**Program Description**

Many speech-language pathologists have expressed doubts about their ability to help school-age children who stutter. Questions about eligibility and dismissal criteria, overall treatment goals and IEPs, techniques for improving speech fluency, ways to improve children's communication attitudes, strategies for working with parents and teachers, how to minimize teasing and bullying, and whether children can benefit from fluency devices or medications are common. The purpose of this workshop is to help clinicians find real-world, practical answers to these and many other questions. Specific exercises and strategies will be discussed in detail, and participants will have the opportunity to explore a variety of different ways to help children who stutter overcome the difficulties associated with their stuttering. Participants will come away from the workshop feeling more confident in their own abilities for helping children who stutter and better able to respond to the challenges of stuttering therapy in schools and other settings.

**Learning Objectives**

Participants will be able to:

- Design efficient and effective diagnostic evaluations of school-age children who stutter
- Select appropriate treatment strategies for helping children who stutter speak more easily and communicate more effectively
- Write meaningful, objective treatment goals and benchmarks and document progress in treatment
- Apply learned strategies to help children overcome their emotional and cognitive reactions to stuttering
- Effectively involve families, teachers, and others in the child's treatment plan
- Address adverse situations such as bullying and teasing, low motivation in treatment, uncooperative parents and teachers

**SUNY FREDONIA**

Practical Treatment Strategies for School-Age Children Who Stutter

Sponsored by the Youngerman Center for Communication Disorders of the Department of Communication Disorders and Sciences
J. Scott Yaruss, PhD, CCC-SLP, ASHA Fellow
Board-Recognized Specialist and Mentor in Fluency Disorders

Dr. Yaruss is Associate Professor and Director of the Master's Degree Program in Speech-Language Pathology at the University of Pittsburgh, Associate Director of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, and Co-Director of the Stuttering Center of Western Pennsylvania. In addition to conducting research on the development of stuttering in young children, Dr. Yaruss has extensive experience working with children and adults who stutter in a wide variety of clinical settings. He has served on the board of directors of the National Stuttering Association and on the Steering Committee of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association’s Special Interest Division for Fluency Disorders. Dr. Yaruss frequently presents continuing education workshops to help speech-language pathologists feel more confident in their ability to help preschool and school-age children who stutter. He is co-author of the Source for Stuttering: Ages 7-18, published by LinguiSystems and the Overall Assessment of the Speaker’s Assessment of Stuttering (OASES), published by Pearson Assessments.

Practical Treatment Strategies for School-Age Children Who Stutter
FRIDAY, APRIL 16, 2010

8:00 - 8:25 Registration and Continental Breakfast
8:25 - 8:30 Introductions/Administrative Remarks
8:30 - 9:00 Understanding Stuttering
  – A broad-based view of the disorder
  – Making sense of a complicated disorder
9:00 - 10:00 Comprehensive Evaluation of Stuttering
  – Eligibility and IDEA for School-Age Children
  – Figuring out who needs treatment
10:00 - 10:15 Break
10:15 - 12:00 Selecting Appropriate Treatment Goals
  – Writing IEP goals and benchmarks
  – Helping children speak more fluently
12:00 - 1:00 Lunch (provided on-site)
1:00 - 2:30 Goals and Procedures of Treatment II
  – Helping children change the way they stutter
  – Helping children address emotional and cognitive reactions
  – Achieving success outside therapy
2:30 - 2:45 Break
2:45 - 3:15 Working with the Child’s Environment
  – Eliminating Teasing and Bullying
  – Helping Parents and Teachers Understand Stuttering
  – Coming to terms with stuttering: The value of support groups
3:15 - 4:00 Specific Cases and Special Situations

Deadline to Mail/Online Register: April 7, 2010 (No in-person registration)