

## **Katlyn Nickels, M.S.**

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

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### **EDUCATION**

University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona

**Doctor of Philosophy in Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences**

May 2023 (expected)

Minor: Cognitive Science

Advisor: Pélagie Beeson, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

The University of Texas at Dallas, Dallas, Texas

**Master of Science in Communication Disorders**

May 2019

Academic Project: “*Multiple Oral Re-Reading Treatment: An Adult Case Study*”

Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida

**Bachelor of Science in Communication Science and Disorders**

August 2016

Degree Honors: Magna Cum Laude

### **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

**Graduate Research Assistantship**

August 2021-present

*The Language and Neuroimaging Research Laboratory (Aneta Kielar, Ph.D.), University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ*

- Assisting in recruiting participants with primary progressive aphasia to participate in treatment and assessment research
- Administering phonological treatment coupled with transcranial direct current stimulation (tDCS) to adults with primary progressive aphasia
- Administering cognitive and linguistic assessments to healthy adults and adults with primary progressive aphasia
- Managing and analyzing treatment and assessment data
- Supervising undergraduate student in ongoing research projects
- Prepared, submitted, and published a manuscript examining the effects of phonological treatment on written language performance in an individual with logopenic primary progressive aphasia

**Graduate Student Research Rotation**

January 2021-May 2021

*The Language and Neuroimaging Research Laboratory (Aneta Kielar, Ph.D.), University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ*

- Developed a phonological treatment protocol aimed at remediating language ability in adults with the logopenic and nonfluent variants of primary progressive aphasia
- Administered cognitive and linguistic assessments to adults with primary progressive aphasia

**Graduate Student Research Rotation**

August 2019-present

*Aphasia Research Project (Pélagie Beeson, Ph.D., CCC-SLP), University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ*

- Administering cognitive and linguistic assessments to neurotypical adults and those with acquired neurogenic communication disorders
- Supervising undergraduate students in their contribution to ongoing research projects
- Preparing and conducting case presentations in the lab

- Conducting retrospective analyses of data from adults with acquired language impairment after stroke and adults with primary progressive aphasia

**Graduate Research Assistantship**

August 2017-May 2019

*Callier Center for Communication Disorders, Dallas, TX (Helen Kenedi, CCC-SLP; Christine Dollaghan, Ph.D., CCC-SLP)*

- Completed a retrospective case study examining Multiple Oral Rereading treatment on a single patient with deep alexia
- Assisted in the manuscript revision process for a manuscript submitted to Critical Care Nurse

**Undergraduate Research Volunteer**

August 2015-May 2016

*Neuroscience Lab (Leonard LaPointe, Ph.D., CCC-SLP), L.L. Schendel Speech and Hearing Clinic, Tallahassee, FL*

- Recruited healthy adults for participation in research aimed at investigating the impact of talking on walking
- Administered cognitive screenings to study participants

**Undergraduate Research Assistantship**

May 2015-February 2016

*Florida Center for Reading Research (Young-Suk Kim, Ph.D.), Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL*

- Collected and coded school-aged student writing samples using Curriculum Based Measurement (CBM)

**PEER-REVIEWED PRESENTATIONS**

Frazier, N., **Nickels, K.**, & Kiehl, A. (January, 2023). Neuroimaging & Computational Methods Informing Individualized Targeting of Transcranial Direct Current Stimulation (tDCS) for Treatment of Primary Progressive Aphasia. Poster presentation at the University of Arizona annual Undergraduate Biology Research Program (UBRP) Conference, Tucson, AZ.

**Nickels., K.**, Rising., K., Beeson, P., Jebahi, F., Sachs., A., & Kiehl, A. (November, 2022). Examining the Effect of a Phonological Intervention on Written Narratives in Individuals with Primary Progressive Aphasia. Technical research talk at the annual American Speech-Language-Hearing Convention, New Orleans, LA.

Sachs., A., Rising, K., **Nickels, K.**, & Beeson, P. (November, 2022). Underlying Processes Predict Narrative Performance in Aphasia/Alexia/Agaphia. Technical research talk at the annual American Speech-Language-Hearing Convention, New Orleans, LA.

Jebahi, F., **Nickels, K.**, & Kiehl, A. (November, 2022). Generative Naming in the Logopenic Variant of Primary Progressive Aphasia: The Role of Psycholinguistic Properties. Poster presentation at the annual American Speech-Language-Hearing Convention, New Orleans, LA.

**Nickels, K.**, Beeson, P., Rising, K., Jebahi, F., & Kiehl, A. (October, 2022). Treatment Outcomes Following Phonological Intervention in Nonfluent/Agrammatic Variant Primary Progressive Aphasia: A Case Study. Poster presentation at the annual Academy of Aphasia Meeting, Philadelphia, PA.

