

President's Message

Cecille Sulman, MD



Dear SENTAC Colleagues,

Spring is upon us and with that a sense of renewal! SENTAC may not be a spring chicken at 52 years old but we are far from a mid-life crisis as we continue to steadily grow and evolve! Our membership has increased not only in numbers but in breadth with more audiology, speech language pathology, advance practice provider, and international membership.

Part of SENTAC's evolution is our strong media presence due to the hard work of the Communication Committee Co-Chairs Madison Howe and Michael McCormick, as well as past Chair Javan Nation. If you have not followed SENTAC on Instagram #ENTKIDS, we encourage you to join the 1,300 followers. You can also find us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [LinkedIn](#).

We continue to innovate by partnering with ASHA and are exploring additional opportunities with other societies / entities to enrich the membership opportunities. Other membership benefits include access to on-line resources. [Past webinars](#) have included multidisciplinary care of autism, aerodigestive team management, CMV, vestibular disorders, and dysphagia to name a few. Our exciting [podcasts](#) are multidisciplinary and have addressed tracheostomy care, feeding challenges in cardiac patients, and training pathways for allied health professionals. Keep an eye out for upcoming webinars and podcasts! Additional rich educational opportunities include [hearing loss resources](#), [obstructive sleep apnea](#), [pediatric tracheostomy](#), as well as other [educational resources](#). We continue to build our international representation thanks to Sohit Kanotra and his committee. And of course, we have the wisdom of our long-standing SENTAC members to lean on for mentorship. Please encourage your colleagues to join if they have not already given these great benefits and low membership rates!

We concluded a successful sold-out meeting in Charleston and are gearing up for our upcoming meeting in Denver, Colorado from November 7–9th with Christina Rappazzo at the helm! We look forward to having Soham Roy, President-Elect, as our host. SENTAC is a great conference for not only the established, but the learners to present in a friendly, open environment, so get ready to submit! If your institution is interested in hosting future meetings, please submit your interest on our [website](#).

I would like to take this opportunity to highlight SENTAC's mission statement that truly reflects our multidisciplinary core:

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Cecille Sulman, MD

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Christina Rappazzo, CCC-SLP, BCS-S

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President's Message cont.

*"The **Society for Ear Nose and Throat Advancement in Children (SENTAC)** is a collective group of like-minded health care professionals involved in the care of children with otolaryngology, hearing, speech and swallowing disorders. Uniquely composed of physicians and allied health care professionals, SENTAC's members include otolaryngologists, pediatricians, basic scientists, audiologists, speech therapists, occupational therapists, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants. SENTAC's primary mission is to provide and share an educational platform to allow collaboration, build community, establish consensus, promote diversity, and explore new treatment ideas among its members with the aim to improve the lives and health of children with ear, nose, and throat concerns across the globe."*

We will continue to strive to meet goals. I am humbled to have the opportunity to serve as President of this amazing society and its members. I would also like to extend my gratitude for Affinity Strategies, in particular Shelley Warnock and Becky Cira, for all their work in keeping us moving forward! And a special THANK YOU to our wonderful members who are the backbone of SENTAC!

Cecille Sulman, MD
SENTAC President

Program Chair's Report

Christina Rappazzo, CCC-SLP, BCS-S



As SENTAC's Past President and current Program Chair, I eagerly invite you to the 52nd annual SENTAC conference set for November 7th through 9th, 2024. This year, the Preconference Workshops will be graciously hosted by Children's Hospital Colorado while the main conference will be held at Hilton Denver City Center in the heart of downtown. There will be two workshops during the Preconference held on Thursday. One will showcase updates in cochlear implantation with otologist and audiologists from all over the nation sharing their clinical expertise. The other workshop will focus on tracheostomy. We are honored to have Dr. Paul Willging and Dr. Claire Miller headline the Tracheostomy Preconference, along with many other nationally recognized otolaryngologists and speech pathologists.

