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Department of Speech, Language,  
and Hearing Sciences  
University of Arizona

## James S. and Dyan Pignatelli/Unisource Clinical Chair for Audiologic Rehabilitation in Adults

*By Fran Harris, PhD*

As professionals, we know the impact that hearing loss can have on a person's ability to hear and to understand speech. Yet we may forget how devastating a change in hearing can be on a person's overall quality of life and on the lives of families and associates. Jim and Dyan Pignatelli know about this all too well – they have lived it - with his mother, with his own loss of hearing and with hearing loss in their daughter, now 35 years old. As Dyan Pignatelli commented, "We saw the effects that hearing loss had on Jim's mother," and this experience prompted them to take action not only within their own family but also within the community.

When Jim Pignatelli retired after 15 years as CEO of Tucson Electric Power (Unisource Energy Services), the company created the James S. and Dyan Pignatelli Audiology Research Grant in the Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences in his honor. In September of 2009, the Pignatellis matched the Unisource contribution to create the James S. and Dyan Pignatelli/Unisource Clinical Chair for Audiologic Rehabilitation in Adults. The position is currently held by Dr. Frances Harris.

Dr. Harris has been associated with the SLHS department since the 1970s and has had many interests over her career in the speech and hearing sciences. "That's the nature of our field – it allows for diversity. I've done clinical, research, teaching and mentoring and believe that I have a depth of understanding about hearing loss and about the field. I hope to bring all of that experience into development of this program."



*Jim and Dyan Pignatelli with Fran Harris*

The goal of the Audiologic Rehabilitation (AR) Program for Adults over the next 10 years is to improve the lives of adults with hearing loss and their frequent communication partners through direct intervention, community involvement and education, student training and research facilitation. "The creation of this position makes a strong statement that audiologic rehabilitation is an important part of this profession. I am proud to be a part of the inception and development of this program. As far as I know, this is the only Chair of this kind in the states."

### **Living with Hearing Loss Groups**

In fall, 2009, the clinic began the Living with Hearing Loss groups. These are facilitated by Doctor of Audiology students under Dr. Harris's supervision. As one of the student facilitators commented, "Through the discussion sessions in the AR group, I learned about the communication difficulties and struggles hearing-impaired people and their family members face in their daily life in a more practical way.... Many of the difficulties and frustrations they

encounter could be eliminated or decreased after they apply the communication strategies we discussed." Groups meet for five weeks – two hours each session and the clinic conducts two groups each semester. As one group participant stated about the AR group, "It has helped me and my family a great deal, to know that many other people face challenges that occur because of hearing loss. The strategies we practiced each week have become a part of our daily routine. I felt empowered, learning about the many devices available to help, such as loops, TV ears, and assistive devices at movie theaters. I have become much more confident about wearing hearing aids and that I have a right to hear what is going on."

### **Community Involvement and Education**

Following the completion of a 5-week series, all participants meet at the Adult Loss of Hearing Association (ALOHA). This provides them with an opportunity to join ALOHA, see their facility and become part of their support system. The bridge to ALOHA is one way of  
*Continued page 8*

## GRANTS AND OTHER FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

### Dr. Edwin Maas

Dr. Edwin Maas has been awarded a grant from NIH-NIDCD, for a project entitled, "Psycholinguistic Investigations of Development and Disorders of Speech Production". This 5-year project is designed to provide Dr. Maas with additional career training in the areas of childhood speech sound disorders and acoustic analysis of speech. Mentors for the project include Dr. LouAnn Gerken (Linguistics, Psychology, and SLHS), Dr. Brad Story (SLHS), and Dr. Edy Strand (Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN). The research portion of the grant uses real-time tasks combined with acoustic measures to investigate the processes and representations involved in planning fluent speech output in typically-developing children between 5 and 10 years old, and in children with speech sound disorders of unknown origin (including childhood apraxia of speech and phonological disorder). A final step will involve validation of several proposed diagnostic markers for childhood apraxia of speech.

Dr. Maas received more good news when he learned he was awarded a \$10,000 New Century Scholars Research Grant for his proposal "Feedback and Feedforward Control Mechanisms in Apraxia of Speech" from The American Speech-Language-Hearing Foundation.

### Jeanette Hoit, Kate Bunton, Mary Alt

Drs. Jenny Hoit, Kate Bunton, and Mary Alt were ecstatic to learn that they have been awarded five years of support to study of velopharyngeal function during oral sound production in healthy children. The support comes from the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD) and totals over \$1.57 million.

Although the grant signals the official beginning of this research endeavor, the story actually begins in the late 1990's. Earlier research conducted by Tom Hixon, Jenny Hoit, and their colleagues had shown that the velopharynx is closed for oral sound production in children as young as 3 years of age and remains closed throughout adulthood. However, velopharyngeal function in children younger than age 3 remained undocumented. But there was a problem: babies didn't like having masks placed over their faces (which is how measurements of nasal airflow had been made in the earlier research endeavors). So, Tom and Jenny put their heads together to try figure out a way to test velopharyngeal function in infants. After several failed tries, they came up with what turned out to be the perfect solution: place a nasal cannula in the infant's nose (like the ones used to deliver oxygen), connect the other end of the cannula to a sensitive pressure transducer, and monitor pressure change in the nose while the infant vocalizes. It worked! If the pressure was

positive when the infant vocalized, this meant that the velopharynx was open; if the pressure was zero when the infant vocalized, this meant that the velopharynx was closed. And the best part was that the infants didn't mind wearing the cannula.

Then Stacey Thom (now Stacey Bright) came along. It was Stacey, a masters student at the time, who picked up the reigns and took the lead on the initial study of velopharyngeal function in infants that laid much of the groundwork for the current grant. Stacey, using the nasal cannula method, tested a few infants monthly from age 2 months to 6 months. Although she had predicted that the velopharynx would be closed for vocalization by 4 months (based on the prevailing acoustic and perceptual evidence), Stacey was surprised to find that it still wasn't closed by 6 months. (By the way, Stacey's study was later published in the *Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Journal*).

So, that leaves us with the question: At what age does the velopharynx close for oral sound production? Drs. Hoit, Bunton, and Alt intend to answer this question by studying 60 infants (equal numbers of boys and girls) using the nasal pressure method. The infants will be studied monthly starting at 4 months of age and continuing until the velopharynx is found to be closed for 3 consecutive months. The children's phonetic repertoire, expressive and receptive language skills, and motor development will also be measured to help explain any variability not accounted for by age.

The results of this study will answer a question that is fundamental to the understanding of normal speech development ("At what age does the velopharynx close for oral sound production?"). By doing so, it will also lay the groundwork for future research on infants who are at risk for impairment of velopharyngeal function, such as those with known or suspected neuromotor disorders, and for eventual application to clinical evaluation and management of such infants.

### Cass Faux & Frances Harris

Cass Faux, M.S. and Frances P. Harris, Ph.D. have been provided with funding (\$16,505), from the Arizona Community Foundation, in support of their project, "Communication, Hearing, and Social Enhancement (CHASE) – Improving the lives of young adults with hearing loss." A series of workshops will be held for young

adults with hearing loss and their frequent communication partners. The goal of is to alleviate the consequences of hearing loss that are unique to this age group. Workshops will focus on instructional modules on hearing, hearing loss, technologies, and advocacy and on communication strategies and psychosocial adjustment. Social networking to sustain the program will be emphasized. The project will be facilitated by students in the Master's and Doctor of Audiology programs and will run from March through December 2010.

