

## Candidates for Councilor



**Laura Baijens, MD, PhD**

Associate Professor, Head & Neck Oncology Surgeon and Laryngologist  
Department of Otorhinolaryngology, Head & Neck Surgery, Maastricht University  
Medical Center, the Netherlands

**Please list past services to DRS and other leadership roles in other organizations:**

**For DRS:**

- 2017-2022 Member of the Annual Scientific Abstract Review Committee of the American Dysphagia Research Society.
- Member of the Award Committee of the American Dysphagia Research Society 30th Annual Meeting March 15-18, 2022 Online Virtual Conference, Puerto Rico, USA.
- Member of the Annual Conference Program Planning Committee (Faculty) 2020-2021 of the American Dysphagia Research Society.
- Member of the New Investigator Award Committee of the American Dysphagia Research Society 29th Annual Meeting March 9-12, 2021 Online Virtual Conference, San Francisco, USA.
- Member of the New Investigator Award Committee of the American Dysphagia Research Society 27th Annual Meeting March 6-9, 2019 San Diego, California, USA.
- Member of the Springer Publishing Junior Investigator Scholarship Committee of the American Dysphagia Research Society 26th Anniversary Annual Meeting March 14-17, 2018 Baltimore, Maryland, USA.
- Member of the Poster Award Committee of the American Dysphagia Research Society 25th Anniversary Annual Meeting March 2-4, 2017 Portland, Oregon, USA.

**Other Leadership Roles:**

- Director of the Division Laryngology – Dysphagia Clinic and Research Lab, Department of Otorhinolaryngology, Head & Neck Surgery, Maastricht University Medical Center and GROW School for Oncology and Developmental Biology, Maastricht University, Maastricht, the Netherlands.
- Chair of the Dutch National Guideline Committee on Rehabilitation following Head-and-Neck Cancer (will start in January 2022, approved by the 'Stichting Kwaliteitsgelden Medisch Specialisten' in July 2021).
- 2020 to today Member of Platform Scientific Integrity of Maastricht University.
- 2021 to today Officially nominated and accepted member of the CORLAS (CORLAS: Collegium Oto-Rhino-Laryngologicum Amicitiae Sacrum).
- 2013 to today Chair of the Dutch National Guideline Committee on Dysphagia (Richtlijn: Orofaryngeale Dysfagie [www.richtlijnendatabase.nl](http://www.richtlijnendatabase.nl)).
- 2011-2021 Member of the Annual Scientific Abstract Review Committee of the European Society for Swallowing Disorders (ESSD).
- Organizer, editor, and chair of the European White Paper 2020-2021: Oropharyngeal Dysphagia in Head and Neck Cancer. The document was written by experts from the European Society for Swallowing Disorders (ESSD), the Confederation of European Otorhinolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery (CEORL-HNS), the European Head and Neck Society (EHNS), the Union of the European Phoniaticians (UEP), and the European Laryngological Society (ELS). The paper was published in European Archives of Oto-Rhino-Laryngology. 2021;278: 577–616.
- Consultant for Phagenesis Limited, The Elms Courtyard, Bromesberrow, Ledbury, HR8 1RZ UK.
- 2016-2019 Treasurer of the European Society for Swallowing Disorders (ESSD).
- Organizer and lecturer of the First Annual Congress on September 9-10, 2011 of the ESSD (formerly EGDG) Leiden, the Netherlands.

### **Why is DRS important to you?**

The DRS is an indispensable forum for me. From the very beginning of my developmental knowledge pathway in dysphagia to my current position as associate professor of Laryngology, the DRS continues to provide me with an important stimulus to continue developing my team and myself both in terms of clinical knowledge and scientific research. The scientific level of the conferences is high and offers the participants the opportunity to develop, network, and collaborate.

### **What would you like to see DRS accomplish during your term in furthering its global mission?**

What is the global perspective on dysphagia healthcare?

