, Master’s and Ph.D. degrees in Audiology from the Florida State University. He began his career at the University of Louisville School of Medicine as a faculty member in the Division of Communication Disorders of the Department of Surgery. During this time he was a partner in University Surgical Associates, a 50-doctor multi-specialty private practice. From 2009 through 2014, he served as Chief of the Division of Communicative Sciences in the Department of Otolaryngology and Communicative Sciences at the University of Mississippi Medical Center. Dr. Windmill is a Fellow of the American Academy of Audiology and currently serves as President. He is past Chair of the Board of Directors of the Accreditation Commission for Audiology Education, and a founding member of the American Board of Audiology. In 2006, Dr. Windmill won the Larry Mauldin Award for Excellence in Education in the Hearing Healthcare Professions. He is married to Dr. Sue Windmill, Pediatric Audiologist extraordinaire.


Brian Taylor, Au.D.

Brian Taylor is the owner of Taylor Audiology LLC. He serves as clinical audiology advisor for the Fuel Medical Group, editor of Audiology Practices, the quarterly publication of the Academy of Doctors of Audiology, hearing news section editor for the blog Hearing Healthcare and Technology Matters and adjunct professor for AT Still University. Dr. Taylor has written and edited several articles & textbooks devoted to practice management and clinical audiology, including the soon-to-be-published 3rd version of Practice Management from Thieme Press. Brian resides in Golden Valley, MN.

Disclosure: Financial – Salary from AT Still University, royalties from Plural and Clear Sounds, consulting fees through VMG LLC and Fuel Medical. Non-Financial - None

A.U. Bankaitis, Ph.D.

Dr. Bankaitis is Vice President at Oaktree Products, a multi-line distributor of audiology and hearing health care products located in St. Louis, MO. operations, leads the Marketing team, and serves as a resource to clinicians seeking product or business solutions. Since earning her PhD at the University of Cincinnati in 1995, she has been involved in educating colleagues on various product and practice management solutions related to infection control, cerumen management, and hearing assistance technology, a topic that now includes technological disruptions in the hearing industry and viable options for practicing audiologists to consider.


Joe Alden, Au.D.

Dr. Alden graduated from Northwestern University in 2010. He has spent his entire audiologic career as a sales and marketing consultant for innovative products and business models. Currently he is the Vice President of Alpaca Audiology.

Michael Valente, Ph.D.

Dr. Valente is a clinical professor of Otolaryngology and the director of Adult Audiology at Washington University School of Medicine. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (1975). Dr. Valente had written and edited many articles and textbooks. He is currently an assistant editor for Journal of the American Academy of Audiology, an editor for the American Journal of Audiology and for Ear and Hearing.


Maureen Valente, Ph.D

Director of Audiology Studies within Washington University School of Medicine’s Program in Audiology and Communication Sciences (PACS). She also holds an appointment as an Associate Professor through the medical school’s Department of Otolaryngology.

Dr. Valente has had a great deal of varied experience with Au.D. education, considering it and working with students among her greatest professional passions. Duties have included virtually all aspects of Au.D. education including: curriculum development to keep up with our rapidly expanding scope of practice, recruiting and admissions, development of practicum sites, oversight of clinical placements, integration of research, further development of the Capstone research requirement, advising, mentoring of student research, committee work (program and university levels), oversight of accreditation endeavors, and many others. Dr. Valente has co-authored numerous textbook chapters and peer-reviewed journal articles, among which is the The Audiology Capstone that serves as a guide for students (Thieme Medical Publishers).

Of note is that Dr. Valente specifically mentors third year students during the fourth year externship search. She is an Executive Committee member of PACS’ T-35 grant, an NIH-supported award that provides summer research traineeships to Au.D. students. She also is the PI on the grant awarded to PACS from the US Department of Education for development of a Pediatric Audiology Specialization.

Dr. Valente has also been highly active in Au.D. Education on a national level. She served as AAA’s Education Committee Co-Chair for three years and was invited as a member of ASHA’s Committee to plan last fall’s Summit on AuD Education. Over the past five years, she has served on ACAE's Board of Directors, among whose goals are to ensure rigor and standardization among programs.

Disclosure: Financial – none. Non-Financial – Member of ASHA and AAA committies, member board of directors of accreditation commission of education for AAA.

Letitia White-Minnis, Ph.D.

Dr. White-Minnis is a professor of Audiology and the head of the Communication Sciences and Disorders Department at Missouri State University. She completed her Ph.D. at East Carolina University in 2005.


Larry Mazzeo, Au.D.

Dr. Mazzeo has been an audiologist since 1986, obtaining his master’s degree from San Jose State University in San Jose California and his Au.D. in 2005 from Salus University. He practiced in California in an ENT and group audiology practice for nine years before moving to Springfield IL to work at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine where he was part of the clinical faculty and practiced audiology and dispensing for all ages as well as being involved in research and resident training. He moved to Missouri in 1999 and opened an audiology practice with Dr. Judyann Krenning (ENT). Since that time he has become part of a multi-specialty group practice with Phelps County Regional Medical Center, which includes
diagnostics of all ages and a dispensing clinic. His practice serves the population of Rolla and surrounding communities. In addition to his clinic practice he has been for the past two years the amplification instructor at Missouri State University in Springfield. Lastly he has participated in supervision of second, third and fourth year students in the field of audiology. Dr. Mazzeo has been married to his wife Kathy since 1991. They have two college age daughters both working on their advanced degrees at Webster University in St. Louis and Belmont University in Nashville.


Kaitlyn Wenrich, B.S.,

Kaitlyn Wenrich is currently working towards dual Master of Science in Clinical Investigation and Doctor of Audiology degrees at Washington University in St. Louis. Kaitlyn earned a Bachelor of Science in Communication Sciences and Disorders from the University of Mississippi. During her enrollment at Washington University in St. Louis, she has worked with Drs. Lisa Davidson and Rosalie Uchanski as a research assistant. In addition, Kaitlyn is a TL1 Intensive Research Scholar, supported by the National Institutes of Health and the Institute of Clinical and Translational Sciences, and a Pediatric Audiology Specialization Scholar, supported by the U.S. Department of Education. Kaitlyn is currently completing her fourth-year externship at the Belleville Area Special Services Cooperative in Belleville, IL.


Stephanie Scott, B.A.

Stephanie Scott is a fourth-year graduate student in the AuD program at Missouri State University, and earned her Bachelor’s degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders at Western Washington University. While living in Springfield, Missouri, Stephanie worked at Cox South hospital as a newborn hearing screener, and also worked as a newborn hearing screener in Washington before attending graduate school. She is currently completing her externship at Associated Audiologists, Inc. in Overland Park, Kansas.


Diane L. Sabo, Ph.D.

Dr. Sabo is the Hearing Screening Program Manager for Audiology Systems/Otometrics, a division of Natus. Her role is to enhance support and education of hearing screening products and procedures. She formerly was an Associate Professor, Department of Communication Science and Disorders, at the University of Pittsburgh. Dr. Sabo held various managerial positions at Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC, including that of Coordinator of the Auditory Evoked Potentials and Newborn Hearing Screening Programs and ultimately as Director of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology. She has over 25 years of clinical work with infants and children, particularly in the area of the electrophysiologic evaluation of the auditory system. Her research interest is in the physiologic evaluation of infants and children using evoked potentials and otoacoustic emissions with special emphasis on the screening of newborns for hearing loss. She has numerous publications and presentations, and continues to serve on committees for national associations and still consults for several NIH grants on cytomegalovirus (CMV).

Disclosure: Financial — Salary paid by equipment manufacturer/distributor. Nonfinancial — none