



## Audinews

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With this issue, we are reinstating a feature that we had had in the past. From time to time, we will publish brief biographies of our founders, our leaders, our great clinicians and scientists. Below is the first of them, a biography of Hallowell Davis by Maurice Mendel (University of Memphis).

It is generally agreed that Hallowell Davis, S. Richard Silverman, Scott Reger, and Raymond Carhart were the fathers of audiology in North America. I first met one of those father figures, Hallowell Davis, when I was a master's degree student at the Central Institute for the Deaf in 1965. I was already familiar with his work, having used the text Hearing and Deafness, edited by Davis and Silverman, in an undergraduate audiology course at the University of Colorado. I still have that text, published in June, 1963, with the price tag on the cover - \$7.95!

Davis was born in New York City on August 31, 1896, the eldest of four children. He graduated summa cum laude from Harvard College in 1918 with a degree in chemistry, from Harvard Medical School in 1922, and completed a post-doctoral year at Cambridge University (England) in 1923, where he became an electrophysiologist. Davis' first academic position (1923) was Instructor in Physiology at Harvard Medical School. In 1946, he left Boston to establish a research department at the Central Institute for the Deaf (CID) in St. Louis, MO, where he remained for the rest of his professional career, even following retirement in 1985.

Davis is credited with having the first EEG recorded from the scalp of a human (his head) in the United States by his students Arthur Derbyshire and Howard Simpson in 1933. At about the same time, he was among the first anywhere to record animal cochlear potentials, human evoked brain potentials, and the activity of single nerve cells from an animal brain. He wrote that he invented the word "audiology" in the mid-1940s.

My interactions with Davis were primarily related to electric response audiometry (ERA). When I was a master's degree student in St. Louis, he was using the HAVOC (histogram, average, and ogive



Hallowell Davis

calculator) device to study the V (vertex) potential of the late components of the cortical evoked potentials, as well as the prototype of what became one of the first commercially available ERA systems, the CLERA (Clinical Electric Response Audiometer) built by Princeton Applied Research. Shortly after I established my research lab at the University of Iowa in 1970, I had the pleasure of running a study with Davis, with half of the subjects run in my lab and the other half in his lab in St. Louis, comparing the middle and late components awake and asleep. We presented the results of that study at the International EEG and Clinical Neuro-physiology Congress in 1973, and published it in *EEG and Clinical Neurophysiology* in 1975.

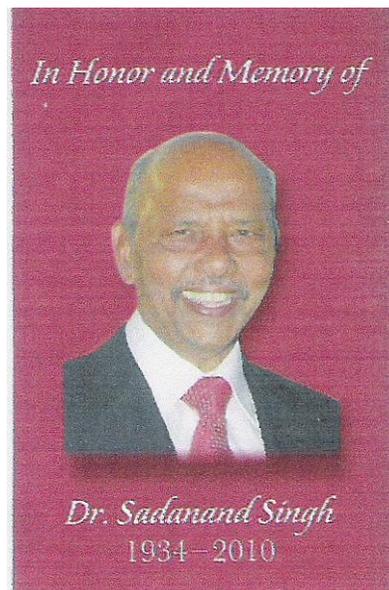
Around 1968, Davis was involved in organizing what became (and remains) the International Electric Response Audiometry Study Group (IERASG). The first official meeting of the IERASG took place in Copenhagen in 1969 in connection with a Scandinavian symposium on "Evoked Response Audiometry"; however, the first independent meeting of organization occurred in Freiburg, Germany in 1970. As a Ph.D. student, I was unsuccessful in getting funds to attend this meeting. Instead, the paper that I had submitted, with Robert Goldstein as co-author, was read at the meeting by Hallowell Davis. I was a co-host (with your editor) of the last IERASG meeting that was held with Davis as chairman in Santa Barbara in 1979. He retired as chairman at that meeting, and given that he believed that the organization had fulfilled its mission, recommended that it should be disbanded as an organization. I'm pleased that the membership voted to continue the organization, with Davis as Chairman Emeritus, and that it exists to this day.

