

InFormant 

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Kristen Sullivan, Editor
Paul Patinka, Assistant Editor

Welcome to the third year of InFormant! We are delighted to start this new volume with an overview of happenings in PAVA. If you have an idea for InFormant, please be sure and reach out at communications@pavavocology.org. We are always looking for new article ideas from our vocology community. I'd also like to take a moment to thank Kristen Sullivan for all of her hard work on InFormant over the years. She will be stepping down from her position after this issue. Paul Patinka will be taking over as editor and will continue Kristen's legacy beautifully. Thank you to both Kristen and Paul for your service to PAVA!

Amanda Flynn, PAVA Communications Director

2022 Symposium Update



Welcome to 2022! Your PAVA Hybrid Symposium Co-Directors are excitedly working with members across the organization and vocology field to prepare for this year's symposium. The 2022 Hybrid Symposium will be held from Friday, August 19 to Sunday, August 21 simultaneously at Pava Village (on Virtuallypava.org) and the University of Minnesota, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA. The Lions Voice Clinic in the Department of Otolaryngology will be hosting this year's symposium, along with many other groups from the vibrant vocology community in Minnesota. For 3D attendees, Ferguson Hall, the Music Building on the U of MN campus, is ideally suited for the PAVA Symposium to offer intimate presentations and gatherings. Likewise, Pava Village has a plethora of gathering spaces and amenities to offer an equally invigorating experience for 2D attendees.

Whether 2D or 3D, presenters can submit any mode of presentation (oral, poster, and workshop) and attendees can attend any aspect of the symposium via PAVA Village, as they have for the past two years. 2D attendees will be fully integrated into this hybrid symposium and can even join the fun by pairing with a 3D "buddy!" 3D attendees will find lodging available at the nearby Marriott Courtyard where cocktail parties will be held in the charming outdoor patio. 2D attendees can participate in the revelry through specially designed after-hours activities in PAVA Village, including a make-your-own cocktail/mocktail night!

Finally, we are working to keep costs reasonable for both 3D and 2D attendees and cannot wait to welcome everyone to Minneapolis and PAVA Village. In addition, we are still seeking volunteers for the 2D and 3D versions of the Symposium. Let us know your interest and skillset, and we'll be happy to include you! As they say, it takes a village to host a symposium.

Sincerely,

Deirdre D. Michael, Ph.D., CCC/SLP
Symposium Co-Director

Beth Falcone, M.M., M. Mus.
Symposium Co-Director



Call for Abstracts

It is our pleasure to invite you to submit one or more scholarly/scientific papers (oral, poster, or workshop) on all aspects of Vocology including but not limited to: Medical, Basic Science, Voice Rehabilitation, Voice Pedagogy/Training/Habilitation. We ask that your submission specify how you plan to attend (2D or 3D), but we will be able to accommodate your presentation if your plans have to change. Please note that COVID-19 vaccines will be mandated for this conference. These policies will be clarified as we get closer to the symposium in this ever-changing COVID climate.

One abstract of no more than 350 words in length is required for each presentation. References, author(s), and titles are not included in the word count. Abstracts should be submitted in English, Spanish, or Portuguese, using the provided template. For oral and poster presentations, authors should clearly identify the objectives/introduction, methods/study design, results, and conclusions. For workshops, authors should clearly identify objectives/introduction, learning/experiences to be shared, and how interactivity will be fostered.

Authors are invited to submit abstracts by midnight Eastern Standard Time on March 7, 2022. All author(s) will be notified of their acceptance status in the second week of April 2022.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMISSION

Please see below for specific instructions for the Google form. We recommend that you create the body of your abstract in a Word (or other) document, and paste it into the Google form.

To support the blind review process, the name(s) or affiliation(s) of anyone involved in the presentation should not appear in the title or abstract, nor in the file names or body of submitted supplementary materials, as submissions are evaluated anonymously. Abstracts identifying the author(s) will be disqualified. Names and affiliations may appear in the “Co-Presenter” section of the submission, however, the review committee will not have access to this information during the review process.

When referencing one’s own previously published research, the proposer should refer to such research in the third person to avoid identifying themselves. For example, hypothetical proposal submitter D. Graham should write, “D. Graham’s article, ‘XYZ,’ summarizes pertinent issues,” instead of writing, “My article, ‘XYZ,’ summarizes pertinent issues.” The wording in the first example protects the anonymity of the author, while the second compromises the author’s anonymity by linking the author of the proposal to previously published work by a named author.

Submissions that do not conform to the above guidelines will not be considered.

Submit your abstract [here](#).

