

2018 TAA Board of Directors Nominees

Nominee for President Elect: Lacey Brooks, AuD



Dr. Lacey Brooks is currently the owner of North Houston Hearing Solutions, a private practice in the Champion Forest/ North Houston area. Prior being in private practice at North Houston Hearing Solutions, Dr. Brooks was the regional manager for one of the largest practices in the state of Texas for over seven years. She received her Doctor of Audiology degree at Lamar University. She is currently a fellow of the American Academy of Audiology, holds a Certificate of Clinical Competence from the American Speech & Hearing Association, and is a professional member of the American Tinnitus Association. Dr. Brooks specializes in tinnitus management and hearing amplification. She has been involved with Hearing for Latin America for a number of years. She travels to Guadalajara to help people of all ages in need. Dr. Brooks is currently serving on the board as the Vice President of the Louisiana State Alumni Houston Chapter, and is very involved with her community and church.

“ This is an interesting time in our profession. I now, more than ever, want to join the TAA board in a leadership capacity to help shape the future of our profession in the great state of Texas. It is a crucial that the leaders of our organization work together to grow our field, protect our interest, and shape the future of Audiology. Having worked with many groups related to our profession, I believe my experience, insight, and relationships will play a key role in my ability to serve as the TAA President. If chosen, I would be honored to represent Texas Audiologists.”

Professional Experience

During my Au.D. I worked in ENT offices and private practices. After completing my Au.D., for 7.5 years I worked as the regional manager over 6 clinics. As regional manager, I managed and was over operations for 6 clinics, saw a full patient scheduling performing diagnostics, fitting and dispensing hearing aids, and was over the tinnitus management program. In August 2017, I went into private practice. For over a year now I have owned, managed, and actively see patients at my clinic.

Leadership Experience

I have served on the board for LSU Houston Alumni Association for over 5 years, volunteer with various organizations including Habitat for Humanity, Church Under the Bridge, and other organizations and projects through my church. I am currently the Vice President for LSU Houston.

Professional Memberships

I am and have been a member of AAA and ASHA for over 10 years, TAA member for 5 or more years, and a member of ATA for 5 years or more.

TAA / Scott Haug Conference attendance

I have attended TAA a couple of times over the years and have not attended Scott Haug.

Coordinator and Instructor for Grades 9-11 Curriculum – Roman Catholic Diocese of Austin
Coordinator and Instructor for Kindergarten Curriculum – Roman Catholic Diocese of Austin
Coordinator and Counselor for TLC Girls' Camp – Tuscaloosa, Alabama and Newport, Rhode Island
Ambassador for the State of Alabama – American Association of University Women

Professional Memberships

American Academy of Audiology; 6 years
American Speech-Language-Hearing Association; 6 years
Texas Academy of Audiology; 3 years

TAA / Scott Haug Conference attendance

- Once as a student volunteer
- Three times as a member (2014-2016)

My position as a manufacturer representative provides me with a unique perspective on both current and future issues facing our profession. Every day, I meet with Texas audiologists who practice in a wide variety of settings, from audiologists working in large urban hospitals, to those working in private practices in rural areas. In these meetings, I hear numerous concerns about the future of our profession, but also untold testimonies to the fulfillment of a career promoting hearing health. Like the audiologists with whom I meet, I have dedicated my professional life to this cause. Fortune has blessed me with a position in which I have the connections, time and insight to serve as an advocate for audiologists in the state of Texas. I humbly ask for the opportunity to serve our profession.

Nominee for VP of Education: Jennifer Bobo, AuD



Jennifer Stroup Bobo, Au.D. has over 20 years' experience in the field of audiology. She graduated with her B.S. in Communication Disorders from the University of Texas at Austin, her M.S. in Communication Disorders from the University of Texas at Dallas and her Au.D. from the George S. Osborne School of Audiology. Jennifer has been an Account Manager for Oticon, Inc. for the past 12 years. Prior to joining Oticon, she practiced audiology in Dallas at Total Hearing Care and worked as a business consultant for audiologists at American Hearing Aid Associates. She has served on the AAA BEST Committee for best practices in Audiology and is currently serving on the AAA Leadership Committee. Jennifer joined the TAA Board in 2010 as the VP of Membership in which she used her current position with Oticon traveling across the state to spread the word to audiologists on what TAA was doing for the profession and the important need to increase membership. She then stepped into the role on the board as President-Elect in 2011, President 2012 and Past-President in 2013. Jennifer continued to support the board and was as exhibitor liaison for the TAA Conference. In 2015, Jennifer was elected as VP of Membership and has been in charge of the TAA Conference for the past 2 years.

“Until I began to serve on the board in 2010, I like many audiologists, believed that AAA and ASHA could solve all the issues facing audiologists. I quickly learned that this was not the case. Since our license and the many issues that impact our ability to practice audiology happen at the state level it is up to your state organization to shoulder the work. I have personally made it my mission to promote and fight for the profession of audiology in the state of Texas. As a current TAA Board member, I have witnessed the sacrifices that our board members make on a weekly, sometimes daily, basis to positively impact the field of audiology in Texas. If chosen to serve again, I look forward to contributing even more and making the annual TAA Conference the most amazing event ever for Texas Audiologists.”

