

CSD CONNECTIONS



IOWA

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION SCIENCES
AND DISORDERS NEWSLETTER

Fall 2022

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SO MUCH TO SHARE

A message from Anu Subramanian, Department Executive Officer



Hello! If you feel like you just received a newsletter from us, it was just last spring. With the weather changing from fall to winter, we decided it was time for another update. While it's only been a few months, we have been working hard and have lots to share. Our research, clinics, and classes are all fully back in the building with some mask use. It's busy and great to have in-person meetings and lunches in the building!

DEO Update: After fearlessly leading us for a couple of years as DEO, seeing us through all the changes due to the COVID pandemic, and beginning a path of hiring and growth in our research faculty, Dr. Carolyn Brown decided to step down from the position of DEO and work on other projects of interest to her. With faculty support, I took over as interim DEO in August 2022. I hope you have seen the advertisements for the DEO search that we have started. We are excited that we have strong college support for this search and are looking for some excellent external candidates to take on this position. I hope that the next newsletter will be from the new DEO!

Research: Research in CSD is thriving. Ongoing projects range from computational modeling, long term outcomes of DLD, a clinically-informative, evidence-based tool for measuring fluency in aphasia, community-based research collaboration focused on language development of dual-language learners, diagnosing and fitting hearing aids for children with mild hearing losses, using smartphones to look at teenagers' everyday listening challenges, developing personally-tailored interventions for people who stutter guided by robust theories of behavior change, examining factors that influence outcomes for over the counter hearing aids, understanding cognitive mechanisms of conversation and memory representation in individuals with severe memory impairment, and finding the next generation of diagnostic and monitoring for peripheral hearing difficulties. We are sprinkling short descriptions of CSD investigations in this newsletter; read the first -- which describes Stewart McCauley's work -- below.

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Communication Sciences Discoveries@Iowa

"I'm currently working on a computational model of developmental language disorder (DLD) which aims to capture differences in children's linguistic profiles observed across typologically diverse languages. Dr. Zara Harmon, a CSD post-doctoral fellow, and I are collaborating to develop a model of differences in children's eye movements observed in eye-tracking studies based on DLD or typically-developing status."

-Stewart McCauley, PhD

Director, Ulowa's Language, Learning, and Memory Lab

Linguistic Knowledge empowers CSD



Camila Morales, a graduate student clinician and research assistant in the Clinical Linguistics and Disparities Lab, assesses a young participant's speech production in Spanish.- Jill Tobin photography, University of Iowa

A longtime fascination with language led Philip Combiths, PhD, into a career studying speech interventions in the context of bilingualism, and it's that same interest that guides his research today as director of Iowa's Clinical Linguistics and Disparities Lab.

As the director of the Clinical Linguistics and Disparities Lab at Iowa, Dr. Philip Combiths studies speech and language interventions in the context of bilingualism. Combiths, an assistant professor in CSD, specializes in phonology—the rules and patterns surrounding the speech sounds of language. He investigates bilingual phonology with two long-range goals: understanding how two languages interact in bilingual development and improving language outcomes for historically and currently marginalized populations.

"It's incredible to me that, despite the thousands of languages spoken around the world, there are so many commonalities," he said. "Because of these commonalities, what we know about speech-language therapy in English may carry over well for clients who speak one or more other languages."

For example, a speech-language pathologist working with an English-speaking child who has difficulty acquiring speech sounds could teach more complex or difficult speech sounds, like "r" or sound combinations like "str," knowing that many of the child's simpler sounds are also likely to improve as a result. "From a therapy point of view, this is an efficient way of doing things," Combiths explains. "By teaching one complex sound, you can affect the entire sound system."

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But we don't know enough about targeting complex sounds for children who speak languages other than English, he says. To shed light on this question, he and his research team are currently studying young bilingual children with speech sound disorders who speak Spanish and English.

"In one arm of the study, the speech-language pathologist provides therapy in English, and in the other, therapy in Spanish," he said. "In both arms, we measure how learning transfers across both language systems." Comparing results will guide best practices for all speech-language pathologists, he said, including those who do not speak Spanish themselves; Combiths contends that "being a monolingual speech-language pathologist is no excuse for not providing quality services to bilingual clients with speech sound disorders."

