

# Communication Sciences & Disorders

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES

THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA



1956 - 2017

*A tradition of excellence*

Spring 2017

## message from the chair

**M**y turn is up. After six years as department chair (DEO), I will officially pass the baton to Jerry Moon on August 1. Since the level of activity is never ending around here, I just need to remember to stop the merry-go-round, and let Jerry hop on later this summer!

It is difficult to reflect on the past year, let alone the last six years. Our support staff continues to flourish. Besides John Williams, our “new Dorothy” in the front office, we now have Danielle Garvey at the clinic front desk and are about to hire a new full-time insurance biller, as Kathy Miller retires (see inside). Relative to faculty, we will say goodbye to Karla McGregor (to Boystown), Amanda Van Horne (to University of Delaware) and Kara Gruber (to Grant Wood AEA). Some of the new faculty hires are not even determined yet, but Krista Davidson and Jenny DiVita will be joining our clinical faculty this summer.

Changes in faculty and staff are not the only “changes” around here over the past couple of years. Older alum will be happy to know that our classrooms are now state-of-the-art, student offices are almost all renovated, faculty commons are refurbished and we are just starting a complete facelift to the clinic as we speak. Why does this matter? After nearly 60 years, we were starting to look a bit shabby, and our dreams of a NEW building are still on hold with the University’s planning group. Without a 50-million-dollar endowment, we have to wait our turn. Anybody?

Finally, over the past six years I have seen some of the brightest students walk out with diploma in hand, prolific faculty become even more prolific, and the services provided by our clinic expand in ways I had not imagined possible. Our rankings in both speech pathology (#1) and audiology (#2) have not wavered, and our mission to be the premier institution for training, research, clinical service, and outreach in the field of communication sciences and disorders is palpable. It has been a great run over the past six years and I am proud to have had a front-row seat!

- Ruth Bentler

**SAVE THE DATE: October 13, 2017: Robert Margolis, PhD,  
Distinguished Alumnus Presentation / Fall Fundraiser & Benefit Auction**

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yearly for alumni, former  
faculty, and friends.

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## alumni updates

**Terry L. Wiley (PhD 1972).** Current job: Retired Professor Emeritus, University of Wisconsin-Madison. "After graduating from Iowa, I spent 31 years on the faculty at the University of Wisconsin-Madison before retiring in 2002. The retirement was short-lived as I took a part-time faculty position at Arizona State University the day after my Wisconsin retirement. My wife Linda and I had relocated to the Phoenix area following my retirement. I spent 6 years on the faculty at Arizona State before retiring again in 2008. During my time at Arizona State I had also continued to collaborate with my old NIH grant group in Madison as well as with a couple of former Wisconsin colleagues. My son is an attorney and lives in Scottsdale with his wife and two high-school children. I spend my time in retirement watching my two grandchildren participate in high-school athletics and other school activities, and I enjoy exploring my new state and its beautiful scenery and parks, and swimming and bicycling in the warm Arizona weather. I have continued to read and write a bit in my retirement including some scientific papers, newsletter articles, and a book of non-fiction that was published in 2015."

**Sandra Hammers Przybylski (BS 1968).** Current job: SLP, working in Missouri's First Steps program. "It doesn't seem like 48 years have past since I got my BS from Iowa. We had strange semesters then, with finals after the holidays and graduation in February. We were encouraged to go on and get our Master's; however, I went to work as an elementary teacher (I'd had a minor area in education) to earn money for grad school. I received my MA from Illinois, but I'll always have a strong attachment to Iowa. I learned a lot from my many professors and advisor, Judith Milisen Knabe. I'm still using that knowledge working with infants and toddlers in Missouri's early intervention program. I've had the privilege to work in many areas of education along with many ages -- adults, children, and now the very young."

**Laura Santucci Mick (BA 2003).** "After I completed my BA at Iowa I moved to Kansas City, MO, where I finished my MS in Speech & Hearing Sciences at Rockhurst University. I started working for Turner school district in 2005 until 2008. My husband and I then moved to Chicago (Bryan was accepted into dental school, a second career choice), and I worked with Chicago Public Schools for the next 4 years. After this, we moved to Appleton, WI, where I currently work for Hortonville School District (just finished my 4th year here). I have been an SLP with the public schools all over the Midwest the past 11 years! We plan on staying here as we just purchased our 1st home. We have 2 children (5 year old girl and 1 year old boy)."

