1956 - 2013

a tradition

Spring 2013

message from the chair

We have had another banner year within the department, starting with the *U.S. News and World Report's* new rankings for 2013. As before, we hold the #1 ranking in Speech-Language Pathology and the #2 ranking in Audiology, and even have a temporary banner out front to tout it! Judging from the strong faculty and the equally strong incoming students each year, that recognition seems warranted. Currently we have a total of 99 graduate students in the department: 28 AuD, 46 SLP and 25 PhD. These numbers are in addition to the 253 undergraduates, an increase of 100% in the past five years.

You will notice that the newsletter is once again filled with evidence of the student excellence in the numerous awards, honors, posters and publications. An added bonus this year has been the success of our PhD students in securing funding for their dissertation efforts. Ben Kirby, Samantha Shune and Rachel Scheperle are commended on that huge accomplishment. Refer to these details on page 7.

Of equal significance is the strength of our faculty. We were fortunate to hire Yu-Hsiang Wu and Alison Lemke this year. Dr. Wu (or Wu to most of us) is an Assistant Professor in Audiology. His area(s) of expertise include Vestibular Assessment, Aging, and Adult Rehab. Alison is a clinical specialist in the area of Neurogenics. We are very excited to have their expertise added to our faculty. At the same time, we will be seeing the retirement of three of our "pillars" at the end of the next academic year: Professors Bruce Tomblin, Chris Turner, and Richard Hurtig have announced their retirements for May 2014. My challenge for the next year or so will be trying to fill those huge gaps!

Finally, this year has seen the loss of one of our true pioneers: Julia Davis died unexpectedly on March 8, 2013. It is apparent from the brief article on page 3 that Julia has had an impact on the profession at many levels. The department will host a memorial event on October 17 and 18. We hope to see many of you back for that occasion. And -- hot off the press -- the 2013 Distinguished Alum has been named! Pat Stelmachowicz will be honored in the fall. Stay tuned for that update.

So, as you can see, life goes on here with more flurry than can be covered in a single newsletter. Come visit, let us know what you are up to, and we hope you are as proud of this tradition of excellence as we are!

-Ruth Bentler

SAVE THE DATES Julia Davis memorial events October 17-18, 2013. NSSHLA alumni dinner October 18, 2013.

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Newsletter committee

Ruth Bentler, Editor, DEO Eileen Finnegan Stephanie Fleckenstein Richard Tyler Contributors Julie Ostrem Designer

alumni updates

1940's

Evelyn Y. Allen (MA 1946) died in April 2011 at age 100.

1960's

Hughlett Morris (BA 1952; MA 1957; PhD 1960) "Old Hugh Morris is doing well in Tucson and sends his regards to everyone. Aside from being lazy, his favorite past-time is writing fiction. The titles include: *Luther's War, Tennessee Mary, Luther's Women, Missouri Chooses*, and *Blue-Eyed Babies*. The books are available at amazon.com."

Roma Lee Johnson (BA 1964; MA 1966). "I spend six months of the year in Kona, Hawaii, and six months in Webster City, Iowa."

Herbert F. Schliesser (PhD 1965). After serving as Clinic Director, Department Vice Chair, Interim Director, Barkley Memorial Center, at the University of Nebraska, he retired as Professor Emeritus in 1991. "My wife, Barbara, received her MA degree in Speech Pathology and Audiology at Iowa in '61. We are both retired and live in Lincoln."

1970's

Jan Irwin (BA 1973). Current job: Owner / manager of KeyRehab, contract therapy company (800 employees and 150 locations). "I live in Murfreesboro, TN, (home to Middle Tennessee State University)."

Paul T. Fogle (PhD 1976). His textbook, *The Essentials of Communication Sciences and Disorders* was released in 2013. "Whatever professional success I have had I attribute to the excellent education I received at Iowa." (more updates on page 3)

Brown, Zimmermann named 2012 Distinguished Alumni



The newsletter is published yearly for alumni, former faculty, and friends.

