

Alumni Newsletter

Fall 2009



Dear Alums,

Writing this letter has caused me to reflect on an often-cited interpretation of a statement by Pericles: "What you leave behind is not what is engraved in stone monuments, but what is woven into the lives of others." In gathering alumni updates, we are so pleased to see, hear, or imagine the ways you are affecting the lives of others, and we are grateful for the many memories of the opportunities you gave us to affect yours.

Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders



**Syracuse
University**

**Don't
Forget!!**

**Alumni Open
House**

**Friday,
November 20,
2009**

We have much cause for celebration:

- A new 4-year AuD program
- A new baby girl for Joe Pellegrino and a new baby boy for Danielle Rinaldi Roddy
- A modernization and extension of the Media Lab –with 6 new computers and 6 new laptops – more than doubling the student computers available in the building
- Several new clinic initiatives: an autism social skills group, a Kaye Elemetrics nasometer funded by the Alpha Gamma Delta Cleft Palate Fund; working with a prominent ENT physician to dispense bone-anchored hearing aids (BAHA)
- Two new ASHA Fellows and the 2008 Honors of ASHA to a distinguished alum (see next page)
- Department anniversaries: Dr. Mary Louise Edwards--30 years, Dr. Karen Doherty- 15 years, Dr. Joseph Pellegrino- 10 years, and Ms. Betsy Orcutt- 5 years.

Many thanks to those of you who have helped keep our program strong by:

- Responding to alumni surveys to provide us with all-important feedback
- Supervising our students during their externships and speaking at clinic seminars
- Donating to the CSD gift fund or providing funds for students to travel to conferences
- Demonstrating what excellent professionals Syracuse alumni are!

Please accept our invitation to:

- Get involved with our research projects
- Supervise our extern students in order to help prepare the next generation of clinicians, remembering those who mentored you. Help pay it forward.
- Share your expertise with us – contact us about being a guest speaker

We wish you the very best in the coming year, and we look forward to celebrating your joys and achievements with you. Please stay in touch.

Sincerely,

Dr. Linda Milosky, Department Chair

Four-Year AuD Degree in 2010

We are very excited to announce that starting in Fall, 2010, our entering class of AuD students will be enrolled in a 4-year AuD program. The program will include new course offerings such as pharmacology and auditory processing disorders. The program also will provide a directed research experience, in which students will collaborate with faculty on current research projects and participate in dissemination of that research at conferences and in publications. The clinical portion of this degree program will expose students to a wider variety of clinical populations and procedures. We thank you for the input you have provided in alumni surveys and exit interviews, as it has helped to shape our new program. We are grateful that some of you have served as preceptors for our students in their externship placements, and we invite those of you who haven't to consider doing so, as we place students throughout the country.

Dr. Dale Evan Metz (Ph.D., 76) is a highly recognized alumnus of the Communication Sciences and Disorders Department and received the **Honors of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association** at the Chicago convention in 2008 and also received the **Honors of the New York State Speech Language Hearing Association** (NYSSLHA) in spring 2009. The Honors of the Association is given to Dr. Metz in recognition of his lifetime contributions to the profession. Dr. Metz has previously received a Distinguished Achievement Award from NYSSLHA and is an **ASHA Fellow**. Dr. Metz is currently a Professor of Communicative Disorders and Sciences and Director of the Speech Science Laboratory at the State University of New York at Geneseo. His main interests include physiological and acoustical investigations of speech of the deaf and stuttering. He is currently the editor of *Contemporary Issues in Communication Sciences and Disorders*. Dr. Metz has produced several films focusing on vocal fold movement, including high speech photography through indirect laryngoscopy, and real-time photography through a nasal fiber optic endoscope. Dr. Metz's mentors include Dr. Raymond Colton and Dr. Edward Conture, who were co-directors of his Ph.D. dissertation. In his free time, he is an avid boater and enjoys reading. We celebrate Dr. Metz's professional accomplishments and congratulate him on this distinction.