Professional Experience

Private Practice: 7 Years including CFY

Business Development: 4.5 Years

Manufacturer: 12 Years

Leadership Experience

AAA BEST Committee for Best Practices

AAA Leadership Development Committee

TAA BOD: VP of Membership 2010, President-Elect 2011; President 2012; Past President 2013;

Exhibitor Liaison 2010-Current; VP of Education/Conference 2016 and 2017

Founding Board Member: Future Leaders of Audiology Student Conference

Louisiana Academy of Audiology: Exhibitor Liaison 2013-current

Professional Memberships

ASHA 1995-2015

Texas Academy of Audiology 2003-current

Louisiana Academy of Audiology 2013-current

American Academy of Audiology 1995-current

TAA / Scott Haug Conference attendance

SHF since 2001 (13 years) and TAA since 2003 (13 years)

Nominee for VP of Legislative Issues: Jennifer Muehlebach, AuD



Dr. Muehlebach is a practicing audiologist at Central Texas ENT, a specialty clinic for CHI St. Joseph Hospital in College Station. She is a fellow of the American Academy of Audiology and holds a Certificate of Clinical Competence from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. Dr. Muehlebach currently treats patients of all ages for both hearing and balance disorders in the Bryan/College Station area. She also travels to multiple satellite clinics around Central Texas where she is proud to bring hearing services to otherwise underserved areas.

She graduated with her AuD from Wichita State University in Kansas and relocated to Texas in 2014. Dr. Muehlebach feels passionate about issues related to professional autonomy, scope of practice, and public education regarding hearing loss prevention and treatment. In her spare time, Dr. Muehlebach is a volunteer at The Elizabeth House Maternity Home in Bryan. She also enjoys her family, traveling and rooting for her favorite baseball team, the Kansas City Royals.

“I feel it’s time for me to become more involved in my profession, and in the future of audiology. Participating as a board member for the TAA will allow me to have a voice in the changes occurring within our profession and to be an active part of that process.”

Professional Experience (types of work settings have you been in and how many years)

I am a fairly recent graduate (2014). I did my residency year at a private ENT practice in Georgia. During my time at that practice I was exposed to almost all aspects of audiology, including the business side of the practice.

Upon graduation I was hired at CHI St. Joseph Central Texas ENT in Bryan/College Station. This practice is considered a specialty clinic in the St. Joseph hospital system. I have worked here since September 2014. I am the only audiologist and I do almost everything, except cochlear implants. I see patients of all ages and I travel to some rural areas as well.

Leadership Experience

I currently volunteer for multiple organizations in my local community, including The Elizabeth House Maternity Home, Brazos Valley Food Bank, and Aggie Swim Club. I am also an active volunteer and supporter of College Station Independent School District, where my children attend school. At this time, I am volunteering on an as needed basis with all of these organizations.

In the past I have served as a Girl Scout leader (both before and after I had children) and as Co-president of the my school’s student ASHA organization, WSUSASHA.

Professional Memberships

I have been a member of ASHA for three years. I joined AAA as a student and have remained a member since 2011. I am also a member of TAA for two years.

TAA / Scott Haug Conference attendance

Unfortunately I have never attended the TAA conference. It has always conflicted with a championship swim meet for my son. This year I will attend TAA and have my parents take my son to his meet.

Nominee for VP of Legislative Issues: **Haley Owen, AuD**



Haley Owen, AuD is a practicing audiologist with Livingston Hearing Aid Center in Plano. She received her BS from the University of Texas in Austin and her AuD from the University of North Texas. She has over 10 years of experience in fitting and dispensing hearing instruments. She is Board Certified in Audiology, a Fellow of the American Academy of Audiology, and a lifetime member of the Texas Academy of Audiology.

“I am passionate about protecting the field of audiology from encroachment by other professionals with limited education and limited scope of practice, while also striving educate the medical field in order to maintain and/or expand the audiologists’ scope of practice. I believe that involvement with TAA legislative issues is the best place to affect change and positive growth for our profession”

Professional Experience

I have spent the entirety of my 10 years in practice in clinical setting fitting and dispensing hearing aids

Leadership Experience

I am a senior audiologist at Livingston Hearing Aid Center. I have been in a leadership role for the past 8 years. I have been responsible for skills development and preparation for credentialing exams for various levels of hearing healthcare professionals. I have supervised AuD students, new hires, and temporary permit holders.