Our main conference will kick off Thursday evening with our Welcome Reception at the Hilton Denver City Center where attendees can network and catch up with colleagues to music and fun! The main conference will have multidisciplinary panels on unilateral hearing loss, the role of artificial intelligence, surgical pearls from experts, and more. We will enthusiastically continue "Why I Am Right"; friendly debates highlighting different practice patterns in the management of otologic, airway, and swallowing disorders. We will also have presentations on DEI and concurrent breakout sessions focused on neonatal feeding, hearing disorders, and more. Details to come soon!

I want to end by thanking and highlighting the entire Program Committee who are hard at work as you read this letter planning and organizing this highly anticipated event! This year's fabulous program committee includes Ashley Brown, Jason Brown, Clarice Clemmens, Stefanie LaManna, Gene Liu, Deepak Mehta, Chelsea Randall, Scott Rickert, Soham Roy, Gretchen Sackmann, Wendy Steuerwald, and Bethany Thomas. Please Save the Date and join us in Denver!

Christina Rappazzo M.A., CCC-SLP, BCS-S
SENTAC Past President and Program Chair

Secretary's Report

Javan Nation, MD



Dear SENTAC Members,

I hope this message finds you well and thriving in your respective fields. It brings me great pleasure to share some exciting updates and opportunities regarding our SENTAC membership.

First and foremost, I am thrilled to report that this past year has been marked by tremendous growth and progress for our society. We have implemented several significant changes aimed at enhancing the membership experience and ensuring the continued excellence of our offerings.

To keep pace with the growth and demand for our society while maintaining the highest standards of quality, it was decided to nominally increase physician membership dues by \$50, effective October 1, 2024, with our next membership renewal cycle. However, I'm pleased to inform you that

trainee, non-physician, and international dues will remain unchanged, and emeritus members will continue to have dues waived. Additionally, we are introducing a new 3-year membership renewal option, offering a total savings of \$30.

In our ongoing efforts to improve accessibility and streamline processes, we are transitioning to a new website platform. This upgrade will facilitate a more user-friendly renewal process and provide easier access to member profiles. We anticipate the launch of the new website by early May.

I'm also excited to share updates to our Bring-a-Colleague (BAC) member benefit. To ensure its effectiveness and fairness, we have updated the requirements and guidelines. Please refer to the details below for more information:

"Bring-a-Colleague" ("BAC") Requirements/Guidelines

A member of SENTAC sponsors one new individual (guest) to the conference. The guests' registration is funded by SENTAC at no cost to either party. Details below:

The Sponsor:

- The Sponsor needs to have been a paid SENTAC member for at least 6-months prior to sponsoring a guest
- The sponsor can be any discipline (MD, APP, AUD or SLP)
- The sponsor must register the "guest" at the time of their registration. Sponsorship cannot be added on at a later date.

The Guest:

- The guest needs to be either first time attendee or not have attended in the past 3 years.
- The guest can be SLP/AUD/APP/Other with any years of practice. The MD guest must be medical student, resident, fellow, or early-career MD (<3 years out of fellowship).
- The guest must pay for their own Saturday evening meal (not included in "BAC")
- The guest must pay for their own pre-conference (not included in "BAC")

Furthermore, I'm proud to announce that SENTAC's membership has almost doubled in size over the last four years, growing from 329 members in July 2020 to a total of 605 active members as of March 2024. This growth, particularly in our SLP, AUD, and APP member numbers, is a testament to the strength and vibrancy of our community.

As we look ahead, the membership committee is committed to achieving several goals this year, including increased engagement on our social media platforms, conducting deep-dive interviews with new joining members, and further refining our application process. We are also excited to collaborate with other SENTAC committees, especially the Development and Communications Committees, to better serve our international members and attract new talent to our society.

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the dedicated members of the membership committee—Robert O'Reilly, MD; Audrey Latimore, MA/CCC-SLP; Alexandria Matts, AuD; Laurie Newton, APP; and Seckin Ulualp, MD—for their invaluable contributions and unwavering commitment to advancing our mission.