Dr. Combiths also collaborates with local teachers and families through community-engaged research with the Neighborhood Centers of Johnson County. The Neighborhood Centers of Johnson County were established in 1973 and provide programs and activities that build community and teach new skills that support families, including preschools and after-school programs in Iowa City.

"Many languages are represented at the Neighborhood Centers," he said, "in addition to English and Spanish, they include Swahili, Arabic, French, Lingala, Oromo, Portuguese, and more."

It's at the Neighborhood Centers where Combiths and his research team will be observing the language growth of preschool children, most of whom are dual language learners from immigrant households. Studying the children's language development over time and analyzing their speech samples serves two purposes: immediate guidance for Neighborhood Center teachers, and much-needed knowledge of dual language development.

Although Combiths earned a master's degree in Spanish Linguistics before earning his clinical certification in speech-language pathology and a PhD in language and communicative disorders, his attitude about language was shaped early.

"My mother was Mexican-American, but my grandparents did not often use Spanish in the home with her when she was growing up," he says. "Language is part of your culture and identity and losing access to it can affect you in many ways." He notes that it's common in the US for households to lose access to their heritage language in just one or two generations.

Luckily, he says, attitudes in the US are changing, and there is a better appreciation for bilingualism, the richness of language, and its relationship to culture and identity.

"I believe we have a responsibility in this profession to support all aspects of language and communication," he says. "If we don't support a bilingual child's heritage language alongside their English language skills, we may be ignoring half of who they are."



"Language is part of your culture and identity and losing access to it can affect you in many ways...we have a responsibility in speech-language pathology to support all aspects of language and communication."

If we don't support a bilingual child's heritage language alongside their English language skills, we may be ignoring half of who they are."

- Philip Combiths, PhD

CSD WELCOMES (BACK) NAOMI RODGERS



Naomi Hertsberg Rodgers

Naomi H. Rodgers, PhD, CCC-SLP, joined the CSD faculty this fall. She returns to Iowa as an assistant professor, after receiving her master's and doctoral degrees in our department and spending three years as an assistant professor at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She continues Iowa's long tradition of research and clinical specialty in the area of stuttering as she succeeds her doctoral mentor, Dr. Tricia Zebrowski (Professor Emerita). This fall, Dr. Rodgers re-established the Iowa Stuttering Lab which houses her research program dedicated to advancing knowledge on the cognitive, emotional, and social aspects of stuttering experiences and therapy. She has a unique interest in adolescence, as this is a pivotal stage of development when identities and habits take root just as social worries and mental health issues tend to burgeon. Dr. Rodgers teaches courses on stuttering, counseling, and clinical methods. Together, her research and teaching are inspired by her personal experiences as a person who stutters coupled with her professional experiences as a stuttering therapist and support group facilitator for the National Stuttering Association and FRIENDS (National Association for Young People Who Stutter).

Bravo to our newest PhD's



Larissa Jordan, PhD

Assistant Professor-Educator, University of Cincinnati

Her research interests include Semantics, Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI), Alzheimer's disease, Dementia, Neurological communication disorders, Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL), Speech-Language Pathology. Her PhD mentors were Drs. Kristi Hendrickson and Karen Bryant.



Erik Jorgensen, AuD, PhD

Assistant Professor, University of Wisconsin-Madison

His research is focused on understanding and improving interventions for people with hearing loss in real-world environments. His PhD mentor was Dr. Yu-Hsiang Wu.



Soumaya Venkitakrishnan, AuD, PhD

Assistant Professor, California State University-Sacramento

Her long-range research goal is to conduct translational research that can improve clinical practice both diagnostically and in the area of hearing rehabilitation, specifically, changing the clinical test-battery to include measures more sensitive to real-world functioning and more predictive of hearing device outcomes, and to improve hearing aid outcomes in older adults. Her PhD advisor was Dr. Yu-Hsiang Wu.

The power of mentorship



Tim Schoon photography, University of Iowa

An undergraduate's path to finding just the right future career often has twists, forks, or even uphill climbs. In those moments, the guidance of caring professors can create a smoother journey – or sometimes – even a change in destination.