Dr. Mary Louise Edwards



Dr. Beth Prieve

ASHA Fellows

The Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders is pleased to announce that two of our faculty members, **Dr. Mary Louise Edwards** and **Dr. Beth Prieve**, have been elected to Fellows in the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. This distinctive status is considered one of the highest honors granted by ASHA. The election to ASHA Fellows is given to a select number of professionals who have given a significant amount of outstanding contributions to our professions. Dr. Edwards and Dr. Prieve have provided our professions over 20 years of invaluable research and insight. Dr. Edwards' academic specializations include the treatment of disordered phonology in children and cultural and linguistic issues in communication sciences and disorders. Her recent research with Dr. Jonathan Preston focused on the phonological awareness and types of sound errors in preschoolers with speech sound disorders. Dr. Edwards has recently received the 2009 Award for Excellence in Master Level Teaching for the College of Arts and Sciences. As the recipient of this award, she also gave the faculty address at the second annual CAS Convocation for Master's Students held on May 9, 2009. Dr. Prieve is currently involved in research supported by the March of Dimes Foundation. Her research is designed to help improve diagnostic audiology in infants and young children. Dr. Prieve has previously received a Distinguished Achievement Award from the New York State Speech-Language Association and a Distinguished Service Award by the Central New York Speech-Language Association. Dr. Edwards and Dr. Prieve will be honored at the ASHA convention in New Orleans this November. The Department is proud of their accomplishments and invites you to share in their recognition and election as ASHA Fellows.



ASHA 2009

Faculty/ Student Presentations at ASHA 2009

Thursday, November 19, 2009

Preston, J. & Edwards, M.L. Speech sound disorders: Red flags for literacy problems. Session #1370. 8:00-9:00 AM. Morial Convention Center, 271-273.

Barrie, D. & Ford J. Effective accent reduction therapy: Targeting simultaneous linguistic levels. Session #1120, Poster Board 131. 3:00 – 4:30 PM, Hall G, Morial Convention Center.

Edwards, M.L., Preston, J. & Adams, K. L. Phonological awareness and speech production accuracy in children with SSDs. Session #1397, Poster board 303. 3:00-4:30PM. Hall G, Morial Convention Center.

Jenner, AR., Asir, MR., Poon, C., Mencl, WE., Frost, S., Pugh, K., Neuronal activation for consistency effects in a sequential spelling task. Session # 1186 Poster Board 173. 3:00PM-4:30PM Hall G, Morial Convention Center.

Friday, November 20, 2009

Burnett, D. & Milosky, L. What we say matters: Irony comprehension and language impairment. Session 1746, Poster board 143, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM/. Hall G, Morial Convention Center.

Edwards, M.L. & Preston, J. Assessing phonological awareness in children with speech sound disorders. Session # 1954. 11:00 AM-12:00 PM, Morial Convention Center

Alumni Open House in New Orleans

The CSD department will be hosting a reception for all alumni, friends, and prospective students on **Friday, November 20** from 7:30-9:30 pm.

It will be held at the
Marriot Convention Center Hotel
In the
Tchoupitoulas Room

We look forward to seeing you!

American Speech Hearing Foundation
will award
Dr. Soren Lowell
the 2009 Research Grant for New
Investigators award at the ASHA Convention
in New Orleans.

Her grant is entitled
“Hyoid and Laryngeal Position in Individuals
With and Without Muscle Tension
Dysphonia”

2009 Student Awards and Recognition

CSD 2008 SCHOLARSHIPS

At our 2008 holiday party, we recognized this year's scholarship recipients (left to right)

Kristen Burns (AuD)- **Louis DiCarlo Scholarship,**

Kristen O'Loughlin (SLP)- **Upstate Consortium Teaching Scholarship;**

Caitlin O'Meara (SLP)- **Louis DiCarlo Scholarship**

Other scholarship winners not pictured are
Lindsey Clare (SLP)- **Scime-Tubolino Scholarship**
and
Jacqueline Laretti (SLP)- **Maureen Higgins Scholarship**



Lindsay Rapke, a first year graduate student in the Master's program in Speech Language Pathology, was also an undergraduate in the CSD Department. Lindsay was recognized for her academic achievement when she was awarded the **Louis DiCarlo Undergraduate Scholarship** in 2009. She spent her senior year working in the Gebbie Clinic through the work study program, and she was nominated for the SU Student Employee of the Year prize. Lindsay was chosen from among many nominees to be the runner up for this award. (above)

STUDENT AWARDS

Jonathan Preston, Ph.D. was selected by the College of Arts & Sciences to receive a 2009 Doctoral Prize for excellence in scholarship and research.

