

### Shelly Jones Chair

Seat Reserved for Representative for Interpreters



Appointed 2015

Shelly Jones is an interpreter for the Deaf, both in private practice and for Sorensen Communications in St. Louis. She previously served as an interpreter for the Deaf for the Special School District of St. Louis and for John A. Logan College and Southern Illinois University. She is certified as a master interpretre in both Missouri and Illinois, and obtained her bachelor's degree in English to ASL from William Woods University in Fulton.



### Clark Corogenes Vice Chair

Seat for Deaf or Hard of Hearing Member



Appointed 2018

Clark is a Deaf leader in the Kansas City area. He is an Independent Living Advocate for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services at The Whole Person. For the last 15 years, he has been actively involved in ministry as a church leader and in the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community as an advocate. He holds a bachelor's degree from MidAmerica Nazarene University, two associate's degrees from Johnson County Community College, and is a graduate of Kansas School for the Deaf. Clark is a proud husband and the father of two young sons.



#### **Wendy Jensen**

Seat Reserved for Local Public School Adminstrator



Appointed 2013

Since 2007, Wendy Jensen has been an administrator with the Countywide Program for Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing at Special School District in St. Louis County. During that time, she had the privilege of attending the mentor training offered through CAEBER's ASL/English **Bilingual Professional Development** Program at Gallaudet University. Prior to joining SSD, Wendy served as the statewide Deaf Education Consultant and later as the Director of Student and Outreach Services at the Missouri School for the Deaf. She began her career as a teacher of the Deaf in Jefferson County and has worked as an interpreter in various settings. Wendy holds an Ed.S in Educational Administration and a Master's in Communications from Lindenwood University, as well as an AAS in Interpreting from St. Louis Community College and a Bachelor's in Deaf Education from Northern Illinois University.



#### **Mike Kelley**

Seat Reserved for Deaf or Hard of Hearing Member



**Appointed 2018** 

Rep. Kelley is hard of hearing, and will be filling the seat for a Deaf/Hard of Hearing member. A Republican, he represents Barton, Dade, part of Jasper and part of Cedar Counties (District 127) in the Missouri House of Representatives. Rep Kelley belongs to the NRA and is an NRA certified pistol instructor. He also belongs to the Barton County, Lockwood, and Greenfield chambers of commerce. Rep. Kelley is a member of Rotary International and a past local chapter president. He attends Oakton United Methodist Church. Rep. Kelley has been honored with many awards, including: Friend of Agriculture, Friend of Manufacturing, ACU Conservative, Administration of Justice and Liberty Standard. Rep. Kelley became the Chair of the Special Committee on Tax Policy in 2016. Elected to the house: 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016. Rep. Kelley was born in Lamar and graduated from Lamar High School in 1993. He currently resides in Lamar with his wife Ann, son, Brenden, and Vera, their exchange daughter from Ukraine.



#### **George Stailey**

Seat Reserved for Representative for Missouri School for the Deaf



# Appointed 2018

George is the Superintendent of Missouri School for the Deaf. He began his career in Deaf Education at Illinois State University where he served as the Undergraduate Teaching Assistant for sign language. His student teaching practicum was served in the middle school department at the Indiana School for the Deaf (ISD) and following graduation in 1975, he was offered a permanent position as a classroom teacher. George completed a 32 year tenure at ISD serving in a variety of roles in all aspects of the school: educational, residential, operations, and administration. These positions included Teacher, Dean of Boys, Student Life Director, Assistant to the Superintendent, and, ultimately, Superintendent. After serving as Superintendent for ten years, George retired but was called back into service to become a Student Development Educator.

In addition to employment, he participated in a wide variety of extracurricular roles and was a member of a large number of organizations serving the Deaf, special education, and the community. Of special note for accomplishments during this time, he lead the school through multiple accreditation processes and later served as a trained member of an Onsite Review Committee for North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

In 2008, George moved to his family home in Prescott, Arizona to care for his ailing father. While there, he volunteered at Yavapai Regional Medical Center. He worked for Yavapai College as an Adjunct Professor of American Sign Language. George has always enjoyed working with people and seeks to balance a sense of humor with the demands of focusing on critical projects and matters of importance. He is extremely comfortable making decisions and leading others for the betterment of students, employees, community members, and programs.



## Ante Čolić

## Seat Reserved for Parent of a Deaf or Hard of Hearing Child



# Appointed 2018

The father of a deaf child, Mr. Ante Čolić is passionate about deaf advocacy and deaf education. Mr. Čolić understands the importance of early childhood language acquisition from personal experience. As the son of Croatian immigrants, Mr. Čolić did not start learning English until he started kindergarten at the age of 5. Since then, education has been central in Mr. Colić's life. Mr. Čolić holds a bachelor's degree in Aircraft Maintenance Management from St. Louis University, an Associates in Electrical Engineering & Computer Software Engineering from Missouri Technical College and an MBA with an emphasis in Computer Resources and Information from Webster University.

Currently, Mr Čolić is Senior Network Support in the Network Cloud & Infrastructure division with AT&T. Additionally, he is a real estate investor specializing in the Self Storage industry.

Mr. Čolić lives in St. Louis, Missouri with his wife Marla and their three children, Petra (9), Katja (7) and Maksim (4). Katja is a bi-lateral cochlear implant recipient and communicates almost exclusively through ASL Sign Language. The entire family has been learning sign language together.