When Héctor Sánchez Meléndez came to the University of Iowa from Puerto Rico to study neuroscience, his goal was to become a neurosurgeon. He was in his sophomore year when he began to consider other possibilities.

First, the professor teaching a pharmacology course encouraged him to consider PhD programs. Shortly thereafter, he met Dr. Kristi Hendrickson, the researcher with whom he has been working ever since.

As an undergraduate research assistant in the UI Psycholinguistics Lab that Hendrickson directs, Sánchez Meléndez has contributed to several projects that use cognitive neuroscience techniques to study language and communication.

"In the lab, we work with language in general, trying to understand how different groups of people process words and sentences," he says. "In one project, we are trying to find out if Spanish–English bilinguals, across their lifespan, activate their first language when they hear a word in their second language—and vice versa. And do they do that in both written and spoken forms? Gaining a better understanding of this will help speech-language pathologists in their clinical work."

In addition to gaining invaluable work experience, being a student researcher pays other dividends, he says, citing improvements in his writing, reading and oral communication skills. "And, if we ever write and publish a paper about the study Kristi encouraged me to develop, I will be a first author. That's crazy. I haven't even graduated," he said.

Hendrickson claims their partnership is a win-win, as Sánchez Meléndez has been an important contributor on her research team.

"Héctor has an unparalleled ability to digest information from scientific articles within the field of neuroscience, synthesize information across articles, and propose novel experiments to examine important questions in neurolinguistics," she says. "I have no doubt that he will make an impact on whatever field of neuroscience he chooses to pursue."



Kristi Hendrickson

STAYING CONNECTED TO ALUMNI



Brooke Hallowell (PhD 1991) published, "Aphasia and Other Acquired Neurogenic Language Disorders: A Guide for Clinical Excellence, Second Edition" in February 2022.

Rebecca Alper (PhD 2015) joined the faculty in Fall 2022 as assistant professor in the Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders at the University of Wisconsin–Madison.

Eric Hunter (PhD 2001), was honored with the William J Beale Outstanding Faculty Award in May. Eric is Associate Dean for Research in the College of Communication Arts and Sciences, with a home appointment of professor in the Department of Communicative Sciences and Disorders, Michigan State University.

Raymond D. Kent (MA 1969; PhD, 1970) coauthored with John Laver, *The Encyclopedic Dictionary of Communication Sciences & Disorders* (Thieme Publishing). He also has been appointed an editor for speech, *Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research*.

Shirley Nichols Sparks-Greif, CCC-SLP, (BS 1955) Associate Professor Emerita, Western Michigan University, has co-authored the 2nd edition of the book, *The Art and Practice of Home Visiting*. "This text for future and present practitioners will help all home visitors master the practice of effective home visiting with today's diverse families."

Ann Perreau (PhD 2011) and Rich Tyler's book, "Tinnitus Treatment: Clinical Protocols," was published in Spring 2022.

Gip Seaver named 2022 Distinguished Alumnus



Friends and family of Earl "Gip" Seaver (PhD '79) gathered in Iowa City to honor him as the 2022 Distinguished Alumnus. Dr. Seaver is Professor Emeritus at Northern Illinois University, authoring numerous journal articles and book chapters, serving extensively on national councils and boards, and continuing to tirelessly promote excellence in higher education. Pictured (l to r): Jerry Moon, Debbie Ogle, Gip, his wife Pam Jackson, Bob Quesal, David Kuehn, and Kay Bussee Meyer.

ALUMNI PROFILE

Marcia Hay-McCutcheon (PhD, 2004)



Looking back, what were the keys Iowa provided that contribute to your professional success?

Throughout my four years at Iowa, faculty gave me all the support and encouragement to think through complex concepts, which helped me realize that roadblocks in any project can be easily overcome by approaching the issue from a different angle – sometimes with more success than what you had originally hoped. It was a wonderful time for me, and I loved every minute of being a Hawkeye.

What's your current position, and how have you applied what you learned?

For the past 14 years, I've been a professor in the Department of Communicative Disorders at The University of Alabama, holding different positions from Associate to Chair to now Full professor. Throughout each of these stages, not surprisingly, I've been faced with challenges. My time at Iowa taught me it's what you do with those challenges that determines your success.