Submit news items to: Ruth Bentler, PhD UI Communication Sciences & Disorders 250 Hawkins Drive Iowa City IA 52242 319.335.8718 319.335.8851 (FAX) ruth-bentler@uiowa.edu



Jerry Zimmermann (PhD '73) and Carolyn Brown (PhD '81) were honored as the Department's 2012 Distinguished Alumni recipients in October. Their talk was entitled *The journey from Wendell's to the real world of the schools*. Richard Hurtig presented the awards on behalf of the Department.

CSD mourns passing of Julia Davis

Julia Davis, former professor of audiology and the first woman to serve as Department Chair, died unexpectedly March 8, 2013, in Iowa City.

After earning a PhD in Audiology from the University of Southern Mississippi, she accepted a position as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology at Iowa in 1971. She went on to chair the Department for several years and served as an Associate Dean for Faculty in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Julia was internationally known in her field and pioneered research in language acquisition in hard-of-hearing children and eventually amassed some of the most comprehensive demographic and psycho-educational data ever published on hearing-impaired children in the public schools. Julia wrote the seminal publica-



tion *Our Forgotten Children: Hard of Hearing Pupils in the Schools* and co-authored a textbook, *Rehabilitative Audiology for Children and Adults*. She successfully published the results of her research in peer-reviewed journals. She served on the Executive Committee for the Academy of Rehabilitation Audiology and as its President (1979-80). In recognition of her significant contributions to her chosen field, she was awarded the Honors of the Association from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) in 2005. She served as a trustee to the ASHFoundation.

Julia will be remembered as an intelligent and beautiful woman with a wicked sense of humor. She possessed a strong sense of right and wrong and was an advocate for fairness and social justice. She was an exceptional educator and mentor.

Funeral services were held March 12 in Iowa City. Memorials in Julia's name can be made to the UI Foundation to be used for the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, Crisis Center, Habitat for Humanity, or Table to Table.

More Alumni Updates

Susan G. Lynn (MA Audiology 1976). Current Job: Clinical Audiologist, Austin Medical Center and Rochester Mayo Clinic. "I also have an MA in Human Development (2002 - St. Mary's University of MN). I am a NARHA certified therapeutic horseback riding instructor and Special Olympics Equestrian Coach."

James Mangan (PhD 1977) passed away in Seattle, Washington, in October 2011.

Evelyn Vinduska McKnight (MA Audiology, 1979). Owner, Professional Hearing Center, PC in Fremont, NE. "I recently released the book *A Never Event: Exposing the Largest Outbreak of Hepatitis C in American Healthcare History.* I am a survivor of this outbreak and have formed a foundation: Hepatitis Outbreaks' National Organization for Reform (www.HONOReform.org) which is dedicated to patient safety and justice. My malpractice settlement was the seed money for this national foundation."

1980's

Raymond Linville (PhD 1982). Recently left position as Dean, Waldron College of Health and Human Services, Radford University, to return to teaching and research.

2000's

Sarah Oakley (AuD, 2008), currently working at the Mayo Clinic-Scottsdale, was awarded the Mayo Allied Health Distinguished Educator of the Year Award.

personnel

Faculty

Abbas, Paul Bentler, Ruth, Department Chair Brown, Carolyn J. Bryant, Karen Cilek, Toni Delsandro, Elizabeth Duff. Melissa Fennell, Ann Finnegan, Eileen Fleckenstein, Stephanie Gfeller, Kate Goodman, Shawn Gordon, Jean K. Holte, Lenore Hurtig, Richard Karnell, Michael Kelsay, Danielle Kirk, Karen Lemke, Alison Louko, Linda McGregor, Karla McMurray, Bob Moon, Jerald Niebuhr, Diane Scheer-Cohen, Alison Titze, Ingo Tomblin, J. Bruce Turner, Christopher Tyler, Richard Van Horne, Amanda Wallace, Anne Wu, Yu-Hsiang Zebrowski, Patricia

Faculty Emeriti

Anderson, Charles Hall, Penelope Luschei, Erich Morris, Hughlett Small, Arnold

Staff

Albright, Dorothy Alipour, Fariborz Arbisi-Kelm, Timothy Arenas, Rick Eden, Nichole Eldridge, Lauren Ferguson, Connie Fick, Wendy Jain, Makur Jennings, Vicki Lehrman, Kelvin Miller, Kathy O'Brien, Marlea Ostrem, Julie Rebal, Kathy St. Clair, Marcia Stangl, Elizabeth Walker, Elizabeth Yotty, Mary Jo

