

**American Academy of Audiology
Board of Directors Meeting
Virtual
June 4, 2024**

MEMBER SUMMARY

President: Bopanna Ballachanda, PhD

President-elect: Patricia Gaffney, AuD

Board Members:

- **Term Ending ‘24:** Nichole Kingham, AuD. Chizuko Tamaki, AuD, PhD, Saunja Burt, AuD, MBA
- **Term Ending ‘25:** Ursula Findlen, PhD, Kaitlyn Kennedy, AuD, Lachelle Lazarus, AuD
- **Term Ending ‘26:** Kwame Curtis, AuD. Wafaa Kaf, MBBCh, MSc, PhD, Meagan Bachmann, AuD

Ex-Officio: Lindee Alvarez, SAA Liaison; Patrick Gallagher, MBA, Executive Director

Staff: Larry Burner, Amy Miedema, Susan Pilch, Anne Poodiack, Rachael Sifuentes, Kitty Werner

1. President-elect Tish Gaffney summarized the discussion of the Town Hall meeting on the proposed change in the Fellow membership category, as well as the comments received directly from members in response to the proposed bylaws change. The board considered the different viewpoints expressed and concluded that most comments centered on a desire to understand better what other recognition program or opportunity would exist. The board clarified that the term Professional Member would be nomenclature parallel to other membership categories in the Academy. After considering that a plan for new recognition program would be developed quickly by a membership workgroup, the board agreed to amend the bylaws to remove the term Fellow and replace it with Professional Member as the membership category.
2. The board discussed the recently approved changes to the governance structure and the proposed implementation plan. The group talked through the changes and implications of the councils taking on a greater role in governance and leadership development.
3. The board requested that the Advocacy Council study further third-party administrators issues impacting audiologists and their patients.
4. In light of recent legislative efforts to expand the audiologist’s scope of practice, the board discussed the role of national organizations in shaping the future model for scope of practice. The board identified value in inviting ADA and ASHA to engage directly in discussion with the Academy about scope of practice and audiology education with an intent to forge a collaborative path forward for collaboration.
5. Nicole Kingham, Treasurer, reviewed current financials and the forecast to operate on budget through the remainder of the year.