Jamie Desjardins(PhD) received many awards this year:

- NIH/American Acoustical Society Mentored Student Research Grant, 2009
- ASHA New Century Scholars Doctoral Scholarship, ASHA, 2008
- ASHA Convention Scholarship, 2008

Kimberly Slocum (AuD) was selected to receive an ASHA travel award to attend the convention in New Orleans this year.

Christine Domingo, Jessica Falco and Amanda Johannssen (SLP) received scholarships to attend the Annual Conference of the International Association of Laryngectomees (IAL) in San Diego, CA in June, 2009.

2009 Faculty Research Updates

Dr. Annette Jenner is examining the neurobiological basis of reading and spelling and how this is altered in individuals with reading disabilities, specifically dyslexia. Currently, she is using functional magnetic resonance imaging to examine how the consistency of words (sound to spelling) alters the brain activation when both skilled and disabled readers spell.

Dr. Mary Louise Edwards' current research involves the phonological awareness abilities of children with speech sound disorders. She is particularly interested in looking at the relationship between the speech sound errors that children make and their performance on phonological awareness tasks that contain their error sounds.

Dr. Kathy Vander Werff's current research examines how both normal aging and head trauma alter the ability of the central auditory system to process complex signals. It is hoped that knowledge gained from these studies will lead to an understanding of the nature of the problems experienced by individuals with traumatic brain injury and to new methods for evaluating auditory problems in these two growing populations.

Dr. Beth Prieve's current research is designed to help improve diagnostic audiology in infants and young children. She is studying air- and bone-toneburst auditory brainstem responses and fine-structure distortion product otoacoustic emissions in infants and adults with hearing loss. The research is supported by a grant from the March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation.

Dr. Karen Doherty's lab is starting a new study to examine the use of assistive listening devices with older normal-hearing and hearing-impaired hospital patients. Data from this study will be used to support the long-term goal of creating a hospital policy that would require ALDs be made available in the rooms of all older hospital patients.

Dr. Janet Ford is examining efficacy of intervention techniques for young children with language impairment. Dr. Ford and Dr. Linda Milosky are exploring "embodiment" (the use of relevant actions and gestures) for improving comprehension of discourse in therapy.

Dr. Soren Lowell's current research examines the physiological and acoustic characteristics of people with voice disorders. She is studying laryngeal elevation during voice production and spectral-based acoustic measures in people with voice disorders.

Dr. Linda Milosky continues to examine figurative language development and comprehension of conversation and narration. Her work with students involves how the context of a comment that contains either an idiom or sarcasm helps children with and without language impairment to identify what the speaker is trying to convey

Want to get involved???....Faculty members would welcome collaboration with our alums and professional community. See our new website for descriptions of their on-going research and please contact them!

