Welcome to the October Easy2Digest Newsletter,

We have had an exciting couple of months at AB-SSD. We have offered terrific courses from our AB-SSD’s Continuing Education Committee, such as our Summer Series. Read on to find out more if you missed the Summer Series, which is now on-demand. Check out our New adult and pediatric course offerings listed below too. We are all gearing up for #ASHA2023 in Boston! Read on to see the hot topic this year at Meet The Masters (#MTM2023). Our website is taking shape, and certainly there will be more edits and re-formatting and simplifying that we will tackle ongoingly. Feel free to share your suggestions and comments: info@swallowingdisorders.org

Thank you all for your time and commitment to the field!

Congratulations New Affiliates & Thank You Mentors!
Lea Rose Markham  
University of Chicago Medicine

Hannah Allen  
St. Joseph Villa  
Mentor: Amy Baillies

Faith Purnell  
Portland VA Medical Center  
Mentor: Megan Hyers

Isabelle Gambino  
Massachusetts General Hospital  
Mentor: Lauren Herzog

Jessica Danley  
University of Arkansas

Audrey Latimore  
Texas Children’s Hospital  
Mentor: Memorie Gosa

Anne Millard  
University of Kansas Health System  
Mentor: Jamie Johnson

Lauren Archambault  
Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia  
Mentor: Susan McCormack

Michelle Dawson  
First Bite, Midlands Therapy Services  
Mentor: Donna Edwards

Joy Hesse  
Iowa ENT Center  
Mentor: Laurie Sterling


Meet the Masters

Each year AB-SSD teams up with Bracco with Meet the Masters (MTM) to provide 2.0 hours of ASHA CEUs on the Wednesday before the national convention for NO cost to participants. This year #MTM2023 is on the hot topic of Artificial Intelligence. Thank you Bracco! Did you know that Bracco has provided an unrestricted grant for the past 20 years to offer high quality dysphagia education at Meet The Masters annually.
The Meet The Masters Conference Co-Coordinator wanted us to share:

You do not have to be registered for the ASHA Conference to attend this LIVE Symposium the night before ASHA begins. Please pass this on to the other Speech Pathologists in your area. They may not have been able to come because their facility limits how many may attend ASHA. This course begins at 5:00 on Wednesday evening and ends at 7:00. They would be able to work both Wednesday and Thursday, we would hope, and would love for them to attend.

For the program and to register for this LIVE Symposium, go to www.MTMSLP.com.

On the AB-SSD’s website, we have free Bracco Meet the Masters courses from the past (2018 to 2022). See this link: https://www.swallowingdisorders.org/page/braccoce
**New AB-SSD Historian**

AB-SSD welcomes Dr. Barbara Sonies in her new role as AB-SSD Historian. Barbara Sonies is among the founders of AB-SSD and served on the Applications committee for many years until 2023. It is this legacy that makes her a perfect choice for our AB-SSD Historian.

Additionally, she founded the American Speech Language Hearing Association’s Dysphagia Special Interest Division (now called SIG13). She is also one of the co-founders of the Dysphagia Research Society and former past president. She has served as the chief of Speech-Language Pathology at the National Institutes of Health. Her work has earned her Honors of the American Speech-Language Hearing Association, as well as fellow of our esteemed association. Currently, she serves as professor emeritus at the University of Maryland in College Park.

AB-SSD looks forward to all of her contributions as Historian.

*See a full bio for Dr. Barbara Sonies at the end of this newsletter.*

See a video by Barbara Sonies about AB-SSD’s lifetime membership status: [https://www.swallowingdisorders.org/page/life-membership?&hhsearchterms=%22barbara+and+sonies%22](https://www.swallowingdisorders.org/page/life-membership?&hhsearchterms=%22barbara+and+sonies%22)

**Looking for Volunteers**

The Public Relations & Communications Committee (PRCC) is seeking new membership to support ongoing outreach. Members of the committee participate in social media outreach, creating our newsletter, ongoingly updating of our new website, creating posts for raising awareness in dysphagia and awareness months, running live social media events/webinars, preparing public relations material, and generally inspiring others to work towards their board certification. For example, we have hosted information events with the original founders of AB-SSD and solicited articles from new affiliates to help others find their own pathways to board certification.

If you would like to be on the PRCC or any of our AB-SSD committees (such as helping with our AB-SSD continuing education efforts), fill out the form to volunteer here. [https://www.swallowingdisorders.org/page/volunteer](https://www.swallowingdisorders.org/page/volunteer)

**Continuing Education - Terrific New Courses**

AB-SSD wants to acknowledge all the amazing efforts of Heather Starmer and Christina Rappazoo and their Continuing Education committee of the AB-SSD! They brought us two tremendous summer series for pediatric and adult dysphagia this past June! Now, they have produced more adult and pediatric courses released this October. Even more courses are coming soon on esophageal dysphagia and breastfeeding.
Make sure to check back often to our Continuing Education tab on our new website:
https://www.swallowingdisorders.org/page/continuinged

See full list of courses here:
https://www.swallowingdisorders.org/page/courses

Summer Series NOW available On-Demand!

https://www.swallowingdisorders.org/page/SummerWebinar-AdultTrack

https://www.swallowingdisorders.org/page/SummerWebinar-PediatricTrack

NEW Courses

High-Resolution Pharyngeal Manometry: The Physiology and the Data

https://www.swallowingdisorders.org/page/High-ResolutionPharyngealManometry

![Feeling the Pressure?](image)

Swallowing is a pressure-driven event, and manometry can capture pressure information that is complementary to imaging techniques such as videofluoroscopy and endoscopy. In this course, we will discuss the history and development of pharyngeal manometry, the physiology behind swallowing pressures that we measure, expected normal and abnormal findings, new directions in swallowing pressure data analysis, and considerations for clinical adoption of high-resolution pharyngeal manometry.