Professional Memberships

AAA at least 10 years

TAA (lifetime member) approximately 3 years

ABA (if you count this as a professional membership) 7 years

Nominee for VP of Public Relations: Tracy Board, AuD



Tracy Board, Au.D. is an audiologist at Audicles Hearing Services, a private practice in San Antonio. She earned her B.S. from The University of Texas at Austin and her Au.D. from The University of Texas at Dallas. Tracy completed her fourth year externship at Sunshine Cottage School for Deaf Children in San Antonio, where she developed a passion for pediatric audiology and aural habilitation. Thirteen years ago, she joined the staff of Audicles, and now enjoys working with people of all ages. “I am interested in serving on the Board of TAA so that I may contribute to positive growth in our field. I want to become more knowledgeable about the issues that affect not only Audiologists, but also the people with hearing loss who we serve.”

Professional Experience

August 2003 - May 2004: Clinical Externship in Audiology

Sunshine Cottage School for Deaf Children, San Antonio, Texas

Aural/Oral education program for children with hearing loss. Includes the Parent Infant Program (PIP) for birth to age three, where families learn about hearing loss, amplification, and ways to encourage speech development for their children. Also included private school for age three to fifth grade on campus, and mainstream classrooms throughout San Antonio through high school graduation. Performed ABR and behavioral evaluation for children of all ages, fit and maintained amplification and assistive devices for both classroom and home use, including hearing aids and cochlear implants

June 2004 - September 2004 *Pediatric Ear, Nose, and Throat, San Antonio, Texas*

Performed behavioral and ABR evaluations for children of all ages in a physician's office.

October 2004 – Present *Audicles Hearing Services, San Antonio, Texas*

Perform behavioral hearing evaluations and hearing aid fittings for all ages. For two years, I exclusively fit and serviced hearing aids for the Veteran's Administration. Since 2006, I have worked with clients of all ages, and have been one of the only audiologists in the area willing to work with children and their families. I have worked extensively with assistive devices and different school districts to properly accommodate the needs of children with hearing loss. I also continue maintain on site clinics at three different retirement communities in the San Antonio area.

Leadership Experience

2015-2017 *Sunshine Cottage School for Deaf Children, Board of Directors*

Professional Memberships and how many years

2002-2004 American Academy of Audiology - Student Chapter

2004 – Present American Academy of Audiology

2004-Present American Speech and Hearing Association

2004-Present Texas Academy of Audiology

TAA / Scott Haug Conference attendance

I believe I have attended the Scott Haug Conference three times, and the TAA conference twice.

Nominee for VP of Public Relations: Annie Cardella-McRae, AuD



Dr. McRae is the Director of Audiology at Advanced Hearing Center in Dallas. She received her Au.D. from UT-Dallas in 2012. Through humanitarian service projects in Panama, South Africa, and Zambia, Dr. McRae learned the value of adaptability in challenging professional situations, and has developed a passion for problem solving. She has experience working with patients from newborns to geriatrics in private practice, ENT, and educational settings, as well as graduate-level teaching and research. Her professional interests include amplification, aural rehabilitation, and advanced diagnostics. Outside of audiology, Dr. McRae enjoys spending time with her husband Nick and pet lizard Moses.

“I am interested in serving on the TAA board to help foster a culture of excitement, connection, and professional engagement among Texas audiologists. If elected, I will advocate enthusiastically for audiologists and for the patients we serve by working to bridge the communication gap between hearing health professionals as we work toward common goals for the betterment of our profession.”

Professional Experience (types of work settings have you been in and how many years)

Private practice (4 years)

ENT setting (2 years)

Educational Audiology part time / Private practice part time (Externship)

Leadership Experience

Director of Audiology at Advanced Hearing Center in Dallas

Professional Memberships

TAA 2008-present

AAA 2008-present

Dallas Audiology Society 2016-present

Academy of Rehabilitative Audiology 2009-2012, 2016-present

International Society of Audiology 2010-2012

TAA / Scott Haug Conference attendance

Attended TAA 2008-2016 (minus 2015 due to a death in the family)

Attended Scott Haug 2009-2013

Nominee for VP of Public Relations: Cassie Thomas, AuD



Cassie Thomas is currently a pediatric audiologist at Cook Children's Medical Center in Fort Worth. Cassie is also an adjunct professor at the University of North Texas. She graduated from the University of North Texas with her AuD in 2007. Prior to working at Cook Children's Medical Center, Cassie worked as a clinical audiologist at UT Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas. Cassie is a member of the Texas Academy of Audiology and the American Academy of Audiology. She is currently serving on the Practice Compliance Committee for the American Academy of Audiology. She has earned her Certificate Holder for the Audiology Preceptor (CH-AP) through the American Board of Audiology.

"I am interested in serving on the TAA board in order to get more involved on the state level. TAA is a great organization that has contributed so much to my profession. I look forward to helping contribute to the future of TAA and to the future of our profession."

Professional Experience

UT Southwestern Medical Center as a 4th year extern and hired on after and worked for 3.5 years.

Cook Children's Medical Center for 6.5 years

Just started at Plano ISD

Leadership Experience

I serve on the Practice Compliance Committee for AAA, Volunteered for the Poster review committee for AudiologyNOW 2016,

Professional Memberships

American Academy of Audiology for 7 years

Texas Academy of Audiology for 3 years

TAA / Scott Haug Conference attendance

3 years of attendance