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## NJSHA Salutes Montclair State University Clinic Director as “Volunteer of the Year”

**LONG BRANCH, NJ – May 18, 2017** – As Kathleen Palatucci moved around the floor of the recent New Jersey Speech-Language-Hearing Association (NJSHA) conference, urging attendees to support state legislation that would help people with aphasia, it was just the latest example of her enormous commitment to the profession.

Palatucci, a clinic director of speech language pathology at Montclair State University, has been honored as the Dr. George Gens “Volunteer of the Year Award” for her ongoing work to NJSHA over 20 years of volunteer service to the statewide professional organization.

Palatucci, of Verona, accepted the award in front of a conference of about 800 attendees, saying she is accepting the honor on behalf of the 16-member NJSHA Health Care Committee, which she has chaired for 10 years.

Palatucci said she is focused on bringing younger clinicians into the organization, as they are the future lifeblood of NJSHA. As a recently-elected member to the NJSHA Board of Directors, embarking on a three-year term, the work is just beginning.

“Now is the time to focus on the future, engaging and mobilizing our next generation,” she said.

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