



American Board of Fluency and Fluency Disorders

ABFFD BOARD

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M.S., CCC-SLP, BCS-F

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(replaced Secretary position in October 2020)

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Reuben Schuff

**In The
Loop**

Keeping Members Informed

January 2022

WELCOME

As 2021 comes to an end and we welcome 2022, we, as a Board, hope you and your families are healthy and safe. This year has brought an increased ability for many in our field to safely practice our profession in person. We remain hopeful that 2022 will continue this trend.

The mission of the ABFFD is three-fold:

*To promote among speech-language pathologists the highest standards for training and service delivery to impact positively the communication skills and thereby the lives of those who demonstrate fluency disorders.

*To verify knowledge of fluency disorders and mastery of skills of professionals who seek and maintain the credential of Board-Certified Specialist-Fluency.

*To publicize the benefits of working with specialists in fluency disorders and to provide an up-to-date listing of individuals who maintain the status of Board-Certified Specialist-Fluency.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

If you are interested in assisting the ABFFD with one of our current projects, please contact us via our website.

ABFFD 2022 ELECTIONS

We would like to extend a heartfelt **THANK YOU** to **Heather Grossman** who is an exiting board member. We greatly appreciate the time, service, and dedication she has shown during her two terms serving on the board in the role of Certification Coordinator.

The members of the American Board of Fluency and Fluency Disorders need your vote to elect 2 affiliate members to serve on the Board of Directors. Kim Sabourin. is the candidate for CE Coordinator. The Chair position is a one-year term that needs to be renewed each year and Elyse Lambeth is running for the Chair position. If Elyse is elected Chair, Rita Thurman will replace her as Vice Chair. The elected board members will begin their terms in January 2022 and serve until Dec. 31, 2024.

Please carefully read the following biographies for each candidate and their statements outlining their desire to serve. You will be asked to vote for 2 candidates for the affiliate positions. Your vote will be recorded electronically and your identity will be confidential. (You will be asked for your name so our administrative office can verify eligibility and to ensure each member is registering only one vote. Once eligibility is verified, your name will be removed from the ballot.)

Please vote today! The election will close on January 27, 2022. Thank you in advance for your participation.

CANDIDATES FOR ABFFD 2022 BOARD

CE COORDINATOR



Kim Sabourin, M.A., CCC-SLP, BCS-F, is a Board-Certified Specialist in Fluency Disorders specializing in the diagnosis and treatment of stuttering and other fluency disorders across the lifespan. Kim is an Instructor at Temple University where she teaches a graduate course in the management of fluency disorders and is the Director of Speak Now Camp, a summer program for adolescents who stutter. She is a clinical supervisor for Temple University's fluency clinic and has trained and mentored graduate students for over 20 years. She has a private practice and is licensed as a speech-language pathologist in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

CHAIR



Elyse Lambeth, M.S., CCC-SLP, BCS-F received her master's degree from University of Redlands. She is board certified in fluency disorders and currently serves on the board for ABFFD. Elyse works with kids who stutter at Seattle Childrens Hospital, co-facilitates the annual Seattle Stuttering Camp for Teens, and coordinates various workshops and stuttering events.

NEW BOARD-CERTIFIED SPECIALISTS



We are pleased to announce Robert Reichhardt, MA, CCC-SLP is a new Board-Certified Specialist-Fluency. Congratulations!