Recent Presentations

- Ballachanda, B., Bannerjee, S., Clark, J., Coverstone, J., Lewis, S and Prieve, B. (2009). Global and humanitarian audiology. American Academy of Audiology.
- Burns, K.S., Soll, A.C., and Vander Werff, K.R. (2009, March). Brainstem responses to speech in younger and older adults. Poster presented at the American Auditory Society Annual Meeting, Scottsdale, AZ.
- Desjardins, J., Jenner, A., Huckins, S., Doherty, K. (2009). How younger and older adults process rapid speech: An fMRI study. Syracuse University Showcase, Syracuse, NY.
- Desjardins, J., Jenner, A., Huckins, S., Doherty, K. (2009). Functional neuroanatomy associated with auditory temporal processing in older adults. American Auditory Society, Scottsdale, AZ.
- Doherty, K.A., Sled, A. and Calandruccio, L (2009). Spectral weighting strategies for speech features at various presentation levels American Auditory Society Meeting, Scottsdale, AZ.
- Kelley, R, Portnoy, JE, Colton, R., Paseman, A, Lowell, SY (2009). Efficient stroboscopic evaluation. Presentation to the 2009 Voice Foundation's Annual Symposium for Care of the Professional Voice, Philadelphia, PA.
- Milczarski, B.A., Smith, R.L. and Doherty, K.A. (2009). Simulating hair-cell adaptation in cochlear implant processors. The Conference for Implantable Auditory Prosthesis, Lake Tahoe, CA.
- Prieve, B., Thomas L., Long G., and Talmadge, C. (2009). DPOAE generator and reflection component in adult ears with sensorineural hearing loss. AAA Academy Research Conference on OAEs.
- Prieve, B., Thomas, L., Long, G. and Talmadge, C. (2009). DPOAE generator and reflection components in infants. American Auditory Society.
- Prieve, B.A. (2009). Big sounds from little ears: OAEs in Children. Academy Research Conference on Otoacoustic Emissions in conjunction with the American Academy of Audiology, Dallas, Tx.
- At the Ohio Speech-Language-Hearing Association Convention held in Columbus, Ohio, in March, Mary Louise Edwards presented a short course titled, "Strategies for phonological intervention." As part of a panel discussion, she also presented "Phonological disorders, phonological awareness, and literacy."
- Vander Werff, K.R. (2009, June). Evoked potential measures of central auditory function following head injury. Paper presented at the XX Biennial Symposium of the International Evoked Response Audiometry Study Group, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Recent Publications

- Desjardins, J.L and Doherty, K.A. (2009). Do experienced hearing aid users know how to correctly use their hearing aids? American Journal of Audiology, 8, 1-8.
- Preston, J.L. and Edwards, M.L. (In press). Phonological awareness and types of sound errors in preschoolers with speech sound disorders. *Journal of Speech, Language and Hearing Research*.
Published online August 28, 2009. Doi: 10.1044/1092-4388(2009/09-0021)
- Preston, J.L and Edwards, M.L. (2009). Speed and accuracy of rapid speech and output by adolescents with residual speech errors including rhotics. *Clinical Linguistics and Phonetics, 23 (4), 301-318.*
- Prieve, B.A, Hancur-Bucco, C., and Preston, J. (2009). Transient-evoked otoacoustic emissions in the first month of life: Frequency changes and debris. *Ear and Hearing, 30, 330-339.*
- Vander Werff, K.R. (2009) Accuracy and time efficiency of two ASSR analysis methods using clinical test protocols. *Journal of American Academy of Audiology, 20(7):433-452.*
- Vander Werff, K.R., Prieve, B.A. and Georgantas, L. (2009). Infant air- and bone-conduction tone burst auditory brainstem responses for classification of hearing loss and the relationship to behavioral thresholds. *Ear and Hearing, 30,350-368.*

Speech and Language

Greetings from the Gebbie Speech Language Clinic!

It has been an exciting year meeting new students and saying good bye to those off to pursue their professional careers (now part of our prestigious alums). The clinic is most likely very similar to the way you remember it – the faces change but the motivation and enthusiasm of our students remain the same.

News from the clinic supervisors: Anita, Ramani, Ann, and I learn something from our students every day. We were also happy to have Cheryl Rogers join us on a part time basis this past year. If you graduated within the past decade, you have fond memories of learning from Danielle Rinaldi Roddy. Danielle gave birth to a healthy, adorable little boy in July. Danielle decided to stay home and focus on her family which has been a loss for the clinic, but we are thrilled for Danielle and her family.

One of the integral parts of our clinic continues to be the talented group of extern supervisors that mentor our students for entire semesters. They truly transform our students into professionals. I'm sure many of you are part of this group, if not with us, then with universities across the country. We thank you all.

Please keep in touch-
Janet Ford
jsford@syr.edu 315-443-9618

*We will continue to offer
free attendance at
CEU events
for our externship
supervisors. We appreciate
your dedication and
commitment to our students
throughout the years.
We would love to hear from
our alumni who may be
interested in supervising our
students, whether local or
long-distance.
Please contact Joe or Janet!*

Hearing

I am pleased to report another successful year in the hearing clinic. The steady growth of the AuD program has resulted in an increased number of students rotating through the Gebbie Clinic. Consequently, our adult and pediatric patient base continues to grow. On any given day the clinic is bustling with activity.

