

Meet Our Speakers



Adrienne Davis, MSP, CCC-SLP

Empowering School-Based Teams: Strategic Integration of SLPAs for Enhanced Service Delivery

Adrienne Davis is a clinical practicum coordinator and lecturer at Columbia College. She earned her BS with emphasis in Speech-Language Pathology from the University of West Georgia then a Masters of Speech Pathology from the University of South Carolina. Adrienne has practiced in a variety of settings, including acute care, home health, early intervention, as well as outpatient and long-term acute rehab. She has a special interest in working with both adults and pediatric patients with feeding and swallowing disorders.



Allie Taylor, MA, CF-SLP

The ABCs of AAC

Allie Taylor is a speech-language pathologist clinical fellow with her Master's education and clinical experience at the Medical University of South Carolina, she brings a well-rounded understanding of caring for individuals with complex communication needs. Allie is a former trainee of South Carolina Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (SC LEND).



Angela N. McLeod, Ph. D., CCC-SLP

From Awareness to Action: Addressing Bias in Culturally Responsive Practice

Angela N. McLeod is the Director of the Montgomery Speech, Language, and Hearing Clinic and a Clinical Professor at the University of SC. She has participated in various aspects of academic instruction and clinical education in higher education for many years. Her SLP clinical background involves clients and patients across the lifespan in educational and healthcare settings. Clinical and research interests include clinical education, speech sound disorders, literacy, language development and disorders, orofacial myofunctional disorders, and cultural and linguistic variation. She is a Qualified Orofacial Myologist.



Angie Neal, M.S. CCC-SLP

The State of the State Department of Education in SLP

A 33% Increase in Preschoolers Across the United States with Autism in One Year

Angie Neal is the Policy Advisor for Speech-Language Services and Early Literacy at the South Carolina State Department of Education. She is board member with the State Education Agency Communication Disability Council (SEACDC), the recipient of the Rolland Van Hattum Award for contributions to schools (SC) and the Nancy McKinley Award for leadership in SLP (OH). She is a published author and presents on a wide variety of topics across the United States.



AnnMarie C. Knight, PhD, CCC-SLP

How to Hire Superstar SLPAs

S.P.E.A.K. When Presenting Yourself for Academic Faulty Positions

How ASHA Certified SLP Assistants (SLPAs) Promote Practicing at the Top of the License

Dr. AnnMarie Knight is SLP Program Director at Oklahoma Baptist University. She currently serves in state and national leadership roles through SCSHA, ASHA, and CAPCSD. Dr. Knight is an advocate for quality SLP academic and clinical training and for the ASHA SLP Assistant Certification (C-SLPA) program.



Avery Cranford, BS

Work Smarter, Not Harder: Incorporating Wordless Books Across Your Caseload

Poster Session: Autism & Multilingualism: Cases in Spanish-English Speakers

Avery Cranford is a second year master's student in the Speech-Language Pathology program at the University of South Carolina. She is particularly interested in working with adults and children with neurologically related communication and swallowing disorders.



Beth Montgomery, MSP, CCC-SLP, NBCT

National Board Certification: Yes We Can!

Beth Montgomery has worked as a SLP in Lexington School District 2 since 2001, with the added titles of Lead SLP since 2008 and National Board Certified Teacher since 2009. She serves on multiple teams within her district, and is Vice Chair of the SC Board of Examiners in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology with LLR.

Meet Our Speakers



Brooke Bunger, MCD, CCC-SLP

SLP/A Mic Drop Moments: Winning Strategies for a Balanced Work-Life

Brooke Bunger, MCD, CCC-SLP, serves as Clinical Practicum Coordinator at Columbia College, where she earned her undergraduate degree. She completed her master's at the University of South Carolina and brings 22 years of expertise to the field. Her passion lies in early intervention, guiding families through the critical early stages of language development.