Robert Reichhardt received his master's degree in Speech-Language Pathology from the University of Cincinnati in 2006. Since that time, he has worked in the Division of Speech-Language Pathology at Cincinnati Children's serving as an active member and past leader of the Fluency Team. Robert became a Coordinator within the division in 2018 and currently leads a team of 8 speech-language pathologists, while also continuing clinical work with a focus on stuttering. He has mentored several colleagues in the evaluation and treatment of stuttering and continues to contribute to the evolving best practice at the hospital. In addition, Robert served as teaching assist to Irving Wollman, MA CCC-SLP, BCS-F at the University of Cincinnati from 2006 to 2016 and was recently appointed adjunct faculty at the university and is currently in his second year teaching the graduate course *Seminar in Stuttering*. Robert has been an active member of the *Fluency Friday* planning committee since 2006. *Fluency Friday* is an annual event in the Greater Cincinnati Area that brings together 50 children who stutter and their caregivers to participate in workshops and therapy sessions. In addition, Robert is a facilitator at *Camp Shout Out* lead by Kristin Chmela, MA, CCC-SLP, BCS-F and Julie Raynor, MA, CCC-SLP. Robert has presented on stuttering at state conventions in Ohio, Indiana and Michigan, ASHA, and SpeechPathology.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Sue Ellen Krause, Ph.D., CCC-SLP, BCS-F, BCS-CL, ASHA Fellow and ISHA Fellow, is founder, Executive Director, and Sole Proprietor of Krause Speech & Language Services in Chicago. She is fortunate to provide a range of evaluation and intervention services with areas of expertise in fluency and fluency disorders, childhood language and literacy, phonology, apraxia, accent reduction, and speech and voice improvement. She also integrates research endeavors and community service in her private practice and contributes university guest lectures. Dr. Krause is proud to have been in the inaugural cadre of BRS-F and to have transitioned to BCS-F. She also served on the Specialty Board of Child Language (SBCL) and the ABCLLD, including having been a team member in the transition to Specialty Certification. She will serve on the Council for Clinical Certification in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CFCC) from 2022-25.

BOARD NEWS

Since May of 2020, the ABFFD has sponsored a monthly **Round Table Discussion** to cover topics relevant to the board certification process. These meetings are designed for applicants for BCS-F, individuals who are considering applying for BCS-F, current or potential mentors, and people with fluency disorders from the community with an interest in the process. These meetings have been well-attended and feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. A wide variety of topics have been presented and discussed including the most recent topics described below.

On **Sunday, September 12, 2021** at 4:00 EST, Dr. Kathleen Scaler-Scott and Dr. Isabella Reichel, who both bring years of experience researching, treating, and teaching about cluttering, presented information about **Cluttering**. This was an extremely well-attended Round Table Discussion and wonderful insights and information were shared. As a natural extension of this discussion and in response to the apparent hunger for information about cluttering, the ABFFD is tentatively planning a Round Table Discussion on March 20, 2022 with a panel on **The Lived Experience of Cluttering**.

On **Saturday, October 9, 2021** at 12:00 noon EST, Dr. Heather Grossman presented on the topic of **Rationale-Based Therapy**. A lively discussion ensued and all in attendance had a great deal of food for thought. As always, time was set aside for any current or prospective candidates for BCS-F to ask questions or seek advice about the certification process.

If anyone has been unable to attend a Round Table Discussion in person, a recording of most of these sessions can be found on the ABFFD website. Feedback suggests that the creation of these Round Table Discussions has indeed made the board certification process more transparent and accessible, which was the goal of the board in creating these monthly discussions.

Instead of a Round Table Discussion in November, the ABFFD sponsored 2 workshops at the recent 2021 ASHA convention in Washington DC. A 2-hour in-person Master Class called **Client Driven Practices: What Does this Mean for Stuttering Therapy?** was presented by speech-language pathologists Julia Hollister and Mark O'Malia along with Reuben Schuff, a person who stutters and member of the ABFFD. In addition to this Master Class, the ABFFD also sponsored a 1-hour virtual Seminar titled **Considering Client Temperament in Stuttering Therapy to Maximize Individualized Outcomes** presented by Dr. Naomi Rodgers and Dr. Katerina Ntourou.

On **Thursday, January 20, 2022 at 8 PM EST**, a Round Table Discussion will be conducted featuring Vivian Sisskin speaking on the topic "**Acceptance and Change: Travel Companions on the Stuttering Journey**". Registration is open and available on the ABFFD website.

BOARD MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Rita Thurman, Chair, presented a workshop at the 2021 ASHA Convention in Washington DC with Kelly Harrington, candidate for BCS-F, on the topic of "More than Speech Skills: Managing the Emotional and Cognitive Components of Chronic Speech-Language Disorders".

Elyse Lambeth, Vice Chair, facilitated the September 12, 2021 Round Table Discussion on "Cluttering" featuring Dr. Isabella Reichel and Dr. Kathleen Scaler Scott. Elyse also did a presentation with Kari Tibeau, CCC-SLP, titled "A Practical Protocol for Evaluating Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Children" as part of the Childhood Communication Center's 13th Annual Loeb Family Symposium on October 23, 2021. She also spoke on "Weighing the Factors: Working with Preschoolers who Stutter" for Speech Therapy PD's Stuttering Conference: Across the Lifespan on December 12, 2021.