In closing, I am immensely proud of the progress we have made together and am confident that the future holds even greater promise for SENTAC. Thank you for your continued support and dedication to our shared goals.

Treasurer's Report

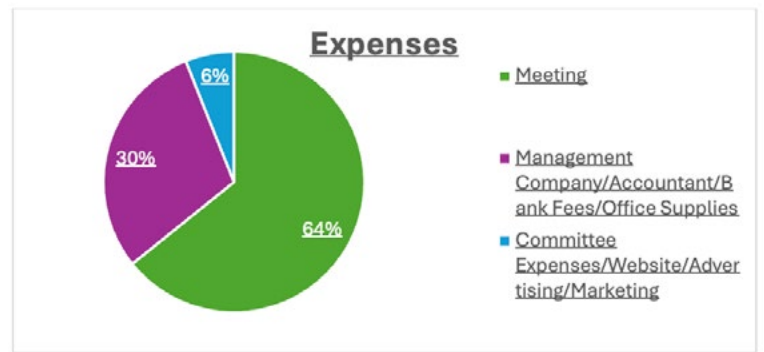
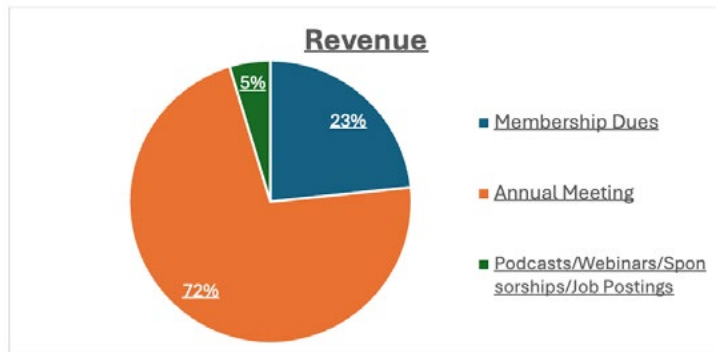
Vicky Papaioannou, M.CLSc



I am pleased to announce that SENTAC remains in excellent financial standing following the 2023 fiscal year. SENTAC currently has 428 members paying dues in a variety of categories. We have a physician category, non-physician category and an International Membership Category (with a list of eligible countries). While this can make budgeting and tracking memberships tricky, we understand the importance of and remain committed to these categories in our unique multidisciplinary society. Affinity staff work diligently in their efforts to collect dues, but appreciate the membership's efforts to self-monitor and to encourage their colleagues to do the same. With our new website and the ability to pay membership for more than one year, we hope to make our process even easier in upcoming years!

Affinity staff and the Executive Committee have worked to create a realistic budget for our operations and to keep dues and conference fees low. Below please find a graphic of SENTAC's revenue and expenditures.

As always, I am happy to receive questions and comments!



Communications Chairs' Report

Madison Howe, AuD, CCC-A and Michael McCormick, MD



2023 was remarkable year of growth for SENTAC within the realm of communications! We were pleased to deliver four outstanding and profitable webinars spanning a range of topics from "Care on the Spectrum: Multidisciplinary Care of Autism" to "Managing Challenge Parent/Patient Interactions." Our most attended webinar this year, titled "Everything you always wanted to know about congenital CMV: But were afraid to ask" was sponsored by SickKids and attracted over 120 attendees! These webinars received ASHA approval for CEU credit and the recordings are available at <https://sentac.org/webinars/>. Our social media presence experience significant growth this year, with a

30% increase in Facebook followers, a remarkable 77% rise in LinkedIn followers, and an impressive 96% surge in Instagram followers! These platforms serve as invaluable avenues for engaging both current and prospective members, fostering a sense of community beyond our annual meeting.