### Gayle DeDe

Dr. Gayle DeDe was approved for funding of a Faculty Small Grant for \$10,000 from the University of Arizona Foundation for her proposal titled, "Effects of Aging on Sentence Comprehension"

### Mary Alt

Dr. Mary Alt was approved for funding of a faculty Small Grant for \$9,945 from the University of Arizona Foundation for her proposal titled, "Factors that Influence Word Learning In Bilingual Children"

### Andrew Lotto

SLHS Associate Professor, Andrew Lotto, in collaboration with Dr. Lori Holt, Carnegie Mellon University, were awarded a 5 year, \$1.9 million renewal of their NIH-NIDCD grant entitled: Formation and Tuning of Complex Auditory Categories.

This collaborative research program investigates processes underlying the formation and tuning of complex sound categories. The overall goal is to provide a model of auditory categorization that can be readily applied to challenges of speech perception and communication disorders. Language learners form (phonetic) auditory categories of native-language sounds from the distributions of experienced speech sounds produced by many talkers.

### Barbara Kiernan & Carole Wymer

The Grunewald-Blitz Clinic and the Child Language Center were recipients of a \$100,000 First Things First grant to provide support to North Pima County day cares in providing language-rich environments for the attending children. Barbara Kiernan and Carole Wymer were the grant authors.

**The Graduate and Professional Student Council (GPSC)** is the representative student government for graduate and professional students at the University of Arizona and the primary voice for UA graduate student issues, views, and positions.

Outstanding Mentor of Graduate/Professional Students

*Winner: Dr. Pélagie M. Beeson, Honorable Mention: Dr. Andrew J. Lotto*

Each year, during Graduate & Professional Student Appreciation Week, the GPSC recognizes graduate students, staff, and faculty who have made outstanding contributions to the campus and, in particular, to graduate education.



Elena Plante Ph.D.  
Professor & Head

I'm sure I am not the only one who has noticed the increasing problem with time compression. Each year speeds by faster than the last until we have whiplash as time rushes past. I am particularly thinking about time this year because of two key events: one from our past and one that points towards our future. Our department is approaching its 80th anniversary in 2011. This year is actually an estimate, because our department was emerging

## Message from the Department Head

as a new entity at about the same time as the field of speech-language pathology emerged as a new discipline in 1925. Like the profession at a national level, our department was emerged from the interests of faculty who represented disciplines like rhetoric, public speaking, and communication. At that point, our national organization, now known as the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, was then known as the American Academy of Speech Correction. And, like the professions of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, we've come a long way baby! To prepare for our 80th, I'd like to invite our alumni, to contribute memories from your time in the department. We'd love to hear about a favorite instructor, your most influential class, or the crazy goings on of your fellow

classmates. Contact us at [slhs@email.arizona.edu](mailto:slhs@email.arizona.edu) (be sure to put "Memories" in the subject line) and tell us about where the department was physically located, when you were here, and what the clinical experience was like for you. Send pictures! We want to know what made your time here memorable. We will construct an electronic scrapbook, organized by decade, on our website. And if you haven't seen our website recently, I invite you to see the newly redesigned site at <http://slhs.arizona.edu>. In addition to this look to the past, I am very pleased to announce a big event that will shape our future. In the last year, the University of Arizona has undergone a system-wide reorganization. Members of our department entered into discussions with faculty in other programs and members of the community to

*Continued page 12*

### UBRP Undergraduate Biology Research Program 2009

**Sarah Cook**, José L. Valdés, Jean-Marc Fellous  
*"Learning to give up! The contribution of the Dopaminergic System to extinction"*

**Kyle Almryde, Kerry Winchester, Thomas Christensen, Elena Plante**  
*"Brain networks for retrieval of attended and unattended language targets in the human auditory system"*

**Lena Kyman, Rebecca Vance, Elena Plante**  
*"Implicit learning differences between language disordered and typical children"*

#### Summer 2009 Poster Session

**Caitlin Berry, Amanda Lopez** (L4 Lab)  
*"Word: The effect of auditory and visual input"*

Rita Kaplon (Oberlin College in Oberlin, Ohio), Julie L. Lockwood, **Thomas A. Christensen**  
*"Neural substrates for conflict resolution using an auditory stroop paradigm"*

### 2010

Charity Adusei (, Sandra Cruz Alejandre (Universidad de las Américas, A.C. Mexico City, Mexico), **Pélagie M. Beeson**  
*"Conceptual knowledge across cultures"*

**Kyle Almryde**, Jessica Motzkin, **Elena Plante, Tom Christensen**  
*"Feeling distracted? Separate brain networks for retrieval of attended and unattended words in the human auditory system"*

**Keila Gutiérrez, Edwin Maas**  
*"Insight on holistic and segmental speech planning in children as revealed via auditory priming"*

**BRAVO!** SLHS is pleased to announce that Keila Gutiérrez, a senior in our department, has been awarded the competitive BRAVO! Biomedical Research Abroad: Vistas Open! grant through the University's Undergraduate Biology Research Program, for her research project entitled "PRIMING IN APRAXIA OF SPEECH AND APHASIA". This grant will allow Keila to spend the summer in Sydney, Australia, to conduct this study designed to better understand the nature of speech production deficits in aphasia and apraxia of speech. The project was developed by Keila, in collaboration with her local mentor (Edwin Maas, PhD) and her mentor at the University of Sydney (Kirrie Ballard, PhD, CCC-SLP).

Keila Gutierrez also received a scholarship through the Minority Health Disparity (MHD) Summer Research Opportunity Program at the UA. Keila worked on a project that looked at the nature and time course of speech production planning in children in the Speech, Language, and Brain Laboratory (SLAB lab) with Dr. Edwin Maas as Faculty Adviser. As part of the MHD program, Keila presented this project at a poster session, along with other student in the MHD program in other departments. Congratulations, Keila!



Keila Gutierrez at MHD Poster session

**Congratulations to Analydia Gonzales** for receiving a \$500 travel scholarship from The Association for Research in Otolaryngology to attend the 2010 ARO MidWinter Meeting in February in Anaheim, California. Analydia presented a poster entitled: "Exploring the Interrelationship between Spontaneous and Low-Level Stimulus-Frequency Otoacoustic Emissions," with fellow AuD student, Susan Richmond.

## Student Benefitting from Scholarships

*Congratulations to all of this year's outstanding scholarship recipients. And thank you to all the individuals and groups who make these scholarships possible.*

### Cassandra Davis Memorial Scholarship

The Cassandra Davis Memorial Scholarship was established in loving memory of Cassandra Davis, BS '02 who died in a fatal car accident in July of 2002. Cassandra graduated summa cum laude from the University of Arizona with a BS in Speech and Hearing Sciences and a BA in Spanish with an emphasis in linguistics. She was also a member of the Phi Beta Kappa. Her special interest area was bilingual communication disorders.

The 2009 recipients of the Cassandra Davis Memorial Scholarship are **Kristina Larson**, \$3,000 and **Amanda Lopez** \$2,500.

