

## CURRICULUM VITA

# MELISSA A. CHESLOCK

Clinical Supervisor  
Communication Science and Disorders

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## EDUCATION

- 1993                   **Master of Science Degree, Speech-Language Pathology**  
University of South Alabama, Mobile, Alabama
- 1991                   **Bachelor of Science Degree, Speech and Hearing Sciences**  
University of South Alabama, Mobile, Alabama

## CERTIFICATION AND LICENSURE

Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology (#01096226), awarded 1993

Alabama Board of Examiner's in Speech Pathology and Audiology (#2956), 1993-1999, 2007-  
presently active

Georgia Board of Examiner's in Speech Pathology and Audiology (#4652), 1999-2007

## AWARDS

- 2011                   JSLHR Editor's Award for "Randomized comparison of augmented and  
non-augmented language interventions for toddlers with developmental  
delays and their parents"
- 2003                   Outstanding Former MCH LEND Trainee Award, Civitan-Sparks Clinics,  
University of Alabama at Birmingham
- 2011, 2008, 2004     American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Award for Continuing  
2002, 2000, 1998    Education (ACE)
- 1993                   Awarded Maternal and Child Health Stipend for long-term  
interdisciplinary training at the Sparks Clinics, University of Alabama at  
Birmingham

## FIELD OF INTERESTS AND SPECIALIZATION

Child language, atypical development, augmentative communication, early intervention

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2014 – Present

**University of Montevallo**

**Communication Science and Disorders Program**

*Clinical Supervisor*

- Supervise graduate clinicians providing diagnostic and intervention services to children with communication impairments
- Teach weekly Observational Video Lab, CSD 463
- Engage in weekly clinical staff meetings with students and departmental staff meetings with faculty
- Assist Clinical Director with clinic schedule
- Perform AAC evaluations for insurance/MDC funding

2009 - 2014

**United Cerebral Palsy of Greater Birmingham**

**Hand in Hand, Early Intervention Program**

**Life Without Limits Outpatient Rehabilitation Clinic**

*Speech-Language Pathologist*

- Provision of speech/language evaluation and intervention services to children with developmental delays and disabilities aged 0-3 and their families/caregivers, who qualify for services under the Alabama Early Intervention System
- Coaching, training, and consultation to family members and other caregivers regarding communicative development and integration of language intervention strategies into everyday activities within natural environments, including home and various daycare settings throughout Jefferson County
- Provision of speech/language and augmentative/alternative evaluation and intervention services to children with multiple disabilities and/or developmental delays aged 3-14 through the Life Without Limits Outpatient Clinic at Hand in Hand
- Organization and implementation of language group activities for children aged 2-3
- Supervision of off-campus, graduate level speech/language pathology students, when available

2000 –May, 2007

**Georgia State University, Department of Communication**

*Coordinator, Toddler Language Intervention Research Project,*

*Principal Investigator Dr. MaryAnn Rowski*

- Providing speech/language and developmental testing to research participants with developmental delays and disabilities, aged two to five years
- Coaching, training, and consultation to family participants regarding language intervention strategies and augmented language intervention strategies
- Training and supervision of research interventionists, as well as undergraduate and graduate level students
- Supervising weekly intervention sessions
- Coordination of and ongoing active involvement in research participant management, data management, transcription creation and analysis, and transcription and coding procedures

1999 – 2000

**Frazer Child Development Center, Atlanta, Georgia**

*Coordinator, Early Intervention and Program Development*

- Providing speech/language and augmentative communication services to children with developmental delays and disabilities, aged birth to five
- Supervising therapy staff and services
- Providing curriculum modifications to all classrooms
- Coordinating child/family intervention planning meetings
- Assisting Director of Program with grant proposals

