



**TEXAS ACADEMY
of AUDIOLOGY**



DECEMBER 2023

What's new?

**Conference
Wrap-Up and
Thank Yous**

**In Memory of
Kurt Trede**

**NEW TAA Board
of Directors**

**The Scoop:
The Scott Haug
Foundation**

**NEW BILLING
CODES:
Auditory
Osseointegrated
Devices**

A Message from your TAA President

**Tracy Board, AuD
TAA President**

Thanks to everyone who attended the annual TAA conference in San Marcos this year! We had an amazing turnout – with 241 attendees (only 15 less than last year!), our state conference had better attendance than any other state in the nation. We've had a great deal of wonderful feedback from membership, which lets us know that all of the hard work the Board put into the conference was appreciated.

Moving into the next year, the Board welcomes our newly elected Members At Large: Hunter Gehrhart, Au.D., Sarah McAlexander, Au.D., and Holly Pavlicek, Au.D. These audiologists will be joining the most dedicated, hardworking Board of Directors that TAA has ever had. If you have interest in volunteering your time and talents to the Board, please reach out to any Board member about joining one of the busy committees – your help is welcome any time!

The Board was also very excited to see SO MANY graduate students participating in this year's conference! With the financial support of the Scott Haug Foundation and the Pay it Forward program, which, thanks to Dr. Ross Roeser, raised over \$20,000 at conference, we hope to see the number of students attending our conference grow significantly in the coming years. Please encourage the students in your clinics to attend conference and become involved in our state organization. The strength of our organization is based in our numbers, and the future of TAA depends on involvement from young, energetic audiologists.

It has been such a pleasure to serve as the TAA Board President this year, and I welcome Stephanie Cox, Au.D. into the role as the 2024 TAA President.

The Texas Academy of Audiology and The Scott Haug Foundation: In Memory of Kurt Trede

Kim Ringer, TAA Lifetime Member and SHF Board Member

On Monday, November 27, 2023, we lost a very dear friend, Kurt Trede.

Kurt has been a beloved part of our Audiology community for over 45 years. Many of us have stories about how and where we met Kurt, as he was one of the unforgettable ones. Kurt brought to our lives an abundance of sunshine, smiles, laughter, a willing listening ear, a genuine love of people, and a can-do, dedicated attitude that served us all well.

Whether you met Kurt when he worked for Acoustics Southwest, as one of the first representatives of the new hearing aid company Bernafon in the early 80s, or as the original Manager of Sales for Resound, and later at Oticon, and/or at his infamous “goat burying” parties of that era, one of the many Spring BBQs, or at a Shirkers meeting every Friday night at Mike & Charlie’s in Austin years ago, you know the way he loved being with people. He was truly one of the good guys.

When his dear friend and colleague, Scott Haug, passed away unexpectedly in 1984, Kurt and a dedicated group of Audiologists formed the Scott Haug Audiology Foundation (SHF) in Scott’s honor.

The Scott Haug Foundation went on to host 30 years of outstanding Texas Hill Country Audiology Retreats. These retreats offered the best reunions of old and new friends, colleagues, and presenters and the best in continuing education. One of Kurt’s missions each year was for those attending the retreats to leave with a take-home or two that they could use the following Monday at work. The SHF retreats were looked forward to each year. They were committed to professional excellence, interaction among audiologists, and, above all, fun!!

Kurt continued to give much of his time and energy to this beloved mission of love throughout his life. Continually passionate about the mission, he has helped plan much of the fun.... his golfing events are legendary. The Scott Haug Foundation Board members have recently partnered with the Texas Academy of Audiology (TAA). This partnership has made the profession of Audiology in Texas even stronger – with the combined efforts bringing more financial support and attention to Student Scholarships and more FUN to the conferences.

Kurt was happily married to his lovely wife, Pam Trede. We send love to Pam, Kurt’s brother and sister, as well as Herkie, Kurt’s 102-year-old mom, and the many friends around the world as we mourn this loss with them.