Carol L. Koch, EdD, CCC-SLP, ASHA-F

S.P.E.A.K. When Presenting Yourself for Academic Faulty Positions

Dr. Carol Koch is Professor and Director of Curriculum for the MS-SLP program at Oklahoma Baptist University. She currently services in state and national leadership roles through SHAA, ASHA, and CAA. Dr. Koch has particular interest in academic and clinical training, curriculum development, admissions processes, leadership development, and international missions.



Carrie J. Hinnant, M.A., CCC-SLP, BCBA, LBA, CAS

IDEA & LRE in SC: A Guide for Families and Professionals

Referral to results: Demystifying BabyNet, IFSP Timelines, and SC Part B Transitions

Executive Director of Carolina Therapeutics, PLLC. A practicing SLP and Certified Autism Specialist, she leads multidisciplinary EI services, feeding and AAC programs, and statewide training. She serves in SCSHA leadership and collaborates across systems to improve outcomes for young children.



Cavin Fertel, MS CCC SLP

Enhancing Language and Literacy With Videos

Cavin Fertel is a multilingual service provider and founder of Speech Language Communication Studio in Charlotte, NC. He focuses on language and literacy development, exploring early integration of AI and virtual reality into culturally responsive clinical practice. His experimental approach aims to connect therapy to real-world communication through innovative technology applications.



Celeste Worley

Seeing the Whole Child: Comparing Teacher and Parent Perspectives of Bilingual Children

Poster Session: Autism & Multilingualism: Cases in Spanish-English Speakers

Celeste Worley is a Research Specialist in the Literacy Development among Diverse Learners (LDDL) Lab at the University of South Carolina. Her work focuses on supporting bilingual children's language and literacy development and assisting with collaborative research. She is currently preparing for doctoral study in clinical or counseling psychology.



Charles Hinnant, III, Esq.

IDEA & LRE in SC: A Guide for Families and Professionals

Charles "Chip" Hinnant, III, Esq. is a licensed attorney in NC, SC, and GA, with a national litigation practice focused on catastrophic injury, medical negligence, and special education-related legal claims. He serves as General Counsel for Carolina Therapeutics, PLLC, and co-founder of Autism Legal Experts. Chip frequently represents children with autism in abuse, discrimination, and IDEA compliance cases, and provides consultative support for therapy providers navigating complex legal matters.



Dana M. Gibson, SLPD, CCC-SLP

The Effect of Frequent, Short, Intensive Treatment Sessions on SSDs

Dana Marie Gibson, SLPD, CCC-SLP, is a licensed Speech-Language Pathologist with 15 years of professional experience. She earned her Doctor of Speech-Language Pathology degree from Rocky Mountain University of Health Professions. Licensed in AL, GA, and SC, she serves Richland School District Two. Her expertise includes school-based issues, speech sound disorders, developmental language disorders, fluency, and AAC.

Meet Our Speakers



Emily Campbell, MSLP Student

SLP Familiar Caregiver Training in SC for PDD with Dysphagia

Emily Campbell is a second-year speech language pathology graduate student at Francis Marion University. She has a bachelor's degree in public health. After graduation, she plans on following her interest in working with the pediatric population, in hopes to pursue a career as a school or pediatric clinic SLP.



Emily Fisher, MS, CCC-SLP

Delay, Difference, or Disorder? Navigating the Referral and Evaluation Process for Multilingual Learners

Emily Fisher is a school-based SLP in Richland School District Two, where she primarily serves autistic students and multilingual learners. She earned her M.S. in Speech-Language Pathology from USC in 2022. In 2021, she received the ASHA SPARC Award. She received her ESOL Certification in December 2023.



Ever Curry, B.S.

Frequency Distribution of General All-Purpose Verbs in Bilingual Children

Ever Curry is a second-year speech-language pathology graduate student at the Medical University of South Carolina. Her research interests include bilingual and bidialectal language and how that intersects with language disorders and literacy difficulties.