### Susan and Thomas Cordell Scholarships

Susan and Tom Cordell continue to support UA SLHS graduate students who are interested in providing counseling and (re)habilitative services to individuals with hearing loss. **Darlene Kim**, **Kimberly Dale** and **Aileen Wong** each received \$3,000

### Midtown Sertoma Club of Tucson Audiology Scholarship

**Aileen Wong** was the recipient of the 2009 Midtown Sertoma Scholarship. SLHS students enrolled in the Doctor of Audiology Program and have a desire to serve individuals with auditory problems are eligible for this \$1,200 scholarship

### George V., Homer E., and David R. Woodling/Midtown Sertoma Club of Tucson Memorial Scholarship

Reese and Nancy Woodling created this scholarship in memory of Reese's father, uncle and son who all suffered hearing loss. **Cathy Carbonell** and **Darlyne Kim** shared the \$1,000 scholarship this year.

### Pilot International Foundation – Marie Newton

### Sepia Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship is for graduate students preparing for a career helping children with brain-related disorders or brain-related disabilities. This year's recipient of the \$1,000 scholarship is **Jessica Aguilar**

### College of Science Galileo Scholarship

**Rindy Ito** – Patron, **Cecile Moore**, **Antonia "Davi" Vitela** – Patron, **David and Mary Peachin**, **Brian Monson** – Patron, **Mary Goodman**

### Grunewald Scholars

**Robin Samlan**, **Susan LaGendre**

### Scottish Rite Scholarships

**Christine Butalla**

### Rebecca Rutz Graduate Assistantship

**Aileen Wong**

### VOCES Scholarships for Undergraduate Students

Providing and developing highly qualified bilingual speech pathologists  
2009 – **Gloria Valenzuela** - \$800  
2008 – **Elisandra Rico** - \$800

### Thomas J. Hixon Student Research Award

This award was established in memory of Thomas J. Hixon, Ph.D. This award is available to graduate and undergraduate students who are involved in research in speech science and disorders. First time awarded. 2010 - **Robin Samlan** - \$160

### NIH Dissertation Grant (F31)

Doctoral student **Brian Monson** was awarded a dissertation grant from the NIH (F31) for his dissertation entitled "High-frequency energy in speech and voice". Dr. Brad Story is his advisor. Co-sponsors on his dissertation grant are Dr. Story and Dr. Andrew Lotto. Funding from this grant will cover a stipend, tuition and travel to present his results at conferences.



Kristen Larson



Amanda Lopez



Darlene Kim



Kim Dale



Aileen Wong



Cathy Carbonell



Jessica Aguilar



Rindy Ito



Antonia "Davi" Vitela



Brian Monson



Robin Samlan



Susan LaGendre



Christine Butalla



Gloria Valenzuela



Sandra Cruz-Alejandre and Charity Adusai worked with Dr. Pagie Beeson in the Aphasia Research Project during the summer 2009. Sandra, who completed her undergraduate degree from the Universidad de las Americas in Mexico City, was a student in the Mexico-UA Summer Research Program and Charity is a junior in the UA Undergraduate Biology Research Program (UBRP). Together, they completed a project entitled "Conceptual Knowledge Across Cultures."

## Graduates 2009

### SPRING 2009 GRADUATES

#### DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Michelle Lynn Gutmann  
Dissertation Title: *The Effect of Frontal Lobe Function on Proverb Interpretation in Parkinson's Disease*

Maya Henry  
Dissertation Title: *Progressive Aphasia: Patterns of Language Behavior and Regional Cortical Atrophy*

#### DOCTOR OF AUDIOLOGY

Derek Ryan Edwards  
Thesis Title: *Validity of Manufacturer Simulated Real Ear Gain Values for Open-Fit Hearing Aids*

Christina Marie Piña  
Thesis Title: *Real-Ear to Coupler Differences and Insertion Gain Corrections for Open-fit Hearing Aids*

Elizabeth Ann Searing  
Thesis Title: *The Relationship between the Occlusion Effect and Own-Voice Complaints in Open-fit Hearing Aids*

Sylvia Kim Stevens  
Thesis Title: *Empirically-derived Fittable Audiogram Ranges for Three Open-fit Mini-BTE Hearing Aids*

#### MASTER OF SCIENCE

Amanda Rae Beneke  
Ellen Olivia Campbell, Thesis Title: *The Composition of the Epineurium of the*

*Recurrent Laryngeal Nerve in Juvenile Pigs*  
Lynn Wallace Dalcolma, Thesis Title: *Measuring Parent Communication Behaviors*  
Beth Higgins  
Rachel Marie King, Thesis Title: *Semantically-Based Lexical Retrieval Treatment in Progressive Aphasia*  
Cameron Elizabeth Kliner  
Diana Landro  
Kathryn Lilje  
Laura Nickerson  
Lindsay Elizabeth Pettit  
Lesley Fidler Rentze  
Jennifer Rosen  
Joshua Alexander Strauss  
Kelly Thomas  
Katherine Valko  
Rebecca Volk  
Jaime Wendt

#### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE

Courtney Allen  
Amber Allum  
David Anaya  
Aissa Arana  
Bill Aycock  
Jenna Beltrami  
Kassidy Bennett  
Christelle Biniakounou  
Emily Callahan  
Erin Carney  
Jeremy Carr  
Kaitlyn Cavanaugh  
Sarah Cook  
Allison Driscoll  
Andrea Edgar  
Matthew Estrada  
Ruth Frost  
Sabrina Garcia  
Kalli Hale

Jena Hill  
Camila Homicki  
Taylor Howard  
Lauren Johnson  
Kathryn Joslyn  
Brittany Kirk  
Lena Kyman  
Kagran Lange  
Andrea Lato  
Jessie Liu  
Erika Madden  
Geraldine Martin  
Cecilia Martinez  
Natasha Masanz  
Kayla McDaniel  
Nicole McDonald  
Christine Piper  
Jillian Pope  
Michelle Proter  
Karen Pye  
Elisandra Rico  
Angelica Riesgo  
Bahareh Saghafi  
Allison Schneider  
Kaitlin Schult  
Serena Singh  
Jayme Smith  
Dana Sonnino  
Victoria Stadianos  
Jana Van Marche  
Teena Varghese  
Kerry Winchester  
Andrew Yost

#### DEPARTMENTAL AWARDS

Outstanding Senior (Spring 2009):  
Lena M. Kyman

Excellence in Undergraduate Research: Allison F. Schneider

UA SCIENCE Ambassadors: Lena M. Kyman and Sarah J. Cook

Jean R. Guloien Outstanding Graduate Student: Rachel M. King and Elixabeth A. Searing

Arizona Speech-Language-Hearing Association Outstanding Student Clinician: Laura Ann Nickerson



Distinguished Alumnus: Sarah S. Ascher, BS '83, MS '85 Sarah lives in Tucson with her husband

Mark and two daughters, Kylie and Lian. She has worked for Carondelet Health Network for 20 years and is currently the Clinical Coordinator for the Audiology, Balance/Vestibular, and Out-Patient Neuro Rehab Programs at Carondelet St. Joseph's Hospital.