We showcased several esteemed members through our "Day in the Life Of" (DITL) Instagram takeover series, including Liana Lee, and SLP at Rady Children's, Brooke Jaquith, CRNP at CHOP, Taher Valika, ENT at Lurie Children's, and Safeena Kherani, ENT at Al Jalila Children's in Dubai. These DITL takeovers serve as an exceptional medium to spotlight our fields and highlight the innovative endeavors of SENTAC's members. Our podcast platform continued to grow in 2023. We had a record-breaking number of listeners tune into our podcast on "Cardiac Babies & Feeding Challenges- Perspectives from the Trenches" hosted by Javan Nation, MD, and Julian Smith, PhD, featuring Kimberly Morris, SLP, Hallie Clason, SLP, and Jeanan Sfeir, SLP.

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Communication Chairs' Report cont.

2024 is going to be an exciting year for the Communications Committee! We have expanded our committee to 10 members, bringing together more perspectives, skills, and expertise. With a focus on maintaining engagement throughout the year, our committee has established several goals. Our first goal is to publish a minimum of 4 webinars featuring speakers from every discipline and focusing on a range of trending topics. We also plan to release a minimum of 10 podcasts, highlighting multidisciplinary collaboration on pertinent topics in our fields. We remain committed to amplifying SENTAC's presence and impact on social media, with plans to increase the frequency of our DITL takeovers, providing more members with the opportunity to showcase their professions and unique talents. Strengthening partnerships with the DEI and Young Members Committees is also a priority, as we strive to spotlight SENTAC's diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives and engage our younger audience.

We want to hear from you! The Communications Committee serves as a platform to highlight our membership, engage new members, and foster community throughout the year. Please engage with us on social media, and reach out if you have any ideas or want to get more involved. Thank you for allowing us to serve SENTAC and represent our outstanding organization as the Directors of Communications.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Update

Jareem Meinzen-Derr, PhD and Stephanie Zacharias, PhD

The Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) Committee was created to promote diversity, equity, collaborative partnerships, and multidisciplinary strategies among its members. The DEI Committee goals are to enhance the inclusion and retention of diverse membership, increase the breadth and depth of presentations at the annual meeting that focus on diversity and health inequities, and increase support for research focused on health equity, diversity, and inclusion in the field.

In 2023, Drs. Jareem Meinzen-Derr and Stephanie Zacharias, co-chairs of SENTAC's DEI Committee, obtained funding from the National Institutes of Health to help SENTAC achieve their goals. Through this 5-year grant, Drs. Meinzen-Derr and Zacharias will help SENTAC implement a comprehensive strategy for supporting DEI initiatives within SENTAC's scientific meetings. Activities include enhancing diversity (such as women and individuals who are from underrepresented or marginalized groups) in membership and attendees and supporting research presentations and educational sessions that focus on health inequities.

As a result of this work, SENTAC was able to provide support to 16 trainees to attend our 2023 Annual Meeting! We also had 11 platform presentations focused on health inequities/disparities and a panel that discussed – Strategies for Achieving Health Equity in Clinical Care. Additionally, Dr. Marie Brown-Wagner received the Dana M. Thompson Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Award.

Looking ahead, SENTAC plans to incorporate more special sessions focused on health disparity research, include special sessions led by diverse teams, and provide support to individuals with diversity dimensions underrepresented in medicine and science, including marginalized racial and ethnic groups, individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds, and those with disabilities.

Young Members Committee Update

David Zopf, MD



Connecting Young Members of SENTAC

The common theme for our Young Members Committee goals for 2024 are focused around *connection*. Many of us recall the isolation that characterized the COVID pandemic. That period really emphasized the critical value of connection to others.

Our committee considered to opportunities to get Young Members connected. One potential opportunity we are exploring is forming Dyads of younger members with a more established, not necessarily older, I won't use that word – member. This is intended to really establish a close connection where these members can have a mentor/mentee or advocate type interaction.

We also had the idea of connecting on a broader level. With the help of technology platforms like WhatsApp, we are exploring creating WhatsApp groups where Young Members can ask questions, look for guidance, and get direction as they embark on their career.

It was really exciting seeing so many of you in the beautiful city of Charleston, and I look forward to connecting again in Colorado!



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