1997 – 1999

**University of Alabama at Birmingham, Civitan International Research Center, Sparks Clinics**

*Speech/Language Pathologist*

- Providing speech/language and augmentative communication services for individuals with developmental delays/disabilities, aged birth to twenty-one, through interdisciplinary and disciplinary clinics. Services included assessment, therapy, consultation, detailed written reports, and family training and education
- Providing augmentative communication assessment and consultation services to the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services
- Providing training, consultation, and collaboration with community agencies including early intervention programs, pre-school, and elementary school programs, regarding various disabilities and augmentative communication programming and strategies
- Providing interdisciplinary training to interns from various disciplines
- Supervising speech/language clinical fellows

1999

**Camp Chatterbox**

- Working under the direction of Joan Bruno, CCC-SLP, providing AAC services to children at summer camp, New Jersey, August

1995 - 1997

**The Children's Hospital of Alabama, The Charity League Hearing and Speech Center for Children**

*Speech/Language Pathologist*

- Providing speech/language and augmentative communication assessments for children (primarily aged birth to five) with developmental delays/disabilities through the Hearing and Speech Clinic and through community contract with the JCCEO Head Start Program
- Providing augmentative communication consultation to patients attending the Seating and Positioning Clinic within the Physical Therapy/Occupational Therapy Department
- Providing intervention of speech/language and augmentative communication needs for children with language delays secondary to a variety of disabilities, such as cerebral palsy, dyspraxia, mental retardation, and pervasive developmental disorder through the Hearing and Speech Clinic, JCCEO Head Start Program, and Children's Hospital Early Intervention Program
- Supervising of speech/language interns

1993 - 1995

**University of Alabama at Birmingham, Civitan International Research Center, Sparks Clinics**

*Speech-Language Clinical Fellow, Speech-Language Pathologist*

- Providing speech-language and augmentative communication assessments for children and adults with developmental delays/disabilities through disciplinary/interdisciplinary clinics
- Presenting and discussing assessment results during interdisciplinary staff meetings, as well as family feedback sessions
- Providing augmentative communication consultation services to local, regional, and statewide early intervention programs, school systems, and families
- Constructing augmentative communication assessment/intervention and adaptive play materials for individuals with physical disabilities
- Providing assessments and intervention (including co-treatment) of speech-language and augmentative communication needs for children with language delays secondary to a variety of disabilities through Head Start Family Day Care Program and United Cerebral Palsy Parent Infant Enrichment Program

1994

**Pell City School System**

- Providing extended school year, homebound services to an individual adolescent student with language delay and epilepsy

**PRACTICUM EXPERIENCE**

1991 - 1993

**University of South Alabama Speech and Hearing Center, Mobile, Alabama**

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- Providing evaluation and intervention services for children and adults with language, articulation, voice, and fluency disorders

1992 - 1993

### **Knollwood Hospital, Mobile, Alabama**

- Providing evaluation and intervention services, including implementation of supplemental augmentative communication systems, for adults with communication disorders secondary to cerebral vascular accidents

1992

### **Bay Manor Nursing Home, Mobile, Alabama**

- Providing evaluation and intervention services for adults with a variety of communicative disorders, including aphasia, dysarthria, and dysphagia

1992

### **University of South Alabama Pediatric Center, Mobile, Alabama**

- Providing diagnostic services for pre-school aged children with language and articulation disorders

1991 - 1992

### **University of South Alabama Medical Center Neurology Unit, Mobile, Alabama**

- Providing evaluation and intervention services for patients with neurogenic impairments

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

2011

AAC Research Presentation, Guest Lecturer to a Graduate Level Augmentative Alternative Communication Class, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama

2004

“AAC: Principles of Assessment” Guest Lecturer to a Graduate Level Communication Disorders Class, Georgia State University, Atlanta, Georgia

1997

"Cognitive and Language Development in Children Aged Birth to Three Years" Guest Lecturer to Senior Occupational Therapy Class and Junior Level Psychology Class, UAB, Birmingham, Alabama, February

1994

"The Role of Augmentative Communication During Interdisciplinary Assessment of Individuals with Disabilities" Guest Lecturer to Senior Occupational Therapy Class, UAB, Birmingham, Alabama, May (with K. Heuser)