Sincerely,

Deirdre D. Michael, Ph.D., CCC/SLP
Symposium Co-Director

Beth Falcone, M.M., M. Mus.
Symposium Co-Director

Marci Rosenberg, M.S. CCC/SLP
Chair, PAVA Symposia Oversight Committee

PAVA Recognized Vocologist Update

Ed Reisert, Implementation Committee Chairperson

The PAVA Implementation Committee continues its work on the PAVA-Recognized Vocologist initiative. In the spirit of full transparency for this lengthy process, the Committee is pleased to provide this update to PAVA members. The Committee members are Ed Reisert (Committee Chairperson), Ken Bozeman, Troy Castle, Amanda Flynn, Marci Rosenberg, and Mary Sandage.

PAVA-RV consists of two equally-weighted components: a written exam that demonstrates knowledge in core vocology disciplines and a portfolio that establishes experience and expertise.

The Committee has completed crafting an exam made up of 200 multiple-choice, true/false, and matching questions. All of these questions have been uploaded to ClassMarker, which serves as our online testing platform.

To aid PAVA-RV applicants in their preparation for the examination, the Implementation Committee has created a Study Guide. For this Study Guide, the committee has made every attempt to provide information that is easily accessible for the test and will update this content regularly to ensure availability. This Study Guide provides:

- Key concepts and vocabulary in each of the subject areas
- Sample questions
- Free, web-accessible articles from an array of sources
- Additional articles that may be found through research websites
- Additional resources to encourage life-long learning

In September 2021, the Implementation Committee sent an informational email to all PAVA members to seek volunteers for beta testing the Exam and the Study Guide. The committee selected thirty-five beta testers from a variety of disciplines, levels of experience, and geographic regions. Their charge was to utilize the study guide in preparation for the exam, to complete the test using ClassMarker, and to provide feedback to the committee in a survey.

Now that the beta testing results have been collected, the Committee is analyzing this data to improve both the Exam and the Study Guide.

The Implementation Committee has also focused on establishing a process to roll out the portfolio application. The portfolio contains two main sections: Established Professional Practice Portfolio and Multidisciplinary Experience Vocology Profile.

Established Professional Practice Portfolio allows applicants to show the work that they have done in their primary profession and what they have done to remain current in their field. In this portfolio, applicants will submit materials according to prescribed criteria demonstrating that they are currently engaged in one profession related to Vocology that aligns most with their day-to-day work.

Multidisciplinary Experience Vocology Profile seeks to recognize vocologists who have sought out an understanding of the other vocology disciplines, as those other disciplines inform their primary practice. To fulfill the Multidisciplinary Experience Profile, each applicant will be required to demonstrate knowledge, experience, and expertise in three additional Vocology fields that lie outside of their primary discipline. To ensure parity, the profile utilizes the same list of vocology areas as the Established Professional Practice Portfolio. The Multidisciplinary Experience Vocology Profile does not give any applicant the authority to practice outside their own established professional practice.

Applicants will tally education and experiences using a point system, demonstrating that they have been engaged in a range of vocology disciplines. These multidisciplinary experiences are in addition to one's primary discipline and the criteria are not as rigorous as those required to demonstrate the Established Professional Practice Portfolio.

The committee is now engaged in the process of planning how to receive these applications, as well as creating a subcommittee that will be charged with vetting the portfolio submissions.

The PAVA Implementation Committee is collaborating with the Legal Committee (Miriam van Mersbergen, Chairperson) and the PAVA Ethics Committee (Marina Gilman, Chairperson) in an effort to ensure that the PAVA-RV process supports PAVA's mission encompassing the highest level of integrity, fostering ethical practice across all disciplines. Once we have clearance from PAVA lawyers who have been sought out at this point in time, we will move forward with inviting our first applicants for PAVA-RV.

As always, if you would like further information, please contact us at: pava-rv@pavavocology.org

Getting Personal

To learn more about our cross-disciplinary interests, InFormant editors will be interviewing various PAVA members so we can all learn a little more about the diverse fascinations housed in our organization. In January 2022, Paul Patinka had the honor of interviewing Louise Pinkerton who recently took on the position of Continuing Education Administrator with PAVA.

Intro: Can you tell us about your new role with PAVA and some ways you hope that this will benefit all PAVA members?

I'm the new Continuing Education Administrator. This role is to oversee the process of getting PAVA set up as an ASHA CEU provider. ASHA is the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association where speech-language pathologists and audiologists can be licensed and certified. And with those degrees, you have to do regular continuing education, and you have to document that to keep your certification. So, what this process will do is when PAVA can be an ASHA CEU provider, we're going to be able to guarantee for those ASHA members that they're going to get credit for the things they do with us. I see this as having benefits for everybody because part of what the process does is it adds rigor to what we're doing. Part of the process is to evaluate the events we provide, and provide feedback and use that for planning. We're just formalizing a lot of things that have been done to meet the requirements.

1) Can you tell us a little about some projects you are currently working on or recently finished?