Services for Kurt will be on
Saturday, December 9th at 2 pm at the Lux Funeral Home,
1254 N Business IH35, New Braunfels, TX 78130
<https://www.luxfhcares.com/obits/kurt-edson-trede>

Following the service, there will be a catered gathering at Kurt and Pam’s home in Fischer, Texas, which is about 45 minutes away from the Funeral Home.

For those wishing to donate in Kurt’s memory, please consider donating to the Scott Haug Foundation. <https://scotthaug.org/>

Contact the SHF President – Scott Marquardt –
smarquardt@hearingwithclarity.com

New CPT Codes for 2024: Fitting and Follow-up Services for Auditory Osseointegrated Devices

Anna M. Jilla, Au.D., Ph.D.

Jo Mayo Endowed Assistant Professor of Audiology
Lamar University, Beaumont, Texas

Previously, no procedure codes existed for reporting services related to fitting, programming, verification, and follow-up for auditory osseointegrated devices (AODs).

AODs come in various forms (surgical, nonsurgical, percutaneous, transcutaneous) and can be used for several indications such as conductive or mixed hearing losses or single-sided deafness.

With the implementation of new service codes for AODs, providers will no longer use 92700 (unlisted otorhinolaryngological procedure) for reporting services related to AOD fitting and follow-up. Beginning January 1, 2024, audiologists will use the following codes to report these services for AODs of any type--surgical, nonsurgical, percutaneous, transcutaneous.

Providers are reminded that timed codes follow the 51% rule where greater than 50% of the base time must be spent in procedure to report that code. For 92622, this means that a minimum of 31 minutes (i.e., >50% of 60 minutes) is needed to report that code. Procedures lasting less than 31 minutes should not be reported. For add-on units (92623), multiple units of this code may be reported, as appropriate. The timed add-on code (92623) should always be reported in conjunction with the base code (92622).

Start and stop times should be clearly documented in the clinical report. Time in procedure can include time spent in activating, fitting, programming, or verifying, but should not be used to report time spent in counseling (per CPT code definition).

92622 and 92623 should not be reported in conjunction with 92626 or 92627 as these are both timed codes. 92626 and 92627 remain available to report for any other pre-operative evaluations or on a separate day for post-operative evaluation.

Texas audiologists are encouraged to reach out to payers to assure appropriate updates to fee schedules and contracts. A letter template for payer advocacy is forthcoming and will be made available through the American Academy of Audiology (www.audiology.org).

New Auditory Osseointegrated Device Service Codes (effective January 1, 2024)

CPT Code	Descriptor
92622	Diagnostic analysis, programming, and verification of an auditory osseointegrated sound processor, any type; first 60 minutes
92623	Diagnostic analysis, programming, and verification of an auditory osseointegrated sound processor, any type; each additional 15 minutes

Notes: Report each 15 minute increment in 92623 separately. 92623 is an add-on code and must be reported in conjunction with base service code (92622). Do not report 92622, 92623 in conjunction with 92626, 92627.

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1. 4.36 dB SNR improvement compared to legacy products. Jørgensen et al (2022)

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TAA 24th Annual Conference in San Marcos

Carmen Landry, AuD
TAA Conference Chair

Greetings from Conference Chair!

Wow! I could not have been more happy to see all of you this year in San Marcos for TAA Mardi Gras! So much fun and so much learning.

It is all of you who make TAA conferences the best state conferences in the nation, and I am truly grateful! It is because of Texas Audiology that we are able to Pay it Forward for the future of our profession. Thank you again for all of your generosity this year towards PAC and Pay It Forward. And BIG thanks to all of our sponsors and industry professionals who donated and attended the conference.

We are hoping to see you all next year in Houston for our Hoedown. Looking forward to making 2024 the best year yet!



The Scoop from The Scott Haug Foundation

Scott Marquardt
Scott Haug Foundation President

Texas audiologists are amazing! If you missed the TAA conference in San Marcos you really missed out. Starting with the opening session where, thanks to your generosity, we raised \$20,000 for the Pay It Forward program! The classes were great. Getting together with colleagues was amazing. This was truly one of the best conferences I've been to.