## **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

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- 1993 – Present American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) (member Division 12 since 1999; member Division 1 since 2004)
- 1995 - 1999 Speech and Hearing Association of Alabama (SHAA)  
2008 - Present
- 1998 – 2008 United States Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication (USSAAC)
- 1998 – 2008 International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication (ISAAC)
- 2001 – 2007 Center for Research on Atypical Development and Learning (CRADL) at Georgia State University
- 2002 – 2007 International Society of Early Intervention (ISEI)
- 1991 to 1993 National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association (NSSLHA)

## **COMMITTEES**

- 2014 Chair, Task Force for revisions to Journey II, a statewide training for service providers and service coordinators, Alabama's Early Intervention System
- 2013 – Present Conference Planning Committee, Alabama's Early Intervention System
- 2013 – Present Comprehensive System for Personnel Development Committee, Alabama's Early Intervention System
- 2004 – 2008 Ad Hoc Committee member on the Role of the Speech-Language Pathologist in Early Intervention, ASHA
- 2004 Program Committee member for the ASHA Division 12 (AAC) Leadership Conference: Early Intervention and AAC
- 1999 Volunteer Committee, Chairman, Speech and Hearing Association of Alabama Annual Conference
- 1994 – 1999 Augmentative Communication Ad hoc Committee Member, Speech and Hearing Association of Alabama
- 1994 Disability Awareness Committee, University of Alabama at Birmingham (Panel participant for symposium focusing on "Careers in the Helping Professions")

## PUBLICATIONS

### Book Chapters

- Cheslock, M.A., Barton-Hulsey, A., Sevcik, R.A., & Ronski, M.A., (2009, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition expected in Spring 2013). Communication development in children with multiple disabilities: The role of augmentative and alternative communication. In B.B. Shulman & N.C. Capone (Eds.) *Language Development: Foundations, Processes, and Clinical Applications*, Sudbury, MA: Jones and Bartlett Publishers.
- Ronski, M. A., Sevcik, R. A., Cheslock, M. A., & Barton, A. (2006). The system for augmenting language: AAC and emerging language intervention. In R. McCauley & M. Fey (Eds.) *Treatment of Language Disorders in Children: Conventional and controversial interventions*. Baltimore, MD: Paul H. Brookes.
- Ronski, M. A., Sevcik, R. A., Hyatt, A. M., & Cheslock, M. A., (2002). A continuum of AAC language intervention strategies for beginning communicators. In Reichle, J., Beukelman, D. R., & Light, J. C. (Eds.), *Exemplary Practices for Beginning Communicators: Implications for AAC* (1<sup>st</sup> ed., pp. 1-23). Baltimore, MD: Paul H. Brookes.

### Articles

- Cheslock, M.A. & Kahn, S.J. (September 20, 2011). Supporting families and caregivers in everyday routines. *The ASHA Leader*.
- Ronski, M.A., Sevcik, R.A., Adamson, L.B., Smith, A., Cheslock, M.A., & Bakeman, R. (May, 2011). Parent perceptions of the language development of toddlers with developmental delays before and after participation in parent-coached language interventions. *American Journal of Speech-Language Pathology*, 20, 111-118.
- Ronski, M.A., Sevcik, R.A., Adamson, L.B., Cheslock, M.A., Smith, A., Barker, & R.M., Bakeman, R. (April, 2010). Randomized comparison of augmented and nonaugmented language interventions for toddlers with developmental delays and their parents. *Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research*, 53, 350-364.
- American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. (2008). Roles and responsibilities of speech-language pathologists in early intervention: (family of documents). Available from [asha.org/policy](http://asha.org/policy). Committee members: Wilcox, M.J. (chair), Crais, E.R., Cheslock, M.A., Norman-Murch, T., Paul, R., Roth, R.P., Woods, J.J. & Paul, D.
- Cheslock, M.A., Barton-Hulsey, A., Ronski, M.A., & Sevcik, R.A. (October, 2008). Using a speech-generating device to enhance communicative abilities for an adult with

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moderate intellectual disability. *Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities*, 46 (5), 376-386.

