

Teaching What Works® Professional Development Team



Dr. Julie J. Masterson is a professor of communication sciences and disorders at Missouri State University, where she teaches courses and conducts research in literacy, phonology, and computer applications for assessment and remediation of speech and language disorders. Dr. Masterson has more than 25 years of experience working with students who have language problems and language-based learning deficits. She has served as Vice President of Research and Technology for the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), President and Vice President for Research for the Council of Academic Programs in Communication Sciences and Disorders, and as a reviewer providing technical assistance for the U.S. Department of Education's Early Reading First grant program. She is co-author of *CAPES: Computerized Articulation and Phonology Evaluation System* (Harcourt Assessment); *Beyond Baby Talk: From Sounds to Sentences, A Parent's Complete Guide to Language Development* (Prima Publishing); *SPELL Spelling Performance Evaluation for Language and Literacy®* and *SPELL-Links to Reading & Writing: A Word Study Curriculum* (Learning By Design, Inc.). Dr. Masterson has served as an editor for several scholarly journals, including *American Journal of Speech-Language Pathology*; *Journal of Speech-Language-Hearing Research*; *Language, Speech, and Hearing Services in Schools*; *Seminars in Speech and Language*; and *Topics in Language Disorders*. Dr. Masterson is a fellow and certified member of ASHA, an ASHA board recognized specialist in child language, and a member of the Language Learning & Education Special Interest Division of ASHA. She also holds a degree in elementary education and has worked as a classroom teacher.

Dr. Kenn Apel is a professor of communication disorders at The Florida State University, where he teaches courses and conducts research on school-age language-learning disabilities. He has more than 25 years of experience conducting research and teaching classes on language learning and on working with children, adolescents, and adults who have language problems and language-based learning deficits. Dr. Apel is frequently invited to speak at national, state, and local meetings about spoken language disabilities and assessment and remediation of reading, writing, and spelling disabilities. Dr. Apel is co-author of *Beyond Baby Talk: From Sounds to Sentences, A Parent's Complete Guide to Language Development* (Prima Publishing), *SPELL Spelling Performance Evaluation for Language and Literacy®* and *SPELL-Links to Reading & Writing: A Word Study Curriculum* (Learning By Design, Inc.), and has served as associate editor, guest editor, and series editor for several scholarly journals and books, including *Language, Speech, and Hearing Services in the Schools (LSHSS)*; *Topics in Language Disorders*; and *Challenges in Language and Literacy* (Guilford Press). Dr. Apel is a fellow and certified member of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) and an ASHA board recognized specialist in child language. He is also a member of the Language Learning & Education Special Interest Division of ASHA.



Dr. Jan Wasowicz is founder, president, and chief learning officer of Learning By Design, Inc., and has more than 25 years of experience as a language, literacy, and learning specialist. She has worked with students who have language-based reading, writing, and spelling problems in a variety of educational settings, including public schools, head start programs, and private practice. Dr. Wasowicz is frequently invited to speak about best practices in literacy assessment and instruction at national, state, and local meetings and has taught numerous undergraduate and graduate courses, holding faculty positions at Northwestern University, Elmhurst College, Rush–Presbyterian–St. Luke's Medical Center, and Governors State University. She has authored publications appearing in scholarly journals, including *The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, *Perception and Psychophysics*, *Journal of Phonetics*, and *Journal of Speech and Hearing Research*. Dr. Wasowicz was the founder, president, and chief science officer of Cognitive Concepts, Inc., a company acquired by Houghton-Mifflin in 2003. She conceived, designed, and developed the *Earobics®* software product line (Cognitive Concepts, Inc.) and authored, designed, and developed *SPELL Spelling Performance Evaluation for Language and Literacy®* and *SPELL-Links to Reading & Writing: A Word Study Curriculum* (Learning By Design, Inc.). Dr. Wasowicz is the inventor of numerous educational software programs with patents issued or pending, including various patents for the original *Earobics®* software products and U.S. Patent 06,299,452 "A Diagnostic System and Method for Phonological Awareness, Phonological Processing and Reading Skill Testing"—an invention developed through the award of a Small Business Innovative Research grant and funded by the National Institutes of Health. Dr. Wasowicz is certified by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), is a member of the Language Learning & Education Special Interest Division of ASHA, and is licensed to practice clinical and educational speech-language pathology in Illinois. She also holds an elementary (grades K–9) classroom teaching certificate and a secondary (grades 6–12) classroom teaching certificate from the Illinois State Board of Education.