### FALL 2009 GRADUATES

#### DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Megha Bahl  
Dissertation Title: *Word learning by adults with learning disability: Effect of grammatical class*

#### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE

Kyle Almryde  
Jesika Benson  
Casey Cunningham  
Sarah Huish  
Melissa Jeziorski  
Viengsavanh Johnston  
Jamie Ortega  
Mallary Owen  
Ashley Phalen  
Nalleli Soto  
Matthew Struthers  
Brittany Tennyson

## NSSLHA

by Kati Wint, NSSLHA President

NSSLHA has had a great year so far at the U of A! We started the fall semester with our annual student/faculty picnic. We had a Mexican fiesta at Reid Park with families, pets, and lots of food. NSSLHA's first official meeting of fall semester was held at Ben's Bells, where members decorated ornaments that were placed in various locations around Tucson. Our Mentorship Advising Program for Students (MAPS) held a "Meet Your Mentor" event, where graduate and upper classmen were paired with lower

classmen. The mentors provide advice to their mentees about classes, keeping up with homework, writing resumes, and applying for graduate school. This is the second year of MAPS, and this year has shown rapid growth in participation from students as mentors and mentees.

NSSLHA gives scholarships each semester to help students with the expense of attending professional conferences. In the fall, three SLHS students, Amy Lederle, Erin Chute and Rebecca Burton, were awarded scholarships to attend the

ASHA convention in New Orleans. For more information on NSSLHA scholarships, contact wint@email.arizona.edu. Every year, NSSLHA partners with the Sertoma Club in volunteering at the Community Food Bank in Tucson several Saturdays per semester. The food bank appreciated the help from NSSLHA members in the fall and spring. NSSLHA members also volunteered for the 2nd Annual Students Supporting Brain Tumor Research Walk on Feb. 20th. Students will also volunteer for the annual Autism Walk in April. For more

information contact lsmith6@email.arizona.edu.

NSSLHA's Educational Forums were kicked off this fall by Dr. Julie Barkmeier-Kraemer and Barbara Kiernan who presented on a vocal hygiene program implemented in local preschool and Kindergarten classes. This spring, Fabi Hirsch from St. Joseph's Hospital spoke about aphasia on Feb. 9th and Anne Beiter and Jon Shallop will presented on cochlear implants and auditory neuropathy on Feb. 23rd.

## Workshop focuses on Audiologic Rehabilitation for adults & their frequent communication partners

The SHLS Department, with generous support by the Pignatelli/Unisource Adult Audiologic Rehabilitation program sponsored the, “Audiologic Rehabilitation for Adults: Evidence, Implementation & Resources” workshop on January 15 and 16, 2010. The primary goal of this 10-hour workshop was to provide hearing health care professionals with resources for implementing audiologic rehabilitation (AR) in their practices. Dr. Terry Chisolm and Dr. Harvey Abrams, the keynote speakers, provided an overview of evidence for including AR in practice and introduced participants to the Ida Institute (<http://www.idainstitute.com/>) materials. Dr. Ingrid McBride from ASU and Dr. Fran Harris from the UA talked about their ongoing group programs and other services and the impact that involvement in AR has on people’s lives and on student training. Dr. Jon Shallop discussed candidacy and programming for adults with cochlear implants, and representatives from local agencies informed the group about services available in southern Arizona.

Approximately 60 people, including students, audiologists, hearing instrument specialists from all over Arizona, attended the workshop. There was a great deal of enthusiastic discussion throughout the meeting and the participant ratings were quite positive. We were thrilled with the success of the conference and hope that it fosters a resurgence of audiologic rehabilitation in Arizona. We will follow up with participants to see how the conference has benefited them with patients in their specific practices.



Ingrid McBride, AuD, Tom Muller, AuD, Jon Shallop, PhD, Fran Harris, PhD, Theresa Hnath Chisolm, PhD, Harvey Abrams, PhD

## GBC Workshop celebrates 10 Years of providing state-of-the-art information to Tucson community SLP’s and Audiologists

The annual GBC Workshop was held on October 9, 2009. The Pediatric Interdisciplinary Feeding, Swallowing and Nutrition Team was this year’s conference focus. SLHS and the Grunewald-Blitz Clinic for Communication Disorders in Children sponsored the day of speakers from a wide range of disciplines, all focused on providing the best care for medically complex children with feeding, swallowing and/or nutrition issues. Guest speakers included Faye Ghishan MD, and Sydney Rice, MD, of Steele Children’s Research Center, Julie Barkmeier-Kraemer, PhD, and Marsha Dunn Klein, MS, OTR/L.

## ACNS

The Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences department hosted the 2009 and 2010 Auditory Cognitive Neuroscience Society (ACNS) Conferences. Dr. Andrew Lotto and his Auditory Cognitive Neuroscience Experience (ACNE) Lab founded the society in 2006 and have organized an annual conference ever since it’s development. The two-day conferences are held in January and attract researchers from a variety of areas including speech, psychoacoustics, auditory neurophysiology, cognitive psychology, linguistics, and computer sciences to discuss the cognitive/perceptual processing of complex acoustic signals such as speech, music, and natural sounds. Speakers/discussants from this past year’s meeting included UA’s own Tom Bever, Kate Bunton, Tom Christensen, Barbara Cone, Andrew Lotto, and Brad Story. Session topics included “The Lab and the Clinic: Translation and Aggravation, Variety is the Spice of Outliers: Individual Differences in Audition and Speech Perception, and the Current State of Theory in Speech Perception.” Both conferences were well attended, as much for the talks/discussions as for the famous homemade baked goodies provided by Sarah Sullivan and her team of volunteers.

*By Sarah C. Sullivan, M.A. Research Specialist & Lab Manager, Auditory Cognitive Neuroscience, Experience Lab, University of Arizona*

## The Challenge: BEAT University of Iowa in donations to the ASHA Foundation!

Dr. Julie Barkmeier-Kraemer challenged our faculty to raise money for the ASHA Foundation by donating \$100 on behalf of our program. Julie said that, “Arizona has greatly benefited from ASHA Foundation programs and awards. They have supported our junior and senior faculty as well as our students at various stages of our careers and education.”

Jennifer Casteix and her husband George were the first to meet her challenge and contribute \$100. The rest is history! UA Giving Circle raised \$3,635 toward the ASHA Foundation, beating University of Iowa’s (Julie’s alma mater) \$1,100. Way to go UA!

## Student Travel Scholarship Fundraiser a Rousing Success



*Friends of Board members toast the success of the travel scholarship fundraiser*

SLHS and its Advisory Board, led by Sheri Moormann and Cheryl Leeper, held its “Uncork a World of Science” fundraiser on December 5 at the home of Barbara Cone. Over 40 people attended and savored six regional Spanish wines, and tapas provided by Delectables Restaurant and Catering. The tasting was led by sommelier Brandy Ciaccio. SLHS thanks the generous event

sponsors, Mr. and Mrs. M.G. Bracamonte, Cécile Moore and Sheri Moormann, as well as all who attended and helped.

Five students benefited from the scholarships this semester. **Kim Dale, Analydia Gonzales, Susan Richmond, Fadyeh Barakat and Kyle Almryde.**

*“I have found that among its other benefits, giving liberates the soul of the giver.” ~~ Maya Angelou*

## Friends of SLHS

We wish to thank the following individuals, corporations, and foundations for their generous support. Every gift is valued. It is important to us to recognize all donors correctly. Please notify us of any discrepancies.

