

**Enhancing Communication for Individuals with Communication Disorders in
Health Care and Educational Settings**

Presenter: Michael Burns, Ph.D., CCC-SLP



Michael Burns graduated from the Communicative Disorders and Deaf Studies program at California State University, Fresno with his B.A. in 1998 and M.A. in 2000. Since that time, he has worked as a Speech-Language Pathologist in a variety of educational and medical settings. In 2003, he returned to Fresno State as the director of the CSU, Fresno Speech and Hearing Clinic. Michael moved to Seattle in 2008 to pursue a Ph.D. in Rehabilitation Science at the University of Washington. He graduated from UW with his Ph.D. in 2013. Currently, Michael is a Lecturer and Researcher within the Speech and Hearing Sciences Department at UW. His research focuses on helping individuals with communication disorders increase their access to quality health care services. Michael has helped develop a program to train health care providers in the use of basic strategies to facilitate improved communication with patients with communication disorders at the University of Washington Medical Center. To date, this program has trained over 500 students in the medical, nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and prosthetics and orthotics departments.