**Suzanne Moineau (MA, Speech-Language Pathology 1996).** Current job: Professor, Chair, Department of Speech-Language Pathology, California State University San Marcos. "I love reading the newsletter and seeing familiar names and all of the great work that is coming out of the department. I had an amazing journey while doing my master's at Iowa (1994-1996). I had various RA positions, including one with Ingo Titze making measurements of canine larynges, another with Dr. Elaine Smith from epidemiology to explore the role of HPV on the development of oral cavity cancer, and finally with Harry Hofmann to assist in organizing a database of patient information. My advisors/mentors, Kittie Verdolini, Tricia Zebrowski and Bruce Tomblin were exceptional role models and very collaborative with the master's students. All of these experiences solidified my desire to continue on for my Ph.D., which I did at a Joint Doctoral Program between UCSD and SDSU. After completing my Ph.D., I was offered a position at California State University San Marcos. They were interested in developing a master's program in CSD. I jumped at the opportunity to develop a program from the ground up! In my 11 years there, I have built a successful MS in SLP, a thriving post-bac preparation program, and we will launch our BS in SLP this Fall. I along with two of my colleagues, Dr. Alison Scheer-Cohen (had a stint at CSD/U of Iowa too!) and Dr. Lori Heisler received a grant last year from the US Dept of Education to train 50 graduate students clinicians over 5 years for competency in the assessment and treatment of communication disorders in children with craniofacial anomalies."

## CSD mourns passing of Linda Jordan, Carl Betts

**Linda Lloye Jordan** died peacefully in November at the Oaknoll Health Center surrounded by her family. She leaves behind her husband, Herb, two children, and five grandchildren. Linda earned both her bachelor's and doctoral degrees from the University of Iowa. She was an adjunct professor in UI's Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders and a speech-language pathologist in UIHC's Department of Neurology. She served as past president of the Iowa Speech, Language and Hearing Association and had received Honors from the same organization. She was a Fellow with the American Speech, Language and Hearing Association.

**Carl Betts** passed away March 25, 2017, in hospice care. Left to cherish his memory are his wife, three sons, three grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and a sister. Carl was employed as Director of Speech and Hearing Services for Crippled Children (SSCC). In the late 70's he also became Director of Speech and Hearing Services at the Hospital School. Later he also became an Associate Professor in the Department of Pediatrics. Carl retired in 1989 to continue to enjoy his other passions in life which were hunting, fishing, gardening and family.

# Faculty & Staff Achievements

**Ruth Bentler**, professor, chair, and director of graduate studies in CSD won a Board of Regents Award for Faculty Excellence. She was recognized for her expertise in hearing aid technology and advocacy for the use of best practices in the field of audiology. She spearheaded the creation of the department's China Project 14 years ago, and for more than 10 years, she has organized teams of faculty, students, and volunteers to provide screenings for athletes participating in the Special Olympics. She is a Fellow of the American Speech and Hearing Association.

**Jean Gordon**, associate professor, wrote a blog published in the October 17, 2016, issue of the Huffington Post. In her piece, she analyzes the linguistic styles of nominees Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump, comparing statistics such as number of interruptions, relevant responses to questions, and grammatical accuracy. The full article may be found on [www.huffingtonpost.com](http://www.huffingtonpost.com).

**Katherine Gordon**, postdoctoral fellow, was awarded a three-year grant from the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders for her project entitled "Long-Term Retention of Words by Children with Language Impairment."

**Alison Lemke**, clinical associate professor, accepted the position of 2017 President for the National Council of State Boards of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology.

**Meredith Saletta**, assistant professor, and Erica Kaldenberg, assistant director of the UI REACH program, were awarded an Obermann Center for Advanced Studies Interdisciplinary Research Grant for their project, "Literacy Interventions in Individuals with Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities: A Meta-Analysis."

**Beth Walker**, assistant professor in audiology, was one of five winners of an ASH-Foundation Clinical Research Grant, for her project "Investigating Links Between Non-Linguistic Learning Processes and Grammar Skills in Children with Cochlear Implants."