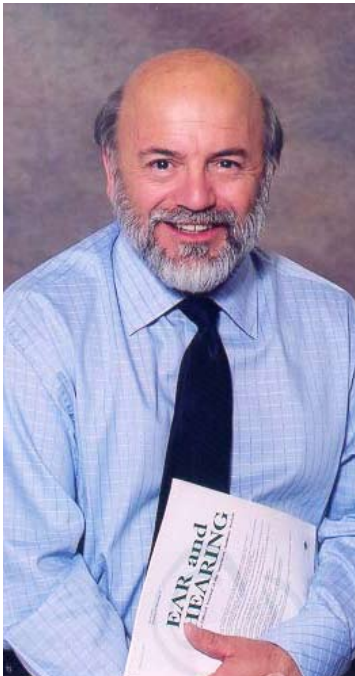
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| Arizona Community Foundation  | Cathy Fay                      | Dianne Patterson              |
| Julie Barkmeier-Kraemer       | Patricia Fiore                 | Gayle Perona                  |
| Cynthia Bartlett              | Tom and Jacquelyn Ford         | James S. and Dyan Pignatelli  |
| Kathryn Bayles                | Karen Forrest                  | James Pimentel                |
| Carole Beal                   | Cornelia Foster                | Marilyn Pipes                 |
| Sandra Beattie                | Joan Frichtl                   | Elena Plante                  |
| Pelagie Beeson                | Amy Gabel                      | Kathy Puckett                 |
| Susan Bernas                  | Guy Garcia                     | Patricia Reilly               |
| Darin Bocian                  | Kathy George                   | Kindle Rising                 |
| Betsy Bolding                 | Elise Gericke                  | Donald Rollings               |
| Daniel and Mary Boone         | Ted Glatke                     | Karen Rost-Zakerwski          |
| Mr. and Mrs. M.G. Bracamonte  | Rebecca Gondak                 | Rachel Rutz                   |
| Lorraine & Dennis Bragg       | Michael Gottfried              | Theresa Saltzman              |
| Kathleen Brumble              | Gary Gramigna                  | Michael and Christine Samonds |
| Kate Bunton                   | Shelley Gray                   | Burton Schneider              |
| Christine Butalla             | Kathryn Greenslade             | Sherry Semrad                 |
| Angela Canale                 | Ann Griffin                    | Ralph Shelton                 |
| Susan Carnahan                | Laura Hafeman                  | Scott Sherman                 |
| Wendy Cash                    | Sandra Hambacher               | Lawrence Shriberg             |
| Joan Cass                     | Fran Harris                    | Richard and Janette Slaughter |
| Jennifer Casteix              | Janet Hawley                   | Elliott Smith                 |
| George Jenson                 | Thomas Hicks                   | Molly Smith                   |
| Irenea Caughman               | Douglas Hicks                  | Tenya Smith                   |
| Jane Caughman                 | Jeannette Hoit                 | Nancy Soloman                 |
| Erin Caughman                 | Audrey Holland                 | Lia LaVallee Sotak            |
| Lois Chedsey                  | Emi Isaki                      | Deborah Southmayd             |
| Stefanie Chenkin              | Joyce Itow                     | Brad Story                    |
| Decemna Chow                  | Pauline Itow                   | Doug Stuart                   |
| Tom and Ann Christensen       | Roberta A. Jackson             | Jeanne Sturgis                |
| Joel Cmiel                    | Loreen Jones                   | Emily Sulcs                   |
| Barbara Cone                  | Sara Jones                     | Jim and Therese Sullivan      |
| Frank Chuang and Kang Li      | Barbara Kiernan                | Lori Taniguchi                |
| Andrew Comrie                 | Kieve Foundation               | Andrea Taube                  |
| Lisa Coppola                  | Esther Kim and Todd Shipman    | Susan Tiernan                 |
| Thomas and Susan Cordell      | Ellen Knight                   | Cheryl Tomoeda                |
| Pam Crooke                    | Shelley Laitinen               | Nancy Turman                  |
| Jennie Curlee                 | Carol Ledbetter                | Hedley Uetake                 |
| Huanping Dai                  | Cheryl Leeper                  | Mary Ulep                     |
| Jean Darland                  | Heather Lohmeier               | Kimble Van Londen             |
| Melanie and Jack Davis        | Patricia MacCorquodale         | Rebecca Vance                 |
| James Dean                    | Bernard Marchuska              | Amanda VanVienen              |
| Leigh Dearing                 | Marilyn Mathews                | David Velenovsky              |
| Gayle DeDe and Edwin Maas     | Noel Matkin                    | Susan Vicksman                |
| Sharon Delajoux               | Kathe McGrath                  | Bernard Weinberg              |
| Donna Deluchi                 | Amy Meredith                   | Patricia Weinberg             |
| Carrie Dishlip                | Midtown Sertoma Club of Tucson | Patricia Wick                 |
| Patricia Dombkowski           | Kristie Miner                  | Kay Wiley                     |
| Cynthia Doyen                 | Cécile Moore                   | Pamela Wood                   |
|                               | Sheri Moormann                 | Reese and Nancy Woodling      |
|                               | Hugh Morris                    | Marilyn Workingert            |
|                               | Tom and Cheryl Muller          | Carole Wymer Jensen           |
|                               | Terri Mulson                   | David Yoder                   |
|                               | Maria Nahmias                  |                               |
|                               | Jean Nelson                    |                               |

## Third Annual Anthony B. DeFeo Lecture in Speech-Language Pathology

### Puzzles and Mysteries: Unraveling the Origins of Childhood Apraxia of Speech

On Friday, September, 11, 2009 in the Arizona Health Sciences Center DuVal Auditorium Dr. Lawrence D. Shriberg presented research on the origin of Childhood Apraxia of Speech (CAS) in neurodevelopmental and idiopathic contexts. Principal Investigator, of the Phonology Project and Co-Director, of the Phonology Clinic, at the Waisman Center, University of Wisconsin at Madison, Dr. Lawrence D. Shriberg’s research interests focus on genetic and other origins of pediatric speech sound disorders, including studies to identify diagnostic markers for clinical subtype and studies to develop subtype-specific treatment.

This annual series is made possible through the generosity of Dr. Jeannette D. Hoit and the late Dr. Thomas J. Hixon honoring Dr. Anthony B. DeFeo’s dedication to students, support of evidence-based treatments for clients, and strong advocacy for the blending of basic science with clinical science and art.



## Dr. Anthony "Tony" B. DeFeo Retirement Dinner

On January 29, 2009 over 120 guests gathered to honor Dr. Anthony B. DeFeo. After 27 years of service at the University of Arizona, Dr. DeFeo retired. Friends and family were greeted at the Oro Valley Country Club with music by pianist, Rob Boone, son of SLHS Professor Emeritus, Daniel Boone.

The "Roast and Toast" was emceed by Tony's longtime friend, Alan Rodin. Tony was "roasted" by other friends including Jenny Hoit, Ralph Shelton, Dan Boone, Kathryn Bayles, Kathi George, Dan DaJoy, Karen Guilmette, and Tom Hixon.