If you don't know what the Pay It Forward Program is, let me explain. These are funds that will be used to send audiology students to conference. The Academy and the Foundation understand that our students are an important part of the profession. Involving them in the annual conference helps students and will help all of us. Our goal is to send every Texas audiology student to TAA every year.

Congratulations to Lillie McMinn, our Dunlop/Dunckel Outstanding Student Scholar award winner! She is an impressive person and student. It was an honor to present her with this award.

Congratulations to our Texas Outstanding Audiologist award winner, Dr Ross Roeser! Dr. Roeser had had a profound impact both in Texas and nationally on our profession.

2024 is the 40th anniversary of The Scott Haug Foundation! It's an honor to be a part of this foundation whose goals are to:

1. Provide student scholarships through the Dunlop/Dunckel Fund
2. Provide access to the TAA annual conference through the Pay It Forward Fund
3. To recognize Texas Outstanding Audiologists
4. To increase TAA membership
5. To promote fun and relationship within the profession

In honor of Scott Haug and the 40th anniversary of the foundation, we have a goal to raise \$40,000 this year for student scholarships. This is a bold goal that will have a major impact on our scholarship program and the funds we can award to students. The Scott Haug Foundation is a 501c3 organization so all donations are tax deductible.

Donations can be made all year round using Venmo:
<https://account.venmo.com/u/ScottHaug84>

Or by mailing checks to: Scott Haug Foundation
1671 Stallion Springs Dr.
Fischer, TX 78623

Please set yourself a reminder to join us in Houston October 17-19,
2024.

You won't want to miss out!



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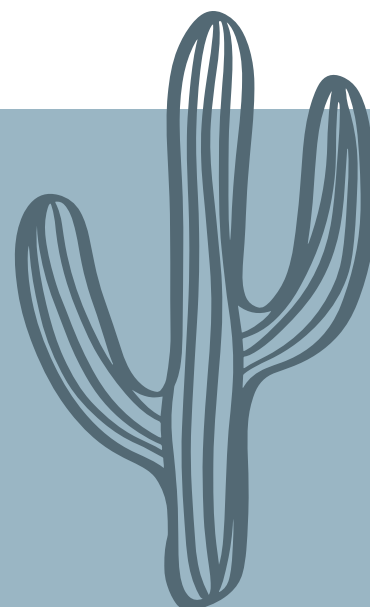


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2023 ELECTION RESULTS: TAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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Anna Jilla, AuD, Ph
VP of Professional Issues



Sarah McAlexander, AuD
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Holly Pavlicek, AuD
VP of Membership



Sarah Williams, AuD
VP of Public Relations



Membership Update

2024 Membership Now Open

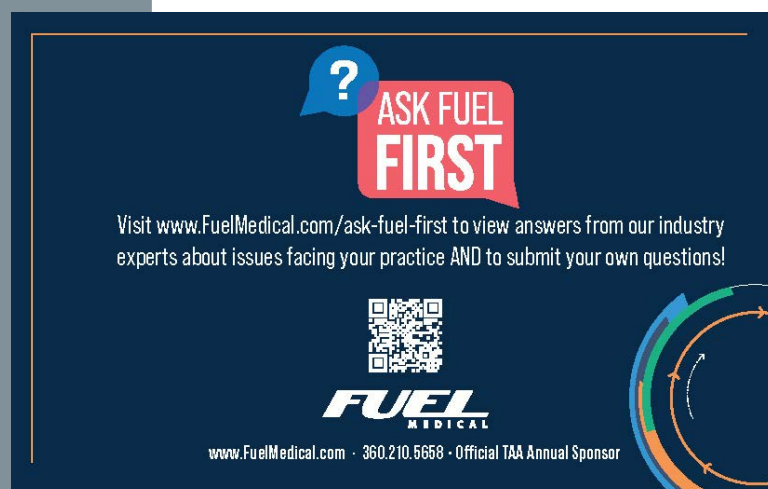
The Texas Academy of Audiology relies on annual membership dues to support Texas audiologists in every facet. We ended our 2023 membership with **471** members- **thank you** for supporting TAA! 2024 membership is now open, please renew and if you have never joined- please join today!