Felicia Lawrence, MA, CCC-SLP, Ed.S

"Book in the Bag": Evidence-Based Interventions for Literacy Success

Felicia Lawrence serves as Undergraduate Academic Program Coordinator and Instructor in the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology at South Carolina State University. A dedicated educator and award-winning clinician, she prepares future SLPs to serve communities with excellence, impact, and purpose.



Gabrielle Hilliard, MSP, CCC-SLP

Empowering School-Based Teams: Strategic Integration of SLPAs for Enhanced Service Delivery

Gabi Hilliard graduated from the University of South Carolina and has been a school-based SLP since 1996. She is currently the Lead SLP in Anderson School District Five. She serves a full caseload in addition to Lead SLP duties. She has experience in supervising practicum students, Clinical Fellows, and SLPAs. Financial Disclosures: Currently work for Anderson School District Five as a full-time employee.



Gina Crosby-Quinatoa, Ph.D./M.S.P., CCC-SLP, LSLs CertAVT

From Awareness to Action: Addressing Bias in Culturally Responsive Practice

Gina Crosby-Quinatoa is a bilingual speech-language pathologist and Clinical Associate Professor at the University of South Carolina. Her clinical research interests include pediatric and adult hearing loss re/habilitation, culturally responsive clinical practice, interprofessional community health partnerships, and family literacy practices in marginalized populations.



Heather Nicole "Nikki" Herrod-Burrows, Au.D., CCC-A

Cochlear Implant Candidacy in 2025: What's changed and what is the same?

H. Nicole Herrod "Nikki" has been employed by The University of South Carolina Speech and Hearing Research Center since 2004 and serves on the Cochlear Implant Team. She earned both her Bachelor of Science and Master of Communication Sciences and Disorders degrees from Auburn University and her Doctorate in Audiology from the University of Florida in 2003. Clinical interests include cochlear implants, and "difficult-to-test" pediatrics. Nikki lives in Chapin, SC with her husband and two children.

Meet Our Speakers



Jacqueline Jones-Brown, EdD, CCC-SLP

Dirty Dishes: Cognitive Reserve Takes Center Stage - An Encore Performance
Stop, Drop, and Refuel the SLP (GEM)

Morphology Matters: Unlocking Vocabulary, Literacy, and Language Growth
"Book in the Bag": Evidence-Based Interventions for Literacy Success

Poster Session: Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation and Aphasia Recovery: A Research Proposal

Dr. Jacqueline Jones-Brown is Graduate Program Coordinator, Assistant Professor, and Clinical Educator at South Carolina State University. An innovative leader and NSSLHA advisor, she integrates evidence-based practice, research, and mentorship to empower future speech-language pathologists. Her work bridges academia, clinical excellence, and community engagement to advance communication sciences.



JamyClaire Archer, M.S., CCC-SLP, LSLs Cert. AVT

Ethical Considerations in Supervision

JamyClaire Archer is a Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of South Carolina proudly teaching clinical learners for 17 years after receiving her Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Purdue University. JamyClaire is an internationally Certified Listening and Spoken Language Specialist, Clinical Voice Specialist, and LSVT and SpeakOut! Trained. JamyClaire combines her clinical expertise and experience in clinical education to advise the USC chapter of NSSLHA and co-advise the AVT emphasis as well as guest lecture for several classes throughout the graduate program at USC.



Jill Eversmann, MS, CCC-SLP

Building Emergent Literacy Skills as a Natural Part of Therapy

Jill is a Senior Lecturer at Columbia College, SC. She has over 35 years of experience as a pediatric Speech-Language Pathologist, working in schools and in early intervention. She loves teaching future SLPs and SLPAs and sharing her love of the field with others through local and national presentations.



Joanna Scoggins, MEd, CCC-SLP

Ethical Considerations in Supervision

Bridging the Gap: Aligning Supervisor Expectations with Clinical Realities Joanna Scoggins is the Assistant

Director of External Clinical Practicum at the University of South Carolina. She worked for 10 years as a school SLP and AAC specialist and 3 years in the disabilities sector. Joanna joined the team at USC as a research project coordinator before joining clinical faculty in 2018.