Tony developed an extraordinary career that exemplified the translation of science into service. He is wisely regarded as an outstanding scholar, clinician, and teacher. His passion for clinical education and his encyclopedic knowledge of the professional literature is admirable. Those lucky enough to have had

him in a class know his dynamic lecture style and his class projects that demand engagement of every student in the room. Those of you who worked with him in the clinic will certainly know his ability to promote critical thinking from emerging clinicians and his ability to think deeply about difficult cases.

As a gift to Dr. DeFeo, friends and family are establishing an endowed graduate student scholarship in his name in the Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences. This scholarship honoring Dr. DeFeo's 27 years of service to the UA Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences will be available to incoming graduate students who are interested in clinical science and service. We are close to reaching the \$10,000 needed to establish the endowment. Please consider donating to the Anthony B. DeFeo Endowed Scholarship for Clinical Studies in Speech-Language Pathology.

### *Audiologic Rehabilitation in Adults Continued from cover*

building strong community liaisons, which is a focus that the Pignatellis want emphasized in this program. They've come to realize the importance of coordination of efforts from organizations with a similar purpose.

Other community bridges include free lectures, and the first was on Halloween, 2009: "Tricks and Treats for Better Hearing" by Dr. Jim Dean and Dr. Harris. Fifty-two attendees learned about hearing loss, its consequences and solutions for resolution of communication challenges. The department plans to continue this series with lectures on other topics of interest to adults with hearing loss and parents coping with issues related to their child's hearing loss. Several information brochures have been created in both English and Spanish that have been distributed in the community. A section within the departmental website has been created for posting information on hearing. These resources will continue to expand.

Audiologists in private practice often comment on the difficulty of including AR in their practice. On January, 15th and 16th, 2010, the professional conference, Audiologic Rehabilitation for Adults: Evidence, Implementation, Resources was held in Tucson. The purpose of the conference was to assist



*Living with Hearing Loss Group*

professionals in methods for including AR in their service delivery. Keynote speakers included Theresa Hnath Chisolm, Ph.D. and Harvey Abrams, Ph.D. Other speakers were Ingrid McBride, Au.D. from ASU, Jon Shallop, Ph.D. recently retired from Mayo Clinic, and Fran Harris, Ph.D. Representatives from state and local organizations were also present to provide information on resources.

### **The Future**

Plans include additional services over the next 10 years. In spring, 2010, Clinical Faculty in Speech Language Pathology and

Audiology will expand services for adults with cochlear implants. The Pignatellis believe strongly in a multicultural focus for the program, and development of services for the Hispanic members of the community is planned. We also see a need for programs for younger adults in the workforce. In recognition of this group's needs, the Hearing Loss Association of America has started an initiative for younger adults which includes "Hearing Loss Nation" <http://hearinglossnation.ning.com/>, a social network for young adults with hearing loss. As we develop our program for young adults, we anticipate that they will become part of this network.

The creation of the James S. and Dyan Pignatelli/Unisource Clinical Chair for Audiologic Rehabilitation in Adults benefits the department in a variety of ways. Dr. Elena Plante, SLHS Department Head commented, "This chair is a real plum for the department. It highlights our contributions to science and service on both a local and national level." The generosity of Unisource and the Pignatellis and their commitment to reducing the effects of hearing loss on affected individuals will continue to have long term benefits locally and nationally. The department is grateful to be part of this effort.

## Department Update

**Jennifer Casteix, MS '89**, Clinical Assistant Professor – Speech Jennifer joined the faculty of SLHS in January, 2009, after almost 20 years at Tucson Medical Center. She is part of the clinical team that provides training and mentoring for graduate students working in the Grunewald-Blitz Clinic. Jennifer also manages the website, and in collaboration with Cathy Fay, works on outreach and fundraising activities for the department.

**Frances P. Harris, PhD, MA '69, PhD '88**, Clinical Assistant Professor, James S. and Dyan Pignatelli/Unisource Clinical Chair for Audiologic Rehabilitation in Adults. Fran returned to SLHS in March, 2009. She has been involved in the Department in various capacities since the 1970s. Fran's primary focus is to see the Audiologic Rehabilitation for Adults program flourish. Fran says that, "We have a running start and now need to sustain the programs that we have begun and to expand so that we are providing service to as many persons with hearing loss and their frequent communication partners in the Tucson community as possible." Establishing community liaisons is a major focus of the Unisource/Pignatelli program.

**Kathe McGrath, BA '80, MS '87**, Assistant Clinical Professor joined SLHS in June, 2009. Prior to becoming an SLP, Kathe was a teacher at the Cerebral Palsy Foundation. Kathe has worked in the Tucson community in a variety of settings including hospitals, schools, clinics, daycares, preschools as well as in client's homes. Kathe traveled to the Tohono O'odham nation to provide services to birth to three year old children for 15 years. Her areas of interest and expertise include Early Intervention and family focused therapy, Autism and Language Development. Kathe recently became a Hanen Certified therapist. She is a founding Board member of the Technology Access Center of Tucson (TACT). Kathe has two wonderful teenaged children and has been happily married for over 20 years.

**James Dean, AuD, MED** (Master's in Education for the Deaf). Jim originally joined the department from 1991-2001. He returned, from Maine, in July 2009 to hold his present position of Senior Lecturer and Clinical Audiologist. Jim has experience in all areas of audiology but he has practiced primarily as a Pediatric Audiologist over the past 7 years. Jim is originally from Liverpool, England but now calls Maine his home state. Jim and his wife love the desert and feel very fortunate to once again be Wildcats back in Tucson.

**Liz MacLellan** started with SLHS in January 2010 as Administrative Secretary working in

the clinic. Liz comes to us from UA College of Medicine Department of Pediatrics where she worked for 3 1/2 years. Prior to that, she worked with UApresents for five years. She is excited to be a part of such a dynamic department and exceptional team. An original Bostonian, she loves the Atlantic Ocean, volunteering in El Salvador and singing with The University Community Chorus!

**Kay Wiley, MS, CCC-SLP.**, returned to the department part-time in February, 2010, as a Technical Expert working with clients with voice disorders. Kay was seeing private voice clients, working with Carondelet hospital, the public schools and singing in professional ensembles before her return. They even won a (classical) Grammy last year! Kay worked in the department with the American Indian Training program and the adult clinics from 1996-2001. She says, "It's great to see some familiar faces and I look forward to getting to know many new colleagues and students".

**Julie Peterson, Technical Expert**, joined the Audiology staff part-time in January, 2010, after living and working in Delft, The Netherlands. Julie worked as a free-lance Educational audiologist for the 3 1/2 years. Prior to the Netherlands, Julie worked at the Children's Clinics for Rehabilitative Services (CCRS) for 12 years. She has also worked at UMC and here in the department (which included the TUSD contract). Julie says, "She feels very fortunate to be working again with many former colleagues and friends!"