I started as a clinical assistant professor at the University of Iowa just this June, so that's been my big project. In that position, I supervise graduate students in speech-language pathology who are getting clinical experience as part of their degree, and I work exclusively with voice. One of the things we have in progress for our students is a collaboration with the LGBTQ+ clinic. We are in the process of setting it up so that when someone comes to that LGBTQ+ clinic as a new client, one of the things they will do if they're looking at transition services is they will have an information session and a short evaluation with me and with my students assisting. Another small project I got going is I've also started a student group where we just kind of meet informally every couple of weeks and practice related to using their Spanish skills in a clinical setting. Because the vocabulary you learn at home or the vocabulary you learn in college in those classes isn't the same as what you use in a clinical setting.

2) What about vocalization fascinates or inspires you the most?

The more I learn, the more exciting it is. I was a voice major, and I took some classes at Indiana University in what was then the Speech and Hearing Sciences program as part of my undergraduate. And it was just fascinating to realize that we can understand the anatomy, we can understand the physiology and all about how this is produced. I just really find it fascinating, all the different sounds we can make. I mean, if you look at all the sounds that are used for international languages, if you look at all the different sounds we can make through singing from popular music to opera, to all the traditional musics. I don't know another instrument that can make as many sounds and as many diverse sounds as the voice can.

3) What excites you about being a member of PAVA? How does PAVA fit into your overall career trajectory or goals?

I think the biggest thing that excites me about PAVA is that it is cross-disciplinary. You may have somebody that's talking about the evolution of vocalization. You may have somebody talking about creating a digital model. You have someone talking about surgical techniques, about new singing styles and ideas. And that's just wonderful to get all sorts of different things from different areas. I love the synergy that happens when you get different groups of people together. I love the idea of doing more and working with people and making those connections.

4) Do you have a mentor in your field whose work you look up to? Who is it and why?

Well, I had to think hard about this. Cause again, would it be a voice teacher? Would it be a speech pathologist? Would it be a research person? And I think what I came back to is that the biggest mentors I look up to and continue to think about are those people that were my supervisors as I was learning to be a clinician. I find that they shaped my perspective and my understanding and my client skills: bedside manner and really thinking of people globally and how that was reinforced throughout. I think those are the people that made the biggest difference in who I am as a clinician.

5) If you had unlimited resources and a year of vacation, what is something fun you would like to do with that time?

I would like to go back to Italy. I find it a really neat place to be. I love the food. I love the people. I love being able to see performances there. I have some family background from Scotland and Great Britain, so I'd love to go see particularly Scotland, but I bet in a year I could get through other parts of Great Britain and maybe also Ireland, too. The other thing though, is I'd probably stay home and do some workshops on fiction writing and do some writing. Cause it's something I've thought about and, you know, you do things in high school and then you don't keep up with it. But I have all these ideas and maybe having some time to put them down on paper and play with them would be fun. I should add Mexico to that list and maybe I'd learn some Spanish since I'm helping students provide Spanish therapy!

Regional Updates

The greater DMV chapter partnered with the Boston chapter for a virtual kickoff event for World Voice Day. The two-day event was titled: Lift Every Voice: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Vocology. The event featured compelling stories and experiences from guest panelists, voice teacher experiences with singers who have disabilities, access to voice care and a special presentation on teaching spirituals, performance on Saturday with Oveante Magsby, curated content delivered through our private Youtube channel, and breakout rooms and group discussions.

Matthew Hoch, DMA
Eastern Region Governor
Pan American Vocology Association (PAVA)

After several years of work and coordination, Ella McGaunn Geiger alongside Eric Balboni and Linda Balliro formed the Massachusetts Chapter of PAVA in January of 2021. During 2021 the Massachusetts Chapter held several events including:

- March 13th 2021:
 - Virtual Meet and Greet with presentations from Dr. Burns, Tara Stadelman Cohen, Ella McGaunn Geiger, Eric Balboni, Zakiyyah Sutton, Linda Balliro, and faculty of Berklee College of Music working on low latency projects.
 - Topics included: Vocal Health, Singing and Cognition, Finding Your Niche as a Vocologist, and Singing and Technology.

- World Voice Day Events: April 16th and 17th: (Alongside DMV)
 - Lift Every Voice: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Vocology
 - Discussions with singers with disabilities and their teachers moderated by Rachelle Fleming
 - Access to Voice Care
 - Paul E. Kawk MD (Otolaryngologist at NYU)
 - Brandon Baird MD (Otolaryngologist at UChicago)
 - Teaching Spirituals
 - Carolyn Sebron, Opera Singer, Ph.D. Candidate
 - Equity and Diversity in Singing
 - Miracle Ogbor (Ph.D. student at George Madison)
 - Marilyn Andry (Co-Founder and Co-Director at The Butterfly Project)
- July 28th, 2021 (Alongside DMV)
 - Applying Contemporary Music Techniques and Styles
 - Masterclass with Linda Balliro
 - Guest Speaker Kevin Michael Murphy (Professor of Voice at NYU Steinhardt and Co-Founder of NYC Vocal Studio)

Greater DMV Chapter

Emily Sobieski, president

If you are interested in starting a local PAVA chapter, please reach out to your regional governor for more information.