Tell us about the mobile hearing outreach you've spearheaded:

I love talking about the Hear Here Alabama project. I'll talk about it with whomever will listen! It has been a real labor of love for me and everyone associated with the project. The primary goal is to increase access and affordability of hearing healthcare in rural communities of Alabama. In fact, I remember talking about this project with my PhD supervisor, Dr. Carolyn Brown, at Iowa. She suggested that if I couldn't find a research population in Alabama, I should just go to where services were needed. It took a few years, but that's exactly what ended up happening. We take the truck all over West Central and South Alabama and provide hearing evaluations to people who have no hearing health resources. We're currently working on an NIH-funded clinical trial with Over-the-Counter Hearing Aids. During every drive back to Tuscaloosa there's a lot of debriefing about what happened during our visit. For undergraduate students, the excitement in their voices is so satisfying – just knowing that we're making somewhat of a difference – even if just a tiny one. It's a great feeling.

Our Educational Legacy

1,529 MASTER OF ARTS
GRADUATES
SINCE 1929

103 DOCTOR OF AUDIOLOGY
GRADUATES
SINCE 2008

380 PhD GRADUATES
SINCE 1931



**Communication
Sciences
Discoveries@Iowa**

"There is a growing need for early and accurate diagnosis of peripheral hearing loss, as well as precise monitoring of change due to new therapies. Distortion product otoacoustic emissions (DPOAE) are an underutilized measure in hearing clinics. Work in the Auditory Research Lab is aimed at moving DPOAEs from a hearing screening tool to clinical probe that serves the next generation of diagnostic and monitoring needs for peripheral hearing."

-Shawn Goodman, PhD
Director, UIowa's Auditory Research Lab

From Listen & Speak Up to Linebacker



Former Listen and Speak Up participant and current Hawkeye linebacker Kelby Telander shows UISPEAKS campers how he stows his cochlear implant gear while preparing for a game. Jill Tobin photograph, University of Iowa

Iowa Hawkeye football player Kelby Telander was just a tyke when his family learned he had severe hearing loss.

His diagnosis eventually led to cochlear implant surgery at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, followed by speech therapy services, including participating in CSD's long-running summer program, Listen and Speak Up (LSU).

"I was pretty little, so I don't remember much, but my parents tell me it was a vital part of my life that helped develop my speaking in a clear and mature way," he says. Kelby – and other LSU participants – meet for individual and group therapy two mornings a week for six weeks each summer.

Telander, who is currently studying finance at Iowa, plays outside linebacker for the Hawkeye football squad and welcomed an opportunity in late July to share his personal story with 15 children as part of UISPEAKS. UISPEAKS is designed for kids aged 7-17 who stutter or have hearing loss.

"A lot of kids tend to feel shy when dealing with something that separates them from the crowd, but events like this one [UISPEAKS] surround them with others who are facing the same struggles, he explains. "I couldn't be happier to be a part of something so special."

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UISPEAKS has been offered to young people for more than 25 years, and until this year, has been focused on stuttering. The program expanded in 2022 to include kids with hearing loss and offers a variety of activities to help kids develop confidence and self-advocacy through individual therapy sessions and group activities.

“UISPEAKS offers a supportive space for kids and teens to meet others who speak like them and share similar life experiences and identities. Time spent together doing fun activities and learning about their speech builds their communicative confidence,” UISPEAKS coordinator Anu Subramanian explains.

Kids asked Telander about serious issues, like how to respond to bullying and hardship — but also asked lighter questions, such as his favorite food or how he stows his CI equipment during football games.

Telander’s best advice for kids navigating hearing loss or speech differences is to be open about it because that helps people understand the condition and, over time, makes it easier to develop friendships whether in school or at extracurricular activities like sports and clubs.

That confidence is something campers are taking with them. The family of 8-year-old Blake Wheeler says “he made new friends and came home a more self-confident kid. The clinicians were full of kindness for the kids and parents —this will definitely be an annual program for our son.”



