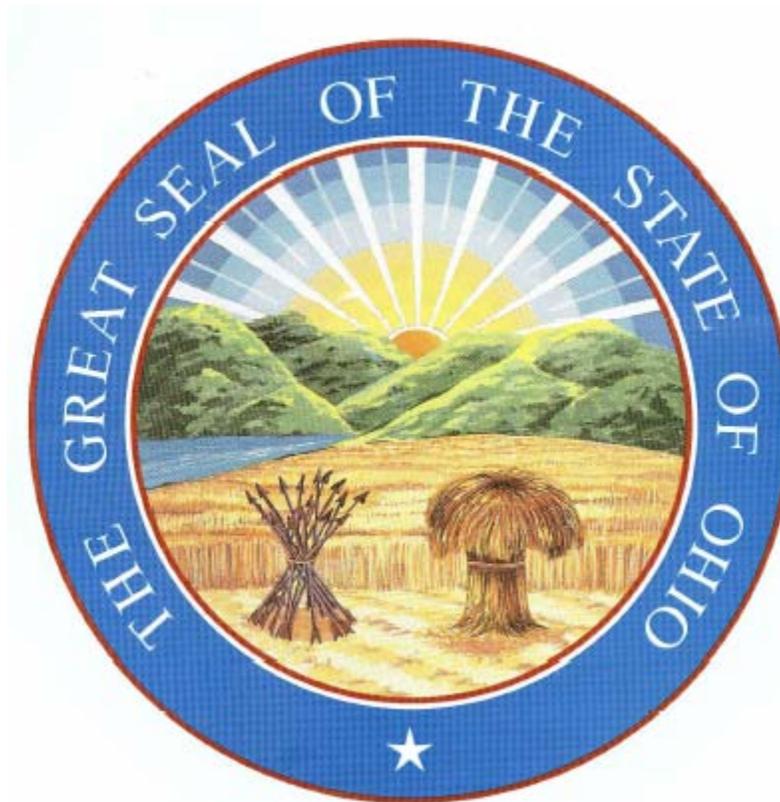




**THE OHIO BOARD OF  
SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY  
AND AUDIOLOGY**

**FY 2004 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE  
GOVERNOR**

**JULY 1, 2003 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2004**



**December 3 2004**



## Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

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### A Letter to the Governor

Dear Governor Bob Taft:

It is my pleasure to submit on behalf of the Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, this FY 2004 Annual Report. The Report, filed in compliance with R.C. Section 4753.05(D), lists the significant actions taken by the Board.

All of the activities of the Board in FY 2004 were focused on the fulfillment of our mission to protect the Ohio consumers of speech-language pathology and audiology services through the regulation of the practices of these professions in our state. Significant progress was made on the Board's Strategic Plan. Throughout the year the Board adopted policies and procedures designed to ensure the protection of consumers and serve the needs of the professions. The Board also met all other obligations imposed by R.C. Chapter 4753 by such Activities as issuing Licenses to qualified applicants, taking disciplinary actions as appropriate, and taking steps to improve communications with licensees and professional associations.

FY 2004 was a year of growth for the Board. Thank you for your continued support for our efforts to administer and enforce Revised Code Chapter 4753.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Setty  
Executive Director  
Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

# BOARD MATTERS

**There is hereby created the board of speech-language pathology and audiology consisting of eight members of this state to be appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate. \*\*\*Terms of office shall be for three years, \*\*\* (R.C. Section 4753.03)**

The Board serves Ohio's consumers of speech-language pathology and audiology services by ensuring that Ohio practitioners meet minimum competency standards for admission into the practice, maintain competency throughout practice, and practice within ethical standards.

## BOARD MEMBERS DURING FY 2004

Debra Abel, Au.D. Chairperson:	Licensed Audiologist
Alliance	Term Expiration: September 26, 2005
Patrick N. Mangino, Au.D. Vice-Chair:	Licensed Audiologist
Westerville	Term Expiration: September 26, 2007
Davida Parsons, M.A., Licensed Speech-Language Pathologist	
Athens	Term Expiration: September 26, 2006
Patricia Zurlinden, M.A.: Licensed Speech-Language Pathologist	
Cincinnati	Term Expiration: September 26, 2006
Susan O'Brien: Public Member	
Columbus	Term Expiration: September 26, 2007
Carol Prah Leslie, Ph.D.: Licensed Speech-Language Pathologist	
Cincinnati	Term Expiration: September 26, 2007
Valenta Ward-Gravely, Au.D.	Licensed Audiologist
Shaker Heights	Term Expiration: September 26, 2007
Ann Shotwell: Public Member	
Cleveland	Term Expiration: September 26, 2007

## BOARD STAFF

Michael J. Setty	Executive Director
Doug Hart	Licensing Administrator
Vickie DiCesare	Investigator
Deborah Howard	Administrative Assistant

**The board of speech-language pathology shall hold at least one regular meeting a year, at which it shall elect a chairman and vice-chairman from among its members. \*\*\* (R.C. Section 4753.04)**

The Board met seven times during FY 2004. Six meetings were held at the Vern Riffe Center, 77 South High Street, Columbus, Ohio. The March meeting was held at the Easton Hilton in conjunction with the Ohio Speech, Language & Hearing Association Convention.