OCHL Study tracks successes, struggles of children with hearing loss

Inspired by the realization that research about children who are hard of hearing is lacking, especially in contrast to the amount of research conducted on children who are deaf, Bruce Tomblin sought a solution to fill that knowledge gap. First, he teamed up with Mary Pat Moeller from Boys Town National Research Hospital; their next step was to convene a team of specialists in the fields of audiology, speech-language pathology, biostatistics, and psychology in three locations: Iowa, Boys Town National Research Hospital, and the University of North Carolina. Next, the team wrote a grant which was funded from the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders.

Thus, in August 2008, the Outcomes for Children with Hearing Loss project (or simply, the OCHL Study) was launched. In addition to Tomblin, other faculty from Iowa's Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders include Ruth Bentler and Lenore Holte.

"This project is a unique opportunity to contribute to what we know about children who have hearing losses in the mild to severe range," Tomblin said. "The ultimate hope is to be able to use results to guide what is considered 'best practice' for clinicians and service providers around the nation."

For the next several years, field examiners collected longitudinal measures of hearing, speech and language, and psychosocial, cognitive, academic, and behavioral outcomes from children both with and without hearing loss. The research team also examined family backgrounds and outcomes, along with measures that characterize interventions to find out how child- and family-specific characteristics may interact with the intervention services to impact children's developmental outcomes.

Now in Year 5, here's where the OCHL Study currently stands -- by the numbers:

• 506 children are enrolled in the study (319 with hearing loss and 187 with normal hearing)

• 1,317 data collection sessions have been completed

• 19,875 tests, 1,391 service provider surveys and 751 family interviews have been collected

 49 national and 6 international conference presentations have been given by OCHL researchers



• 11 research articles have been published or will soon be published.

The OCHL team will continue to monitor and test children enrolled in the study until August 2013. The OCHL team has just learned that they will receive additional grant funding to continue this important research; in particular, they are interested in knowing more about how children with hearing loss and their peers make gains during their school years.

In addition to collecting data, the team has also begun sifting through the considerable information they've amassed, and while that task is not complete, trends are beginning to emerge:

Early diagnosis and treatment: Of the children in the OCHL Study who failed newborn hearing screening, about two-thirds had a confirmed diagnosis of hearing loss by three

continued on page 5

LENA device complements OCHL Research

Fifty of the children enrolled in the OCHL study are also participating in a study within a study using the LENA system (Language ENvironment Analysis). These children wear passive audio recorders that collect the words the children hear. Worn in specialized clothing with pockets, the LENA devices collect up to 16 hours a day of the child-parent speakinglistening patterns. The children wear their LENA's one day per month for 12 months. By comparing the richness of the children's language surroundings with tests that measure their language skills, OCHL researchers can see how much language exposure influences language development. This will help the team uncover the best ways to encourage communication growth in children with hearing loss.

The LENA Study was funded through a supplemental grant from the NIDCD.

In an analysis of the all-day recordings of the auditory environments of 32 two year olds with hearing loss, researchers found that the children were exposed to around 1,300 words each hour, and parents and their children took conversational turns about 60 times per hour. A subset of these children was tested at age three. Analysis showed that the number of adult words and conversational turns were positively correlated with receptive and expressive language development in the children. Television watching, however, was negatively correlated with receptive language. In short, findings suggest that high rates of linguistic input, especially within conversational interactions, facilitate the language development of toddlers with hearing loss.

page 4

Faculty updates



Alison Lemke

Alison Lemke joined the Department's Clinical Faculty in January. She primarily supervises MA students in the area of adult neurogenic communication disorders. Currently, she and her students see individual clients in the clinic, facilitate the MAGIC aphasia groups on Thursdays and Fridays, and provide community-based services at Pathways Adult Health Center in Iowa City. Alison hopes to further develop services for adults with neurogenic communication disorders within the clinic, especially services for those with traumatic brain injuries. She has worked with clients who have acquired neurogenic communication disorders throughout her almost 30-year career. She has worked in acute care and inpatient rehabilitation settings, hospital-based outpatient clinics and in private practice. Alison has been active in advocacy work and has a lengthy history of service to the professions of speech-language pathology and audiology. She represented Iowa on the Legislative Council of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association for nine years, is a past member of the Board of Directors of ASHA and a past-president of the Iowa Speech-Language-Hearing Association. Alison is currently on the Iowa Board of Speech Pathology and Audiology Examiners, and the Board of Directors of the National Council of State Boards of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology.