Cheslock, M.A., Ronski, M.A., & Sevcik, R.A. (2007). Providing quality AAC intervention services to very young children: research and recommended practice. *Perspectives on Augmentative and Alternative Communication*, 16(1), 2-6.

Cheslock, M. A. (2004). Issues of language input and output in AAC with young children. *Perspectives on Augmentative and Alternative Communication*, 13(3), 11-14.

Ronski, M. A., Sevcik, R. A., & Cheslock, M. A., (2004). Augmentative and alternative communication. In R. Kent (Ed.). *Encyclopedia of Communication Sciences and Disorders*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

Cheslock, M. A., Ronski, M. A., Sevcik, R. A., & Adamson, L. B. (2001). Augmented language intervention project: From school-aged youth to toddlers. American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Special Interest Division 12 *Augmentative and Alternative Communication Newsletter*, 10, (2), 15-17.

**PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS**

- 2013 “AAC Mythbusters: Revealing Success Using Low-Tech AAC Solutions”, Presented to 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Early Intervention and Preschool Conference, Birmingham, Alabama (with S. Napp, M. Hankins, and C. Utsey)
- 2013 “A Family-Based Approach to Communication Intervention”, Presented to 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Early Intervention and Preschool Conference, Birmingham, Alabama (with S. Fuhrmeister)
- 2012 “AAC Preschool Applications” Presented to the University of Montevallo’s Symposium on “Using iPads, Tablets and Applications for Pediatric Therapy”, Montevallo, Alabama (with L. Roebuck, K. Doss, M. Hankins, S. Kahn, and M. Pouncey)
- 2011 “The Golden Thread in Communication” Presented to Annual Alabama Early Intervention and Preschool Conference, Birmingham, Alabama (with S. Kahn, M. Hankins, and M. Pouncey)
- 2006 “AAC and Emerging Language Intervention: Research and Recommended Practice” Presentation to Annual Alabama Early Intervention and Preschool Conference, Mobile, Alabama
- 2005 “Speech Generating Devices: Enhancing Communicative Interactions for Adults with Moderate Cognitive Disabilities” Poster Presented to Annual American



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Speech-Language-Hearing Association Conference, San Diego, California (with M.A. Romski, R.A. Sevcik, & A. Barton)

- 2005 “Parent Perception of Toddler Communication Development Before and After Language Intervention” Poster Presented to Biennial Society for Research in Child Development Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia (with M.A. Romski, R.A. Sevcik, L.B. Adamson, & A. Smith)
- 2004 “Measuring Parent Perception of Early Communication Development and Intervention” Poster Presented to Annual American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Conference, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (with M.A. Romski, R.A. Sevcik, L.B. Adamson, & A. Smith)
- 2004 “Issues of Language Input and Output in AAC with Young Children” Focus Group Leader Presentation to the Fifth Annual Leadership Conference in Augmentative and Alternative Communication: Early Intervention and AAC, Sea Island, Georgia
- 2002 “AAC Intervention for a Beginning Communicator with Holoprosencephaly” Poster Presented to Annual American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Conference, Atlanta, Georgia (with A. Smith, T. Kobek, J. Krupa, R.A. Sevcik, L.B. Adamson, & M.A. Romski)
- 1999 “AAC and Basic Strategies for Families,” Presented to First Annual International Costello Syndrome Conference, Birmingham, Alabama, April
- 1999 “Evaluation and Assessment of Infants and Toddlers” Presented to Alabama’s Early Intervention System, Comprehensive System of Personnel Development, Decatur, Alabama, February and May (with C. Ritenbaugh, S. Chapman, and N. Barnacastle)
- 1998 “AAC Awareness and Basic AAC Strategies: Getting Started,” Presented to Cullman County School System, Cullman, Alabama, October
- 1998 “Team-Based Augmentative Communication Intervention for Children in Inclusive Settings” Presented to the Speech and Hearing Association of Alabama Conference, Mobile, Alabama, March (with B. Bellah, C Burke, G. Harris, S. Jones, R. Maxwell, and J. Rowe)
- 1997 “I Have So Much to Share: Children with Physical Challenges in Natural Environments” Presented to the Early Intervention and Preschool Conference, Mobile, Alabama, November (with G. Harris, M. Lofton, J. Rowe, and L. Vogtle)
- 1997 “Computer Access: Communication and Motor Solutions” Presented to the Focus on Children Conference, Birmingham, Alabama, October (with A. Griffin)