In house, we continue to see adult and pediatric patients for diagnostic testing, hearing aid fittings, and ABR evaluations. Over the last year, thanks to the hard work of Tammy Kordas, we have created an Assistive Listening Lab. The lab offers the latest in state of the art assistive devices to our hearing impaired patients. Tammy will also be attending a workshop on Tinnitus Retraining Therapy. We plan to offer this much needed service to our patients before year's end.

Kristen Kennedy joined our team last November as a clinic supervisor. Kristen brings a wealth of educational and pediatric audiology experience to the clinic. Kristen has worked hard to increase our use of FM devices in both adult and pediatric patients. She recently began a program working with FM devices in patients with cochlear implants. Kristen has also assumed the role of training our students in a local ENT practice and at the Crouse Hospital Newborn Hearing Screening program. We are very pleased to have her on board.

You may have seen us around town as we try to increase the Gebbie Clinic presence. We have added to our community outreach over the last year with talks at SUNY Upstate Medical Center, Onondaga County Early Intervention, and several local senior centers. We have also increased our number of CEU events and would love to have our alums return to campus for these events. Please contact me if you would like to be added to our CEU mailing list.

Lastly, 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.

Regards,
Joe Pellegrino
jtpelleg@syr.edu 315-443-2352

Alumni News

1971—**Debra Lefkowitz** (MS) is currently working at a private school for children with autism. She was elected as County School Trustee for the Harris County Department of Education in November of 2008.

1973---**Sherril Smoger-Kessous** (BS) is now an independent contractor in Early Intervention, she makes home and day care center visits to see her clients.

1986—**Steve DeMari** (MS) has a new job as the Director of Government sales for Starkey Laboratories

1987---**Patricia Zebrowski** (MA 1981, PhD 1987) was recently promoted to full professor at the University of Iowa.

1990—**Judy Thorne Magnuson** (MS) is working for the South Portland School Department in South Portland, Maine at the K-5 Elementary School.

1992---**Dawn Green** (BS) received her Master's at Columbia. She and her family recently welcomed a second child. She is now searching for a job closer to home on Long Island.

1997---**Geraldine Seidell Moquete** (BS) is working in early intervention with Stepping Stones, and also has her own private practice, called Language Arts Center.

1999---**Heather Liles** (MS) is a speech pathology clinical specialist at a level 2 trauma hospital in Greensboro, NC.

2000---**Bridget Novey** (BS) graduated from University of Pittsburgh with a Master's in 2002 and AuD in 2004. She is currently working as a Pediatric Audiologist at North Carolina Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat.

2001---**Dawn Vogler- Elias** (BS) earned her Ph. D from the University of Buffalo in June 2009. Currently she is employed as an Assistant Professor at Nazareth College in Rochester, NY.

--- **Sara Rider** (MS) welcomed a baby girl, Paige Michelle Rider, to the world on July 11th, 2009.

---**Lori Marafino Wike** (MS) gave birth to her first child, a baby boy named Max Anderson Wike, on January 14th, 2009.

---**Karen Nezelek** (M.A. 1969, PhD 2001) has become very involved in health care reform. For those interested, see the link for activities she helped organize in November:

<http://essentialdissent.blogspot.com/2009/11/healthcare-reform-people-not-profits.html>

2002---**Lea Georgantas** (BS 2000, MS 2002) is now working at the Cleveland Clinic as the coordinator of pediatric audiology, after leaving the Gebbie Clinic. She is missed here at SU! She recently bought her first home.

---**Emily Smith** (BS 2000, MS 2002) has worked for the past eight years for the Syracuse City School District at Hughes Magnet School. She and her husband, Brian, have a three year old son, Braedon and are expecting twins this fall.

---**Lauren Chase** (BS) went on to Northeastern to receive her Master's in Speech in 2005 and her AuD in 2008. She got engaged in June and is planning her wedding for August 2010.

---**Jessica Augusto** (BS) is an audiologist at Duke Otolaryngology of Durham in North Carolina.