Ruth Bentler and Linda Louko were honored for developing the UI China project. It was named the Outstanding Outreach at Iowa for 2013, and the organization received a \$1,000 prize, which will be used to offset expenses for this summer's trip. A website has been developed to feature the UI China project and manage fundraising efforts: www.uiowa.edu/~china.

Liz Delsandro was awarded funding to further develop "Be Social," a project for clinical training and community engagement about autism spectrum disorders. Funds from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences' Excellence & Innovation fund will provide support for instructional materials, and the College's Instructional Technology division will provide the technology needed for high-quality interventions to be used in clinical instruction.

Melissa Duff was featured in an article in *Iowa Now*, describing the partnership between her laboratory and a day school in Texas. In the article, Duff talks about her experience mentoring two 16-year-old female students interested in the field of neuroscience. The young women spent two weeks working with Duff and her graduate students in her lab last July.

Carolyn Brown and Kate Gfeller were awarded funding from the NIH for their project entitled "Evoked Potentials & Music Perception: Effects of Hearing Loss and Training."

Jerry Moon was awarded Innovations in Teaching monies to develop a mobile application for Phoenetics.

Amanda Van Horne was awarded a \$75,000 grant from the ASHFoundation to support her project, "Manipulating Stimulus Properties to Promote Past Tense Generalization in Children with Specific Language Impairment." These clinical research grants support scientists with a research doctorate in communication sciences and disorders to support investigations that will advance knowledge of treatment efficacies and assessment practices.

Amanda Van Horne also received the UI 2013 Honors Advising Award for her work revamping the Department's Honors program.

OCHL Study, continued

months, two-thirds were fit with hearing aids within one month of diagnosis, and three-fourths were enrolled in early intervention by the time they were six months old. The team analyzed factors that led to delays in these key steps, so they can be prevented in the future.

Hearing aid fit: Study results show that while many children's hearing aids fit well, some do not have optimal amplification, and thus, the children miss some words that are spoken, especially quiet speech. This, in turn, holds back young children's abilities to develop language skills. For some children, the best solution is to simply optimize fittings.

Hearing aid habits: Children with milder hearing losses wear their hearing aids less than those with moderate or severe hearing losses. Also, older children tend to wear their hearing aids more often than their younger counterparts.

School readiness: When OCHL researchers look at children at each age, they find that most fall within the average range on several tests of speech and language abilities. Not surprisingly, though, skills that arise from hearing speech sounds are harder for these children to learn and/or they develop the skills at later ages as compared to children who can hear all sounds well. By studying children over time, researchers hope to learn whether they "catch up" in language abilities and if so, when and how that happens. Another key question is how delayed skills or well-developed skills impact children when they start school. Children with hearing loss have a harder time with the sound structure of spoken words, which could eventually present difficulties sounding out new words they read. More research is needed to better understand the relation between the development of reading skills and hearing loss in children.

Social abilities: Children with hearing loss tend to lag behind those with normal hearing in their understanding of how others think and feel. This slower development of social skills is likely because hard of hearing children do not hear all pieces of conversations – particularly when many people are talking or they are in a noisy environment. The OCHL researchers hope to continue to learn more about what these social delays might mean and how delays might be prevented.

student awards, honors, presentations and publications

HONORS AND AWARDS

The Iowa NSSLHA Chapter won first place in the Knowledge Bowl at the 2012 ASHA convention. Questions similar to those on the PRAXIS exam were given to collegiate teams. Iowa's team had the option to divide the \$1,000 prize among its seven team members, but the group instead donated the funds to the Iowa NSSLHA chapter. Also, the NSSLHA chapter was awarded Gold Status by the National NSSLHA office in September 2012.