Laura Johnson, Treasurer, finished re-writing the eligibility criteria for a fluency disorder in the schools for the WI Dept of Public Instruction. She also created a short manual to accompany the new criteria. Additionally, Laura did a recorded webinar on September 10, 2021 for SLPs in Wisconsin on Assessment of Fluency Disorders in the Schools.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p5QjKZMB7e0&list=PLambIxavELhb5XJbI3bSWO7WK420TgyRN&index=17>

<https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/sped/pdf/sl-asses-fluency-doc.pdf>

<https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/sped/pdf/sl-asses-fluency-doc.pdf>

Nola Radford, Community Outreach, presented a poster presentation at the 2021 ASHA Convention in Washington DC on November 18, 2021, titled "Monolinguals Successfully Navigating the Multilingual World: Trilingual Assessment and Intervention". Additionally on that same date, she also participated in a one-hour seminar session led by Thelma Uzonyi titled "Effectiveness of Customized Simulation-Based Learning Using an Online Platform in Speech-Language Pathology Clinical Education".

Glenn Weybright, CE Coordinator, facilitated a "supported and supportive" speaking opportunity in Dr. Megann McGill's Stuttering class at Portland State University. He spoke to 2 classes and also facilitated a conversation between one of the classes and a 12-year old girl who stutters.

Heather Grossman, Certification Coordinator, facilitated and presented the Round Table Discussion on October 9, 2021 titled “Rationale-Based Therapy” which elicited a lively discussion and much food for thought for all who attended. She also presented an in-person talk at the 2021 ASHA convention titled “Semantics in Stuttering Therapy”.

Brooke Leiman, Certification Coordinator, along with her staff, supported their clients in developing a weeklong National Stuttering Awareness Week Public Service Announcement to educate the public on stuttering. It was featured on their clinic's social media but also was a part of ASHA's social media coverage of NSAW as well.

Tricia Krauss-Lehrman, Marketing and Public Relations, attended the FRIENDS Back to School Q & A session on Sat. Sept. 25, 2021 as well as the SFA seminar on Cultivating Stuttering Pride on Oct. 28, 2021. In addition, she planned and facilitated the Dallas TWST group's October meeting on the topic, “The Rights and Responsibilities of PWS” on Oct. 27, 2021. Tricia also gave a guest lecture on Nov. 8, 2021 for the graduate course on Fluency Disorders at UT Dallas presenting 2 case studies designed to help the students integrate all the clinical information from their Fluency course before taking their final exam.

Risa Battino, Social Media Director, provided two in-services in September and October 2021 for the speech pathologists at a school for twice exceptional students in NYC. The SLP staff was seeking guidance for working with the middle and high school students at their school who stutter/clutter.

Reuben Schuff, Consumer Representative, presented a 2-hour Masters Class with Mark O'Malia and Julia Hollister titled "Client Driven Practice What does this mean for stuttering therapy?" at the 2021 ASHA Convention. Reuben also participated in the Human Library hosted by Stamily (<https://stamily.org/>) and the Stuttering Scholarship Alliance (<https://stutteringalliance.org/>) on Dec 17, 2021 titled “Sharing our Stories”.

ABFFD MANUAL CHANGES

CMH (Clinical Maintenance Hours) are now recognized and accepted by ASHA as continuing education hours. The ABFFD voted to follow ASHA's lead. Clinical Maintenance Hours will now be acceptable for both ABFFD candidate certification requirements as well as renewal requirements for the BCS-F.

OTHER HAPPENINGS

International Stuttering Awareness Day (ISAD) 2021 was on Oct. 22, 2021. The annual online conference to celebrate the day (sponsored by the International Stuttering Association) ran throughout the month of October. Papers presented this year are archived at <https://isad.isastutter.org/isad-2021/papers-presented-by/> This year's theme was:



The **National Stuttering Association (NSA)** (www.westutter.org) is honored to serve kids, teens, and adults who stutter, as well as their loved ones, and the professionals who serve them. They do so in part by offering a wide variety of local, regional, and national events across the United States. Here are the events which have taken place in the past few months.

