

Episode 53: Conversation with an SLP Graduate Professor on Improving the Classroom-to-Clinic Connection with Problem-Based Learning Approach (SLP Spotlight)

Meet Louise Keegan, Ph.D., an Associate Professor of Speech-Language Pathology at Moravian College who was instrumental in developing the Master of Science program at the Pennsylvania-based institution. Louise walks us through the problem-based learning structure her graduate program embraces, how her background led her to that approach, and what advice she'd give to students seeking out an accredited Master's program.

Discussion & Reflection Questions

1. Can you tell us why you became a speech-language pathologist and why you chose to go the Ph.D. route?
2. You recently founded your own Master's program at Moravian College. Tell us about what makes your program so special.
3. Your program embraces problem-based learning and includes a lot of group work. Can you give us an example of a group problem?
4. What are some words of wisdom you have for students who are going to be starting a graduate program?
5. You mentioned highlighting more mundane skills on your path to becoming an SLP. Can you give some examples of that?
6. What words of advice do you have for the student who needs to reach out to a professor for whatever reason?
7. When you have students who are getting ready to graduate, and they're getting ready to leave your program and launch their own careers, what words of advice do you have for them?

Quote of the Conversation

"Do the best you can because if you're graduating from an accredited program, you've got the tools you need. It's just a case of learning how to listen to others and apply them in the best possible way."

-Louise Keegan, Ph.D., CCC-SLP, BC-ANCDS

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Associate Professor of Speech-Language Pathology and Founding Program Director at Moravian College



Louise Keegan, Ph.D., CCC-SLP, BC-ANCDS, is an Associate Professor of Speech-Language Pathology and the Founding Program Director of the Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology at Moravian College. Her primary research examines assessment and treatment of social and cognitive communication disorders after traumatic brain injury. In addition to clinical research, she also conducts

research in the scholarship of teaching and learning specifically as related to the areas of experiential learning and problem-based learning. Louise has numerous peer-reviewed publications, has received funding from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, and has presented her work at many national and international conferences. In her free time Louise likes to play the flute, travel, and spend time outdoors with her family.

Keep the Conversation Going

Louise Keegan, Ph.D., CCC-SLP, BC-ANCDS

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Aphasia Access Podcast Interview Episode #59 - LPA for Traumatic Brain Injury: INSIGHT's from brain injury groups and collaborative learning contexts: In Conversation with Louise Keegan. Aphasia Access. Available at aphasiaaccess.org/podcasts

To the speech path student, one of the biggest pieces of advice I could ever tell you as a student is to advocate for yourself and to work hard. Don't be afraid to ask and question your professors in a way that is respectful. Asking questions is how you can learn and grow.

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