



**The 55<sup>th</sup> Clinical Aphasiology Conference**  
**CLINICAL APHASIOLOGY CONFERENCE**  
**Tuesday May 26th through Friday May 29th, 2026**  
**Sheraton Hotel at Station Square, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA**  
**CALL FOR PAPERS**



The annual Clinical Aphasiology Conference (CAC) provides a forum for clinicians and researchers engaged in the study and clinical management of people with acquired neurologic language disorders to present their recent research and engage in extensive discussions with colleagues. To develop an informal atmosphere conducive to the free exchange of ideas, in-person attendance is limited to approximately 180 people. The 2026 Conference Chairperson is Katarina Haley, and the Program Chairperson is Sarah E. Wallace.

**We invite you** to submit a summary of an original paper, poster, or round table discussion no later than **Monday January 26, 2026, at 11:59pm PST**. <http://www.cvent.com/c/abstracts/870ee3a4-cbf6-40fe-a430-d73dd3c998e6>

**Attendance:** CAC 2026 will be an in-person-only conference. Two authors from each accepted proposal are invited to attend the conference. As space permits, in addition to inviting authors of presentations that were submitted but not accepted, we will also open attendance to a limited number of other members of the community. These additional attendees will be invited to attend on a first-come, first-served basis.

**Students:** The CAC community is made strong by student participation. Several competitive student fellowships are available to students who have earned authorship on a paper submitted to CAC. Please visit <https://clinicalaphasiologyconference.org/students-at-cac/> for more information.

**We are excited to announce that our Keynote Speaker is Dr. Elizabeth Skidmore, PhD, FAOTA, FACRM.**

Dr. Elizabeth Skidmore is an occupational therapist and rehabilitation scientist with expertise in neurological rehabilitation. Dr. Skidmore's research studies examine rehabilitation intervention elements that stimulate cognitive function, reduce depressive symptoms and apathy, reduce disability and promote healthy levels of activity and participation after acquired brain injury and stroke. These studies have refined the implementation of meta-cognitive strategy training and behavioral activation approaches in inpatient, outpatient, and community rehabilitation settings. Dr. Skidmore consults with practitioners, health systems, and scientists representing a breadth of disciplines and serving various clinical populations. She provides guidance on intervention program design, specification, and fidelity. Dr. Skidmore is a professor in the Department of Occupational Therapy and Associate Dean for Research in the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences at the University of Pittsburgh.



#### **PROGRAM COMMITTEE**

Sarah E. Wallace (chair), Jamie Azios, Margaret Blake, Warren Brown, Anna Caute, Gayle DeDe, Sigfus Kristinsson, Jacquie Kurland, Alyssa Lanzi, Megan Schliep, Jee Eun Sung.

**SCOPE OF PAPERS, POSTERS, AND ROUNDTABLES:** Aphasia, Apraxia of Speech, Apragmatism & Other Right Hemisphere Communication Disorders, Cognitive-Communication Disorders from Acquired Neurogenic and Neurodegenerative Diseases, Cognitive or Linguistic Abilities of Older Adults

Topics of particular interest to the CAC 2026 Program include: person-centered rehabilitation, precision rehabilitation, integration of technology in rehabilitation, psychosocial factors and wellbeing, implementation and translation, community partnerships, global perspectives, & bi/multi-lingualism.

#### **Justice, Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion (JEDI) Designation\*^**

Abstract submissions that address justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion will be given the designation JEDI and will be highlighted throughout the conference. Presentations in this category may address assessment, treatment, research participation, or communication healthcare barriers and disparities affecting persons with acquired neurologic speech-language and cognitive disorders.\*Special instructions will be provided in the submission portal.

^Papers with the JEDI designation will meet the criteria to count toward [ASHA's DEI continuing education requirement](#).

**Abstract submission will be accessible through the conference website:** <https://clinicalaphasiologyconference.org>  
OR directly at this link: <http://www.cvent.com/c/abstracts/870ee3a4-cbf6-40fe-a430-d73dd3c998e6>

**Please send queries to Sarah E. Wallace, 2026 CAC Program Chair, [Sarah.Wallace@pitt.edu](mailto:Sarah.Wallace@pitt.edu)**

## **Abstract Instructions**

- Platform presentations consist of a 15-minute talk followed by a 15-minute question, answer, and discussion period.
- Poster sessions last 90 minutes. The presenting author is expected to stand with and discuss the poster for the duration of the session.
- Roundtable discussions consist of a 15-minute presentation followed by a 45-minute facilitated discussion of the topic. This format is intended to promote discussion or exploration of a selected topic, with an emphasis on active engagement of about 12 participants.

### **SUBMISSION DETAILS**

Author Info: First and last name, email address, primary affiliation, secondary affiliation if any, brief biography (500 characters).

Submission Title (200 characters max)

Provide one learning objective for your submission. The learning objective must describe the session, poster, or roundtable in 20 words or less, starting with action words to specify what the learner will do after the session. Appropriate action words include, for example: Describe, Explain, Summarize, Outline, Discuss, List, Characterize. A list of example learning objectives is provided below.

Example learning objectives:

- Describe individual differences in working memory capacity, fluid intelligence, and attention control
- Explain how more effective, engaging posts on social media can improve awareness of aphasia
- Outline the needs of people with mild aphasia as compared to more moderate or severe aphasia
- Describe barriers to collaboration and solutions related to clinical research of dementia/mild cognitive impairment

**NOTE:** If you are submitting with a JEDI designation, your paper and learning objective must address a topic aligned with the [ASHA DEI content area](#). See additional information below.

Brief Abstract (700 Characters Max; this will appear in the program)

Keywords: Please enter three key terms, separated by commas, that capture the most important aspects of your submission. **NOTE:** If you are submitting a JEDI designation submission, one keyword must be "**JEDI.**"

### **EXTENDED ABSTRACT DETAILS**

Extended abstracts are 750 words maximum and will be uploaded in a PDF.

References and any figures or tables should be placed at the end of the extended abstract. These are not included in the word count.

In-text citations should be in number format and enclosed by brackets (e.g., [1], [1,4], or[1-5]).

**Required Platform and Poster Subheadings:**

- Introduction
- Aims
- Method
- Results
- Discussion

**Required Roundtable Subheadings:**

- Introduction
- Aims
- Content (summary of background for the central question, issue, or problem to be discussed)
- Questions for Discussion
- Participant Engagement Methods and Strategies