*Kathy Miller was recognized for 40 years of service to the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences spring staff recognition reception. Kathy is retiring June 30.*



*Margaret Rogers (PhD 1992) was named the 2016 Distinguished Alumnus. Ruth Bentler presented the award in October.*

## personnel

### Faculty

Bentler, Ruth, *Department Chair*  
Brown, Carolyn J.  
Bryant, Karen  
Choi, Inyong  
Cilek, Toni  
Fennell, Ann  
Finnegan, Eileen  
Fleckenstein, Stephanie  
Gfeller, Kate  
Goodman, Shawn  
Gordon, Jean K.  
Gruber, Kara  
Holte, Lenore  
Kelsay, Danielle  
Lemke, Alison  
McGregor, Karla  
McMurray, Bob  
Moon, Jerald  
Niebuhr, Diane  
Saletta, Meredith  
Subramanian, Anu  
Titze, Ingo  
Tyler, Richard  
Van Horne, Amanda  
Walker, Elizabeth  
Wallace, Anne  
Wu, Yu-Hsiang  
Zebrowski, Patricia

### Faculty Emeriti

Abbas, Paul  
Anderson, Charles  
Hall, Penelope  
Hurtig, Richard  
Karnell, Michael  
Luschei, Erich  
Morris, Hughlett  
Small, Arnold  
Tomblin, J. Bruce  
Turner, Christopher

### Postdoctoral Fellows

Gordon, Katherine  
Jackson, Eric  
Kopf, Lisa

### Staff

Arbisi-Kelm, Timothy  
Eden, Nichole  
Fick, Wendy  
Garvey, Danielle  
Jones, Julie  
Lee, Joanna Chen  
Miller, Kathy  
O'Brien, Marlea  
Ostrem, Julie  
Petersen, Trenten  
Seemann, Lauren  
Stangl, Elizabeth  
Williams, John  
Yotty, Mary Jo



# CSD welcomes Jerry Moon as new chair

*Jerry Moon takes over as Department Executive Officer August 1. Before he tackles his new role, we asked for his thoughts about the move from the classroom to administration.*

## **How did you become interested in communication disorders anyway?**

Having an interest in pursuing a helping profession, I entered the University of Waterloo in Canada as a pre-optometry student. During that first year, I came to the realization that a career as an optometrist was not for me. My search for a new path uncovered the program in Communicative Disorders at The University of Western Ontario. Speech-language pathology was something that I'd had no previous exposure to personally and no real knowledge of. I decided to give it a shot!

## **What is the biggest strength you bring to CSD?**

I guess one of the biggest strengths I bring to this department is passion. I love doing what I do, and that passion drives me to do what I do to the very best of my ability, be that in the classroom, the lab, a committee meeting, a meeting with a student, or now in the Department Chair's office.

## **What will be the most important decisions you make as the new leader of CSD?**

Recent faculty losses have left us with challenges to face as we strive to continue the high level of excellence synonymous with the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders and the Wendell Johnson Speech and Hearing Clinic. The economic environment on campus makes it increasingly difficult to obtain approval to replace departed faculty. However, the speech pathology and audiology program here is strong, and I am confident that the new academic year will bring with it an opportunity to rebuild our faculty with energetic, innovative, and dedicated individuals who will contribute in significant ways to educating Iowa students and advancing the knowledge base in a way that Iowa has always been known for.

## **How would you describe your leadership style?**

I believe that a successful Chair should be flexible and adaptable to given situations, exercising whatever leadership is required for that situation. Fundamentally, I see myself as embracing a democratic, consensus building leadership style. We are all part of one team, and all team members should have an opportunity to provide input regarding important decisions that, while ultimately be made by the Chair, affect what we do.

## **We work in challenging times (shrinking state funding, competition for top students): how do you plan to keep circumstances from dampening your (and the faculty's) inspiration?**

We do, indeed, work in challenging times, and must address shrinking funding for public institutions. We are being asked to do what we do (and more) for less. We are forced to compete with other institutions having fewer financial constraints to attract the very best students. Being ranked as a top program in the country only goes so far. It is important to continue to develop creative and innovative approaches to ensuring that we can assist more students financially in achieving their career dreams.

We will also be creative and innovative in our approaches to maintaining an active, stimulating, nurturing, and fulfilling professional environment for ourselves. The faculty and staff of the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders are highly dedicated professionals, all sharing the same commitment to excellence. In spite of any and all external challenges the department may face, that commitment will be passed on to the students who entrust us with preparing them for long and successful careers. In doing so, our students, as well as the individuals with communication disorders we serve, receive the best.

## **You've been given a number of teaching awards over the years; now that your workspace is the administration office, will you miss the classroom?**

I won't miss the classroom, as I won't be giving up my teaching. There is nothing more rewarding than the look on a student's face when the light bulb switches on, and they realize their understanding of a difficult concept. There is nothing more rewarding than hearing from a student that you made a difference in their life.

