

# Alumni Newsletter

Fall 2006



*Department of  
Communication  
Sciences and  
Disorders  
Syracuse University*

## *Special Interest Articles:*

- Annette Jenner, Ph.D.
- Audiology Clinic
- Presentations at ASHA
- Faculty/Student Presentations
- Speech Language Clinic

**Alumni Open  
House**

**Thursday,  
November 18,  
2006**

**Doubletree Hilton  
Pool Deck**

**5:30-7:30 pm**

## Welcome our new faculty member

### Annette Jenner, Ph.D.



Annette is our newest faculty member having joined us this September. She earned her doctorate in Neuroscience from Harvard University in 1998 with her thesis "*Connectivity of Ectopic Neurons in the Neocortex and Effects on Neuronal Size in the Thalamus: Implications for Developmental Dyslexia*". After completing her degree, she did post-doctoral work at Yale University and Haskins laboratories in New Haven CT, a premiere research lab that investigates speech perception, speech production and reading.

In 2001, she joined the faculty in the Department of Psychology at the College of Holy Cross in Worcester MA. Many of the courses that she taught were concerned with neurobiology, brain function and the neural basis of language.

Annette's current research is concerned with brain function in reading and she holds an RO3 award from the National Institutes of Health entitled "Neurobiology of Spelling in Skilled and Disabled Readers". She has moved the grant to SU and is currently creating her lab in the Skytop building where most of the other faculty labs are located.

We are very pleased to have Annette join our faculty. Her expertise in the neural basis of language is an important component of our field and department. She expects to continue her research using the excellent MRI facilities at Upstate Medical University.

Annette's husband, Rick, is a faculty member in the Department of Neuroscience and Physiology at Upstate and they have an adorable little girl, Samantha, age 22 months.

## News From the Audiology Clinic



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You can contact Joe  
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at 315-443-2352

You can contact  
Mitch at  
[mwilli07@syr.edu](mailto:mwilli07@syr.edu) or  
at 443-9618



Greetings Alumni! In last years' letter I told you that Lea Georgantas would be covering while Tammy Kordas was out for maternity leave. Well Lea did just that and did a wonderful job as expected. I am happy to report this year that we received approval to hire Lea permanently. The Gebbie Clinic now has two full time clinic supervisors. This could not have come at a better time as our clinical services and student class size continue to grow.

This past year saw the addition of several new services provided by the hearing clinic. We have partnered with Syracuse Ear, Nose, and Throat Associates and have been providing clinic services in their office. This has been a great training opportunity for the students. Several students have observed middle ear and cochlear implant surgeries. The ENT docs have also volunteered to lecture to the AuD students on various topics.

The hearing clinic continues to provide follow-up hearing screening for the newborns at Crouse Hospital. Over the years we have been able to provide limited follow up services for the infants not passing the screen through the use of Beth Prieve's lab equipment. Recently, the clinic was able to purchase a new Biologic ABR system. We now plan to increase the number of ABR diagnostic evaluations in the clinic. This will be a great service to the community as well as a wonderful teaching opportunity.

On a personal note...Congratulations to Tammy for completing her AuD degree and on the birth of her second child, Darius. Lea is working toward her AuD degree and I should be able to congratulate her in next year's letter.

We are always in need of clinical placements for the AuD students. This is especially so as the program continues to grow. I would love to hear from anyone interested in mentoring a student. We need placements around the country so please respond even if you are not local.

Lastly, the Audiology Clinic is continuing to organize continuing education events. If anyone is interested in hearing more about the sessions, please send me an email or give me a call. I would love to hear from you.

Joe Pellegrino



### **Lea Georgantas, M.S.**

Audiology Clinic Supervisor  
M.S., Syracuse University, 2002  
Pediatric Hearing disorders  
ABR testing of infants  
Hearing aids

## **First AuD Awarded**

The department awarded its first Au.D. to Mandy Breitenbach in May 2006.

## **Awards, Awards, Awards**

Kathy Vander Werff received the American Speech-Language Hearing Association's Advancing Academic-Research Careers (AARC) Award. She will be recognized at the Researcher-Academic Town Meeting, to be held on Wednesday evening, November 15, at the ASHA convention in Miami.