Kelby Telander (as a young child) was diagnosed with hearing loss; today, he salutes the aural rehab team and audiologists at the Wendell Johnson Speech and Hearing Clinic. File photo, circa 2004.



UISPEAKS participants swarmed the field after their VIP tour of Kinnick Stadium and presentation from former client Kelby Telander. Jill Tobin photograph, University of Iowa

FACULTY & STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

Ishan Bhatt was honored with the Emerging Leader Award from the School of Health and Human Sciences, UNC-Greensboro, recognizing his exceptional achievements and significant contributions to audiology.

Carolyn Brown has been invited to deliver the John Niparko Memorial Lecture at CI2023 (American Cochlear Implant Alliance meeting) in Dallas.

Karen Bryant and **Louise Pinkerton** have been awarded a 2022 SPEAK OUT!® and LOUD CROWD® grant from the Parkinson Voice Project.

Kellsie Busho was awarded a Distinguished Early Career Professional Certificate from ASHA; the award recognizes early career professionals in the field who are making an impact in the areas of leadership,

volunteering, or advocacy at the local, state, and national level.

Inyong Choi was awarded a grant from the Samsung Corporation in July 2022.

Krista Davidson was appointed the ISHFoundation Secretary.

Elena Gorney joined CSD as an Administrative Services Coordinator in August.

Danielle Kelsay was honored with the Hubbard-Walder Award for Teaching Excellence. She was recognized for her profound positive impact on the field of audiology through teaching.

Naomi Rodgers was selected to participate in ASHA's Dissemination and Implementation Science Travel Award (DISTance) program; this year-long mentored program prepares CSD

researchers to succeed in grant funding that incorporates implementation science.

Naomi Rodgers, Philip Combiths, and Beth Walker received a grant from the Scanlan Center for School Mental Health to train SLP's to support social-emotional outcomes in K-3 students with communication disorders in eastern Iowa.

Elizabeth Walker was chosen to serve as faculty marshal at the 2022 UI College of Liberal Arts and Sciences undergrad commencement ceremony.

Yu-Hsiang Wu authored an article, "Toward a New Evidence-Based Fitting Paradigm for Over-the-Counter Hearing Aids," selected by the *American Journal of Audiology* editor-in-chief and editors as winner of the 2021 Editor's Award.

Clinical faculty's webinar series attract wide audiences

CSD's clinical faculty presented the latest in their series of webinars in October, entitled, "Ethical Decision-Making in CSD." Presenters were Jenny Brodell, Krista Davidson, and Meaghan Foody.

The webinars focus on thought-provoking topics and are geared for busy working professionals who can use their lunch breaks to listen, learn supervision skills, and collect one hour of continuing education via Zoom technology. The popular series garners about one hundred participants in each offering.

Earlier webinars were "Evidence-Based Feedback in Clinical Supervision" by Jenny Brodell, Louise Pinkerton, and Stacy Robinson, and "Facilitating Critical Thinking" by Stephanie Fleckenstein, Danielle Kelsay, and Anu Subramanian.



Yu-Hsiang Wu has been named a F. Wendell Miller Professor, effective July 1, 2022. The three-year appointment is awarded in light of his scholarly work and professional contributions and the distinction he brings to CSD, the College, and the University. He is shown with CLAS Dean Sara Sanders.

BRAVO CSD STUDENTS!

Megan Dorfler, AuD 2023, won the Continued Achievement Scholarship from the American Academy of Audiology.

Erin Kaufmann created access-audiology.com, a patient-friendly website for patients with hearing loss and family members.

Hailey Kingsbury, second year AuD student, was chosen as President Elect of the National Student Speech Language Hearing Association for the 2022-23 year, and thus, will become president of the nation-wide organization the following year. She is shown at right with NSSLHA President Gabrielle Howard

Sarah Schemmel, and faculty member **Krista Davidson** received a United States Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication Disaster Relief and Recovery Stipend for educating first responders about the communication needs of individuals with disabilities.



Student Anti-Racism Group perseveres in DEI aims



In addition to hosting bi-weekly Zoom discussions, the Student Anti-Racism Group determinedly pushes ahead with new initiatives to increase and support minoritized communities in communication sciences and disorders.