Dysphagia-related health issues transcend geographical and national borders. Cultural differences and consciousness, having respect and understanding of diverse populations should be integrated in the mission toward dysphagia-related health equity.

In order to carry out a dysphagia-centered mission on a global level, it is important to create broad support for this. Dysphagia is not an isolated phenomenon and in order to further develop the strategy for dysphagia healthcare, it is important to seek links with other global health initiatives such as for example the 'Nutrition' program of the World Health Organization.



**Julie Barkmeier-Kraemer, PhD, CCC-SLP**

University of Utah

#### **Please list past services to DRS and other leadership roles in other organizations:**

Dysphagia Research Society:

2019 - 2020 Member, Dysphagia Research Society, DRS 2020 Program Planning Committee

2020 - 2021 Program Co-Chairman, Dysphagia Research Society, 2021 Dysphagia Research Society

#### **Program Committee**

2017 - 2018 Member, Dysphagia Research Society, ad hoc committee on NIH Dysphagia Funding  
2017 Committee Member & Presenter, European Society for Swallowing Disorders, World Dysphagia Summit. Global minimum standards of care and specific outcome measures. Final recommendations were presented at the World Dysphagia Summit in Barcelona, Spain on September 22-23, 2017.

2015 - 2016 Member, Dysphagia Research Society, Program Planning Committee 2016 Annual Meeting, Tucson, AZ

2014 - 2016 Member, Dysphagia Research Society, (DRS) Early Investigator Initiative and Post-Graduate Planning Committee

2013 - 2014 Member, Dysphagia Research Society, Program Committee, 2014 Annual Meeting, Nashville, TN

#### **Other Leadership Roles in Other Organizations**

2018 - 2021 Member, PhenX, Expert Review Panel, Consensus measures for Phenotypes and eXposures (funded by the National Human Genome Research Institute)

2018 - 2024 Member, American Speech-Language-Hearing Foundation, ASHFoundation Board of Trustees

2013 - present Member, Feeding Matters, Professional Executive Council

2021 Career Mentor, American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, ASHA's 2021 Pathways Program to provide mentoring to early-career clinical scientists.

2021 Committee Member, International Parkinson and Movement Disorder Society, MDS-ES Speech and Swallowing Problems in Patients with Movement Disorders

2020 - 2021 Working Group Member, National Institutes of Health, NINDS/NICHD Common Data Elements (CDEs) Working Group for the Rehabilitation CDE project as a member of the Communication Subgroup.

2020 - Present Committee Member, International Parkinson and Movement Disorder Society, Speech and Movement Disorders Special Interest Group.

2019 - Present Scientific Advisory Board, National Spasmodic Dysphonia Association

2017 - 2019 Member, American Board of Voice and Upper Airway Disorders, Member of the Voice and Upper Airway Disorders Specialty Certification Group.

2016 - 2017 Representative, American Academy of Neurology, Panel for the Development of Essential Tremor Quality Indicators, American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) Representative  
 2015 - 2017 Member, American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, ASHA's Research and Scientific Affairs Committee (RSAC)  
 2015 - 2017 Member, American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, ASHA's Grant Review and Reviewer Training Planning Committee (GRRT)  
 2015 - 2017 Faculty Member, American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, ASHA's Lessons for Success Conference Faculty Member  
 2012 - 2016 Member, American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Ad hoc Committee on Instrumental Voice Assessment Protocols (IVAP)  
 2011 - 2013 Nominated Representative & Member, American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, AAO-HNS Clinical Practice Guidelines Working Group for Optimizing Voice Outcomes after Post-Thyroid Surgery  
 2001 - 2004 Chair, American Speech-Language-Hearing Association: Special Interest Division 3, Voice and Voice Disorders, Working Group for the revision of the family of documents on Voice and Voice Disorders  
 2001 - 2004 Coordinator, American Speech-Language-Hearing Association: Special Interest Division 3, Voice and Voice Disorders  
 1999 - 2001 Steering Committee Member, American Speech-Language-Hearing Association: Special Interest Division 3, Voice and Voice Disorders