Lisa Lahtinen. B.S. 2006 and current Au.D. student won the Norma Slepecky award for Undergraduate Research, and the Louis DiCarlo undergraduate award.

Jonathan Preston won a Graduate Student Scholarship from the ASHA Foundation.

Debra Burnett won Student Travel Award to the Symposium on Research in Child Language Disorders, Madison, WI to present poster June 1-3, 2006 and a College of Arts and Sciences Graduate Student Creative Grant/Research Award to travel to Geneva, Switzerland and work with Tanja Banziger at the University of Geneva June 10-July 25, 2006.

Fitzgerald, T. and Prieve, B. (2005), "The clinical utility of distortion product otoacoustic emissions at 2f1-f2 and 2f2-f1". *Journal of Speech, Language and Hearing Research*, 48, 1165-1186 was cited by the *Hearing Journal* as one of the best papers in Hearing Science for 2005.

Beth Prieve was also awarded a 3-year grant by the March of Dimes Foundation entitled "Improving Diagnostic Audiology in Infants and Young Children."

Janina K. Casper, Ph.D. 1984, has been awarded the Frank R. Kleffner Lifetime Clinical Career Award that honors an individual's exemplary contributions to clinical science and practice over a period of no less than 20 years. The award will be presented at the Foundation Founders breakfast on November 17, 2006 in Miami.

Lauren Calandrucchio received the ASHA Research Travel Award in November, 2006. She was also a recipient of the Syracuse University Spring & Summer Research/Creative Project Grant for Spring 2006. Lauren was an invited attendee to the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Research Conference: Lessons for Success-Developing the Emerging Scientist.

Lufeng Shi was a recipient of the International Hearing Aid Research Conference/National Institute of Health-Student Research Travel Award 2006.

Amy Sled received the Harmonize for Speech Scholarship, Spring 2006.

## **CSD at the 2006 ASHA Convention**

The department will take part in the annual Graduate School Fair in Miami. On Friday, we will be discussing our AuD and PhD programs with students whereas on Saturday, we will be discussing our masters program in Speech Language Pathology with prospective students. Stop by and say hello. Better yet, send some prospective students.

## **Alumni Open House in Miami**

The department will be hosting a reception for all alumni and prospective students on Thursday, November 18, 2006 from 5:30 pm until 7:30 pm. It will be held at the Doubletree Hilton in the Upper Pool deck. Stop by and say hello.

## **Faculty/Student Presentations at ASHA 2006**

### **Thursday, Nov. 16**

Debra Burnett, Linda Milosky, Stefanie Hayes, and Rachel Neuman “Young Children's Verbal Responses to Mislabeled Teases” Session# 1107, Hall D, Poster# 198, 10-11:30 am

Lauren Calandruccio and Karen Doherty, “How Listeners With & Without Hearing Loss Process Sentences”, Session# 0116, Hall B, 116-B117, 4:00-4:15 pm

Shi, L. and Doherty, K.A. (2006). “Comparison of Syllabic & Dual Compression Settings: Field Study”, Session 0112, 11:00-11:15 am Room B112

### **Friday, Nov. 17**

Debra Burnett and Linda Milosky, “Prosodic Marking of Playful Teasing Exchanges”, Session# 1520, Hall D, Poster#196, 10-11:30 am

### **Saturday, Nov 18**

Jonathan Preston and Mary Louise Edwards, “Phonological Processing Skills of Adolescents With Residual Speech Sound Errors”, Session# 1952, Poster# 266, Hall D, 3:00- 4:30 pm

Jonathan Preston and Mary Louise Edwards, “Rapid Naming Abilities of Adolescents With Residual Speech Sound Errors”, Session# 1944, Poster# 258, Hall D, 10:00 - 11:30 am

Mary Louise Edwards, “Diadochokinetic rate and accuracy measurements in adolescents with residual speech sound errors”, presented as part of a student session sponsored by the American Association of Phonetic Sciences titled, “A Cross-section of research in the phonetic sciences” Session number 1917, Room A110-A111, Miami Beach Convention Center, 1:30-2:30pm

## **Other Faculty/Student Presentations**

Ray Colton, Karen Nezelek, Ashley Paseman, Rick Kelley, and Janina Casper, “Some Mechanisms for the Control of Vocal Intensity of Voice”, paper presented at the 35th Annual Symposium: Care of the Professional Voice, Philadelphia, Pa., June 2006