## **Name a few people who inspire(d) you and why.**

Many have inspired me, but my father sits at the top of that list. My father rose from loading trucks in a lumber yard to being the vice-president of a national building materials company in Canada. I like to believe that among many things, I have learned from him gratefulness, the value of humor, perseverance in the face of adversity, never being complacent, treating people fairly, and not being afraid to make tough decisions for the right reasons. I hope that, when my tenure here is complete, he would say that I learned well.



## student honors and awards

**Mallory Carr** was awarded “Outstanding Poster Presentation” at the 2017 Spring Undergraduate Research Festival. Her mentor is Tricia Zebrowski.

**Jeong Seo Kim** won a student travel award to attend the 2017 Conference on Implantable Auditory Prostheses in Lake Tahoe, CA, July 2017. The award covers housing and meals.

**Kelsey Klein** won a Student Travel Award Reimbursement (STAR program), from the American Academy of Audiology Foundation.

**Kelsey Klein** also won an Academy Research Conference Poster Presentation Scholarship from American Academy of Audiology.

**Sarah Klemuk** won a student travel award to attend the 2017 Conference on Implantable Auditory Prostheses in Lake Tahoe, CA, July 2017. The award covers housing and meals.

**Alexandra Redfern** was awarded an Iowa Center for Research by Undergraduates fellowship with Beth Walker for the academic year 2016-17.

**Alexandra Redfern** received an ICRU travel award to attend ASHA 2016 in Philadelphia.

**Alexandra Redfern** presented at the Fall Undergraduate Research Festival, and twice at the Spring Undergraduate Research Festival (one poster with Shawn Goodman and one poster with Beth Walker), winning outstanding awards for both posters.

**Kiara Rivera’s** undergraduate honors thesis earned a “Commended Poster Presentation” at the 2017 Spring Undergraduate Research Festival. Her mentor is Meredith Saletta.

**Naomi Hertsberg Rodgers** was featured on a StutterTalk podcast in April. The theme of the discussion with host Peter Reitzes was “Reclaiming Our Stuttering Space at the Passover Seder.”

**Naomi Hertsberg Rodgers** was awarded a 2016 New Century Scholars Doctoral Scholarship from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Foundation. The program supports strong doctoral candidates who will pursue a teacher-investigator career in the academic environment, university/college level. Her mentor is Tricia Zebrowski.

**Sharon Serper** won a “Commended Poster Presentation” Award at the 2017 Spring Undergraduate Research Festival. Her mentors are Alison Lemke and Larissa Jordan.



*Larissa Jordan, PhD candidate, and Emily Goetz, AuD student, were honored with Outstanding Teaching Assistant Awards. The monetary awards and certificates were presented at the Council on Teaching Awards Reception May 4. The Council on Teaching selects recipients based on philosophy of teaching and learning, classroom evaluations, and strong support from students and faculty.*

# Spotlight on the Cochlear Implant/Electrophysiology Labs

*Paul Abbas, PhD joined the faculty at the University of Iowa in 1973. A decade later, I came to Iowa to begin to work on my PhD. Who could have guessed that 30 years later we would still be collaborating? Neither Paul nor I like to toot our own horns, but this has been an exceptional year in many ways. We wanted to take a minute to highlight some of the accomplishments of the many students and lab members who have been active in their lab this past year.*

**Viral Tejani, AuD**, is a research audiologist who works full time on the Electrophysiology Section of the Iowa Cochlear Implant Project. He runs the lab in UIHC and coordinates research activities between that lab and the lab in the Speech and Hearing Center. Viral is also pursuing his PhD. He passed his comprehensive examination this past summer and this year has been lead or co-author on four publications! He will present two posters this summer at the 2017 Conference on Implantable Auditory Prostheses (CIAP) in Lake Tahoe, California this summer. Viral is a jack of all trades, writing MATLAB script, testing patients, analyzing data etc. He also finds time to supervise many of the AuD students who rotate through the Cochlear Implant Electrophysiology Lab at the UIHC.

**Julie (Eun Kyung) Jeon, AuD, PhD**, is another long-time member of our lab. She has played a key role during the past several years, coordinating and managing several different ongoing research projects both in our lab in WJSHC and at UIHC. If that is not enough, she also helped run Chris Turner's lab and completed her dissertation this past summer. In January, she and her family moved to Salt Lake City, where she is now an assistant professor of Audiology at the University of Utah. Julie continues to collaborate with us, and she will present results of her work at both CIAP and at the 15th Symposium on Cochlear Implants in Children in San Francisco later this summer. We miss Julie, but are happy to see her spread her wings!