#### Grant Review Committee/Study Section

2021 Ad hoc Scientific Reviewer, Ad hoc Scientific Reviewer, NINDS Special Emphasis Panel ZNS1 SRB-H, National Institutes of Health (NIH)  
 2021 Ad hoc Scientific Reviewer, Motor Function Speech Rehabilitation (MFSR) Study Section, National Institutes of Health (NIH)  
 2020 - 2021 Chairperson, Clinical Trial (U01) Review Study Section, National Institutes on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD)  
 2020 - 2021 Scientific Reviewer, Basic and Clinical Aspects of Dystonia RFA, Dystonia Medical Research Foundation  
 2020 Ad hoc Scientific Reviewer, NIH Special Emphasis Panel: Community Interventions to Address the Consequences of the COVID-19 Pandemic among Health Disparity and Vulnerable Populations.  
 2017 - 2019 Chairperson, Motor Function, Speech and Rehabilitation (MFSR) NIH Study Section  
 2008 - 2014 Ad hoc Scientific Reviewer, Motor Function, Speech and Rehabilitation Study Section (MFSR), National Institutes of Health

#### Why is DRS important to you?

The DRS was founded to bring together experts across multiple disciplines to advance clinical dysphagia practices through scientific discoveries. I believe in the mission of the DRS to bring experts together to advance clinical and research training, advocacy for providers and patients, and scientific advancements that benefit those suffering from dysphagia. I also am enthusiastic about the current goals to invest in our future leaders and scientists to carry the field forward in high-impact ways. The DRS is discovering its potential to invoke change and serve constituents in several ways - I want to be part of that.

What would you like to see DRS accomplish during your term in furthering its global mission? \*

During my term, I would like to contribute toward the recruitment of more diverse scientific DRS membership from the professions of OT, PT, clinical psychology, neurology, radiology, dieticians, pulmonology, etc. To truly advance the complex problems facing those with dysphagia, we need to welcome all perspectives and orientations. I love the new process by which individuals are nominated and voted on by membership to assure that the leadership of the DRS is representative of the membership. I welcome these changes and look forward to supporting the changing faces of the DRS.



#### **Maggie Kuhn, MD, MAS**

Associate Professor & Medical Director, Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery, UC Davis

#### **Please list past services to DRS and other leadership roles in other organizations:\***

DRS, member: 2013 - present  
 Membership Committee: 2020 – present  
 Bylaws Committee: 2021 – present  
 DRSIE Fall Meeting mentor – 2021

DRSIE 2022 Co-Chair  
AAO-HNSF, member: 2008 - present  
Chair, Airway & Swallowing Committee: 2018 – 2020  
Member, Laryngology & Bronchoesophagology Education Committee: 2014 – present  
ABEA, member: 2013 - present  
Program Director, Annual Meeting 2019  
Chair, Pharyngoesophageal Committee: 2018 – 2020  
Councilor-at-Large, Executive Council: 2021 – present  
Fall Voice  
Chair, Early Career Laryngology Day 2017  
Member, Program Committee 2020  
Chair, Laryngology Fellow's Day 2021  
Chair, Program Committee 2023

### **Why is DRS important to you?**

I'm grateful that in DRS, I've found a one-of-its-kind, interdisciplinary community of deglutologists. I value DRS as a trustworthy source of swallowing innovation, education, and inspiration. I admire my fellow DRS members who are passionate about scientific discovery and patient welfare. I'm proud to be a part of this esteemed membership and take seriously our role in ensuring DRS's successful longevity.

