

Coordinator's Column

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Hello, SIG 10 Affiliates!

Although most higher education faculty members are teaching in the classroom, in the clinic, and online during the month of October, SIG 10 *Perspectives* is offering its readers the opportunity to step away from their routine and embark upon a higher education “expedition.” Are you ready for departure? This issue of *Perspectives* takes us on a Cook’s tour of the current higher education terrain in communication sciences and disorders (CS&D). Authors Manish K. Rami and Sarah Robinson describe one of the many responsibilities of university faculty members—program evaluation. Their article explains how to design peer program evaluations of academic programs in speech-language pathology. Our next port of call will be to explore the 21st century educational landscape with Froma Roth, who discusses how higher education can prepare students to acquire the knowledge and skills that are increasingly important for professionals who provide collaborative school-based speech-language pathology services. We’ll end our voyage by navigating with Rik Lemoncello as he describes how he redeveloped an undergraduate course in anatomy and physiology to use blended learning—combining face-to-face and online instruction—to engage students in active learning. Together, these three articles take our expedition full circle by considering the roles and needs of faculty and students. Each article provides a range of resources for enhancing the quality of our higher education programs.

Speaking of travel, this October issue of *Perspectives* reminds us of the upcoming ASHA Convention in November in Denver. I want to encourage all SIG 10 affiliates to attend our SIG-sponsored events at the ASHA Convention. We will be hosting a Short Course presented by Patrick Finn, Shelley B. Brundage, and Anthony DiLollo titled *Critical Thinking: Foundations and Applications for Preparing Our Future Helping Professionals*. We will also be hosting a session entitled *International Partnerships: Preparing Professionals for Practicing in a Changing World*. We proudly share with you that this session, presented by Ana Claudia Harten, Alejandro Brice, Nancy Colodny, Lauren Mupanomunda, and Mary Faralli, received ASHA’s Trailblazer status, a new designation given to sessions on cutting-edge topics. Only 1% of the more than 2,500 sessions at this year’s Convention have this designation. Our affiliates meeting at the Convention provides a great opportunity to meet and mingle with fellow affiliates, to learn about SIG initiatives, and to volunteer to become involved with SIG 10. Please see the ASHA online Convention program for the dates, times, and locations of these events, and follow the SIG 10 Community and other social media for updates. I would invite all affiliates to use the Community (<http://community.asha.org>) to discuss Convention events and any other higher education matters.

The SIG 10 Coordinating Committee has additional exciting news to share. The Committee has enlisted a number of CS&D faculty to host a series of live online chats over the coming year. Live online chats are informal learning opportunities where participants log in and share resources and ideas. A knowledgeable facilitator leads the chat, but all affiliates, regardless of their background knowledge, are invited to participate, learn, and network. Potential live online chat topics include using technology in higher education courses, developing an instructor’s toolbox of teaching resources, enhancing collaboration in online courses, teaching clinical writing, using social media in university courses, and teaching academic subject matter, such as neurology. Announcements of the topics, dates, and times for these web chats will be posted on the SIG 10 Community and at <http://asha.org/events/live/>.

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to the SIG 10 Coordinating Committee for all of the work they do to bring about the many SIG 10 initiatives—John Folkins, Angela Anthony, and Rik Lemoncello. Special thanks to Patrick Walden, our professional development manager, who has taken the lead in coordinating the SIG 10 Short Course and invited session, and to

Perspectives Editor Ana Claudia Harten and Corrin G. Richels, the associate editor. I'd also like to recognize all of the *Perspectives* volunteer manuscript reviewers. I am especially indebted to Froma Roth, the ASHA ex-officio member of the committee. Froma provides a liaison between the Coordinating Committee and the ASHA staff members who manage the SIGs, and she generously offers us her wisdom and experience.

On behalf of the SIG 10 coordinating committee, I hope that our affiliates will find this issue of *Perspectives* useful and enlightening. We are looking forward to getting to know our SIG 10 affiliates at convention. See you in Denver!

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