A feature of the IERASG meetings, from its inception until 1987, was that at the end of the meeting, Davis would present a summary of the papers that had

been presented. Robert Galambos wrote in his memoir of Davis (1998), “he was famous for the summaries he produced – comprehensive, insightful, and fair, delivered with humor, at once a useful take-home gift to his listeners and a virtuoso display of his remarkable ability to listen with care and remember, organize and integrate apparently miscellaneous items of information. In his younger days, he delivered these essays, often hour-long, without notes.” I remember those summaries with awe. Davis died in 1992, aged 96. This month, at the IERASG meeting in Moscow, the Hallowell Davis Lecture will be given by Charles Liberman.

### Member News

Unfortunately, we have another memorial, and this one is somewhat belated. Dr. Sadanand Singh – scholar, author, publisher, and good friend of the Society - died last year.



Dr. Singh held three doctorates. The first was from Ranchi (India), the second was from Ohio State University, and the third (honorary) was from Ohio University. During his distinguished teaching career, he was on the faculty at Howard University, Ohio University, University of Texas at Houston, and San Diego State University. He published over 60 articles and books in Communication Sciences. In his second career, as a publisher, he created College-Hill Press, Singular Publishing Group, ContentScan, and Plural Publishing. He established several philanthropic funds for students and research. Our society and its members have benefited from his kindness. He left behind his beautiful wife, Angie, five beautiful daughters, and two handsome sons.

If you wish to join us in honoring Dr. Singh, you may send a contribution to:  
TSDF/Dr. Sadanand Singh Fund

2508 Historic Decatur Road, suite 200  
San Diego, CA 92106.

Ann Shea is planning her next trip to Burkino Faso. She would like to know who makes equipment with battery back-up and are there references for building sound enclosures. If you can help her, please contact her at [ashea090@yahoo.com](mailto:ashea090@yahoo.com).

Amy Stuart seeks organizations that could help meet the needs of deaf children in Honduras. If you can help, please contact her at [castuart@charter.net](mailto:castuart@charter.net).

Dwight Herd is looking for volunteer opportunities in Campeche, Mexico. If you can help, contact him at [dherd@joneshearing.com](mailto:dherd@joneshearing.com).

### Society News

General Secretary-Mencher has provided the following:

You may recall that we surveyed our membership to get a sense about continued use of the Spanish abstracts and about electronic vs. paper copies of IJA. We will publish the results of that survey in a Letter to the Editor in the June IJA.

ISA has joined several groups (CBM, Hearing Conservation Council of the UK, IFOS, and AAO) to support the World Health Organization Project for the Prevention of Deafness and Hearing Impairment. ISA has donated US\$25,000 per year toward the employment of a Senior Officer at WHO to manage the project. The project's purpose is to set in place mechanisms for the identification, diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation of hearing impairment throughout the world, primarily in developing nations. It is important to know that WHO will be searching the world for a senior professional who has a doctorate and has experience in audiology, public health, and related areas. If you think you might qualify, please go to the WHO website and look for Project for Prevention of Deafness and Hearing Impairment.

WHO has recently produced major position statements and documents pertaining to hearing aids and newborn hearing screening. ISA has adopted these as our formal documents as well.

We are pleased to announce that Phonak AG has continued support of student scholarships for 2011-12. We thank them for their ongoing grant support of this worthwhile program.



The Society is preparing for the XXXI World Congress of Audiology – formerly called the International Congress of Audiology – in Moscow, Russia less than a year away (April 29th through May 3<sup>rd</sup>). Congress president (and society past-president) George Tavartkiladze (photo) reports that the organizing committee extends “a warm invitation to you to participate...” The program will cover all contemporary key aspects of audiology and related fields and will include a dialogue bringing together experts in laboratory research with clinical practitioners. The first symposium will be “Biological and Genetic Basis of Hearing Loss.” The second is “Implantable Technologies in Rehabilitation of Hearing Loss” and the third is “Evidence Based Practice in Audiology.”