Lisa Lahtinen, and Beth Prieve, “The effect of contralateral acoustic stimulation on DPOAE generator and reflection components”, paper presented at the American Auditory Society Annual Meeting, March 5-7 2006

Beth Prieve, Kathy VanderWerff and Lea Georgantas, “TB-ABR, OAE & Middle Ear Measures in Sleeping Infants”, poster presented at the American Academy of Audiology Convention, April 5-8 2006

Margaret Senior and Kathy VanderWerff, “Comparison of clinical protocols and analysis methods for recording ASSR”, poster presented at the American Auditory Society Annual Meeting, March 5-7 2006

Debra Burnett and Linda Milosky, “Variation in the Use of Language-Based Playful Teasing With Young Children”, Symposium for Research in Child Language Disorders, Madison, WI, June 1-3 2006

Michelle Williams, “Come Sail with Me: Strategies for Including Children with Special Needs into the Classroom and General Education Curriculum”, presentation at the Florida Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists (FLASHA) State Convention. May 2005

Michelle Williams and Cathy Pelletier, “Initiating a Dysphagia Management Program in the Schools: Logistics and Legislative Issues”, presentation at Florida Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists (FLASHA) State Convention, May 2005

Calandruccio, L. and Doherty, K.A. (2006) “Spectral Weighting Strategies for Listeners With Normal Hearing”. American Auditory Society Meeting, Scottsdale, AZ.

Shi, L. and Doherty, K.A. (2006). “Effect of Dynamic Compression Characteristics on Listeners’ Perception of Reverberant Speech”. International Hearing Aid Research Conference. Lake Tahoe, CA.

## **News From the Speech Language Clinics**

The 2005-2006 school year brought many exciting changes to the Gebbie Speech and Language Clinic. Ramani G. Voleti, a former SU student and speech-language pathologist from Bassett Healthcare in Cooperstown, NY, permanently joined our department in December of 2005. Ms. Voleti has a strong medical background and specializes in adult neuropathology, dysphagia, and voice disorders. Her expertise has allowed us to expand our services and provide an even higher quality of care to the voice clients who are now referred to us for services. In addition to her clinical responsibilities, Ms. Voleti teaches the graduate Motor Speech Disorders course in our department. We welcome her to our already existing team of dedicated speech-language pathology supervisors, Anita Lightburn and Danielle (Rinaldi) Roddy. A special thank you to Rachael DeMarco for stepping in and supporting our clinic, on a temporary, part time basis, until Ms. Voleti joined us. We're thrilled, however, that Ms. Demarco will continue to teach our Dysphagia course again this spring.

The Speech-Language Clinic is also embarking on a new collaboration with Stonehedge Health and Rehabilitation Center in Chittenango, NY. Ms. Voleti will supervise a team of second year graduate students at this rehabilitation center that provides service to both long-term and short-term care patients. We are thrilled that this collaboration will support clients' speech-language diagnostic and treatment needs in addition to providing our students with real-world learning opportunities in this supportive medical setting.

This year also brought official completion of the 2005 clinic renovations. It has been extremely rewarding to hear new families and students comment on the "beauty" and "warmth" of our clinic. I'm sure these words are highly unexpected for those of you who have not seen our renovated facility yet. If you're in the area, feel free to stop in to see the changes. We'd love to see you!

Stay well and we hope the year ahead provides many opportunities for continued professional and personal growth.

Michelle (Mitch) Williams

### **Ramani Voleti**



Supervisor, Speech Language Clinic  
M.S. Syracuse University, 2003

Interests:

Adult speech problems  
Voice disorders

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You can submit information  
about yourself at this site. We  
would love to hear from you.

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## 2005 Scholarship Winners

Awards presented at the annual holiday party in December 2005



Amy Langston, M.S.,  
2006

Louis DiCarlo Scholarship



Vickie Montalvo, M.S.,  
2006

Maureen Higgins Memorial  
Scholarship



Margaret Senior

Louis DiCarlo  
Scholarship



Katherine Stroszka, M.S., 2006

Lisa Scime Memorial  
Scholarship