

An Update on the Road to Recognition

Notes from the webinar presented on October 7, 2018

Webinar Overview

- WHAT - What is a PAVA Recognized Vocologist (PAVA-RV)?
- WHY - Why not Certification?
- WHO - Who is creating the criteria for obtaining it? Who would benefit from this distinction?
- HOW - How will I apply? How will I prepare?
- WHEN - When do we expect to have a roll out date?

What is a PAVA Recognized Vocologist (PAVA-RV)?

- Recognition: The acknowledgement of achievement, service, merit
- Vocologist: Someone who is an expert in or student of Vocology
- Vocology: The study of vocalization

A PAVA-RV is...

1. A member of PAVA
2. An established member of a profession concerned with voice production
3. Has met minimum criteria within his/her profession to establish a strong background of continuing education and accomplishment in the field of vocology
4. Has demonstrated a wide variety of vocology-related knowledge as determined by an assessment tool which is currently in process of development

Why not “Certification” ?

1. “Certification” is defined and often interpreted as a document proving that an individual is qualified for a job
2. There are both national and international standards that define the minimum requirements for a certification program to be considered valid and reliable

PAVA as a Certifying Body

- PAVA would need to employ attorneys, psychometric specialists, job analysts, security/testing proctors, etc.
- PAVA’s time frame and budget do not support this process
- PAVA would need to target vocologists one profession at a time

Our Solution

- Offer PAVA Recognition for individuals who have demonstrated basic knowledge in Vocology and have established themselves in a voice-related profession rather than Certification.
- PAVA Recognition operates as a complement and adjunct distinction to already existing mechanisms to ensure job readiness in voice-related fields. It is general enough to be applicable for all voice professionals.

Key Events

- The title “PAVA Recognized Vocologist” was Board approved in 2016
- In Fall 2017, the BOD requested a credential development for ALL VOCOLOGISTS
- In Fall 2017, the BOD generated over 200 questions subdivided into 14 topic areas
- The Credentialing/Specialization Committee developed 2 subcommittees: The PAVA Recognition Standards Selection Subcommittee and The Feasibility Subcommittee

PAVA Recognition Standards Selection Subcommittee

- Define the minimum standards to be demonstrated by an applicant. The standards should be relevant and attainable across all vocologists (animal/human research, speaking voice coaching, speech language pathologists, singing pedagogues, singing voice specialists, theater voice specialists, corporate voice specialists, etc.)

Feasibility Subcommittee

- Explore the nature and feasibility of various avenues leading toward PAVA recognition

Who is/has been working to create PAVA-RV?

- Volunteer Credentialing/Specialization Committee was formed in October, 2015.
 - Peggy Baroody, Singing Voice Specialist (28 years in field)
 - Starr Cookman, Speech Pathologist, Singing Voice Specialist (21 years)
 - Anna Hersey, Singing Pedagogue (15 years)
 - Ian Howell, Singing Pedagogue, Voice Scientist (14 years)
 - Ed Reisert, Choral Director (29 years of public school teaching and choral directing)
 - Marci Rosenberg, Speech Pathologist, Singing Voice Specialist (17 years)
 - Leda Scarce, Speech Pathologist, Singing Voice Specialist, PAVA President Elect (32 years teaching singing; 14 years voice rehabilitation as SLP)

Committee Reconfiguration

- Ian and Peggy (singing voice science/pedagogue, singing voice specialist) rotated off. Leda stepped down to fulfill duties of PAVA Presidency.
- Replaced by:
 - Amelia Rollings, Singing Voice Pedagogue and Researcher (13 years)
 - Aaron Johnson, Voice Scientist/Speech Language Pathologist/Singing Voice Specialist (20 years teaching singing, 10 years scientist/SLP)

Standards Selection Subcommittee

- Co-Chairs: Starr Cookman and Ed Reisert
- Members:
 - Kenneth Bozeman, Singing Pedagogue (43 years)
 - Julia Gerhard, Speech/Voice Pathologist (14 years)
 - Rachele Fleming, Singing Pedagogue (20+ years)
 - Mary Sandage, Speech/Voice Pathologist, Voice Scientist (26 years)
 - Ingo Titze, Past-President of PAVA, Voice Scientist, Committee Advisor (30 + years)

Feasibility Subcommittee

- Co-Chairs:
 - Anna Hersey, Singing Pedagogue (15 years)
 - Amanda Flynn, Singing Pedagogue (10 years)
- Members:
 - Marina Gilman, Singing Pedagogue (40+ years), Speech Pathologist (20 yrs)
 - Katherine Osborne, Singing Pedagogue (14 years)
 - Art Joslin, Singing Pedagogue, (25 years)
 - Joseph Michael Falduti, Singing Pedagogue (10 years)