Interprofessional Perspectives on Dysphagia: Pulmonary and Swallowing Disorders in Infants Born Preterm

https://www.swallowingdisorders.org/page/InterprofessionalPerspectivesonDysphagia
This course will provide an in-depth description of pulmonary disorders in infants born preterm, as well as discussion of the inter-relationships between pulmonary and swallowing disorders in this population. The speakers will provide evidence and insight into the fact that prematurity generally affects breathing – and feeding, that breathing difficulties often affect feeding and feeding difficulties often affect breathing, that feeding difficulties can affect NICU length of stay, as well as later heath care needs, and that there are evidence-based interventions that can to help infants with feeding difficulties. But, it takes a team...

**Board Certification MythBusters:**

**Myth or WORRY:**
I am worried that I will have pediatric dysphagia questions on my examination, and I have only worked with adults.

Fact: "Questions related to case studies are relevant to either the adult populations or pediatric populations depending upon which population you requested to take the examination."

For more information, check out our "Become Board Certified" tab on our website (SwallowingDisorders.org): [https://www.swallowingdisorders.org/page/become-board-certified](https://www.swallowingdisorders.org/page/become-board-certified)
Request a mentor to guide you in your process:
https://www.swallowingdisorders.org/page/Mentors

Share Our Website

Maybe you are giving a talk at ASHA2023 and would like to recommend the AB-SSD website to your audience for more information on CEUs or becoming board certified. Here is a QR code to use to direct people to the homepage:

Awareness Months

October is:
National Down Syndrome Awareness Month
Physical therapy month

November is:
Epilepsy Awareness Month
Lung Cancer Awareness Month
Alzheimer Awareness Month

Biography of Dr. Barbara Sonies

Dr. Barbara Sonies graduated with a BA from the University of Minnesota with Honors and was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa. She then was awarded a full scholarship for her Master’s Degree studies in Speech-Language Pathology at Stanford University. After several years in the California Schools, she worked at the University of Minnesota Hospital’s Department of Rehabilitation Medicine as Chief of Speech Language Pathology until 1972. In 1973 she was employed at the American Speech Language Hearing Association (ASHA) in Bethesda, Maryland. In 1981 she was awarded a PhD from the University of Maryland’s Hearing and Speech Sciences Department. She has taught numerous graduate courses and seminars on diagnosis and treatment of dysphagia at the University of Maryland and George Washington University.
Dr. Sonies was the Chief of the Speech Language Pathology Section, Department of Rehabilitation Medicine, Chief of the Oral Motor Function Section, and Director of the Ultrasound Oral Imaging Laboratory at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland until 2006. She was Research Professor at the University of Maryland Department of Hearing and Speech Sciences until 2015 and is currently Professor Emeritus. She serves on the National Academies of Medicine, Standing Committee of Medical Experts to Assist Social Security on Disability Issues and is a section editor for dysphagia topics for the Archives of Rehabilitation Medicine.

Swallowing and swallowing disorders have been the main focus of her clinical and research career for over three decades. Dr. Sonies has been a clinician and investigator in the field of dysphagia with primary focus on swallowing in aging, post polio, myositis, Cystinosis, Progressive Supranuclear Palsy, and other neurologic and systemic conditions. She originated the use of ultrasound to image the oral cavity for speech and swallowing and has conducted research on various neurologic, neuromotor and systemic conditions that impact swallowing function.

In 1985 she organized the first multidisciplinary conference on Dysphagia cooperatively with the NIH and ASHA. She has chaired and presented at hundreds of meetings, conferences, seminars, and workshops on swallowing and swallowing disorders both nationally and internationally.

She founded the American Speech Language Hearing Association’s Dysphagia Special Interest Division and developed the original plan for Board Specialty Recognition/Certification in Swallowing and Swallowing Disorders. Dr. Sonies has Specialty Certification in Swallowing and Swallowing Disorders, was Secretary of the Specialty Board and continues to serve on the Applications Committee. She was awarded both Fellow and Honors of ASHA and Fellow of the Maryland Speech Language Hearing Society. She is a founder of the Dysphagia Research Society, DRS Past President (1996), and is an archivist. She was awarded the Gold Medal from the Dysphagia Research Society in 2017 for her outstanding contributions to the study of dysphagia.

She is nationally recognized for her skill in diagnosis and treatment of severe swallowing and oral motor disorders; with expertise that ranks her among the few specialists in the United States.