**Rachel Scheperle, AuD, PhD**, graduated with her PhD from the University of Iowa in 2013. We were thrilled to have her back with us to do some post-doctoral research this past year! Rachel completed two research projects in the year she spent with us! Rachel left Iowa City last fall to begin her academic career as an assistant professor at Montclair State University.

**Jae-Ryong Kim, MD, PhD**, and **Ji-Hwan Woo, PhD**, were both visiting scholars at Iowa several years ago. This past year we were lucky to have both of them back again. This time, with considerable seniority! In the year he was here, Jae was able to compete and publish the results of his work that explored correlations between acoustically and electrically evoked neural responses and speech perception in Hybrid CI users. This work was recently published in *Frontiers in Neuroscience*. Ji-Hwan is working both with us and with Inyong Choi, PhD. He has been able to develop an interface that we can use to record neural responses to acoustic stimulation from an intracochlear electrode of the Nucleus Hybrid CI. This innovation will greatly improve the efficiency of data collection in our lab.

**Bruna Mussoi, AuD, PhD**, and **Li Kuei Chiou, AuD, PhD**, also defended their dissertations during the past year. We are very proud of both graduates from our program! Li Kuei works full time as a clinical audiologist at UIHC. Bruna spent the past year as an adjunct faculty member at Western Illinois University. She will begin her career in academics as an Assistant Professor at Kent State University this fall. Both Bruna and Li Kuei are in the process of writing up the results of their dissertation research and hope to have those papers submitted soon!

**Nick Giuliani, AuD**, is another full-time audiologist at the UIHC who is also pursuing his PhD in our lab! He is post comps and has recently completed data collection for his work. Dr. Yu-Hsiang Wu and I both supervise his dissertation research. The focus of his work is on exploring non-behavioral metrics that may serve as an index of "listening effort," a novel direction for our lab!

**Jeong-Seo Kim, AuD**, is one of the newest members of our lab. **Sarah Klemuk**, already has her PhD but now is pursuing an AuD! Both have been active in our lab this past year. Both received travel awards to use to help them attend and present their work at CIAP this summer. Iowa will have a strong showing at this important CI meeting.

**Kelsey Klein** came to Iowa two years ago to begin work on her AuD/PhD. Kelsey has a range of different research interests and has been working in labs run by Professors Elizabeth Walker, Yu-Hsiang Wu and Karla McGregor. Kelsey plans to take the comprehensive exams for her PhD early this summer. This year, Kelsey has two first author publications to her credit. Impressive by any standard!

**Paul Abbas** officially retired last summer but we are lucky that he continues to work part time with the research group, playing a major role in crafting the most recent application we have made to NIH to fund our research. He was the lead or co-author on several publications from our lab group this year and he continues to mentor PhD students to this day. A scholarship fund was set up in his name last summer at a party celebrating his retirement, and more than \$45,000 was raised! We are still hoping to make the \$50,000 milestone required to endow the scholarship! What a tribute that would be to a man with such a long and distinguished career.

(next page)



I work very hard to try to keep track of all these talented individuals. I am also going to attend CIAP this summer as an invited speaker. We have collaborated with Bruce Gantz and the rest of the Iowa Cochlear Implant team for decades, but this year, I hope to share results from our most recent work that includes collaborations for the first time with Richard Smith, MD and A. Eliot Scheerer, MD, from the Iowa Molecular Otolaryngology and Renal Research Lab. I am also honored to be asked to participate as a mentor/invited speaker at the ASHA Pathways to Success Program in June in Washington, DC and then a week later to serve on a grant review panel at NIH. It is an exciting time for all of us as we wait nervously to hear the outcome of our latest grant submission. I am thrilled to have the opportunity to brag about our team. We are proud of every one of our current and former students and we wish them well as they move on in their lives and careers!

