



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
COMMUNICATION SCIENCES
AND DISORDERS (IALP)

NEWSLETTER

FROM  VOICE COMMITTEE

MAY 2026

ISSUE #01



MESSAGE FROM CHAIR OF THE VOICE COMMITTEE



Dear Colleagues and Friends,

As the incoming Chair of the Voice Committee of the IALP, I have the great honor of introducing this inaugural newsletter of the Voice Committee.

I would like to start by expressing my gratitude to our outgoing Chair Debra Phyland for her leadership in guiding the Voice Committee and making the Committee grow and flourish. I also want to acknowledge our outgoing committee members (Sarah Schneider, Evelien D'haesele, Mami Kaneko, and Catriona Munier) for their dedication and support. Your contributions have built a strong foundation that we stand on today.

The newsletter is a channel to connect members and to spotlight colleagues' work. In this newsletter, you will find information about our new Committee members, reports of activities and up-coming events. Moving forward, the Voice Committee will continue our commitment to global knowledge exchange. We will keep leveraging our diverse international expertise to address emerging challenges and opportunities in voice. I invite you all to stay engaged, share your insights and help us to continue to advance the field of voice together! Your suggestions and feedback are important to us, and we look forward to hearing from you.

Finally, I am grateful to the IALP Executive Committee for their ongoing support of our various initiatives.

Stay tuned for more updates!

Best wishes to everyone,

Estella Ma
Chair (w.e.f. September 2025),
Voice Committee of the IALP



GET IN TOUCH!



@ialp_voice



IALP Voice SLPs &
Phoniatricians



@IALP_Global



Int'l Assoc Commun
Sciences & Disorders
- IALP



The International
Association of
Communication
Sciences and Disorders
(IALP)

OUR MISSION



To improve the quality of lives of individuals with voice disorders.

We strive to:

- Facilitate science, education, and clinical practice through international cooperation and collaboration;
- Create and share knowledge, skills and information;
- Provide a platform for international networking and advocacy.

OUR VISION

We at IALP have a global vision to facilitate better understanding, knowledge and care of all those with voice disorders.

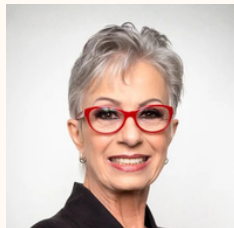
MEMBERSHIP OF THE VOICE COMMITTEE



Estella Ma
(Hong Kong SAR)
CHAIR



Maria Dietrich
(Germany)
DEPUTY CHAIR



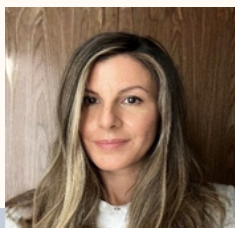
Mara Behlau
(Brazil)
CONSULTANT



Debbie Phyland
(Australia)
CONSULTANT



Preeti Sivasankar
(USA)
MEMBER



Amanda Prachali
(UAE)
MEMBER



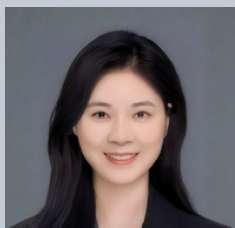
Jennifer Oates
(Australia)
MEMBER



Ciaran Kenny
(Ireland)
MEMBER



Anna White
(UK)
MEMBER



Dan Lyu
(China)
MEMBER



Zainab Nagree
(India)
MEMBER



Lady Catherine Cantor
Cutiva (Columbia)
MEMBER

REPORT ON

THE IALP 2025 WORLD CONGRESS IN MALTA

33RD
WORLD
CONGRESS
OF THE IALP

Innovation and Inspiration
in Communication
Sciences and Disorders

AUGUST 24-28
MALTA 2025



Voice Committee Session #1:

Voice Smarter not Harder: Preventing and Managing Vocal Injuries in the Workplace

This session comprised a series of short overview talks on the physiologic nature of vocal injuries and factors that contribute to their development; assessment and monitoring of specific at-risk populations (including potential for AI and other emerging tools and workplace applications); programs and novel approaches for injury prevention and reversibility.