**Craig Carlisle, MS, Technical Expert** joined the staff part-time in November, 2010.

## Visiting Faculty

### UA ADVANCE Junior Scientist part of SLHS Colloquium Series

In February, **Dr. Yana Yunusova**, an Assistant Professor of Speech-Language Pathology at the University of Toronto presented a talk "Bulbar Signs of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis" as part of the colloquium series held in the Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences at the University of Arizona. Dr. Yunusova was awarded the prestigious UA ADVANCE Junior Scientist Award to make her travel possible. The goal of this NSF funded program is to bring female junior scientists and distinguished lecturers from other campuses to UA as part of the University's ongoing efforts to increase the numbers and visibility of women faculty in STEM – science, technology, engineering and math – disciplines. Dr. Yunusova was nominated for this program by Dr. Kate Bunton.

Dr. Yana Yunusova is an accomplished young researcher in speech science. Her research focuses on identifying the articulatory basis

of speech intelligibility deficits for individuals with motor speech disorders. Dr. Yunusova uses innovative X-ray Microbeam and 3-D electromagnetic articulograph technologies to track movements of the tongue, lip, and jaw (articulators) during speech production. These data and associated analyses have the potential to uncover interarticulator relationships conceptualized as "synergies." Such synergies are hypothesized to be an organization of individual articulator movement that achieves an overall articulatory or acoustic goal. This unique perspective of speech production allows Dr. Yunusova to address clinically significant questions such as what happens to these synergies when the articulatory system becomes dysarthric due to degenerative disease (for example, in ALS). Answers to these questions will contribute significantly to the theory, diagnosis, and treatment of dysarthria.

**Janne Torkildsen**. I am a post doctoral fellow in the cognitive neuroscience group at the University of Bergen, Norway. My research focuses on language processing in the brain. In particular, I am interested in how our brains build a mental lexicon during development, and how this process can be disrupted in individuals with language impairments. Another main topic of interest is the learning of linguistic patterns and grammar in children with language impairments. The main tool I use in my research is event-related brain potentials (ERPs), which is one of the few techniques that offer the temporal resolution required to understand linguistic computation in detail. In my future research I am interested in combining electrophysiological techniques with functional magnetic resonance imaging in order to get a more complete picture of language processing in the brain.

From January to November 2010 I am a visiting researcher at The University of Arizona, Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences. Accompanying me to Arizona are my husband Leiv (a programmer currently on paternity leave), my three-year-old daughter Elsa, and my son Trygve who is ten months old. At the Department of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences, I am involved in a study of statistical learning in adults with and without learning disabilities which is led by Elena Plante. Also, as of March 2010, I have just started analyzing data from a study of the neural dynamics underlying artificial grammar learning in children with language impairment.

In 2008 I defended my Ph.D. thesis in linguistics entitled *Lexical processing in typically and atypically developing toddlers: Insights from event-related brain potentials* at the University of Oslo, Norway. I also have a Master's degree in cognitive science.

## In Memoriam



**Thomas J. Hixon** passed away on March 21, 2009. A Celebration of Life in honor of Dr. Hixon was held on Sunday, April 19, 2009, at the Westward Look Resort. Dr. Hixon had a long and distinguished career as a Scientist, Research Director, and Teacher in the Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences and as an Administrator of this university. He is survived by his wife Jeannette Hoit, son Todd and daughter Kimberly.

After graduate school at the University of Iowa, a postdoc at Harvard, and a faculty position at the University of Wisconsin, Tom Hixon came to the University of Arizona in 1976. In the time since, he served the department as a full professor; he wrote approximately 100 publications, including several books - the most recent of which, a voluminous speech science textbook, was just published with coauthors Jenny Hoit and Gary Weismer, in 2008. He also served as the editor of the *Journal of Speech and Hearing Research*, in the 1970's, and again, just a few years ago, after the *Journal* had been renamed the "*Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research*." He was honored for his extraordinary contributions as a journal editor with the Council of Editor's Award for Publication Contributions to the Association by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA). He was also awarded Honors of the Association by ASHA, the highest recognition bestowed by that organization.

Dr. Hixon has long maintained a national and international prominence for his research on respiratory function during the production of speech, an area he pioneered in the 1970s. He was ranked above the 95th percentile for receipt of funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) over the past 25 years. In 1991 the Acoustical Society of America published a volume of the most significant scientific articles that had been written about speech production up to that point in time (in other words these were "classics"). Under the category "Respiration," three articles were included. Two were authored by Dr. Hixon and colleagues, and consumed nearly 100 pages of this volume.

His administrative roles at the University of Arizona included serving as the Head of the Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences, as Dean of the Graduate College (twice), as Associate Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies, as Director of Graduate Interdisciplinary Programs, and as Research Integrity Officer. In addition, he was the director of the National Center for Neurogenic Communication Disorders, a very large research, education, and dissemination grant funded by the NIH. The Center established the University of Arizona as the leading center for research on brain-based disorders of communication. The Center's outreach mission included the award-winning *Telerounds* series, a professionally-produced interactive teaching program that broadcast to sites across the world.

The Department speaks for hundreds of students, researchers, faculty, and staff in saying we are profoundly grateful for Dr. Hixon's contributions to this University over the course of his career here.

The Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences established the Thomas J. Hixon Student Research Fund Award in Dr. Hixon's honor. This award will support student research in speech and voice science and disorders.

**Paul Skinner** died in November of 2008. **Valerie Skinner** died a few months later in April of 2009. They met at Ball State University in the 1950s and were married for more than 50 years.

In the 1970s, Paul and Valerie helped to launch the Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences into the high national ranking that has been awarded to its programs.

Paul became the first Head of the (then) new Department of Speech & Hearing Sciences in 1970. He attracted funding from many outside resources, including the United States Department of Education, the Rehabilitation Services Administration, the National Science Foundation and the National Institutes of Health. Among the most lasting of those early contributions are hearing test suites that are still in use 40 years after they were acquired.

The joint contributions made by Paul and Val to Speech, Language and

Hearing Sciences began by recruiting faculty members who went on to lead the professions of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, by bringing local and national resources to the University and the mission of the Department, and University. Val and Paul were inseparable in the mission of faculty recruitment.

Paul represented the University and negotiated favorable situations for new recruits. Offices of the President, Provost and Vice President for Research were open to new recruits of the University as part of the hiring process. Valerie helped to find homes, usually in the foothills of the Santa Catalina Mountains, for most new hires in the 1970s.

Those of us who were fortunate to know them remember that they were gracious hosts, thoughtful mentors and very strong community partners. Few people know that Paul was the President of the Board

of Trustees of the Tucson Symphony Orchestra in the mid-1970s. Valerie was active in promoting the Silver and Turquoise Ball, a Tucson tradition, as well as serving on the Tucson Library Board.

Paul Skinner, Richard Curlee and Gail Harris launched the American Indian Training Program in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology in the late 1970s. It became the most successful and longest running program of its type in the United States, supporting approximately 35 students through successful graduate study programs. His interests turned to diverse topics such as cultural aspects of disease and healing, which eventually led Skinner to a shift in his research interests to lifestyle, mind-body, and cognitive-behavioral disorders and diseases, and to his transfer to the College of Medicine where he served for 20 years.

*By Ted Glatke, PhD*

## Alumni

**Dennis M. Ruscello, PhD '77**, was awarded the first Alumnus of the Year in the Department of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences at the University of Arizona in 2002. He recently published *Treating Articulation and Phonological Disorders in Children*.