NSSLHA DEI Liaisons Charlotte Hilker and Saloni Upadhyay took the lead on forging new outreaches within CSD and outside its walls:

- A presentation to Trans Alliance about gender-affirming voice care
- Collaboration with faculty to add DEI education to the undergrad Introduction to CSD course
- Creation of a flyer to promote involvement in research labs



A presentation to the Iowa Speech-Language-Hearing Association is in the works, with the working title, "Anti-racism and Culturally Responsive Practice," planned for February 2023; Hailey Kingsbury and Stephanie Fleckenstein are joining the effort.

Student leaders also coordinated a focus group of underrepresented undergrads to better understand their needs and presented their findings to the faculty.

"Our thanks to Philip Combiths, our NSSLHA advisor, and the faculty DEI committee for your unwavering support!" say Charlotte and Saloni.

CELEBRATING SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Audiology Assistantship: Sam Smith

Bruce Tomblin Scholarship: Nadine Lee, Olivia Sourwine

Carol & Gerald Nordquist SLP Scholarship: Grace Doll

H.L. Morris Scholarship: Alyssa Bonelli, Brianna Brodner, Lindsey Carter, Stephanie Garoufalos, Josephine Sack, Samantha Walker

Iowa Scottish Rite Masonic Foundation Scholarship: Jessie Eveland, Mallory Orr

Iowa Speech-Language-Hearing Association Scholar Nominees (*Named scholars): Brianna Brodeur, Skylar Fendrick, Leah Gibbs*, Charlotte Hilker*, Samuel Smith*

Kristin Lodge Miller Memorial Scholarship: Hannah Sorensen, Meagon Turner

Laura Mueldener Memorial Scholarship: Hailey Kingsbury

Laurel Stanzel Memorial Scholarship: Trudy Jacobs

Leland and Esther Ogdahl Scholarship: Kate Lennon

Marion Myers Peters Scholarship: Paige Harlan

Paul Abbas Scholarship: Kayla Howerton

Ray & Alice Barkmeier Scholarship: Bianca Robles-Munoz

Ruth A. Bentler Scholarship: Olivia Adamson

Sassine Graduate Scholarship: Emma Rose, Priyanka Gupte

Sertoma Graduate Support Award: Katlyn Bay, Neila Bell

Shirley & Thomas Salmon Scholarship: Charlotte Hilker, Anna Koogler, Allison Smith, Monica Van Hoveln, Allison Wells

Spiestersbach/Hurtig Award: Cheyenne Hofmann

FEATURED DONORS



Shirley and Thomas Salmon

About their bequest: Shirley J. Salmon (MA 61, PhD 65) and her brother, Thomas L. Salmon, established a scholarship in 2004. Its honorees are recognized as outstanding SLP students with an interest in working with adults with speech-language communication problems.

What you should know about Dr. Salmon: Shirley began her career as a first-grade teacher in Minnesota where she encountered a little boy with a severe stutter. While getting help for him, she developed a lifelong passion for speech pathology. During her graduate studies, she developed a keen interest in adult rehabilitation for those whose speech was impaired due to stroke or those with excised larynxes due to cancer who needed to learn artificial laryngeal speech and/or esophageal speech. She rose to the top of her profession and taught at the University of Pittsburgh before joining the

University of Kansas with the KU Medical Center and the Kansas City VA Medical Center for 24 years as a professor and speech pathologist before retiring in 1998.

Dr. Salmon never lost her zeal for clinical work with their patients and families. She lectured, supervised, and conducted group sessions as she trained literally thousands of clinicians and patients in medical settings throughout the United States and in Canada, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, China, and Mexico. Her seminars were translated into several languages.

A COMMITMENT TO OUTREACH

CSD's long tradition of connecting with the local community, Iowa's citizens, and virtual partners through engagement, outreach and service programs remains strong.



Top left: AuD students traveled to a nearby nursing home to teach caregivers simple trouble-shooting strategies for patients' hearing aids. It was one of many engagement activities that allowed audiologists-in-training to work with varied populations. Top right: Yu-Hsiang Wu coaches undergrads in the Iowa Summer Institute in Biostatistics in the Hearing Aid and Applied Research Lab. Bottom: a partnership between CSD students and the ALS Association of Iowa allowed visitors and families to learn about AAC technology and CSD students to gain specialized training in teaching how to use low- and high-tech devices.

