



**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**December 22, 2015**

I. Call to Order/ Role Call / Establishment of a Quorum

Alison Grimes, Board Chair, called the Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensers Board meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. Ms. Grimes called roll; seven members of the Board were present and thus a quorum was established.

Board Members Present

Alison Grimes, Board Chair  
Patti Solomon-Rice, Vice Chair  
Deanne Manning, Board Member  
Marcia Raggio, Board Member  
Dee Parker, Board Member  
Amnon Shalev, Board Member  
Debbie Snow, Public Board Member

Board Member Absent

Rodney Diaz, MD, Public Board Member  
Jaime Lee, Public Board Member

Staff Present

Paul Sanchez, Executive Officer  
Breanne Humphries, Program Manager  
Shelly Jones, DCA Executive Office  
Kurt Heppler, Supervising Legal Counsel  
Kelsey Pruden, Legal Counsel  
Karen Robison, Enforcement Analyst

Guests Present

Becky Bingea, California Academy of Audiology  
Vanessa Cajina, Hearing Healthcare Providers  
Rose Saxman  
Gary Sayed, Dean, College of Health, Human Services, & Nursing, CSU Dominguez Hills

II. Public Comment for Items not on the Agenda

Paul Sanchez informed the Board that the North Carolina decision documents were e-mailed to the Board and this issue will be on a future agenda.

III. Discussion and Possible Support for Additional Audiology Doctoral Programs through the California State University System

Mr. Sanchez briefly went over the material included in the Board packet and stated this subject is in line with item 4.5 of the Strategic Plan. He reminded everyone that discussion on this subject began at the November 30, 2015 meeting, however; that meeting was interrupted due to technical difficulties.

Becky Bingea advised the Board that there is a shortage of audiologists (AU) in California. The current programs are not graduating the number of AuD's needed to meet the growing elderly population or the need of California school districts.

The California Academy of Audiology met with Assemblyman Mullin on December 1, 2015 to speak with him about authoring a bill to allow the CSU system to provide AuD programs. The California State University (CSU) system is interested in providing a clinical doctorate in audiology. She stated that the University of California (UC) at Irvine is currently the only UC school that has expressed an interest in starting an audiology program and this bill will not preclude the UC system from starting AuD programs.

Concern for decreasing salaries due to an overabundance of AuD graduates was brought up. The Board was apprised of the fact that AuD's are migrating to California from other states due to the shortage in California. Kaiser routinely recruits outside of California to fill its need for AuD's.

It was noted that not all CSU's will offer AuD programs because programs cost money. The hope is to have at least one program in Northern California and one program in Southern California. The Board was informed that the CSU degree will be distinguishable from the UC degree. The Board was advised that only about half of all AuD programs are housed at universities with medical facilities and there are internal policies in place to vet programs and programs will be teaching to graduate students with experience across a wide scope of practice settings.

#### **M/S/C Manning/Shalev**

- **Motion to write a letter of support in concept to Assemblyman Mullin supporting clinical audiology doctorate programs being provided by the California State University system. The motion carried 7-0**

#### IV. Future Agenda Items

Future items for the agenda are: the North Carolina decision, Foreign Educated applicants, SLPA and SLPA supervision, and the Department of Labor allowing hearing aid dispensers to provide diagnostic services to military veterans.

#### V. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.