*L. Young-Campbell*

**Laura Young-Campbell, MS '93**, received her Master's degree from the UA as part of the Alaska-Arizona project. She has been a speech-language pathologist in the Mat-Su School District for 25 years, is a member of the Mat-Su Regional Fetal Alcohol Diagnostic Team and is a clinical supervisor for the UAA Affiliated graduate program in speech-language pathology.

In November 2008 Laura was named a Fellow of the American Speech, Language, and Hearing Association. She is on ASHA's SLP Advisory Council, is on the editorial board for ASHA's Division 16 publication, *Perspectives*, and is a member of the Executive Board for the Alaska Speech-Hearing Association. In January she began her term with ASHA's Committee on Honors and as a member of the Steering Committee for Division 16.

Laura volunteers with Special Olympics Healthy Hearing, Health Fairs and enjoys gardening, travel, and movies. In 2006 she went to China as part of the People to People International Speech and Hearing Delegation.

**Erin Anderson, BS '04**, graduated from NAU with her masters in Clinical Speech Pathology. She recently completed her externship at Tucson Medical Center and is currently completing her CFY in the Tucson Unified School District working with students on the Pasqui Yaqui reservation. She lives in Tucson with her husband. Erin participated in the El Tour de Tucson bike event the past 3 years with her husband, father, mother-in-law, brother-in-law and some friends, to raise money for Tu Nidito Children's Services. She did the 35 mile ride, and plans on doing the 63 mile in 2010.

**Shari (Moore) Murphy, BS '04** - Shari is the North American operations manager for Baby Banz, low-tech earmuffs meant to protect infants hearing. Check out *The New York Times*, March 2, 2010, *Want a Better Listener? Protect Those Ears*.

**Melanie Randall, BS '04, MS '06**, and her husband, Ben, will be celebrating their 8th wedding anniversary. They live in Oro Valley with their 2 energetic dogs. Melanie is employed full-time for Marana Unified School District at Marana High and also does the bilingual speech-language evaluations for the district. Melanie works with high schoolers with communication disorders, as well as occasional lessons with the teen moms (and soon-to-be teen moms) regarding language development and shaken baby syndrome. Melanie teaches cardio kickboxing classes and pilates/yoga classes.

## Alumni, Donors & Scholars Reception

Now in its fourth year, this event allows us to honor and thank the donors who support the department through their generosity. It also gives our students who have benefited from a scholarship the opportunity to meet with donors and scholarship benefactors who have helped sponsor their educations.

The reception which took place in the Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences building was held on Homecoming, Saturday, November, 7, 2009 and attracted many donors and alumni. The first two years we were on the mall for homecoming but realized that alumni and donors wanted to see the department and visit the labs so we moved over to the SLHS building in 2008.

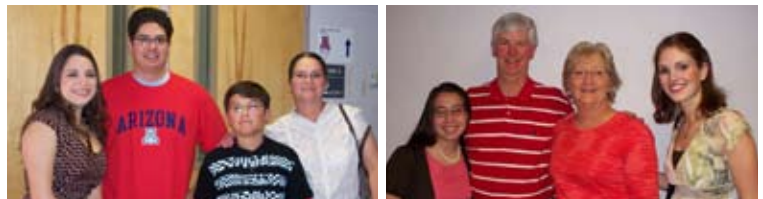
Guests were treated to refreshments and Dr. Elena Plante, head of the department, introduced the donors and their recipients. We also had tours of labs and the clinics, conducted by students and faculty.

We are continually grateful to our friends, alumni, parents, faculty, staff members and students for their generosity to the Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences.

Donations to the Department come in a variety of ways and include monetary contributions, charitable bequests, gifts-in-kind and time volunteered.

By donating to the Department our donors help to ensure that we attract and retain highly qualified candidates in speech-language pathology and audiology. Finally, donor support has been a key factor in clinical scholarships for programs for children and adults.

*To see more photos from Homecoming, go to the slhs.arizona.edu Photo Gallery*



*above left: 2009 VOCES Undergraduate Scholarship recipient Gloria Valenzuela with Guy Garcia and Her family. above right: Susan & Tom Cordell with Aileen Wong & Kim Dale (Darlene Kim unavailable)*

## Speaking of Hearing and Aging

Our hearing clinics are showing their age, and have been for a while. This comes at a time of severe budget cuts in Arizona – affecting all state agencies. As our audiology program continues to gain momentum, our clinics need to keep up, and our needs become even more apparent. Here's the reality:

### Audiological equipment replacements:

Three Audiometers: .....	\$10,000 each
Two Real Ear Systems: .....	\$10,000 each
Video Equipment: .....	\$8,000
Misc. computer equipment: .....	\$10,000

### Booth and Infrastructure Remodeling and Enhancements in Adult Clinics:

Cosmetic Improvements: .....	\$10,000
Major Remodel .....	\$350,000

Our Audiology training program remains ranked in the U.S. News and World Report Top Ten. To maintain that status and to continue serving the southern Arizona community, we are making concerted efforts to acquire external funding to improve our clinics. You can help. Please consider a contribution to the Audiology Clinic Fund. Tom, Linda, Fran, Jim and Julie.



Speech, Language, & Hearing Sciences

The University of Arizona  
Department of Speech, Language, & Hearing Sciences  
PO Box 210071  
Tucson AZ 85721-0071

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**Message from the Head** *Cont. from page 3*

really think about what the future opportunities might be. A new school of Mind, Brain, and Behavior has emerged from this process. Our department is an equal partner in this school with the Department of Psychology, a new Department of Neuroscience, and the Interdisciplinary Program in Cognitive Sciences. Our department maintains its autonomy in a way that will allow us to continue our traditions of excellence in teaching, research, and community service. But we also will benefit from new partnerships with academic and research programs from three additional disciplines that are most closely aligned with our own. This will increase the range of classes we can offer our

students and strengthen the scientific research we do to advance the professions. We are truly excited about the possibilities.

Janus, the Roman god for whom the month of January is named, has two heads. One looks towards the future and the other towards the past. Because of this dual perspective, he was known as the god of gateways and doorways, and of transitions from the past to future. This idea perfectly captures this moment for our department. I hope that you will also join us in our look back in time and continue with your support as we move forward to an exciting future.

**Mailing List Update    Mailing List Update    Mailing List Update    Mailing List Update**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Maiden: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Year graduated (& degree): \_\_\_\_\_ Current Position: \_\_\_\_\_

I do not wish to receive this newsletter.  I would like to receive future newsletters electronically at:

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Leave an update for fellow alumni at [slhs.arizona.edu/?page\\_id=553](http://slhs.arizona.edu/?page_id=553)

Please return to: Speech, Language, & Hearing Sciences, The University of Arizona  
P.O. Box 210071 Tucson, AZ 85721-0071

## SAVE THE DATE

**Fourth Annual  
Anthony B. DeFeo  
Lecture**

August 27, 2010

**2010 GBC  
Workshop**

September 17, 2010

**2010 Homecoming,  
Alumni, Donors and  
Scholars Reception.**

October 23, 2010

**ACNS Conference**

January 6th and 7th, 2011.

Check our website:  
[slhs.arizona.edu](http://slhs.arizona.edu)  
for more information