Retiree Richard Hurtig keeps outreach spirit alive

Richard Hurtig, CSD Professor Emeritus, was recently described as "a cognitive neuroscientist with a knack for technology." Using those skills, Hurtig continues development and clinical trials for the noddle, a device used when patients cannot speak or use a handheld communication device due to disease or injury. It detects small movements such as finger taps or eye blinks, which allows patients to activate the speech-generating device to convey messages.

"Patients who are unable to summon help and who cannot communicate are at an increased risk of a number of preventable adverse events," says Hurtig.

While at Iowa, Hurtig collaborated frequently with UIHC staff to develop adaptive communication solutions. Hurtig -- who now divides his time between his homes in Philadelphia and Vermont -- shows no signs of losing the spirit of service he showed at Iowa. He and his team are adding a bilingual module; working on communication templates for patients with dementia; and distributing free, downloadable infection-control guidelines to address heightened awareness during the Covid pandemic.



Communication Sciences Discoveries@Iowa

"Communicating with others is one of the most fundamental social activities of everyday life. Even though communication plays an undeniably important role in our lives, the mechanisms of language processing used in conversation are largely unexplored. A theme throughout my work is understanding the cognitive mechanisms of natural conversation and the role of memory representations that support natural language use. I especially work with individuals with severe memory impairment to understand the interplay between language and memory."

-Si On Yoon, PhD

Director, Ulowa's Communication, Memory, and Mind Lab



Communication Sciences Discoveries@Iowa

"A newly NIH-funded RO1 grant seeks to characterize the long-term outcomes of Developmental Language Disorder (DLD) in adulthood. Our research team leverages retrospective language measures from kindergarten through 10th grade and collects new outcome measures in adulthood to characterize the long-term outcomes of DLD. The proposed work represents one of the largest and most comprehensive characterization of language abilities in adults with (and without) DLD to date."

-Kristi Hendrickson, PhD

Director, Ulowa's Psycholinguistics Lab

Chair message, continued from page 2

Faculty Updates: Our faculty continues to grow. Naomi Rodgers, who completed her PhD here in the area of stuttering, joined our faculty as an Assistant Professor in Fall 2022. Her lab is already up and running as she is recruiting research subjects and conducting studies in the area of stuttering. Our research faculty continue to be grant-active, receiving competitive NIH and NSF grants, directing research, disseminating information through presentations and publications, and mentoring students. Clinical faculty continue to provide high quality clinical education in our clinic while also presenting clinically-relevant information through webinars, and state and national conferences.

Clinic: Our speech-language and hearing clinics continue to provide client-centered care in-house and virtually in a variety of disorders and across the age span. Audiology services related to hearing aids, hearing loss, rehabilitation after cochlear implantation, and other diagnostics are back in full swing in the Clinic. After a break of two years, SLP summer camps came back in full force in Summer 2022. These included the Listen and Speak Up preschool for young children who are hard of hearing and Social Climbers. UISPEAKS, the camp for kids and teens who stutter, returned with the addition of those who are hard of hearing; read a great story from that camp on page 8. A new option, 'Language and Literacy Club,' was added for 7-11 year olds. Our students appreciate all the learning opportunities, and we receive lots of positive feedback from clients in the community for our services.

Building: As you heard last time, we will move to a brand new building in 2025. We are spending hours in meetings as we imagine and reimagine the new spaces for research, clinic, and teaching. There are some innovative ideas that are exciting. We are still in the planning phase and are looking forward to the design phase next. If you are interested in donating for the new building, you can reach out to Kate Metcalf at the University of Iowa Center for Advancement (UICA) at kate.metcalf@foriowa.org.

UICSD continues to grow and thrive. I am grateful to our community for your support and look forward to hearing from you,

Anu

Let's hear from you!

Share your updates, new contact info,
or suggest a feature:

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CSD at U of I



Wendell Johnson
Speech & Hearing Clinic



CSD at U of I



U Iowa Communication
Sciences & Disorders

From the archives



Building dedication, 1968