



Speaker Biographies



Brenda Louw, DPhil, SLP

Professor, Department of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology
East Tennessee State University
Professor Emerita, Department Communication Pathology
University of Pretoria, South Africa

Brenda Louw, DPhil, SLP, is a Professor in Speech-Language Pathology in the Department of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology at East Tennessee State University. She is also a Professor Emerita of the University of Pretoria, South Africa, where she was a cleft palate team member for over 30 years.

Professor Louw has participated in training professionals on cleft palate in various African countries such as Nigeria, Ghana, and Ethiopia. She is the editor of ASHA SIG 5 Perspectives-Craniofacial and Velopharyngeal Disorders. Professor Louw has taught courses on cleft palate and supervised speech-language pathology student research projects on cleft palate from undergraduate to doctoral levels. She has written book chapters, edited a book, published papers, and presented papers nationally and internationally on a variety of topics.

Her research interests include cleft lip and palate; early intervention, specifically for infants with craniofacial disorders, pediatric HIV/AIDS; culturally responsive care and internationalization of the curriculum.



Linda D. Vallino, PhD, MS, CCC-SLP/A, ASHA Fellow

Head, Craniofacial Outcomes Research Laboratory/Senior Scientist
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Linda D. Vallino, PhD, is head of the Craniofacial Outcomes Research Laboratory and Senior Scientist in the Center for Pediatric and Auditory Speech Sciences at Nemours Children's Health in Wilmington, DE. She is a Clinical Professor of Pediatrics at the Sidney Kimmel Medical College, Thomas Jefferson University and adjunct professor in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at the University of Delaware.

Dr. Vallino earned her PhD from the University of Pittsburgh and a master's degree in clinical evaluative sciences from Dartmouth College. She has presented at national and international meetings, written papers, book chapters and two textbooks on cleft palate and craniofacial differences. She is a Fellow of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.