What would you like to see DRS accomplish during your term in furthering its global mission? \*

- (1) Grow reach and diversity of membership and expand benefits afforded to members
- (2) Focus on community building within DRS through activities beyond the annual including:
  - (a) mature mentorship opportunities
  - (b) introduce additional interest groups
  - (c) increase availability of engagement in scientific and clinic discussion forums
- (3) Enhance DRS integration into network of other scientific, clinical, and patient-centered dysphagia organizations



### **Anna Miles, PhD**

The University of Auckland, Auckland, New Zealand

### **Please list past services to DRS and other leadership roles in other organizations:**

Dysphagia Research Society (DRS) roles:

DRS Board Member 2018-2022

Co-chair of DRS COVID-19 Taskforce 2020, 2021

Lead in development of DRS Statement of COVID-19 Risk Assessment for Aerosol Generating Procedures (AGPs) in Dysphagia Care 2020

DRS Annual Meeting Convenor 2022

DRS Annual Meeting Committee member 2020, 2021

DRS Annual Meeting Abstract Reviewer 2020, 2021, 2022

Active participation in DRS Annual Meeting through platform and poster presentations - every year since 2013

Chair of DRS Website, Communications and Public Relations Committee 2018, 2019

Member of DRS Website, Communications and Public Relations Committee 2016, 2017

International leadership roles:

Editor in chief, Speech Language & Hearing Journal 2017 ongoing

Editor International Journal of Speech Language Pathology 2019 ongoing

Editor Journal of Speech Language and Hearing Research (JSLHR) 2017-2019

Vice President and Professional Standard Portfolio, New Zealand Speech-language Therapists' Association 2015-2021

Expert Adviser - adult dysphagia, New Zealand Speech-language Therapists' Association 2015-2022

Treasurer, Laryngology Society of Australasia 2018-2021

**Why is DRS important to you?**

Dysphagia Research Society (DRS) has been my home since I was a PhD student in 2010. As an international academic based in the far off islands of New Zealand, an international community of colleagues is hugely important to me. In my DRS family, I have found others with as great a passion for high quality dysphagia research and wide dissemination of dysphagia research as me.

DRS offers me a place to learn, a place to share, a place to stimulate ideas and feel inspired to do my best for patients suffering with dysphagia and clinicians who work with them. The quality of my research and my clinical practice is better because of my DRS involvement. It is an honour and a joy to be part of the DRS community.

**What would you like to see DRS accomplish during your term in furthering its global mission?**

I am fully committed to DRS' Strategic Plan to drive for an inclusive, interprofessional DRS community with people from as many different professional backgrounds as possible. Research is most enjoyable and most clinically relevant when it is interprofessional. I am keen to support DRS to attract members from different disciplines - engineering, dietetics, food science, medical and surgical faculty.

As an international academic (outside of the USA), I am a passionate international collaborator, and I am keen to support DRS to meet its vision to be truly international in its membership through grants to support Annual Meeting attendance for internationals and translation services to support Annual Meeting accessibility for all.

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**Ashwini Namasivayam-MacDonald, PhD, CCC-SLP, SLP(C), Reg. CASLPO**

Assistant Professor, McMaster University

**Please list past services to DRS and other leadership roles in other organizations:**

- Member, DRS Mentorship and Research Career Development Committee (2020-Present)
- Member, DRS Abstract Review Committee (2020, 2021)
- Member, DRS Conference Planning Committee (2021)
- Member, DRS Oral Presentations Judge (2021)
- Chair, McMaster Speech-Language Pathology Anti-Racism, Anti-Bias, Anti-Oppression Committee (2020-Present)
- Member, ASHA Convention Adult Swallowing and Swallowing Disorders Topic Committee (2021, 2022)
- Member, Ontario Association of Speech-Language Pathologists & Audiologists Long-Term Care Working Group (2020-Present)
- Member, Speech-Language and Audiology Canada Long-Term Care Working Group (2020-Present)
- Member, Speech-Language and Audiology Canada Speech-Language Pathology Exam Writing Group (2020-Present)
- Chair, Adelphi University International Program Development Committee, Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders (2017-2019)
- Member, Adelphi University Institutional Review Board (2017-2019)
- Academic Consultant, Speech-Language and Audiology Canada Working Group: Informing the National Dementia Strategy (2018)
- Member, University Health Network Research Ethics Board (2014-2017)