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- 1997 "Current AAC Systems for Children: No Tech to High Tech" Presented to STAR Conference, Birmingham, Alabama, June (with A. Smith)
- 1994-1998 "Hands on Technology: Kneading the Dough" Presented to the Early Intervention Conference, Birmingham, Alabama, November (with other area agencies, including Sparks Clinics, Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind, and United Cerebral Palsy Center of Greater Birmingham)
- 1994 - 1995 "Low Technology Augmentative Communication/Make It-Take It." Presented to the Annual Statewide Technology Access and Response Conference, Mobile, Alabama, August (1994); Birmingham, Alabama, August (1995) (with B. Bellah, C. Burke)
- 1994 "Disability Awareness and Augmentative Communication in the Community" Presented to employees of a fast food restaurant, Birmingham, Alabama, February (with K. Heuser)
- 1993 "Perception of Stop Consonants and Glides by Humans and Animals" Poster Session presented to the Annual Speech-Language-Hearing Association Convention, Anaheim, California, November (with P. Dagenais)

### **CONTINUING EDUCATION**

- 2013 Beckman Oral-Motor Protocol, Presented by Debra Beckman, Sponsored by Marcus Center, Atlanta, Georgia, February
- 2012 "Reality AAC: Using Communication Devices in the Classroom", Presented by, Sponsored by Prentke Romich Company, Birmingham, AL, October
- 2012 "Self-Regulation in Children: Keeping the Body, Mind and Emotions on Task in Children with Autism, ADHD or Sensory Disorders", Presented by Jessica Hunt, OTR/L, Sponsored by MEDS-PDN, Birmingham, AL, October
- 2012 "Using iPads, Tablets and Applications for Pediatric Therapy", Sponsored by University of Montevallo, Montevallo, Alabama, September
- 2011 "Children Who Struggle to Speak: The Kaufman Speech to Language Protocol", Presented by Nancy Kaufman, Sponsored by Northern Speech Services, Birmingham, Alabama, December
- 2008 "Intervention Strategies for Severe Disabilities", American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Professional Development Online Program

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- 2008 – 2011  
1995, 1998      Speech and Hearing Association of Alabama Annual Conference, Gulf Shores (1995), Mobile (1998), Auburn (2008), Birmingham (2009, 2010, 2011).
- 2004 - 2006  
2001 – 2002  
1991 – 1994      American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Convention, Miami, FL (2006), Philadelphia, PA (2004), Atlanta, GA (2002), Washington D.C. (2001), New Orleans, LA (1994); Anaheim, CA (1993); San Antonio, TX (1992); Atlanta, GA (1991), November
- 2009 - 2011  
1993 - 1998      Alabama Early Intervention and Preschool Conference, Birmingham, Alabama and Mobile, Alabama, October
- 2006              “Connecting the Dots: Implications of Recent Research in Communication and Language Intervention for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders,” Presented by Diane Twachtman-Cullen, Ph.D., Sponsored by Georgia State University Communication Disorders’ Summer Institute, Atlanta, Georgia, June
- 2006              “Autism Spectrum Disorders: Introduction to Intervention” American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Professional Development Online Program, March
- 2005              “Learning to Communicate: From Body Signals to First Words,” Presented by Deborah Chen, Ph.D., Sponsored by The American Association for Home-Based Early Interventionists (AAHBEI), Norcross, Georgia, July
- 2005              “Pediatric Feeding and Swallowing: The Absolute Essentials,” Presented by Rona Alexander, Sponsored by Georgia State University Communication Disorders’ Summer Institute, Atlanta, Georgia, June
- 2005              Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia, April
- 2004              “AAC in the Classroom,” Dynavox Systems Workshop, Atlanta, Georgia, September
- 2004              “Exploring Collaborative Teaming in Service Provision,” Sponsored by the Georgia Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Atlanta, Georgia, May
- 2004              Butler Symposium on Child Language Innovations in Research and Practice, Sponsored by ASHA Special Interest Division 1, Clearwater, Florida, March
- 2002 - 2004      Leadership Conference in AAC: Early Intervention and AAC (2004); Inclusive Education and AAC (2003); Language, Literacy, and AAC (2002), Sponsored by ASHA Special Interest Division 12, Sea Island, Georgia, January