- Carolyn J. Brown

#### **2016/2017 Publications**

Relationship between Peripheral and Psychophysical Measures of Amplitude Modulation Detection in Cochlear Implant Users. Authors: Viral D. Tejani, Paul J. Abbas and Carolyn J. Brown

Using Neural Response Telemetry to Monitor Physiological Responses to Acoustic Stimulation in Hybrid Cochlear Implant Users. Authors: Paul J. Abbas, Viral D. Tejani, Rachel A. Scheperle and Carolyn J. Brown

Intracochlear Recordings of Acoustically and Electrically Evoked Potentials in Nucleus Hybrid L24 Cochlear Implant Users and Their Relationship to Speech Perception. Authors: Jae-Ryong Kim, Viral D. Tejani, Paul J. Abbas, Carolyn J. Brown

Delayed changes in auditory status in cochlear implant users with preserved acoustic hearing. Authors: Rachel A. Scheperle, Viral D. Tejani, Julia K. Omtvedt, Carolyn J. Brown, Paul J. Abbas, Marlan R. Hansen, Bruce J. Gantz, Jacob J. Oleson, Marie V. Ozanne

Genetic variants in the peripheral auditory system significantly affect adult cochlear implant performance. Authors: A. Eliot Shearer, Robert W. Eppsteiner, Kathy Frees, Viral Tejani, Christina M. Sloan-Heggen, Carolyn Brown, Paul Abbas, Camille Dunn, Marlan R. Hansen, Bruce J. Gantz, Richard J.H. Smith

Using a digital language processor to quantify the auditory environment and the effect of hearing aids for adults with hearing aids. Journal of the American Academy of Audiology. Authors: Kelsey Klein, Yu-Hsiang Wu, Elizabeth Stangl, Ruth Bentler

Vocabulary facilitates speech perception in children with hearing aids. Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research. Authors: Kelsey Klein, Elizabeth A. Walker, Benjamin Kirby, Ryan McCreery



*The 2016 Listen and Speak Up summer preschool program for children with hearing impairments was featured in the video series, LiveBIG on the Big Ten Network. The one-minute segment features interviews with Anne Wallace, clinical associate professor; Kelsey Dumanch, graduate student in audiology; and Murph and Camden Hutson, an Iowa father and son who have participated in Listen and Speak Up for the past three years. The LiveBIG series features stories of innovation, impact and inspiration.*

# Press-Citizen columnist features WJSHC “secret”

*This article by Dick Hakes was originally published in the July 12, 2016, issue of the Iowa City Press Citizen.*

Don't say “no” if somebody offers to show you the anechoic chamber on the University of Iowa campus. It's a rare experience not to be missed. This room takes “quiet” to an extreme level.

I never knew such a chamber existed until I was recently escorted through a thick, walk-in-freezer-type door into a 30-by-30-by-30-foot cube deep in the bowels beneath the Wendell Johnson Speech and Hearing Center.

Large 4-foot fiberglass wedges in horizontal and vertical clusters — 230 in all — protrude inward from every square inch of surface in this room, breaking up any chance for reflection any sound wave may have hoped for.

The wedges serve as massive baffles, similar to the ones you removed from your Harley-Davidson muffler to make sure the neighbors could hear you when you came home late.

In this room, when you turn and exclaim your amazement to your tour guide, it feels like your voice drops into a void two feet from your mouth, no matter how loud you speak.

Anechoic means “free from echo” and this cube lives up to its name.

It was built nearly a half century ago when the Johnson Center building was first constructed. It's actually a concrete room with a steel-walled second room inside it, supported on steel beams attached to the concrete floor by springs, with 4 inches of air space between the two rooms. Then there is another 4 inches of insulation, then the wedges.

There's no chance for any rumblings or vibrations from the building overhead, nor from the earth below, nor the street outside. There is some air movement for ventilation, but that's about the only connection to the outside world.

You enter this room on a wire mesh platform that supports equipment for sound experiments and the people who conduct them. The chamber has assisted countless grant-funded research projects by faculty and students over the years, which have had an impact on the design and use of modern hearing aids.

Department Chair Ruth Bentler knows this chamber inside and out and fondly calls it “a gem.”

She is chair of the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at the university, which has a very long history of national prominence. U.S. News & World Report consistently ranks both speech pathology and audiology here in the No. 1 and No. 2 positions among U.S. universities.

“Few people know the chamber is here,” Bentler tells me. “It is perfect for acoustical research and there are only a few like it in the world.”

“I think it is one of the reasons we stand out,” she continues. “It's of huge value having a space that is not corrupted for acoustic-based research. To really understand what happens to sound, you need a space that has no interruption of sound.”

Bentler, whose third co-authored textbook will be published this fall, has been at the university for more than three decades. She and colleague Yu-Hsiang Wu have used the chamber for many research projects, especially for studies on the effectiveness of directional microphones, which are an option built into current hearing aid technology.