Britany Barber (AuD student) was awarded the 2012 Delta Zeta Foundation Speech and Hearing scholarship.

Bryan Brown (PhD student) was named a fellow in the Obermann Graduate Institute on Engagement. He will attend a one-week academy in which UI graduate students across colleges and departments explore how civic engagement can enhance teaching, research, and creative work.

Ben Kirby (PhD student) and Julia Hollister (PhD student) were named recipients of the ASHA New Century Scholar Awards from the ASHFoundation.

Joanna Chen Lee (former PhD student) won an NIH Travel Award to attend the 34th Symposium on Research in Child Language Disorders (SRCLD).

Ryan Cronister was awarded an Iowa Center for Research by Undergraduates Fellowship in Fall 2012 and Spring 2013. He also won a travel award to attend the Symposium on Research in Child Language Disorders (SRCLD) meeting.

Jessica Hall (PhD student) is the recipient of an ASHA Research Mentoring-Pair Travel Awards (with Dr. Janna Oetting from Louisiana State University).

James Lewis (PhD student) won a Student Research Grant in Audiology from the ASHA Foundation.

Ian Mertes (AuD graduate, now PhD student) was awarded the William F Austin Starkey Scholarship.

Michelle Quinn (PhD student) was awarded a service learning grant from the Office of Service Learning and Community Research UW-Madison and an Office of International Academic Program Planning Course Planning Travel Grant (UW-Madison).

Caitin Sapp (AuD student) was awarded the American Academy of Audiology Empowering People Scholarship.

Kendra Schmitt (MA student) and Karen Steurer (AuD student) were awarded ISHA scholarships at the Fall 2012 ISHA Convention.

Kendra Schmitt and Emily Norman were selected as 1st and 3rd place prize winners, respectively, of the ASHA Student Ethics Essay competition for 2012.

Natalie Vanderveen (MA student) and Melissa Duff won an ASHA Research Mentoring-Pair Travel Award.

UI Foundation Scholarships

- Kristen Lodge Miller Award to Lauren Nelson
- Ogdahl Graduate Award to Carlene Koken
- Laurel Stanzel Awards to Britany Barber and Curtis Hartling
- Salmon Scholarship Awards to Kendra Schmitt and Claire Stanecki

Four speech and hearing undergraduate majors won awards for their research posters in the Spring 2013 Undergraduate Research Festival in April: Mary Garvert (outstanding), Shu-Sheng Liao, Kimberly Andersen, and Brooke Gambrall.

POSTERS AND PRESENTATIONS

Barber, B. & Kelsay, D. Ditch the Hearing Hangover: A Hearing Loss Prevention Program for the College Mindset. Poster presentation, Iowa Speech Language Hearing Association, 2012; American Academy of Audiology Conference, 2013; and National Hearing Conservation Association Conference, 2013.

Carlson, A., Sapp, C., & Fleckenstein, S. Listen and Speak Up! Preschool: Connecting early identified children with a cooperative therapy environment and assistive listening devices. Poster presentation, National Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Conference, 2012

Chen, Z. & Finnegan, E.M. Reliability in Identification of Variants of Spasmodic Dysphonia. Poster at Care of the Professional Voice, Philadelphia, PA, June, 2012.

Cronister, R., Liao, S.S., Lin, S., & Van Horne, A. Motion events and associated forms in English- and Mandarin-speaking children's narratives. Poster at Symposium on Research in Child Language Disorders Madison, WI, June 2013.

Fennell, A., DeHaan, T., & Peterson, B. Preventive Voice Program for Student Teachers at the University of Iowa. Poster at Iowa Speech and Hearing Association Conference, Iowa City, IA, October 2012.

Kelsay, D., Fleckenstein, S., Stangl, E., **Hartling, C.**, & **DeLuca, J**. Hearing Conservation for Musicians: Getting the Word out Early. Poster presentation, National Hearing Conservation Association Conference, 2013.

