



# Early Childhood Stuttering Therapy: Direct or Indirect; Both or Neither?

Professor J. Scott Yaruss

Professor of Communicative Sciences and Disorders  
Michigan State University

April 18, 2019 (Thursday)

18:00 – 19:00

Room 750-753, Meng Wah Complex, HKU

*Chair: Dr Lawrence Ng*

## Abstract:

There is a significant debate in the field of speech-language pathology about whether clinicians should use indirect or direct therapy approaches with preschool and young school-age children who stutter. This presentation will provide an overview of these different types of approaches and explore similarities and differences between various treatments. The goal of the presentation will be to identify potential "common factors" that may be responsible for positive changes in children's speech fluency and communication, regardless of the approach that is used so clinicians from different backgrounds and philosophies can provide effective and efficient, evidence-based treatment for early childhood stuttering.

## About the speaker:

J. Scott Yaruss, PhD, is a professor of Communicative Sciences and Disorders at Michigan State University. He is a licensed/certified speech-language pathologist (SLP), a board-certified specialist in fluency disorders, and an ASHA Fellow. His research examines factors that contribute to the development of stuttering, the breakdown experienced during the moment of stuttering, and methods for evaluating treatment outcomes. He has published approximately 85 peer-reviewed manuscripts, more than 115 other papers, and several clinical resources, including the *Overall Assessment of the Speaker's Experience of Stuttering (OASES)*, *Early Childhood Stuttering: A Practical Guide*, *School-Age Stuttering Therapy: A Practical Guide*, and the *Minimizing Bullying program* (all published by Stuttering Therapy Resources, Inc., which Yaruss co-owns). Professor Yaruss has been named SLP of the Year by the National Stuttering Association (NSA) and received the University of Pittsburgh School of Health and Rehabilitation Science Dean's Distinguished Teaching Award. He has served on the NSA's board of directors and on the steering committee of the ASHA Special Interest Group for Fluency Disorders. Professor Yaruss teaches classes on stuttering and counseling for SLPs. He has given more than 450 continuing education workshops around the world designed to help clinicians improve their ability to help individuals who stutter.

~ All are welcome ~

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For enquiries, please contact the Office of Research, Faculty of Education, HKU at 3917 8254.