Participants will experience and enjoy a journey through the latest developments of our scientific field but also will enjoy an actual journey in Moscow, the capital of Russia. Moscow, founded in 1147 by Prince Yuri Dolgoloruki, is one of the world’s most beautiful cities with outstanding historical, cultural and scientific traditions. The social program offers an opportunity for our colleagues to experience some of Moscow’s renowned hospitality and its latest attractions as well as a huge number of historical monuments. Moreover, there will be post-congress tours to St. Petersburg and to the Golden Ring of Russia.



**REGISTRATION** (in Euros, including VAT)

Early registration (until March 1, 2012): 550 Euros for ISA members, 600 Euros for non-members, 150 Euros for students,\* and 300 Euros for accompanying persons. Late registration (until April 1<sup>st</sup>) is 600 Euros for members, 650 for non-members, 180 Euros for students, and 350 Euros for accompanying persons. Registration will be available on-site at 650 Euros for members, 700 Euros for non-members, 200 Euros for students, and 350 Euros for accompanying persons.

Registration for delegates and students includes admission to all scientific sessions, access to the exhibition area, the Congress program and book of

abstracts, a certificate of attendance, coffee breaks and lunches, the Welcome Reception (on the evening of the 29<sup>th</sup>), Russian Night (on 1 May), and a city tour. Accompanying persons' registration includes the Welcome Reception, Russian Night, coffee breaks and lunches, and the city tour. The closing Gala Dinner (on 2 May) is expected to be an additional 80 to 90 Euros for all attendees.

Moscow, the capital of Russia, is one of the biggest cities in the world. It occupies an area of 1035 square kms and has a population of about 13-million people. Over hundreds of years, Moscow has been the center of national Russian culture. Here, one finds the most precious historical monuments: the Kremlin, the New Maid Convent, the Fili Church, Moscow State University, the Triumph Arch, Victory Park on Poklonnaya Hill.

Moscow is the largest educational center of the country. Among 85 institutes and academies, there are 31 universities and 19 academies. The Russian Academy of Sciences and some 90 scientific institutions are located in Moscow, including 78 research institutes and particularized academies of sciences.

The congress venue is the World Trade Center Moscow, which takes great pride in being regarded as Russia's foremost business center. It is a purpose-built world class venue, fully renovated in 2008, that provides appropriate solutions for all types of events and can welcome up to 3,600 participants. It is conveniently located in downtown Moscow, just a 10-minute walk from the Moscow Kremlin and the historical heart of the city.

The Crown Plaza Moscow World Trade Center Hotel is an integral part of WTC Moscow, and is positioned as one of Moscow's leading business hotels. Overlooking the Moskva River, the hotel is conveniently located on Krasnopresenskaya embankment, downtown Moscow, and 10 minutes from the Kremlin. Hotel rates for the Crown Plaza Hotel are 180

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\*Student registration forms must be accompanied by a letter from the head of the department confirming student and/or a valid student card Euros (single) or 200 Euros (double) including breakfast and taxes. There is a student rate of 100 Euros in a double room. Of course, there are other hotels (prices from 100 Euros) close to the congress venue.

The official language of the congress is English; no simultaneous translation will be provided. A congress identification badge will be included in the congress materials provided on registration. There will be no admittance to the scientific sessions without the badge. Invitations for social events will be collected on entry. A certificate of attendance will be included in congress material.

