



# 11<sup>TH</sup> ESLA CONGRESS OF SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPY

26-28 MAY 2022 | SALZBURG-AUSTRIA

New frontiers in speech and language therapy: advancing practice, research and education

## The Future of Speech-Language Pathology Education and Practice in the Changing Environmental Context

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Factors shaping the future of speech-language pathology (SLP) will be discussed relative to the potential of providing solutions and direction for changes. I will address how the future of learning, work, and research influence the ways we educate, learn, and practice. Educational challenges identified by ASHA members in preparing speech-language pathologists to enter clinical practice within the current 2-year master's degree model led to consideration of Competency-Based Education as the basis for innovative clinical education models that measure the clinical competencies of graduate students being prepared to enter practice in the SLP profession with individuals from different cultures across multiple communities and settings will be addressed. A discussion of perceptions about what is needed now to adequately prepare speech-language pathologists for practice will be addressed.

A description of work underway by ASHA to support "Top of the License Practice", which includes the appropriate use of support personnel, telepractice, the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) framework to write functional outcomes and consideration of the Social Determinants of Health will also be addressed. This will include evaluation, consulting with colleagues regarding functional goals and treatment options, supervising support personnel, students, and clinical fellows. Highlights of challenges with clinical education opportunities across communication disorders and the life cycle during the pandemic will be addressed as well.