Juliana Miller, M.S., CCC-SLP

Ethical Considerations in Supervision

Bridging the Gap: Aligning Supervisor Expectations with Clinical Realities

Juliana Miller serves as a Clinical Assistant Professor and Director of External Clinical Practicum in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at the University of South Carolina. Previously, Juliana served children and adults with communication and swallowing disorders in private practice, sub-acute and acute rehabilitation, schools, and natural environments.



Julie Porth Smith, MCD, CCC-SLP

SLP/A Mic Drop Moments: Winning Strategies for a Balanced Work-Life

Julie Porth Smith, MCD, CCC-SLP, is a Speech-Language Pathology lecturer at Columbia College with over 25 years of clinical experience in the field. She earned her B.A. from Columbia College and her M.C.D. from USC. Her clinical interests include language development, early intervention, autism, and AAC.



Juliet Stoute White, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

Stop, Drop, and Refuel the SLP (GEM)

Morphology Matters: Unlocking Vocabulary, Literacy, and Language Growth

"Book in the Bag": Evidence-Based Interventions for Literacy Success

Dr. Juliet Stoute White is Chairperson of the Speech Pathology and Audiology Program at South Carolina State University. A dedicated scholar and leader, she champions excellence in clinical education, research, and service, preparing future speech-language pathologists to meet the comprehensive communication needs through transformative community engagement and leadership.

Meet Our Speakers



Karina Martinez

Seeing the Whole Child: Comparing Teacher and Parent Perspectives of Bilingual Children

Karina Martinez is a Biological Sciences Major, Spanish Minor at the University of South Carolina. She is an Undergraduate Research Assistant in the Literacy Development among Diverse Learners, Lab. Her work focuses on assisting the Spanish research and collaboration in the lab to support bilingual children language and cognitive development. She is currently preparing for medical school, aspiring to be a bilingual family medicine practitioner.



Kate McDoniel - undergraduate

Impact of Childhood Reading Difficulties on Adult Reading Ability

Kate McDoniel is a senior at the University of South Carolina. She is a Public Health major hoping to pursue speech pathology. She is a part of the Aging Gracefully lab through the Communication Sciences and Disorders department.



Keegan Wilson, M.Ed. Certified in Structured Literacy

Early Clues, Early Support: Understanding Dyslexia in Preschool

Keegan Wilson is the National Literacy Director at hand2mind and Vice President of Operations for The Reading League–South Carolina, where she has served on the board for several years. With over 20 years in education, she supports districts nationwide with structured literacy, multimodal instruction, and evidence-based professional development.



Kelly Caldwell, MA, MS, CCC-SLP

**Empowering Providers as Advocates
DHHS/Advocacy**

Kelly Caldwell is a Speech-Language Pathologist with diverse experiences in the field from acute care to outpatient ENT at the AnMed ENT Voice Clinic. Professional interests are in the area of voice, swallowing, and airway issues. She has a Bachelor of Music, Master of Arts in Teaching Music K-12, and taught band, chorus, and orchestra for six years before studying Speech-Language Pathology. Outside of working for AnMed, she is currently serving as the Vice President of Government Affairs for the SC Speech-Language Hearing Association.



Liddy Parrish, MSP, CCC-SLP

A New "Weighted" Caseload Calculator for School-Based SLPs

Liddy Parrish: Liddy currently serves as the Lead Speech/Language Pathologist for Lexington County School District 1 and as Co-Chair of the (SCSHA) Schools Committee. Her professional interests include AAC, clinical education of students in graduate SLP programs, educational service delivery considerations and trends, evidence-based practice, and advocacy for school-based providers.