Membership not only enables TAA to advocate on your behalf, but also grants you access to exclusive, timely webinars and our annual in-person conference, and renewed access to our TAA Facebook Page. Each year, we review and update Facebook members to include new members and roll off anyone who is not currently a member. We have seen **over half** of our membership attend our past two conferences in Frisco and San Marcos but would love to see even more in Houston in 2024! Mark your calendars for October 17-19, 2024, in Houston.

Please renew TODAY and see more conference details at www.texasaudiology.org!


Feel free to reach out with any membership questions:

Jamie Myers Hand, AuD
JamieMyersAuD@gmail.com
918-914-0547



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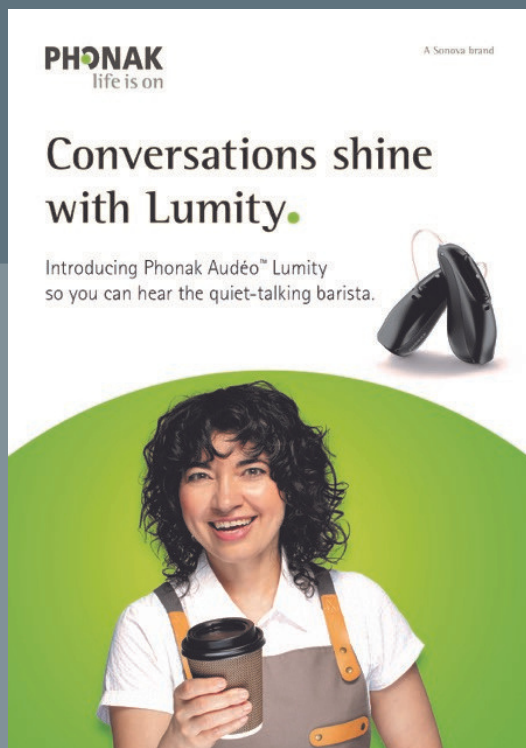


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Attention All Students!

Grace Kendrick, AuD

Thank you to all the students who volunteered at the 2023 TAA Conference in San Marcos. In total we had 27 student volunteers at this year's conference helping ensure the conference ran smoothly. Thank you also to those who generously donated to help sponsor our students' attendance at the conference.

Thank you to all the students who participated in the Todd H Porter Memorial Student Poster Scholarship Competition. Congratulations to our winners Laine Shuttleworth, Lauren Ralston, and Kelsey Spencer!



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TAA Political action committee (@taa-PAC)

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Kimberly DeBona
@TAA-PAC

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SUPPORT YOUR TAA PAC!

We had a great conference in October and the Mardi Gras theme was loads of fun! We crowned our two top donors for PAC -Matt Lyon and Kelly Powell - at the dinner/dance Friday night. In all, PAC raised \$6555.40, which was far short of our goal.

I hope you will consider donating to help fill our coffers. We have an election next year, so we will be sending money to those legislators that support our causes.

Please consider supporting your TAA PAC before the end of the year. We can't do it without your support! You can donate online on the TAA website, sending a check to me or using Venmo @TAA-PAC or with the QR code.

As always, we can only take personal funds, not business funds and we thank you for your support.

You may go online to the TAA website
https://texasaudiology.org/PAC_Donation
Or you may Venmo with the QR code to the right or
@TAA-PAC last 4 of cell: 7091

Finally, you can mail a check payable to TAA PAC to:

Kimberly DeBona
4016 Tiffany Trl
College Station, TX. 77845



TAA Board of Directors

ELECTED OFFICERS

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ALEXANDER MORRIS, AU.D., PRESIDENT ELECT
TRACY BOARD, AU.D., PAST PRESIDENT
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HOLLY PAVLICEK, AU.D., VP OF MEMBERSHIP



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WHO IS HIRING?

SEE ALL OF THE CURRENT JOB LISTINGS:
[HTTPS://TEXASAUDIOLOGY.ORG/CLASSIFIEDS.PHP](https://texasaudiology.org/classifieds.php)

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