To enter the Russian Federation (Russia) every foreign citizen must have a valid Russian entry visa, a valid passport (with planned date of departure from Russia by six months), and a migration card provided with the form in the airplane or at the airport. The passport and entry visa will be checked and

verified by a Passport Control Officer upon arrival and departure, at the hotel, at purchasing tickets, and when traveling by train, ship, airplane, or local or international carriers. To obtain visa support, a guest must book a room, make a payment for the accommodation, and provide a legible photocopy of the passport. To obtain a Tourist Visa, the following documents must be presented to the Russian Embassy or Consulate in the guest's country of residence: tourist voucher, foreign tourist reception confirmation, confirmation of the hotel reservation, and a completed Application Form for Russian Entry Visa, at the Embassy or Consulate, one per person. Please note that "tourism" should be noted as the purpose of the guest visa in the application form. This must be accompanied by a valid national passport (with validity exceeding planned date of departure from Russia by six months) and two or three passport-size photos. A check list of the documents that must be submitted to the Russian Embassy or Consulate can be found on its website in the guest's home country. For more information, visit [www.welt.ru](http://www.welt.ru), which is the official tourist agency of the congress. Participants and accompanying persons are advised to make their own arrangements with respect to health and travel insurance. More information will be available on the congress website after 15 July.

### **Humanitarian News**

Even the teen star Miley Cyrus has spoken up for hearing. On the web page of the Starkey Hearing Foundation, she said "one in 5 teenagers has hearing loss." She advised "Your hearing is fragile. So don't listen loudly. Listen carefully." Thank you, Miley.

Prof. Claude Laurent (Oslo) reports that there are now two small hearing aid centers in Kenya using Tele-Audiology. He has been involved in voluntary ENT work Kenya since 1994. The Tele-audiology project was assisted by colleagues from the University of Pretoria (South Africa).

### **Clinical News**

A recent study from Johns Hopkins University examined the hearing status of 715 older people. They found that 63% of those 70 and older had "impairment that affects their ability to hear human speech..."

On the other hand, a March report noted a dramatic drop in the frequency of ear infections in children. It appears that there has been a 30% drop over the last 15 years in the number of children's visits to their physicians for ear infections. Why? One proposed explanation is that fewer children are exposed to second-hand smoke due to a decrease in the number of smokers. Good. Nevertheless, the University of Texas, Galveston reports that more than 20% of children, aged six months to three years, will develop middle ear infections after colds or other upper respiratory infections.

Historically, too little attention has been paid to vestibular disorders in children. Consequently, we have a rather poor understanding of the effects of

vestibular system impairment in children. A lengthy review from the United States delineates the causes of childhood vertigo. The most common cause appears to be migraine, yet another poorly understood disorder in children. This seems to account for some 25% of the prevalence, with another 20% apparently the result of benign paroxysmal vertigo. Other identified causes include otitis media, viral infection, trauma, and (of course) other.

USA Today reports that, in the United States, there are presently 42,000 adults with cochlear implants and 28,400 children.

A recent study from The Netherlands has shown that bone-anchored hearing aids appear to be helpful in children. Greater benefit was shown to be associated with earlier fitting.

### Research News

There is a recent report from China on 14,913 newborns when hearing screening was combined with genetic screening. A goal was to be able to identify infants who may be susceptible to auditory disorders later in life. The report concludes that "concurrent gene screening in newborns may confirm the abnormal results from hearing screening tests, help to find the etiologic [sic] of the hearing loss, and better recognize infants at risk for late-onset hearing loss occurring prior to speech and language development."

An American study (from Johns Hopkins Hospital) found a link between dementia and hearing loss. These researchers followed 600 mentally healthy men for 15 years. They found that a loss of hearing accompanies an increased risk of developing Alzheimer Disease or other forms of dementia. The authors suggest that the hearing loss may be a cause rather than a symptom of the dementia. They ask if hearing aids could prevent this result.

A recent American article reports that 9% to as many as 22% of people over the age 70 have both presbycusis and presbyopia. Moreover, this prevalence increases with age.

A study from Italy showed that patients with sudden idiopathic sensorineural hearing loss had a greater prevalence of diabetes and hypercholesterolemia than controls.