Lisa Fitton, PhD, CCC-SLP

Seeing the Whole Child: Comparing Teacher and Parent Perspectives of Bilingual Children

Poster Session: Autism & Multilingualism: Cases in Spanish-English Speakers

Poster Session: Aligning Parental Concerns with DLD in Bilingual Learners

Dr. Lisa Fitton is an associate professor and Spanish-English speech-language pathologist in the Communication Sciences & Disorders Department at the University of South Carolina. Her work focuses on improving educational access, opportunities, and experiences for children from all backgrounds, specifically focusing on children who are multilingual.



Lori-Ann Ferraro, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

Dollars and Sense: Billing Basics in SLP

Dr. Lori-Ann Ferraro began her career as a speech-language pathologist (SLP) in the public school setting as the Local Assistive Technology Specialist (LATS). She transitioned her career to a large academic medical center's outpatient rehabilitation center, where she provided clinical services, coordinated the outpatient speech-language pathology program, and supervised numerous graduate students. Her experience as a clinical instructor sparked her passion for clinical education.

Meet Our Speakers



Luciana C Wilson MA, CCC, SLP

Beyond the Screen: Remote SLP Services, Smart Boards, and the Power of Push In Collaboration

Luciana C Wilson M.A., CCC-SLP is a licensed speech-language pathologist and founder of Bilingual Speech works. With over a decade of experience in school-based and early intervention settings, she specializes in AAC access, collaborative classroom models, and culturally responsive speech services. Her passion lies in integrating technology and visual supports to empower students with complex communication needs. She actively mentors educators and families to build inclusive, confidence-driven classrooms.



Mahshid Rashidi

Integrating Food-Related Activities in Language Interventions for Children with Feeding Disorders

Mahshid Rashidi (M.S. CCC-SLP) is a PhD student at the University of South Carolina Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders. Her research focuses on swallowing disorders in the pediatric and adult populations.



Mary Aitchison, PhD, CCC-SLP

Growing Confidence, Building Community, Raising Awareness

Poster Session: WAB-R Fluency Scoring: From Subjectivity to Consistency

Mary Aitchison is a Speech-Language Pathologist and researcher in the Aphasia Lab at the University of South Carolina. She leads NIH-funded projects on aphasia recovery, brain imaging, and health factors post-stroke. Dedicated to interdisciplinary care, she supports individuals with communication challenges through research, teaching, and compassionate, person-centered practice.



Mary Davis, PhD, CCC-SLP, NBCT

Work Smarter, Not Harder: Incorporating Wordless Books Across Your Caseload

National Board Certification: Yes We Can!

Dr. Mary Davis has more than three decades-worth of experience as a SLP, with the first decade or so of her career working with all ages--from preemies to geriatrics--in Columbia area hospitals and, most recently, nearly two decades as an SLP in Lexington School District Two.



Megan Israelsen-Augenstein, PhD, CCC-SLP

Strengthening Reading Comprehension through Narrative-Based Instruction

Narrative-Based Whole-Classroom Instruction to Reach More Learners

Dr. Megan Israelsen-Augenstein is an Assistant Professor at West Virginia University specializing in developmental language disorder and narrative intervention. Her research examines implementation of whole-classroom oral language instruction to support children with DLD and improve literacy outcomes. She has NIH and WVDE funding and presents nationally and internationally on narrative assessment and intervention.



Mia Rosenberg, ClinScD, CCC-SLP

A New "Weighted" Caseload Calculator for School-Based SLPs

Mia Rosenberg: Mia currently serves as the Coordinator of Related Services for Berkeley County School District, adjunct staff with the Medical University of South Carolina, and the State Education Advocacy Leader for South Carolina. Her professional interests include narrative-based language, educational service delivery, evidence-based practice, clinical education, and advocacy for school-based providers.



