

## About the Author

**Gail J. Richard, PhD, CCC-SLP**, is an emeritus professor in the Department of Communication Disorders and Sciences at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, Illinois, where she was a faculty member for 34 years, 14 of those years as department chair. She currently is the part-time director of the university Autism Center, providing diagnostic evaluations, consultation, and educational seminars. She also initiated the Students with Autism Transitional Education Program (STEP), a support program for college students with autism spectrum disorders enrolled at the university. Gail's specializations focus on childhood developmental language disorders, such as autistic spectrum disorders, language processing disorders, language learning disabilities, and selective mutism. She consults extensively with other professionals, teachers, parents, and school districts to assist in providing educational programming suggestions for children with special needs. Her numerous publications include articles, book chapters, assessment instruments, and clinical materials in the area of childhood language disorders. Gail also presents at many workshops, sharing her practical clinical knowledge with audiences around the country.

Professional honors and awards include Fellow of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and Honors of the Illinois Speech-Language-Hearing Association; the Illinois Clinical Achievement Award; Distinguished Alumni awards from Augustana College, Eastern Illinois University, and Southern Illinois University–Carbondale; five Faculty Excellence Awards; and the 2000 Distinguished Faculty Award and College of Science Scholar of the Year. She has served the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association as a legislative council member and on the board of directors as vice president of speech-language-pathology practice (2012–2014), president-elect (2016), president (2017), and past president (2018).

Additional publications with PRO-ED in the area of processing include *The Language Processing Test 3: Elementary* (LPT 3: Elementary) and *Language Processing Treatment Activities*, coauthored with Mary Anne Hanner; the *Differential Screening Test for Processing*, coauthored with Jeanane Ferre; *The Source for Development of Executive Functions*, coauthored with Jill Fahy; and *That's Life Language Cards*.

## Dedication

To my parents for instilling the confidence to pursue my dreams.

To my husband, John, who facilitates my personal and professional life with humor, sustenance, and love!