In these unique and sometimes difficult days that are governed by social distancing and time at home, the NSA offers these free **NSA Connects** sessions to learn, inspire, and connect with the larger stuttering community to share, learn, and socialize in ways we aren't able to experience in person right now. Each session focuses on a specific theme of interest to those in the community – Parents, Speech Professionals, LGBTQIA+, Military Service Members, and more.

- September 21, 2021 NSA Connects – The College Experience as a PWS
- October 20, 2021 NSA Connects – Advocating for Yourself
- October 22, 2021 NSA Connects – Stuttering: An International Conversation - This NSA Connects features representatives from around the world who speak about what's happening in their countries, share ideas, and discuss how we can all collaborate to understand that stuttering is just a different way of talking. Panelists include: Bruno Villegas (Peru), Emmanuel Makokha (Kenya), Shilpa Sagwal (India), Tsvetana Dimitrova (Bulgaria), Elias Apreko (Ghana), and Marc Vankralingen (The Netherlands).
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7O-D9AohEZk>
- November 11, 2021 NSA Connects – Happify Your Holidays
- November 16, 2021 NSA Connects – Passing Twice
- December 9, 2021 NSA Connects – December Open Mic

Coming on January 20, 2022 at 8:00 PM (ET), **NSA Women Connect** will provide a safe, welcoming space to connect with other women who stutter, share our experiences, strengths, and hopes. This group is dedicated to building a community of women who stutter who support and empower one other. We believe that we are stronger together. Our meetings will center around specific topics and our shared experiences, from our triumphs to challenges and everything in between. These meetings will be hosted by Dr. Ai Leen Choo and Pamela Mertz, and are open only to women who stutter. Register in advance for this meeting.

<https://westutter.org/event/january22-women-connect/> After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

WeStutter@Work – This free webinar series addresses relevant issues people who stutter face in the workplace. These 1-hour webinars are informative, interactive, and lead by people who stutter. If unable to attend these live webinars, recordings are archived at <https://westutter.org/careersuccess/webinars/>

- September 22, 2021- Stuttering and Academia
- October 27, 2021 – Managing Stress and Anxiety at Work
- November 17, 2021 – Managing a Team as a Person Who Stutters

The NSA's new **CASE Research Grant** is a \$25,000 funding opportunity designed to support research that will contribute to our knowledge about stuttering in the areas of Community, Advocacy, Support, and/or Education (CASE) as they relate to the NSA's Mission.

FRIENDS (friendswhostutter.org) is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to providing support and education to young people who stutter, their families, and professionals, through annual conferences, one-day workshops, and outreach. Their vision is to help build a world in which all young people who stutter feel empowered to communicate whenever, wherever, and however they want to. At FRIENDS, they care deeply about their community and the well-being of individuals and families, especially during times like these (COVID-19). FRIENDS is coming to terms with the fact that things will not be the same for a while and is working on alternative ways to continue offering education and support for young people who stutter and their families. In an effort to stay connected in this time of social distancing, FRIENDS has been excited to offer many virtual events in recent months. Registration is required for each.

September 2021

- **Friends Community Series – Back to School Q&A: What do you do if things get tough?** - Saturday, Sept 25 @ 11 am - 12:30 pm ET
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fPBoHRTFsQg>
- **Friends Teens Group** - Thursday, Sep 2 @ 7:30 pm ET
- **FRIENDS 20-30s Adults Group** - Wednesday, September 29 @ 7:30 pm ET

October 2021

- **Friends Kids Group** - Saturday, October 23 @ 10 am ET
- **Friends Teens Group** - Thursday, October 14 @ 7:30 pm ET
- **Friends 20-30s Adults Group** - Wednesday, October 20 @ 7:30 pm ET
- **Friends Parents Group** - Tuesday, October 19 @ 7 pm ET

November 2021

- **Friends Kids Group** - Sunday, Nov 28 @ 10 am ET — *facilitated by Shian Williams!*
- **Friends Teen Group** - Thurs, Nov 11 @ 7:30 pm ET — *facilitated by David Roney!*
- **Friends 20-30s Adults Group** - Wed, Nov 17 @ 7:30 pm ET — *facilitated by Michael Turner!*
- **Friends Parents Group** - Tuesday, November 16 @ 7 pm ET — *facilitated by David Roney!*