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- 2002 – 2003 Southeast Augmentative Communication Conference, Birmingham,  
1993 – 1998 Alabama, October
- 2003 “Responsive Teaching and Parent-Mediated Developmental Intervention,”  
Sponsored by Georgia Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Atlanta, Georgia,  
October
- 2000 “Oral-Motor Analysis and Remediation Techniques,” Presented by Char Boshart,  
Sponsored by Speech Dynamics, Inc., Atlanta, Georgia, May
- 1999 “Dynamyte Communication Device Training: The Basics,” Dynavox Systems  
Workshop, Birmingham, Alabama, March
- 1999 “Visual Strategies for Improving Communication” Presented by Linda Hodgdon,  
M.Ed., CCC-SLP, Sponsored by Autism society of Alabama, Birmingham,  
Alabama, January
- 1998 “Exploring the Possibilities of DeltaTalker” and “Exploring *Unity128* Version:  
Language for Life” Prentke Romich Company Workshop, Sponsored by Civitan  
International Research Center/Sparks Clinics, Birmingham, Alabama, January
- 1997 "Enhancing Communicative and Socioemotional Competence in Young Children  
with Autism and Pervasive Developmental Disorder," Presented by Barry Prizant,  
Ph.D., CCC-SLP, Sponsored by Florida State University and Emerald Coast  
Diagnostic & Rehabilitation Center, Incorporated, Panama City Beach, Florida,  
May
- 1996 "Evaluation and Treatment of Children with Developmental Apraxia of Speech"  
Presented by Nancy Kaufman, MA, CCC-SLP, Sponsored by Northern  
Rehabilitation Services, Cincinnati, Ohio, October
- 1994 - 1995 Statewide Technology Access and Response Conference, Birmingham, Alabama,  
August (1995); Mobile, Alabama, August (1994)
- 1994 "Inclusion of Speech/Language Services in the Classroom," Sponsored by  
Alabama State Board of Education, Homewood, Alabama, July
- 1994 "Hands On: Augmentative/Alternative Communication" Presented by Kim  
Hartselle, CCC-SLP. Sponsored by Auburn University, Auburn, Alabama,  
February
- 1994 Words+ Workshop, Sponsored by Civitan International Research Center/Sparks  
Clinics, Birmingham, Alabama, February

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- 1993 Minspeak Conference, Birmingham, Alabama, October
- 1993 Jefferson County Child Development Council Head Start/Division of Early Childhood Conference, Birmingham, Alabama, July
- 1993 "Alabama's Early Intervention System" Sponsored by Alabama Comprehensive System of Personnel Development System, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, July
- 1993 Gulf Coast Conference on Developmental Disabilities, Point Clear, Alabama, June
- 1993 "Liberating the Power of Minspeak" Prentke Romich Company Workshop, Sponsored by Civitan International Research Center/Sparks, Birmingham, Alabama, March
- 1993 "Introduction to Minspeak" Prentke Romich Company TouchTalker/Light Talker Workshop, Sponsored by Civitan International Research Center/Sparks Clinics, Birmingham, February