Other departments sneak into the chamber on occasion as well. For example, a doctoral candidate in music therapy conducted research with acoustical tests on various instruments there.

In addition, a rhetoric class from the English department once used it as something of a sensory deprivation chamber. Class members sat in the room for half an hour with the lights off and wrote essays on the experience.

Let's see. No light, no noise and when you yell, it sounds like you're trapped in a sleeping bag.

My suggestion? The chamber is a little freaky anyway, so keep the lights on.



## Iowa's SAA chapter shines at Triple A meeting

The Iowa Student Academy of Audiology Chapter made us all proud at the AAA Conference in April.

They were the overall winner of the SAA Chapter Challenge, beating out 75 other SAA chapters. Their monetary award will be used to support national SAA memberships for active members that participated in these events.

Rebecca Hauser, an undergraduate sophomore in Speech and Hearing Science, won the Undergraduate Humanitarian Award, recognizing this future audiologist for demonstrating exemplary participation in SAA chapter events and showing strength in humanitarian and fundraising efforts for audiology.

Kristen Ponturiero and Alyssa Adamec, AuD students, were accepted to attend the Student Leaders in Audiology Conference, an opportunity for future audiologists to grow and develop skills in leadership so that they may become active, contributory members to an already thriving audiology community.



*Iowa's SAA chapter received the SAA Humanitarian, Educational, and Awareness Resources (HEAR) Chapter Grant. The monetary grant will help support the SAA Haunted Hustle for Hearing, a 5K walk/run held each October.*

Finally, the Iowa SAA chapter received another monetary award, the SAA HEAR Chapter Grant, to continue supporting WJSHC clients who would otherwise be unable to receive amplification and/or earmolds.

## McGregor dares to discover

Karla McGregor was one of 51 University of Iowa researchers, scholars, and creators featured in UI's Dare to Discover banner campaign. The banners hang from poles throughout downtown Iowa City, along the Park Road bridge, and inside University Capitol Centre (UCC). McGregor's banner may be found in UCC.

Produced by the UI Office of the Vice President for Research and Economic Development (OVPR&ED), the banners -- and a companion website at <http://dare.research.uiowa.edu> -- highlight the exciting discovery and innovation occurring at the UI.

"The banners showcase the incredible work being done at the university, but they are also a challenge and an invitation to those inside and outside our institution to participate in innovative and creative work of their own," said Dan Reed, UI Vice President for Research and Economic Development.

McGregor's banner, Dare to Liberate Language, is paired with the following narrative:

*Words are the building blocks of communication. Without them, we can't share an idea, verbalize affection, or tell our stories. As director of the Word Learning Lab within the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, McGregor researches how people with developmental language disorders learn, remember, and use words. From 2012-2015, McGregor was the director of the DeLTA Center (Development and Learning from Theory to Application), which is an interdisciplinary research community at UI dedicated to exploring the processes of learning and development.*



# student posters, presentations, and publications

## Posters Presentations

**Brody, L.**, Wu, Y. H., & Stangl, E. (2017). Comparison of hearing aids and PSAPs in ecologically relevant situations. Annual Meeting of the American Auditory Society, Scottsdale, AZ.

**Dumanch, K.**, Holte, L, O'Hollearn, T, Walker, EA, Clark, J, Oleson, J. (2017). Risk Factors Associated with Childhood Hearing Loss: A 3-Year Review, poster presented to the American Auditory Society, Scottsdale, AZ March 2017 (winner of student travel award).

**Gambrall, G.**, Bentler, R., Kelsay, D., & Fleckenstein, S. (2017). The Effect Of Take-home Communication Strategy Tools On Patient Self-report Outcomes. Poster presented at American Academy of Audiology Annual Convention, Indianapolis, IN.

Gibbs, J., Cheyney, M., **Menscher, R.**, **Klemuk, S.**, Kelsay, DMR. (2017). A Noise Induced Hearing Loss (NIHL) Simulation Tool for Educating Young Farmers. Poster presentation at the National Hearing Conservation Association Annual Convention, San Antonio, TX.

Gibbs, J., Cheyney, M., **Menscher, R.**, **Klemuk, S.**, Kelsay, D.M.R. (2016). A Noise Induced Hearing Loss (NIHL) Simulation Tool for Educating Young Farmers. Iowa Speech and Hearing Association Annual Convention, Iowa City, IA.