Michele L. Norman, PhD, CCC-SLP, ASHA Fellow

SLP Familiar Caregiver Training in SC for PDD with Dysphagia

Passing the National SLP Exam: Preparation Secrets for Success

Dr. Michele L. Norman, a tenured Professor and Graduate Studies Coordinator for the Francis Marion University Master of Speech-Language Pathology Program, is an ASHA Fellow who received her PhD from The University of Memphis, MS from the University of the District of Columbia, and BA from Rutgers University-Douglass College.

Meet Our Speakers



Michelle Jordan, MSP, CCC-SLP

**Delay, Difference, or Disorder? Navigating the Referral and Evaluation Process for Multilingual Learners
A New "Weighted" Caseload Calculator for School-Based SLPs**

Michelle currently serves as the Lead Speech/Language Pathologist for Richland School District 2 and as Co-Chair of the (SCSHA) Schools Committee. She specializes in evaluation and eligibility, literacy, narrative-based assessment and interventions, professional development creation and training, and advocacy for school-based providers.



Porsche' B. Battle, SLPD, CCC-SLP

Dirty Dishes: Cognitive Reserve Takes Center Stage - An Encore Performance

Dr. Porsche' B. Battle, SLPD, CCC-SLP, is Assistant Professor and Director of the CREATE Center at South Carolina State University. A passionate advocate for culturally responsive clinical education, she leads student-driven research in neurogenic communication disorders and equips future SLPs with innovative, evidence-based strategies for collaborative, impactful practice.



Rachell Johnson, MCD, CCC-SLP, ATP

The ABCs of AAC

Rachell is the director of the SC Assistive Technology Program (SCATP), an AT ACT program and a SC LEND faculty member with over 20 years of experience in speech-language pathology and 14 years in AT. She is certified as an ASHA SLP and RESNA ATP. Rachell has 3 journal publications, and has presented at 14 national AT conferences.



S. Taylor Wilson, BA

**Lunch & Learn Professional: Advancing the Science: Alzheimer's and Related Dementia Research
Advancements**

Taylor Wilson works as the Director of Government Affairs for the Alzheimer's Association-SC Chapter. A graduate of USC's Moore School of Business, Taylor has worked in non-profits for almost 20 years in areas ranging from economic education to animal rescue. She is the lobbyist for the Alzheimer's Association for the South Carolina Delegation in Congress and elected officials in the South Carolina State House. Taylor also serves as the South Carolina state agency liaison for the Alzheimer's Association. She lives in the Midlands and is a true "Carolina Girl", born and raised in the Palmetto State.



Sabrina Horvath, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

Frequency Distribution of General All-Purpose Verbs in Bilingual Children

Sabrina Horvath, Ph.D., CCC-SLP, is an Associate Professor at the Medical University of South Carolina. Her research focuses on language development with the long-term goals of earlier identification of and more efficacious interventions for children with language disorders.



Samantha Ghali, PhD, CCC-SLP

Frequency Distribution of General All-Purpose Verbs in Bilingual Children

Samantha Ghali, PhD, CCC-SLP, is a postdoctoral researcher at the Kansas University Center on Disabilities at the University of Kansas. Dr. Ghali's programmatic research focuses on the development of reliable tools to measure morphosyntax and lexical skills in multilingual families at the interface of multiglossia and literacy. Dr. Ghali partners with communities to develop language assessments to address over- and under-identification of language disorders in children.



Samantha Walker M.S., CCC-SLP/L

Lunch & Learn Student: The SLP Knowledge Bowl

Sam Walker is a Speech-Language Pathologist and the founder of Speaking of Samantics and The SLP Test Prep. She creates supportive, judgment-free spaces for future and current SLPs to learn, laugh, and connect through game-based study sessions, relatable content, and advocacy for accessible, inclusive education in speech pathology.

Meet Our Speakers



Sara Sayers, M.S., CCC-SLP

Growing Confidence, Building Community, Raising Awareness

Poster Session: WAB-R Fluency Scoring: From Subjectivity to Consistency

Sara Sayers is Associate Clinical Director of the Aphasia Lab at the University of South Carolina and co-advisor for the National Aphasia Association's ambassador Program. A certified speech-language pathologist, she specializes in post-stroke aphasia, leading research on recovery, therapy delivery, and community reintegration while championing advocacy and awareness.