PAVA-RV - Tangibles

- Lends credibility and recognition to your commitment to vocology and its application to your work
- Creates a community of other vocologists with a common knowledge base and common lexicon
- Distinguishes individuals as PAVA Recognized in the online database for consumers seeking habilitation
- Prioritizes foundational and germane information carefully considered by a committee of experts
- For those new to vocology, the PAVA-RV tool provides structure and direction for those seeking to additional knowledge.
- PAVA members who teach or run programs may use PAVA-RV standards to drive curriculum if desired
- Seasoned PAVA members can commit to be lifelong learners, brush up on their knowledge in different areas of vocology, and feel assured that they've "still got it!"
- A common experience across all PAVA-RV recipients can spark:
 1. New ideas and questions
 2. Healthy skepticism and lively discussions
 3. Innovation and excitement
 4. New perspectives on voice habilitation
 5. New possibilities for collaborative projects
- Under our current working model, those applying for PAVA-RV distinction will have access to webinars, references, and/or study guides
- PAVA-RV becomes part of your personal marketing, demonstrating your commitment to vocology

What a PAVA-RV Credential is NOT

- It is NOT a certification or credential to PRACTICE voice habilitation or rehabilitation
- It is NOT a method to “police” service providers within voice-relevant industries
- It is NOT an endorsement of you as a member of your voice-related profession or a testament to your skills
- It is NOT a vehicle to permit anyone to rehabilitate voice disorders without licensure
- It is NOT a vehicle to empower someone not trained in teaching speaking or singing to do so

A PAVA-RV Distinction IS an adjunct credential to your degrees and licensure that lends credibility and recognition to your commitment to the interface between vocology and your particular profession.

Working Model for Obtaining PAVA-RV Distinction

- The portfolio model is a comprehensive yet flexible way for applicants to display that they have met standards in various areas.
- The flexibility accommodates the diversity of experience and practice of various fields encompassed by vocology.
- Through the portfolio model, applicants demonstrate accomplishments in the following large categories:
 - I. Statement of Purpose
 - A written statement about professional goals that reflect on and support the mission of PAVA
 - Required of all applicants
 - II. Professional Practice
 - Encompasses experience in the following relevant sub-categories:
 - Research (peer-reviewed publications or conference presentations)
 - Active classroom and studio teaching
 - Clinical Work
 - Professional-Level Performance
 - III. Vocology Knowledge
 - Sub-categories:
 - Continuing Education (PAVA-Provided Opportunities both online and in-person, conference and workshop attendance, assessed coursework, observation hours)
 - Completion of web-based assessment in a number of modules

Basic acoustics/voice acoustics
 Biomechanics and muscle physiology
 Breathing and Aerodynamics
 Fundamental frequency, register, vibrato and Intensity
 Skill Acquisition and Perceptual Motor Learning
 Primal and Animal Vocalization
 Anatomy and Life-Span Changes

Instrumentation for Voice Analysis
 Unamplified singing in Classical Styles
 Amplified singing in Contemporary Styles
 Choral and Ensemble Voice
 Voice habilitation and hygiene
 Voice disorders and rehabilitation
 Ethical practice for service providers
 Voice for the Actor
 Voice Perception

What might this portfolio look like for two different applicants?

| | Speech-Language Pathologist | Singing Voice Pedagogue |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| I. Personal Statement | ✓ | ✓ |
| II. Professional Practice | | |
| Peer-reviewed presentation | ✓ | |
| Peer-reviewed publication | | ✓ |
| Classroom and studio teaching | | ✓ |
| Clinical work | ✓ | |
| Professional-level performance | | ✓ |
| III. Vocology Knowledge | | |
| Continuing education | ✓ | ✓ |
| Exam modules in chosen areas | ✓ | ✓ |

Time Frame and Next Steps

- Standards Selection Subcommittee continues to define the knowledge base needed for a PAVA-RV applicant.
- Feasibility Subcommittee continues to design and modify the hybrid PAVA-RV application model including the portfolio application, assessment process, and continuing education component. They also are working to determine the feasibility of disseminating information via online web modules.
- Want to be involved in the future of PAVA Recognition? Email C/S Committee Co-Chairs:
 - Aaron Johnson (aaron.johnson@nyulangone.org)
 - Amelia Rollings (amelia.rollings@wku.edu)

Become a PAVA Member!

- Visit: www.pava-vocology.org
- Select “Join Us/Renew”
- Select Membership Level
 - Full Voting Member
 - Associate Member
 - Student Member
- Submit Supplementary Materials
- Reduced rate for new members after July 1
- Questions? Email pavamembership@gmail.com