December 2021

- **Friends Kids Group** - Saturday, Dec 11 @ 10 am ET — *facilitated by Kristel Kubart!*
- **Friends Teens Group** - Thurs, Dec 9 @ 7:30 pm ET — *facilitated by Alexander Burday!*
- **Friends 20-30s Adults Group** - Wed, Dec 15 @ 7:30 pm ET — *facilitated by Alexander Burday!*
- **Friends Parents Group** - Thurs, Dec 9 @ 7 pm ET — *facilitated by David R. & Lee Caggiano!*

Links to all of the FRIENDS virtual programs - Kids, Teens, Adults, and Parents Groups – can be found here: <http://www.friendswhostutter.org/virtual/>

The **Stuttering Foundation of America (SFA)** (www.stutteringhelp.org) continues its mission to provide the highest quality resources and learning opportunities to help clinicians increase their knowledge base, clinical skills, comfort, and competency, in order to best serve individuals who stutter.

The SFA has launched, "Virtual Learning by Stuttering Foundation", a free online series of monthly interactive workshops with a variety of offerings for speech-language pathologists, parents, and individuals who stutter. Here is a list of those offered from May through August of

2021. Past sessions are now available for a small fee on the SFA's Streaming Video Library (www.stutteringhelp.org/streaming). Two new films have recently been added to the Streaming Library: Frank Guenther's "Neural Modeling and Imaging of Stuttering" from 12th Oxford Dysfluency Conference 2021, and "Speech Disfluencies in Bilingual Speakers" with Selma Saad Merouwe. Every Tuesday, the SFA offers a different \$5 course from its extensive library, for Continuing Education credit.

Here is a list of those live **Virtual Learning** sessions offered from September to December of 2021.

- September 28, 2021 - Speech Disfluencies in Bilingual Speakers by Selma Saad Merouwe,
- October 28, 2021 - Cultivating Stuttering Pride: Guiding Principles for Speech Language Therapists by Voon Pang
- November 29, 2021 - Hope and Healing in Telling and Hearing Stories of Stuttering by Dr. Ken O. St. Louis
- December 23, 2021 - The Variability of the Stuttering Experience by Dr. Rick Arenas

Stuttering Foundation Podcast: The third season of podcasts, a great mix of clinical discussions, research updates, and special segments, began in April 2021. Podcasts can be accessed through: Apple Podcast, Spotify, Stitcher, or directly through our website: www.stutteringhelp.org/podcast . Recent podcasts are listed below.

- September 2021 - Developing Clinical Expertise: Let's Go Back to Roadmaps with Voon Pang.
- October 2021 - Dear Stuttering Foundation Part 2: School-Based Focus with Sara and Dr. Ellen Kelly.
- November 2021 - Research Update: Exploring Concealment of Stuttering, Stigma, Identity, and Well-Being with Sara and Dr. Hope Gerlach-Houck.
- December 2021 - Covert Stuttering: Understanding the Path To Change with Sara and Caryn Herring, M.S., CCC-SLP.

HELP PROMOTE BOARD CERTIFICATION IN FLUENCY DISORDERS

The Board would like to invite all individuals who are creating a Powerpoint Presentation in the area of Fluency Disorders, to include one of 4 different slides the Board has created which promote board certification in fluency disorders. In an attempt to increase the number of board-certified specialists in fluency disorders, this is one way for the Board to increase awareness of the specialty certification, hopefully sparking interest in individuals who might consider looking into the process. These slides can be found here: <https://www.stutteringspecialists.org/ABFFD-Promo-Slides/>. Thank you for helping to promote specialty certification in fluency disorders!

ABOUT THE AMERICAN BOARD OF FLUENCY AND FLUENCY DISORDERS

The American Board of Fluency and Fluency Disorders was the first clinical specialty program approved by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association in 1998. The idea of a specialty program was driven by the need to give consumers access to professionals with advanced knowledge and skills, and to educate and recognize expert clinicians. The specialty program, initially known as the Specialty Board on Fluency Disorders, came into being through the efforts of both professionals and consumers. It was championed by ASHA's Special Interest Division 4, Fluency and Fluency Disorders, with support from the National Stuttering Association and the Stuttering Foundation of America.

FACEBOOK PAGE

Please visit the [ABFFD Facebook page](#). Send Risa Battino, M.S., CCC-SLP, BCS-F, Social Media Director (rbattino@gmail.com) information regarding upcoming presentations, publications, events, or accomplishments so that we can keep our members informed!