---**Jocelyn Goodwin** (BS) teaches 2nd grade at Excellence BOYS Charter School in Bedford-Stuyvesant, one part of Brooklyn, and has been there for three years.

2006 --- **Kristi Lalor** (MS) started working at a special education preschool called Lifeline Center for Child Development in Queens, NY as an SLP in January of 2009.

---**Mandy (Breitenbach) Theisen** (BS 2003, AuD 2006) recently celebrated her one year anniversary with her husband, Matt. She is working in Boston at Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary.

2007--- **Jane (Hammill) Huntley** (MS) married her husband Garrett, on July 5th, 2008. For the last three years she has been working for OCM BOCES in the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program.

Alumni News Continued

---**Margaret Overman** (AuD) is currently working part time at a VA Outpatient Clinic and also as a Research Assistant Professor in the Center on Disability and Community Inclusion at the University of Vermont, in Burlington, VT. She is also working as a faculty advisor for a student organization called "Best Buddies," which develops relationships between college students and disabled community members.

---**Lauren Calandrucchio** (PhD) recently began an appointment as an Assistant Professor at Queens College-City University New York in the Department of Linguistics and Communication Disorders.

---**Jeanine (Telesco) Mitchell** (MS) continues to work at Camillus Middle Schools for OCM BOCES and was married last year.

2008---**Desiree Collier** (MS) is working at Building Blocks in Watertown, NY. She recently completed her CFY.

---**Lindsay Eagleson** (MS) is working two part time jobs, one is with Closing the Gap Healthcare Group working with both kids and adults in schools and their homes. She works with various disorders, from articulation to swallowing. Her second job is working with the Community Stroke Rehabilitation Team- Grey-Bruce Health Sciences. It is a new pilot project to support stroke survivors in their home and reintegration into the community.

2009--- **Leah Richman** (BS 2007, MS 2009) is working at Orange County AHRC in Middletown, NY, with preschoolers with disabilities. In June, Leah got engaged to her fiancé Michael and will be getting married on October 9th, 2010.

2009--- **Amanda Brouillette** (BS) is living in Orlando, Florida and working for Orange County Public Schools in an elementary school.

---**Lauren Clark** (MS) was hired at Baker Victory Services Early Childhood Program in Buffalo, NY where she serves the CPSE population. She sees kids both on site and by traveling around Buffalo to students' homes, headstarts and daycares.

---**Laurie Smith** (MS) accepted a job with the Syracuse City School District. She is working with middle school students.

Get your CEUs at Syracuse University!!!

The department has been approved by the Continuing Education Board of the American Speech-Language Hearing Associations (ASHA) to provide **continuing education** events in SLP and audiology.

Our next event will take place January 22, 2010 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Our guest will be the esteemed ***Dr. David Luterman***, who will present counseling approaches for individuals with communication disorders. Dr. Luterman is the author of *Counseling Persons with Communication Disorders and Their Families*, now in its fifth edition, published by PRO-ED, Inc.

This course is offered for .6 ASHA CEUs.

If interested, contact Dr. Joe Pellegrino at 315-443-2352
or Dr. Janet Ford at 315-443-9618.

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Web!**

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

We would like to thank the following
individuals for their generous donations to
the CS&D department...

Ms. Ann L. Annese

*John J Cannizzaro and Nancy P Cannizzaro
Connections PLLC*

Ms. Cathy Hazelton

Mrs Marycarolyn Jagodzinski

Mr. J Edward Kaish and Mrs. Olga M. Kaish

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Dr. Branson L. Thurston

Ms. Melissa J. Wenters

Mrs. Sherri Whitely

Thanks to the generosity of Dr. Michael Kurman and Dr. Barbara Lerner Kurman and their desire to see students grow professionally, the following students received financial assistance to conduct research and/or attend professional conferences this past year. The conferences included the American Academy of Audiology, American Auditory Society and American Speech Language Hearing Association.

Hammam AlMakadma, Stefania Arduini, Maya Asir, Debra Burnett, Kristen Burns, Christine Domingo, Jessica Falco, Dora Granato, Amanda Johannsen, Asha Latham, Kerrie Nesbitt, Kimberly Slocum, Allison Soll, and Jenifer Surpris.