



A Letter from President Aaron Johnson

Dear fellow PAVA members,
This past October I had the honor of becoming the third president of our young organization. I am pleased to have the opportunity to communicate directly with you all via our new newsletter, The Informant. The name of our new newsletter appeals to both my nerdy vocology self as well as my love of dad jokes (in formant...get it?). As President-Elect these past two years, I have had an inside view into the tireless efforts and countless hours you and your fellow members have devoted to grow our infant organization. For example, we are making great strides in developing the process for you to pursue the PAVA-Recognized Vocologist designation, thereby creating an international standard of multi-disciplinary knowledge and experiences for those who call themselves a vocologist. We have grown from our 41

charter members to now nearly 300 active members across the globe, spanning all areas of voice habilitation, rehabilitation, and research. We have brought together our geographically diverse members by forming regions and local chapters [link to chapters page on website] as well as by offering webinars [link to website webinars]. These local and online connections will be critical as we continue to grow.

As I step into this role, I want to acknowledge our previous two presidents, Ingo Titze and Leda Scarce. My immediate predecessor, Leda Scarce, demonstrated calm, thoughtful, action-driven leadership, particularly during our recent crisis situation during the unfortunate cancellation of our Chile symposium. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to watch and learn from her during my term as President-Elect. It goes without saying that PAVA's first president, Ingo Titze, provided the foundation not only for our organization, but also for the

field of vocology. He has been and continues to be a critical mentor to me and so many others. Having served as PAVA's Past-President for two years, he has now rotated off the board of directors along with other long-serving board members Marci Rosenberg, Amelia Rollings, Julia Gerhard, and Liz Johnson. I am grateful to all of them for their service to PAVA and will miss seeing them at our monthly online board meetings.

This rotation of leadership is built into the bylaws of our organization and is core to our member-driven identity. As stated on our website, "We are a membership driven 501(c)(6) non-profit association made up of voice professionals from all voice-related vocations." I recall the moment PAVA was voted into existence by the multi-disciplinary collection of people gathered in Salt Lake City in April of 2013. Over the past six and a half years,

SAVE THE DATE
August 14-16, 2020
Minneapolis, Minnesota

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS
Due February 17, 2020 Midnight EST

REGISTRATION
March 15, 2020

PAVA SYMPOSIUM
2020



University of Minnesota
School of Music
The Lions Voice Clinic

Canadian/Eastern Hemisphere

The Canadian and Eastern Hemisphere Region provides new opportunities to engage with our friends and colleagues in these areas. As the Regional Governor, Melanie has been working at connecting with members and prospective members alike, engaging in conversations, sending out emails, and posting to the Canadian Voice Listserv to announce the development of this new Region, share

PAVA news and updates, and to invite people to consider becoming members.

Regional Events:

- PAVA member Aramat Sharon created the Region's first Chapter in Israel, where she hosted a very successful event on February 22 at Rimón Music College. The event was designed to celebrate the opening of this new chapter, which welcomed together SLPs, otolaryngologists, voice teachers, artists, and other voice professionals, and was open to the public as well.
- PAVA hosted an exhibitor's table at the OSLA Voice Symposium on June 7 in Toronto, ON Canada which was a great opportunity to engage with speech-language pathologists from across the province.

Johnson Letter Continued

PAVA'S creation, codification, and growth have been entirely due to our dedicated members. You are PAVA and PAVA will only continue to exist and thrive with your support and involvement.

We face many challenges as we grow, such as carving out our unique place in the voice world while simultaneously being a good neighbor to our many sister organizations, increasing

professional and public awareness of vocology, and continuing the complicated discussions around voice habilitation and rehabilitation terminology and scopes of practice. However, it is precisely those challenges that makes our involvement in PAVA meaningful. To paraphrase JFK: we choose these challenges not because they are easy, but because they are hard, and because it is only by tackling

the big, unresolved, messy issues in vocology that we will make a difference in the voice world. Thank you for putting your trust in me to lead this vibrant, young organization over the next two years. I welcome ideas and involvement from each of you and look forward to seeing you in August at our next symposium hosted by the University of Minnesota School of Music and The Lions Voice Clinic in my home city of Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Welcome to the official newsletter of the Pan American Vocology Association. If you have an idea or desire for a Newsletter feature, please let us know.

Editor: Kristen Sullivan
admin@pavavocology.org

Election Timeline 2020:

- March 2: Call for nominations
- March 2-29: Nominations submitted
- March 30 – April 6: Nominations reviewed
- April 10: Deadline for candidates to accept nomination
- May 1: Deadline for candidates to submit statements
- May 15 – June 5: Voting period (3 weeks)
- June 6: results submitted to BOD for approval
- June 8: results announced to candidates
- June 10: results announced to PAVA membership
- October 1: new members take office