

## **Diversity Committee: Who is Who**

### **Damian J. Huertas, Ed.D., CCC-SLP CSHA DIVERSITY COMMITTEE CHAIR**

Damian J. Huertas is a Bilingual Spanish-English speech language pathologist who is a Special Education Coordinator for Palo Alto Unified District. He began his career as a speech language pathologist in 2003 while also working at St. Mary's Medical Center. He served in a similar position in Oakland Unified School District before moving to San Mateo-Foster City School District in 2004. In addition to providing speech and language services, he oversees and manages all district SLPs, serves as a liaison for non-public agencies, and serves as a district resource and specialist for English learners and bilingual (Spanish) special education programs. He graduated with his doctorate in education from Nova Southeastern University. His dissertation was on impacting the requisite knowledge of SLPs to work with multicultural/multilingual children.

### **Betty Yu, Ph.D., CCC-SLP CONTINUING MEMBER**

Betty Yu is an assistant professor at San Francisco State University and an English/Mandarin bilingual speech-language pathologist. She is interested in examining the development of language within a sociocultural context. She has conducted research on the communication experiences of children with autism spectrum disorders growing up in minority-language families. She has been a practicing speech-language therapist for over 10 years across private practice, medical, preschool and early intervention settings. Her clinical focus is on early intervention, family-centered care, augmentative and alternative communication, and autism spectrum disorders.

### **Ying-Chiao Tsao, Ph.D., CCC-SLP CONTINUING MEMBER**

Ying-Chiao Tsao is an Associate Professor in the Department of Human Communication Studies/Communication Disorders at California State University - Fullerton (CSUF). She is a bilingual speech language pathologist and an ASHA-Board Recognized Fluency Specialist and mentor. She also has a background in counseling psychology. Her areas of research/clinical interest are in speech motor control, fluency disorders, swallowing disorders, and cross-cultural issues, particularly attitudes towards oral expression and stuttering among Chinese Americans.

### **Pam Norton, Ph.D., CCC-SLP NEW MEMBER**

Pamela Norton is a bilingual and multicultural speech-language therapist working in the schools in the San Francisco Bay Area and acting director of the Oakland Scottish Rite Language Center. She recently graduated with a doctorate in special education from the joint doctoral program of the University of California, Berkeley and San Francisco State University. Her dissertation was on speech-language therapist perceptions of dialect and risk for disorder in African American children. She is researching speech-language impairment category disproportionality issues in the schools.

### **Sandra Gaskell, RPA, CCC-SLP NEW MEMBER**

Sandra Gaskell CCC SLP holds her MS in Clinical Speech Pathology from Northern Arizona University. She comes from the field of cultural anthropology into speech pathology by way of indigenous language learning. Sandra continues to work as a Registered Professional Archaeologist in the Tribal setting in the Sierra Nevada and Central Valley. Currently she is working on her SLP.D in research related to recovery and symptom reduction of Head and Neck cancer patients with local radiation-oncology physicians. She works in the educational setting in an autism program, and was the speech pathologist at a 2-way-immersion school. Through working in the tribal communities, she participates in recording alternative treatments with

Tribal Elders for heritage preservation; and is also committed to improving access to education and healthcare for these communities.