Session Chair: Debra Phyland

The Nature and Evolution of Vocal Injuries Related to Tissue Trauma in Workers

Preeti Sivasankar (Purdue University, US)

Advancing Risk Assessment and Monitoring in Occupational Voice Disorders with Artificial Intelligence

Amanda Prachali (Munsait, UAE)

Preventing and Reversing Damage From Vocal Loading

Mami Kaneko (Kyoto Prefectural University of Medicine, Japan)

Vocal Injuries in Teachers: Epidemiology and Influences on Vocal Health

Caitriona Munier (Dublin)

Prevention and Mitigation of Voice Health Risks for Working Singers and Actors

Debra Phyland (School of Clinical Sciences (Monash Health), Monash University, Australia)

Improving the Corporate Voice for Successful Communication

Mara Behlau (Director of Cev, Brazil)

Panel Discussion

Voice Committee Session #2:

Vocal Congruence and Gender Affirmation: Diverse Approaches to Voice Care

For transgender and gender diverse (TGD) individuals, voice-related gender incongruence—when one’s voice does not align with their gender identity or desired presentation—can significantly impact gender satisfaction, psychosocial well-being, and overall quality of life (Hancock, 2017; Hancock et al., 2011; McNeill et al., 2008). This panel explored the diverse models and approaches to gender-affirming voice care available to TGD individuals. Grounded in the “biocultural assemblage view” (Azul & Hancock, 2020), which recognises the production of a speaker’s gender as an ongoing, interactional process shaped by socio-cultural influences, we discuss how different factors such as conversational dynamics, professional practices, and broader biocultural contexts affect voice-related experiences.

Panel Chair: Evelien D’haeseleer

Evolution of Approaches to Speech Pathology Practice With Trans- and Gender-diverse People

Jennifer Oates (Communication Disorders, Latrobe University, Melbourne)

Ingredients to Voice Training

Evelien D’haeseleer (Ghent University, Belgium)

Surgical Options for Gender Affirming Voice Care

Paul Paddle (Melbourne Voice Analysis Centre, Melbourne, Australia)

Strategies for Changing Resonance and Pitch

Christella Antoni (Voice and Speech Services, London, United Kingdom)

The Transitioning Singing Voice: Considerations for Speech Pathologists in Gender-Affirming Care

Debbie Phyland (School of Clinical Sciences (Monash Health), Monash University, Australia)

Panel Discussion





IALP SPECIAL SESSION AT PAN-EUROPEAN VOICE CONFERENCE

REPORT ON



Date: March 26, 2026
Time: 11:30–13:00
Format: Talks and panel discussion

IALP Voice Committee Session

Theme: **Voice Assessment and Management: An International Perspective**

Session Chair: Tamar Abou-Elsaad (IALP President)

Moderator: Debra Phyland (IALP Vice-President for Membership and Partnerships)



Assessment and management of vocal fold sulcus: Perspective from SLPs in India
Zainab Nagree



Survey of referral patterns in southwestern mainland China: How do pediatricians manage children with dysphonia
Lyu Dan



Investigating ultrasound settings for laryngeal imaging
Ciarán Kenny



How is artificial intelligence changing the vocal demands of occupational voice users
Lady Catherine Cantor Cutiva



The clinician is the instrument: Voice assessment and therapy without tools
Debra Phyland

“ Empower Your Voice

IALP INSIGHTS: VOICE AND VOICE DISORDERS

#1

The vocal folds are delicate and are no longer than a thumb’s fingernail in females. They serve speech and non-speech functions and excel when used by vocal athletes such as singers.

#2

One in three people will have a voice disorder in their lifetime. They are more common in women than men and can severely impact quality of life.



Visit <https://ialpglobal.org/voice/> to know more about voice disorders!

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES



#1

World Voice Day 2026 Celebration



Theme:
"CARING FOR OUR VOICES!"

Date: April 16

Visit <https://worldvoiceday.org/>
to know more!

1st Regional Conference of the International Association of Communication Sciences and Disorders

#2



Location: Belem (Brazil)

Date: June 22-25, 2026

Theme: *Building Connections and Solutions to Global Challenges in Communication Sciences and Disorders*

Visit <https://www.ialp2026.com/> to know more!