

Volunteers Are at the Heart of the ABA

By Torryn P. Brazell

New 2014 officers and members of ABA Board of Governors lead, guide, and transform. The ABA would not be able to function as smoothly and effectively as we do without the professional leadership of our board. These dedicated individuals bring years of experience and expertise in the field of audiology to our organization, and they share countless hours with our staff and each other as we strive to lead, guide, and transform the organization and profession.

As an ex-officio board member, I benefit directly from their insight into the profession and see firsthand their willingness to offer freely of their time. We recently announced that we have a new slate of officers and a new member for 2014, so I wanted to share a bit about each of them, along with the other members of the Board of Governors.

The new officers for the ABA Board of Governors include:

Chair, Mindy K. Brudereck, AuD, who co-owns Berks Hearing Professionals, LLC, in Birdsboro, PA, holds the Board Certified in Audiology® credential and is an editorial advisor for *Audiology Today*.

Vice Chair, John A. Coverstone, AuD, is president and CEO of Sentient Healthcare, an audiology consulting company. He is Board Certified in Audiology, is the clinical audiologist at Innsbruck Hearing and Balance Center in New Brighton, MN, and is the educational audiologist at the Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf in Faribault.

Immediate Past Chair, Angela S. Pond, AuD, LtCol, USAF (ret), is Board Certified in Audiology and is a staff audiologist at the Portland VA Medical Center. Pond currently serves on the board of the Association of VA Audiologists and is a former president of the Military Audiology Association (2004).

Our newest member, who holds her Cochlear Implant Specialty Certification (CISC®) from the ABA:

Director Meagan Lewis, AuD, CISC, is Board Certified in Audiology and the clinical manager of audiology at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center in Winston-Salem, NC.

Other members of the ABA's Board of Governors include:

Public Representative, Nicole Brown, MSN, PHN, CPNP, a certified pediatric nurse practitioner who has worked in the maternal and child health/public health field in Minnesota for more than 17 years.

Director Amit K. Gosalia, AuD, is Board Certified in Audiology and is the owner and president of Audiology Clinic, Inc. in Vancouver, WA, which has two locations.


Director Edwin L. Harless, PhD, earned his master's and doctoral degrees in audiology from Vanderbilt University. He is a consulting audiologist at the VA Outpatient Clinic in Winston-Salem, NC, and is Board Certified in Audiology.

Director Barbara L. Kurman, AuD, is Board Certified in Audiology and is vice president of Northeastern Technologies Group.

Director Kerry Ormson, EdD, AuD, is Board Certified in Audiology and is the owner/operator of an audiology private practice that employs two other audiologists and a hearing aid fitter/dispenser.

American Academy of Audiology Liaison, Shilpi Banerjee, PhD, holds the Board Certified in Audiology credential and is a member of the Academy Board of Directors.

All of our Board of Governors members work closely with ABA staff to help support the vision of the organization and set its strategy for the future, and I, personally, appreciate and value the professionalism and expertise our board members contribute to the ABA.

Their leadership is vital as we work to enhance mastery of the field through continued and lifelong learning and to help the ABA convey the importance of certification, which is a vital component to successfully demonstrating expertise in the field of audiology. 

Torryn P. Brazell, MS, CAE, is the managing director of the American Board of Audiology.