**Kim, S.**, Griffiths, T.D., Gander, P.E., & Choi, I. (2017). Neural correlates of normal hearing listeners' variance in the ability to understand speech in noise. Poster presented at American Academy of Audiology Annual Convention, Indianapolis, IN.

**Klein, K.E., Redfern, A.**, Spratford, M., & Walker, E. (April, 2017). Hearing aid maintenance and responsibility trends in school-age children who are hard of hearing. Poster presented at AudiologyNOW! Convention, Indianapolis, IN.

**McFarlin, K.** & Niebuhr, D. (2017). Older Adults and Use of ALDs: Impact on Communication in Retirement Living Facilities. Poster presented at American Academy of Audiology Annual Convention, Indianapolis, IN.

**Tatge, B.R.**, Walker, E.A., & Wu, Y.H. (April 2017). Equated-level vs. equated-performance dual-task procedures to evaluate listening effort in children. Poster presented at AudiologyNOW! Convention, Indianapolis, IN.

## Presentations

**Klein, K.E.**, Walker, E., Kirby, B., Spratford, M., & McCreery, R. (October, 2016). Vocabulary facilitates speech perception in children with hearing aids. Oral presentation at the Iowa Speech-Language Hearing Association Convention, Iowa City, IA.

**Larsen, L., Marshall, B.**, & **Tarabour, L.** (April 2017). "The Brain Hemispheres" program for the Iowa City Brain Injury Alliance support group.

**Redfern, A.**, Walker, E.A., & Page, T. (November 2016). Individualized education program goals & academic need congruence in children who are hard of hearing, American Speech-Language Hearing Association Conference, American Speech-Language Hearing Association, Philadelphia, PA.

## Papers

Perreau, A. E., Wu, Y. H., **Tatge, B.**, Irwin, D., & Corts, D. (in press). Listening Effort Measured in Adults with Normal Hearing and Cochlear Implants. Journal of the American Academy of Audiology.

**Dumanch, K.**, Holte, L, O'Hollearn, T, Walker, E.A., Clark, J, Oleson, J. (2017). High Risk Factors Associated With Early Childhood Hearing Loss: A 3-Year Review. American Journal of Audiology 1-14.

Wu, Y. H., **Dumanch, K.**, Stangl, E., Miller, C., Tremblay, K., & Bentler, R. A. (in press). Is the Device-Oriented Subjective Outcome (DOSO) independent of personality? Journal of the American Academy of Audiology.

**Klein, K.E.**, Wu, Y.H., Stangl, E., & Bentler, R.A. (in press). Using a digital language processor to quantify the auditory environment and the effect of hearing aids for adults with hearing loss. Journal of the American Academy of Audiology.

**Klein, K.E.**, Wu, Y.H., Stangl, E., & Bentler, R.A. (accepted). Using a digital language processor to quantify the auditory environment and the effect of hearing aids for adults with hearing aids. Journal of the American Academy of Audiology.

**Klein, K.E.**, Walker, E.A., Kirby, B., & McCreery, R.W. (accepted). Vocabulary facilitates speech perception in children with hearing aids. Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research.

# student scholarships

Iowa Scottish Rite Masonic Foundation Scholarships: **Hannah Hartlieb** and **Tess Haverkamp**

Iowa Speech-Language-Hearing Association Scholars: **Lisa Brody, Ani Danelz, Kelsey Klein, Melissa White, and Megan Young**

J. Bruce Tomblin Award: **Maura Curran**

Kristen Lodge Miller Award: **Emily Eilers**

Laurel Stanzel Award: **Kelsey Dumanch**

Nordquist Award: **Haley Kreiter**

Ogdahl Graduate Awards: **Cally Keefauver**

Outstanding Undergraduate Awards: **Christina Blomquist, Madeline Judisch, Alexandra Redfern, and Sharon Serper**

Paul Abbas Award: **TBA, 2017**

PhD New Investigator Award: **Viral Tejani**

PhD Publication Award: **Naomi Hertsberg Rodgers**

Salmon Scholarship Awards: **Kelsey Kruse** and **Bethany Jones**

Stephen and Joanna Reno Scholarship: **Rory Menscher**

Scientific Presentation Awards: **Hope Gerlach** and **Kelsey Klein**

Spiestersbach Awards: **Molly Cook, Melissa White** and **Megan Young**

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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 <http://clas.uiowa.edu/comsci> to keep up to date with your former colleagues and current departmental news. Please also note that we have a Facebook page "UI CSD Alumni." 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](mailto: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.

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