



Ed Lynch: MAC, MR. P., AND ME

“Walk with kings—nor lose the common touch.” While Rudyard Kipling may have written those words more than a century ago in his poem “If—”, as far as J. Edward Lynch, Ph.D. is concerned, they apply just as much today to his new best friend, known to him simply as “Mac.”

That’s Mac as in MacSpeech Dictate. “Mac is a smart guy,” Dr. Lynch says. “I use that Kipling quote to suggest his wide range of skill and usefulness.”

MacSpeech Dictate’s primary role is keeping “Mr. P.” at bay while Dr. Lynch composes books, DVD scripts, emails, class syllabi, and more. Mr. P. is what Dr. Lynch calls Parkinson’s disease, with which he was diagnosed in July 2000.

“As my fingers began to fail me in my word processing work,” he recalls, “I started to wonder why I could not just as easily speak into the computer and have the words appear on the screen. Other speech recognition programs were lacking in what, in MacSpeech Dictate, became talent, precision, and skill. MacSpeech Dictate and I became buddies of the best kind.”

Lofty Heights

The common touch also forms the basis for Dr. Lynch’s work as a university professor and Chair of the Marriage and Family Therapy Department in the Graduate School at Southern Connecticut State University. He’s known internationally as a facilitator and trainer in the systemic constellation method of therapy, which looks at someone’s life as part of a constellation of interpersonal relationship dynamics at home and work. The goal is to use those dynamics to solve a problem vexing that person.

“Mac has been a dear and valued comrade in the halls of higher education,” Dr. Lynch observes. “He never fails me, speaking as if he has a Ph.D. too. Mr. P., however, is the

exact opposite and would embarrass me in my writing. Thus my friendship with Mac is unending and intimate.”

Dr. Lynch relied on MacSpeech Dictate to write the scripts for his two DVDs, which demonstrate various uses of systemic constellation therapy, and to compose academic pieces for the systemic constellation journal “The Knowing Field.” Dr. Lynch also summoned his friend to assist with writing two books, the novel “Normal Madness, Murder and Mayhem” and “Principles and Practices of Structural Family Therapy.” Mac and Dr. Lynch are currently working on a third book, “Case Study Stories: A Guide to Learning a Difficult Work.”



“I should credit MacSpeech Dictate as my co-author,” Dr. Lynch quips. “I had little difficulty with Mac in the use of the more complicated words of the psychological and therapeutic fields.”

A Leading Role

MacSpeech Dictate also assists Dr. Lynch with more common tasks, such as responding to emails on two different computers, putting together mailings for his Family Constellations workshops, and even opening the applications he uses daily, including AOL, iChat, and the Firefox web browser. “I just wish my kids had been so agreeable,” Dr. Lynch muses.

His new friend, however, never fails to do what Dr. Lynch asks. He expects to rely on MacSpeech Dictate even more as the years go by. “Parkinson’s is a progressive disease,” Dr. Lynch explains, “so you can know for sure that MacSpeech Dictate is taking on a prominent and leading role in my life.”

IMPORTANT NOTICE: This success story provides an overview of the user’s experience with MacSpeech Dictate. As a result of the acquisition of MacSpeech, Inc. by Nuance Communications, Inc. in 2010, the MacSpeech Dictate product was renamed Dragon Dictate for Mac.

