



Annual General Meeting 23 April 2022 on-line Nominations for Election of Board Members & Election of Officers

The maximum number of Directors is 12. There are currently nine Board members.

Candidates for Board of Directors Standing for re-election

Deborah Ardley

Debby initially trained as a primary school teacher. During her career she was offered opportunities to teach in different educational settings and across a range of ages (from 3 – 13). Due to an increasing interest in supporting children who find the learning process challenging, she trained with the Dyslexia Institute (Action) and from 1999 worked as a literacy specialist and educational assessor. After being appointed as a SENCo, she found herself in the fortunate position of being able to develop a special educational needs department over a period of ten years. Debby moved on to become an independent educational assessor covering a range of assessment areas and began working for Patoss in 2010. As a former member of the Patoss APC Team, Debby delivered training designed to support members with the renewal of Assessment Practising Certificates. She has also delivered other training for Patoss, including CPD day training and workshops at Patoss Conferences. She has contributed to a number of Patoss publications.

Debby is committed to the continuing development of Patoss, she has served on the Board since 2011 and in April 2019 became Chair.

Judy Capener

Judy Capener is an experienced teacher, teacher trainer and assessor. Judy has been programme-leader for several post-graduate courses in SpLD and led an OCR Certificate in Teaching Learners with SpLD for teachers under the Rose Review funding. She has delivered extensive dyslexia training in the UK, and abroad including speaking at BDA International Conferences.

Currently Judy works independently as a consultant, assessor and teacher of learners with dyslexia. Her particular interest lies in morphology and its role in developing and supporting the literacy and vocabulary skills for all learners, from primary to continuing education and the workplace.

Until 2016 Judy was responsible for co-ordinating and organising the Patoss CPD training programme. She continues as a member of the Patoss CPD team delivering training on a range of topics including assessment, moving specialist teachers' skills forward in intervention approaches which are based in the findings of the assessment process, and integrating the morphological approach in phonic based literacy programmes, including the NLS.

Judy has served on the Patoss Board since 2005.

Grace Elliott

Dr Grace Elliott is an experienced teacher, teacher trainer and assessor with APC, ATS, PG Cert SENCO and AMBDA. After completing a MSc at Oxford University focusing on dyslexia, Grace went onto study for an EdD to further research the causes of poor reading comprehension and the most effective interventions for poor comprehenders. Following this, she has written numerous publications on the topic of poor reading comprehension. Whilst studying, Grace has worked as a Head of Year and SENDCO at a secondary school before moving schools where she is currently pursuing her passion of being an Early Years and Primary School SENDCO. She also teaches and assesses privately across the age range: primary, secondary and tertiary.

Grace was elected to the Board at the 2020 AGM.

Sue Francis

Sue has worked in the field of SpLD since gaining her qualifications in the 1990s. She was a Senior SEND Advisor for Stoke-on-Trent LEA, undertaking SEN reviews in both primary and secondary schools and is now an SEN Consultant. She continually updates her knowledge in the field of dyslexia and uses this and her experience to support schools. Sue is an accredited Inference Training, Better Reading and Word Aware trainer and she has delivered training for PATOSS, including workshops at PATOSS Conferences and online training. Sue is also a trustee of an academy trust

Sue has served on the Patoss Board since 2010.

Monica Gilbert

Monica has been teaching in the field of Private Tuition for over 30 years. She gained her B.A. History Hons. at Birkbeck College in 1990 and then her SpLD Certificate in 1999 and her SpLD Diploma in 2003. She teaches privately across the age range: primary, secondary and tertiary. Monica is an enthusiastic member of Patoss, frequently attending CPD conferences and the AGM.

She has a keen interest in pursuing the history of words, their development in our English language and how they arrived in their present form. She is passionate about this aspect of language and believes it adds a vital ingredient to teaching making it extremely interesting for her and her students. She has a long-standing interest in Philosophy, Economics and Ayurvedic Medicine and is a member of an early-baroque-music choir, which sings in the UK, Europe and beyond.

Monica was elected to the Patoss Board in 2016. She is currently Board Treasurer and a representative of the Board on the finance subcommittee.

Lynn Greenwold

Lynn has served on the Executive Committee of Patoss from 1995 through to the present day. She is current Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors and Chief Executive Officer of Patoss Ltd.

In 2015, Lynn was awarded OBE for services to Special Educational Needs.

She was on the DfES SpLD Working Group and from 2008 Chair of SASC, the SpLD Assessment Standards Committee, which was formed to help implement the recommendations of the DfES Guidance.

Lynn was Chair of the Dyslexia-SpLD Trust [DST] from 2009 through 2013 which has been established to co-ordinate the dyslexia sector, promoting better awareness and understanding throughout government, across local authorities, within schools and for parents, as well as to ensure that the right help and support is accessible within mainstream education. Lynn has co-directed the Dyslexia-SpLD Trust's Literacy and Dyslexia-SpLD Professional Development Framework project to provide a free on-line resource that defines the additional knowledge, skills and understanding required to fulfil relevant job roles supporting dyslexic-SpLD learners in the school workforce, and helps professionals plan their continuing professional development. Lynn helped to lead the Trust DfE funded training reaching hundreds of schools in 2015-16. She remains a member of the DST steering group.