You remember from your studies of developmental biology that ontogeny recapitulates phylogeny; i.e., the development of the individual copies the development of the species. We know that the primordial structures of the human middle and external ears arise in the early lower face and migrate upward. In certain reptiles, what would be our ossicles are found in the jaw and participate in chewing. Similar structures have been found in a 200-million-year-old fossil mammal. Now, a recent article in NATURE reports the finding of a 122-million-year-old mammalian fossil with two of the three bones detached from the mandible but held in place by an ossified cartilage. The third, presumably the incus, had moved to the middle ear.

### Affiliates' News

ASHA announces an upcoming on-line program. This year the topic is Audiologic Rehab in Adults. For information contact:  
<http://www.asha.org/events/aud-conf>.

Great news: ISA has a new affiliate. Our Executive Committee has voted to accept the application of the Brazilian Society of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (Sociedade Brasileira de Fonoaudiologia – SBFa). We are thrilled to have you. Welcome.

The South African Speech Language Hearing Association (SASLHA) has also joined ISA as an affiliated society. We have been striving to increase exposure to Audiology in that part of the world; having one of the prime organizations from there is a real boon.

Also, the Australian Audiology Society has joined with ISA to bring ISA membership to its members. We welcome all those Aussies (and other folks from that part of the world) who have joined us.

News from Canada: CASLPA is hosting a one-day workshop on cochlear implants September 9, 2011 in Vancouver. The workshop will be presented by Anu Sharma, Ph.D. See the CASLPA web site for details and registration.

CASLPA also reports that it has “expressed its disappointment at the absence of dedicated funding in the federal budget for universal newborn hearing screening ...” They point out that “the later [childhood hearing loss] is detected, the higher the cost will be to the government.” They find that some three to five babies born each year in Canada will have some degree of hearing loss and half of those have no high-risk factors.

Prof. Henryk Skarzynski, President of EFAS 2011, has invited us to “join a discussion about the benefits of introducing a scheme for universal screening of children’s hearing at the time they start school.” A special round table aimed at a European consensus on this topic will precede the upcoming EFAS Congress.

### **Meetings**

June 22-25, 2011. European Federation of Audiology Societies (EFAS). The 10<sup>th</sup> EFAS Congress, Warsaw, Poland,. Contact: <http://www.efas2011.org/>

June 26-30, 2011. The 22<sup>nd</sup> Biennial Symposium of the International Electric Response Audiometry Study Group, Moscow, Russia. Contact: <http://www.ierasg2011.ru/>

July 2-4, 2011. 1<sup>st</sup> Congress of the Confederation of the European ORL-HNS, Barcelona, Spain. Contact: <http://www.Ceorlhnsbarcelona3011.org/>

July 11-15, 2011. Public Health Planning for Hearing Impairment, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Contact: <http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/prospectus/short/hearing.health.html>

July 14-16, 2011. The 13<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Cochlear Implants in Children, Chicago, IL, Contact: [www.ci2011usa/](http://www.ci2011usa/)

August 18-20, 2011. Australian College of Audiology, ACAud 2011 National Congress, Melbourne. Contact: [www.acaud2011.com.au](http://www.acaud2011.com.au).

Sept. 7-9, 2011. British Society of Audiology Annual conference 2011, Nottingham, UK. Contact: <http://www.Thebsa.org.uk/>

Sept. 8-9, 2011. 2<sup>nd</sup> Coalition for Global Hearing Healthcare conference, House Ear Institute, Los Angeles.

Sept. 9, 2011. CASLPA one day workshop on cochlear implants. Contact: CASLPA website.

Sept. 11-14, 2011. 110<sup>th</sup> American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery Annual Meeting, San Francisco. Contact: [meetings@entnet.org](mailto:meetings@entnet.org).

Nov. 17-19, 2011. American Speech-Language-Hearing Assn., convention, San Diego, CA. Contact: <http://asha.org./events/convention>.

April 29 –May 3, 2012. The XXXI World Congress of Audiology, Moscow, Russia, Contact: [www.ICA2012.ru](http://www.ICA2012.ru).

### **ISA EXECUTIVE**

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\*deceased