Lee, J. C., Muller, K., & Tomblin, J. B. (2013). From genes to brain to behavior: Genetic and neuroimaging studies of learning in SLI. Poster presented at Symposium on Research in Child Language Disorders (SRCLD), Madison, WI, June 6-8.

Quinn, M. Aural Rehab Goals Across the Age Span: Strategies for SLP & AuDs. Presentation to WSHA State Student Convention, Whitewater, WI, November, 2012.

Scientific writing course yields successes

A scientific writing course, developed and taught by Karla McGregor, not only hones graduate students' writing skills, but for three current CSD doctoral students, led to funding to support their dissertation work.

Ben Kirby, a doctoral student in audiology in Carolyn Brown's lab, won an F31 award from the NIH entitled "Impact of Hearing Aid Frequency Compression on Cortical Evoked Potentials and Psychophysical Performance."

Rachel Scheperle, a doctoral student in audiology in Paul Abbas's lab, was awarded F31 funding to complete her project entitled "Contributions of Peripheral Spatial Resolution to Speech Perception in CI Users."

Samantha Shune, a doctoral student in speech and hearing sciences in Jerry Moon's lab, was awarded an F31 to complete her doctoral study on the "Effects of aging on anticipatory functional synergies activated in deglutition." It was funded through the National Institute on Aging.

"An ability to write clear and compelling prose is essential to the scientific process," said McGregor. "To participate fully in science and to ensure personal success, new graduates must enter the field with highly developed writing skills."

As part of the coursework, students either prepare a manuscript for publication based on their own data or prepare an F31 grant application. Students also prepare a scientific poster and present a data blitz. Using a workshop approach, class members also read and critique one another's work.

"I am so pleased that these very accomplished students were successful in their very first grant applications. The writing course likely helped, but grants aren't awarded for bad science, so the students' mentors deserve lots of credit as well," said McGregor.

more student presentations, posters and papers

Quinn, M. Possibilities for Extending the WI Idea by developing an International Practicum for Bilingual SLPs and AuDs. Presentations at International Academic Program Administrators, October, 2012, and Common Hope Administrators, January, 2013, Antigua, Guatemala.

Stangl, E. A., Wu, Y. H., **Stanziola**, **R. W.**, & Bentler, R. A. The effect of hearing aid technologies on listening in an automobile. Poster at the International Hearing Aid Research Conference. Tahoe City, CA, August, 2012.

Steurer, K., Kelsay, D., Stangl, E., Fleckenstein, S., & Barber, B. Sound Awareness for Everyone: Community Hearing Loss Prevention Programs at the University of Iowa. Poster presentation, National Hearing Conservation Association Conference, 2013.

Steurer, K., & Kelsay, D. A Hearing Conservation Program for University Musicians. Poster presentation, Iowa Speech Language Hearing Association, 2012.

Van Horne, A., & Hall, J. Linguistic Context Influences 'to' Use by Children With SLI. Poster presentation, American Speech-Language-Hearing Association convention, 2012.

PAPERS

Lee, J. C., & Tomblin, J. B. (2012). Reinforcement learning in young adults with developmental language impairment. Brain & Language, 123, 154-163.

Lee, J. C., Nopoulos, P. C., & Tomblin, J. B. (in review). Abnormal subcortical components of the corticostriatal system in young adults with DLI: A combined structural MRI and DTI study. Neuropsychologia.

Lee, J. C., & Tomblin, J. B. (in review). An examination of different aspects of procedural memory in young adults with developmental language impairment. Brain and Language.

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connections

We're committed to keeping the communication channel open between alumni, friends, and former faculty of the Department and our current students, faculty, and staff. We hope you will read, enjoy, and respond to this newsletter. We also encourage you to visit the department website at www.uiowa.edu/~comsci to keep up to date with your former colleagues and current departmental news. Please also note that our website is undergoing a facelift and moving! Soon, you will be re-directed to http://clas.uiowa.edu/comsci. If you have not already done so, consider returning the completed form below to us via mail or FAX (319.335.8851). You may also Email speech-path-aud@uiowa.edu, using "my news" as a subject line. We'd enjoy hearing from you, and if you agree, we will publish your news in the Alumni Updates section.

keep in touch

Name	
Degree / year earned	
Current job	
Your news	

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