**Why is DRS important to you?**

DRS is important to me because it provides a forum that brings together those interested in dysphagia to advance our collective knowledge. Through the annual meeting and other initiatives, trainees, clinicians, and researchers come together. We disseminate our swallowing research, challenge old ideas, receive feedback on new ideas, foster collaborations, provide mentorship and, most importantly, act as a unified voice to advocate for our patients with dysphagia. The coming together of both like-minded and differing opinions allows us to charter new territories, pushing the envelope of our clinical skills and expertise. DRS allows us to celebrate innovation and trailblazing in our field, while keeping our patients at the forefront.

**What would you like to see DRS accomplish during your term in furthering its global mission?**

As a person of color and an early career researcher, I hope DRS will expand its reach to attract and encourage members with a wide range of identities and at various career stages. I would love to see all types of people represented within DRS so that both newcomers and longstanding members feel like they belong and can provide meaningful contributions. This can be done by further supporting initiatives like those set forth by the Mentorship and Research Career Development and the International Inter-professional Committees to support people from underrepresented groups. This also means expanding leadership positions to improve representation across career stages, disciplines, identities, and countries to co-create a more inclusive society.

**Sreekanth Viswanathan, MD, MS**

Nemours Children's Health  
Orlando, Florida

**Please list past services to DRS and other leadership roles in other organizations:****1) Dysphagia Research Society (DRS)**

2017-present: Member of DRS

2020-present: Member, DRS Pediatric Dysphagia Special Interest Group Committee (2021-2024)

Member, DRS PEDS-SIG Newsletter Subcommittee

Member, DRS Award Committee (2021-24)

**DRS presentations**

- Significance of Body Adiposity in Dysphagic Infants in the NICU: A Pilot Study. Oral presentation, DRS Annual Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland, March 2018.

-UES role in infant feeding. DRS Annual Meeting, Mar. 2021 (Virtual)

-Developmental physiology of infant swallowing and airway protection. DRS Education Webinar, Oct. 2021

2017-present: Reviewer for journal 'Dysphagia'

2020-21- Abstract reviewer for DRS Annual Meeting

**2) Other leadership roles**

-Co-Director, Nemours Summer Undergraduate Research Program (NSURP), 2021-present

-Associate Professor, University of Central Florida College of Medicine and Attending

Neonatologist, Nemours Children's Hospital, Orlando, Florida

**3) Other memberships:**

2021-present: Member of Society for Pediatric Research (SPR)

2013-present: Member of American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)

2017-present: Member of The American Neurogastroenterology and Motility Society

**Why is DRS important to you?**

- 1) DRS provides excellent professional networking and collaboration opportunities with national and international dysphagia experts across the world.
- 2) Various DRS platforms such as annual meetings, journals and newsletters, workshops, and webinars help me stay abreast of the cutting-edge research activities and enhance my knowledge base in the field of dysphagia.
- 3) DRS provides me with an efficient framework for developing leadership skills, opportunity to serve in committees, seeking and providing mentorship, and obtaining feedback related to my own research interests that are focused on solving the problems of infant dysphagia.

**What would you like to see DRS accomplish during your term in furthering its global mission?**

- 1) I would like to see active efforts to increase DRS memberships from both academic and non-academic settings across the globe to maximize the impact of DRS activities in improving the care of every patient with dysphagia.
  - 2) Actively engage DRS junior members by providing career guidance, mentoring, recognition through extensive award programs and travel grants, and support their transition to full members.
  - 3) Enhance DRS membership benefits by improving DRS website contents, expanding DRS newsletter contents, creating a discussion board for members to cover events/topics that are most relevant to their practice.
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