Lynn has served on the Patoss Committee and Board since 1995 and as Vice Chair since 2005.

Jennie Price

Jennie is a qualified specialist teacher and undertakes consultancy work in schools and organisations. Jennie was involved with the National Tutoring Programme representing Patoss on the Professional Tutoring Partnership as a mentor. She is now working with

colleagues on the final evaluation of the effectiveness of the tutoring. It is hoped that key elements can inform the tutoring of children and young people needing additional support after a period of disrupted education.

Jennie has an interest in supporting neurodiverse learners and has supported a number of research projects considering literacy and numeracy approaches. Using her experience of teaching students with dyslexia has been an effective springboard to develop training for organisations including Patoss.

Alongside her interest in SEN Jennie runs a small independent jewellery business in her local market town in Norfolk.

Jennie has served on the Patoss Board since 2013. She is currently a representative of the Board on the finance subcommittee.

Lucy Sacre

Lucy currently works as an Assistant Headteacher and English teacher in the secondary phase and is responsible for both the school's SEND Policy and implementation of its School Offer. She has been a qualified SENCo since 2013 and obtained a Diploma in Teaching and Assessing students in the same year. She also currently assumes responsibility for whole-school Continuous Professional Development and Teaching and Learning - and ensures that staff have access to specialist instruction in a CPD programme that is fully inclusive.

Lucy was seconded to the Board in January 2019.

Nicola Wilde

Nicky began her teaching career as a secondary drama teacher in 1993 however retrained as a Dyslexia Specialist Teacher in 2006. She has an OCR Level 7 diploma in Teaching and Assessing Pupils with Specific Learning Difficulties and has worked as a Specialist Teacher for Norfolk County Council. Nicky has been working for Suffolk County Council for the last 8 years. Initially her role was Adviser for Specific Learning Difficulties which entailed working closely with SENCOs, writing detailed diagnostic reports, delivering county wide training and managing Suffolk's 3 Resource Bases for Dyslexia and a team of specialist teachers. She is also a trainer for Fischer Family Trust Wave Three Literacy Intervention and Talking Partners. In the last 3 years her role changed to Adviser for Learning Support (SEN) where the focus was on supporting children and young people who have a statement of special educational needs or an EHCP. Nicky undertook a review of Suffolk's Dyslexia centres. This involved the upskilling of the teams and advising the managers. Nicky has been a guest speaker on the National SENCo Award course.

In September 2015 she joined Suffolk's Dyslexia Outreach Service (DOS) and continues to line manage a team of specialist teachers. She is currently developing the Service's core and traded offer as well as maintaining a teaching caseload. The Dyslexia Outreach Service worked in partnership with Patoss and the Dyslexia SpLD Trust to deliver the DST project, over 100 schools in Suffolk participated. Nicky is very interested in supporting schools to become self-efficient in ensuring that all children and young people with dyslexia and literacy difficulties have access to high quality literacy teaching.

Nicky was elected to the Board in 2016

Additional Candidates

Julia Carroll

Julia Carroll joined Coventry University in September 2014 as a Reader in Child Development and Education. Prior to that she had been an Associate Professor at the University of Warwick, having joined there in 2004. She completed her DPhil in York in 2001 and stayed on to do a postdoctoral fellowship before leaving for Warwick.

Julia has always been interested in how children learn to use both spoken and written language, and how these two skills may be linked. This question guides most of my research. She has held several large research grants, from the ESRC, Nuffield Foundation and British Academy. Over the past five years her research has shown that early language difficulties can result in later phonological deficits, even in children with good early phonology, and that targeted language and phonology interventions can improve early literacy development. However, it has also shown that the deficits that dyslexic children show are not fully explained by their early language profiles.

Communicating research findings has always been a top priority. She is currently Editor in Chief for the Journal of Research in Reading, and in March 2014 she chaired the British Dyslexia Association International Conference, an event with over 500 delegates. Julia's research interests are reading; writing; literacy; dyslexia; phonology; morphology; language impairment

Stephen Wheeler

Steve began his career as a Trainee Manager at Sainsburys in 1980. After 4 years he moved into the publishing world in the Advertising Department of a Regional Newspaper Group. He became the Sales Manager and was responsible for around £4m of advertising revenue. In 1993, he moved to a Promotional Services company and worked with Gillette, P & G and Kelloggs on multi million pound sampling projects. He returned to the publishing industry in 1998 as the General Manager of Southern Newspapers covering the South Coast of England. He had responsibility for 70 office based staff and over 4000 field based employees. During this time Steve oversaw major change management projects as the publishing industry changed and he delivered savings of over £10m pa.

Since 2015, Steve has been working as a consultant for Patoss across the Business, Finance and HR areas. He has focussed on accounts and ensuring that income and costs are tightly managed. He produces the budgets and liaises with all departments in the business as well as the external accountants. He has attended the finance sub-committee and board meetings as an observer since 2017 and reports on finance issues and marketing.

During his spare time, Steve likes to paddleboard, cycle and play squash as well as trying his best to look after his 7 children.

Candidates for Officers of Patoss Ltd

Chair of Board of Directors: Debby Ardley

Vice Chair of Board of Directors: Lynn Greenwold

Treasurer of Board of Directors: Stephen Wheeler