Sara Frances Miller, MSLP Student

SLP Familial Caregiver Training in SC for PDD with Dysphagia

Sara Frances Miller is a second year Masters of Speech Language Pathology student at Francis Marion University who completed her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology with a minor in American Sign Language in May 2023 from Clemson University. After graduating, Sara Frances plans to serve geriatrics in outpatient rehabilitation.



Sherri Evans, M.A., CCC-SLP

Referral to results: Demystifying BabyNet, IFSP Timelines, and SC Part B Transitions

Early Childhood Special Education Coordinator at the South Carolina Department of Education (Part B 619). With 25+ years across schools and BabyNet/EI, she leads planning and implementation, advancing language, literacy, social development, and improved outcomes for children and families.



Shirlain Darby, M.A., CCC-SLP

Dirty Dishes: Cognitive Reserve Takes Center Stage - An Encore Performance

Stop, Drop, and Refuel the SLP (GEM)

Morphology Matters: Unlocking Vocabulary, Literacy, and Language Growth

Shirlain J. Darby is Clinic Director of the Harold Powell Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic at South Carolina State University. With extensive clinical expertise, she mentors students in delivering high-quality diagnostic and therapeutic services. Her work ensures clients receive compassionate care while preparing future clinicians to excel in diverse professional practice settings.



Stephanie Donald, M.Ed.

Referral to results: Demystifying BabyNet, IFSP Timelines, and SC Part B Transitions

Interim Director of BabyNet with 20+ years in Early Intervention spanning service coordination, evaluation, data systems, and statewide operations. Former IDEA Part C Data Manager, she modernized reporting and supervision. She partners with families and programs to align SC practices with national standards and improve outcomes.



Wanda Connelly Crotwell

Empowering Providers as Advocates

Wanda Connelly Crotwell is a government relations professional with more than 35 years of experience in the fields of government, communications, and lobbying. Prior to joining The Southern Group in 2019, she was a lobbyist and strategic advisor at Mike Daniel and Associates for seven years.

Before joining MD&A, she was assistant to the Commissioner for External Affairs at the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, where she served under four separate commissioners and five different governors. As part of her responsibilities, she managed governmental affairs, constituent services, annual budget requests, accountability reports, internal communications, and media relations. She also served as policy advisor and strategic counsel to the Commissioner. In addition to her 18 years of experience in state government, she has worked in the field of communications for both non-profit and for-profit private sector companies in South Carolina and Georgia.

Meet Our Student-Faculty Poster Presenters

Amoya Lenworth, B.S.**Poster Session: Culturally Responsive SLPs: Multiple Perspectives**

Amoya Lenworth, B.S., is a second-year graduate student in the Department of Speech-Language Pathology at Francis Marion University. She earned her undergraduate degree in Speech-Language Pathology from Columbia College. Her clinical interests include early intervention, speech sound disorders, cognitive-communication disorders, and school-based language and literacy disorders.

Andrea Santillanez Copetillo, B.S.**Poster Session: Culturally Responsive SLPs: Multiple Perspectives**

Andrea Santillanez Copetillo, B.S., is a second-year graduate student in the department of Speech-Language Pathology at Francis Marion University. She has an undergraduate degree in psychology from Furman University. Clinical interests are bilingualism, apraxia of speech, dysphagia, neurogenic communication disorders, and autism spectrum disorder.

Claire Huskey-Fox**Poster Session: Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation and Aphasia Recovery: A Research Proposal**

Claire Huskey-Fox is a South Carolina State University Speech and Language Pathology graduate student. Claire is pursuing research in Cognitive Reserve and Aphasia recovery in addition to gaining clinical experience. Claire graduated from the University of the South: Seawanee in 2016 with a BA in Psychology and minor in Spanish.