An Open Forum for the Public and Professional Associations was held at each meeting.

**Significant decisions of the Board during FY 2003 include the following:**

- Appointed a new Executive Director, Michael Setty.
- Made significant changes to 4753 Administrative code relating to the Code of Ethics for our licensees, and in the requirements for post graduate professional experience year.
- Replaced the outdated computers for the Board office.
- Began issuing Board Newsletter on a quarterly basis.
- Made significant improvements in the Board's Website.
- Initiated a Board based list-serve of licensees to facilitate communication.
- Transferred licensing data to the new E-Licensing system (CAVU).
- Implemented a new Board member orientation program as part of the Board's strategic plan.

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## Licensure Matters

On June 30, 2004 the Board's licensees numbered as follows:

Speech-Language Pathologists	5,276
Audiologists	860
Conditional Speech-Language Pathologists	162
Conditional Audiologists	28
Speech-Language Pathology Aides	10
Audiology Aides	79

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## Compliance Activities

**The Board shall investigate all alleged irregularities in the practice of speech-language pathology and audiology by persons licensed pursuant to this chapter and any violation of this chapter or rules adopted by the board. \*\*\*(O.R.C. section 4753.05 (E).**

During the fiscal year 2004, a process of Board oversight of investigative activity was continued, with the Board's Vice-Chairperson serving as the Board member on the investigative review group. Other members of the committee include the Board's Assistant Attorney General, the Executive Director, and the Investigator. All other Board members, except for the Vice-Chairperson, are excluded from the details of complaints and decisions on the committee's recommendation to either close the case or take appropriate actions in compliance with O.R.C. Section 119.

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### Investigation Totals for Fiscal Year 2004

Cases carried over into FY 2004	28
Cases opened in FY 2004	31
Cases closed in FY 2004	38
Cases carried over into FY 04/05	21
Hearings Conducted	0
Consent Agreements	9
Cease & desist letters	1
Referred to Prosecutor	1

### General Categories of Complaints for Fiscal Year 2004 Cases

Unlicensed practice	16
Unprofessional conduct	2
Falsification of application	0
Suspended license from another state	0

Requirements not met for application	2
Misrepresentation	5
Applicant lacking continuing education for renewal	0
Unethical practice	2
Fraud/Falsifying documents	0
Arrest Record	0
Other Board's Complaints	4

### Comparison to Ten Year Caseload Average

Average annual caseload from FY 1993 through FY 2001 . . . .	24.6
FY 2002 case load . . . . .	56
FY 2003 caseload . . . . .	54
FY 2004 caseload . . . . .	59

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## Financial Activities

Revenues for the Board are derived from license applications, license renewals and late service fees. License renewal is conducted on a biennial basis. In FY 2003 license renewal took place. Revenues generated from the renewal provide the bulk of funding for expenses for two fiscal years.

### FY 2003

Revenue	Expenditures	Net
\$898,440	\$371,282	\$527,138

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## Board Activities

The Committees of the Board were active in meeting the goals set by the Board in the 2002 Strategic Plan. Specifically, the Communications Committee completed a New Board Member Orientation Program that was approved by the Board. Improvements were made in the Board web site, list serve, and the Board's Newsletter to enhance communication with the public and licensees.

The Policy and Procedure Committee completed a number of policies related to Board structure and relationships. A Board Ethics Policy was adopted.

The Professional Competency Committee addressed many issues in relation to the Professional Experience Year in order to simplify forms. The committee also began discussions on rule changes for 2005.

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## Recommendation for Improvement Of the Professions

### **Amend R.C. 4753.06 to increase the educational requirement of an Audiologist from a masters degree to a doctoral degree.**

Audiology is a young science, which has had an ever increasing knowledge base and expanding scope of practice. As a result, academic institutions are finding it difficult to adequately prepare entry level practitioners in the time allowed for a masters degree and are rapidly moving to doctoral degree programs. Further, both the American Academy of Audiology and American Speech-Language and Hearing Association are increasing the academic requirements of audiologists to that of a doctoral degree in 2012. It is prudent to increase the state's requirements to reflect the consensus of the academic and clinical practitioners. This will continue a proactive approach to the provision of quality care for Ohio consumers.