Isabella Soito, B.S.**Poster Session: Culturally Responsive SLPs: Multiple Perspectives**

Isabelle Soito, B.S., is a second-year graduate student in the Department of Speech-Language Pathology at Francis Marion University. She earned her undergraduate degree in biology at the College of Charleston. Her clinical interests are infant feeding, aural rehabilitation, speech sound disorders, and neurogenic communication disorders.

Kameelah Green, B.S.**Poster Session: Culturally Responsive SLPs: Multiple Perspectives**

Kameelah Green, B.S., is a second-year graduate student in the Department of Speech-Language Pathology at Francis Marion University. She earned her undergraduate degree in speech-language pathology at Buffalo State College, now Buffalo State University. Her clinical interests include voice disorders, social aspects of communication and literacy disorders.

Kimberly Briseno**Poster Session: Aligning Parental Concerns with DLD in Bilingual Learners**

Kimberly Briseño is a University of South Carolina alumna where she is currently employed as a Research Project Coordinator. She focuses on improving bilingual language and literacy resources across the lifespan, and plans to pursue her Master's in Speech-Language Pathology to continue supporting diverse communities.

Levette McRae, BA, BT, SLP-A**Poster Session: One Hat, Two Roles: Ethical and Clinical Impact of Dual-Certified SLPA/RBT Providers in Pediatric Autism Therapy**

Levette McRae is a Speech-Language Pathology Assistant and Behavior Technician who specializes in pediatric autism therapy. He combines expertise in communication and behavior to create individualized, evidence-based interventions that support children's growth in language, social skills, and daily living. Committed to ethical practice, collaboration, and cultural humility, he empowers families and promotes meaningful, lasting outcomes.

Linda Franco, SLPD, MHA, CCC-SLP**Poster Sessions: CTT for Muscle Tension Dysphonia: Acoustic and VHI Outcome**

Linda Franco, SLPD, MHA, CCC-SLP, is a speech-language pathologist with over 20 years of extensive adult and pediatric experience. She specializes in voice and neurogenic disorders, treating clients across the lifespan in person and virtually. Linda has served as adjunct faculty, clinical supervisor, private practice owner, and researcher.

Meet Our Student-Faculty Poster Presenters

Megan Little, B.A.

Poster Session: Culturally Responsive SLPs: Multiple Perspectives

Megan Little, B.A., is a second-year graduate student in the Department of Speech-Language Pathology at Francis Marion University. She earned her undergraduate degree in Public Health from the University of South Carolina. Clinical interests are speech sound disorders, fluency, and early intervention.

Rachel Henry, BS - Graduate Student Clinician

Poster Session: Limitless Communication: AAC Use for Adults with Autism

Rachel Henry is a Graduate Student Clinician at the Medical University of South Carolina. She has a passion for supporting adults with autism, ensuring they have limitless communication through AAC use and championing their rights.

Sarah Katon, B.S

Poster Session: WAB-R Fluency Scoring: From Subjectivity to Consistency

Sarah Katon is a master's student in speech-language pathology at the University of South Carolina and a graduate assistant in the university's Aphasia Lab. She is dedicated to working with individuals with communication disorders across the lifespan and is especially interested in aphasia advocacy and treatment.

Sharon Urbina

Poster Session: Aligning Parental Concerns with DLD in Bilingual Learners

Sharon Urbina is a University of South Carolina student pursuing a B.S. in Public Health. She has experience working with seniors with neurological deficits like Parkinson's, showing her commitment to supporting populations with additional needs. She plans to advance her education in an allied health field.

Tierra Harris, B.S.

Poster Session: Culturally Responsive SLPs: Multiple Perspectives

Tierra Harris, B.S., is a second-year graduate student in the Department of Speech-Language Pathology at Francis Marion University. She earned her undergraduate degree in speech, language, and hearing sciences at Purdue University. Her clinical interests are dysarthria, dysphagia, and dementia.