**Nickels, K.**, Beeson, P., Rising, K., Jebahi, F., Frazier, NJ., & Kiehl, A. (September, 2022). Treatment for Phonological Text Agaphia in Logopenic Variant Primary Progressive Aphasia: A Heterogeneous Case Series. Poster presentation at the annual Arizona Alzheimer's Consortium Scientific Conference, Tempe, AZ.

- Jebahi, F., **Nickels., K.**, & Kiehar, A. (May, 2022). Psycholinguistic Determinants of Naming in Logopenic Variant of Primary Progressive Aphasia. Poster presentation at the annual Clinical Aphasiology Conference, Wrightsville Beach, NC.
- Sachs., A., **Nickels., K.**, Rising., K., & Beeson, P. (November, 2021). Differential Value of the BNT and WAB Object Naming Subtest for Naming Recovery Over Time. Poster presentation at the annual American Speech-Language-Hearing Convention, Washington, D.C.
- Nickels, K.**, Rising, K., Beeson., P., & Sachs, A. (October, 2021). Exploring Predictors of Naming Ability in Primary Progressive Aphasia. Presentation at the annual Society for the Neurobiology of Language Convention. Virtual Convention.
- Sachs., A., Rising., K., Bayley, C., **Nickels., K.**, & Beeson., P. (October, 2021). The Critical Role of Phonology in Sentence-Level Writing and Reading: Evidence from Aphasia, Alexia, and Agraphia. Presentation at the annual Society for the Neurobiology of Language Convention. Virtual Convention.
- Beeson., P., Rising., K., Sachs., A., **Nickels., K.**, & Rapcsak., S. (October, 2021). Phonology, Semantics, and Speech Production Abilities Predict Naming, Reading, and Spelling in Individuals with Aphasia/Alexia/Agraphia. Presentation at the annual Society for the Neurobiology of Language Convention. Virtual Convention.
- Nickels, K.**, Beeson, P., Rising, K., & Sachs, A. (November, 2020). Long-Term Naming Recovery: Differential Value of the BNT and WAB Object Naming Subtest. Poster presentation at the annual American Speech-Language-Hearing Convention, San Diego, CA. (Poster accepted; Conference cancelled due to COVID-19).
- Nickels, K.**, Kenedi, H., & Dollaghan, C. (March, 2019). Multiple Oral Re-Reading Treatment: An Adult Case Study. Platform presentation at the annual Texas Speech-Language Hearing Association Convention, Fort Worth, TX.
- Nickels, K.**, Kenedi, H., Campbell-Vance, J., Reynolds, J., & Dollaghan, C. (November, 2019). Implementation and Analysis of a Free Water Protocol in Acute Trauma and Stroke Patients. Poster presentation at the annual American Speech-Language-Hearing Convention, Boston, MA.

### **LOCAL/INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

- Nickels, K.**, Beeson, P., Rising, K., Jebahi, F., Frazier, NJ., & Kiehar, A. (December, 2022). Treatment for Phonological Text Agraphia in Logopenic Variant Primary Progressive Aphasia: A Heterogeneous Case Series. Invited poster presentation at the annual University of Arizona 2022 Graduate Interdisciplinary Programs Student Research, Tucson, AZ.
- Nickels, K.** (May, 2022). Dissertation Prospectus: Addressing Phonological Deficit in Primary Progressive Aphasia. Oral presentation at the University of Arizona Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences Departmental Colloquium, Tucson, AZ.
- Nickels, K.** The Nature and Treatment of Primary Progressive Aphasia. (October, 2021). Invited speaker at the annual University of Arizona College of Science Galileo Circle Scholars Celebration, Tucson, AZ.

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

**Nickels, K.,** Beeson, P.M., Rising, K., Jebahi, F., & Kielar, A. (2022). Positive changes to written language following phonological treatment in logopenic variant primary progressive aphasia: Case report. *Frontiers in Human Neuroscience*, 16(1006350). doi: 10.3389/fnhum.2022.1006350

Jebahi, F., **Nickels., K.,** & Kielar, A. (2022). Predicting confrontation naming in the logopenic variant of primary progressive aphasia. medRxiv. doi:10.1101/2022.06.25.22276804

**Nickels, K.,** Beeson, P.M., Rising, K., Jebahi, F., & Kielar, A. (in preparation). Treatment outcomes following phonological intervention coupled with transcranial direct current stimulation (tDCS) in a cohort of individuals with logopenic and nonfluent primary progressive aphasia

**Nickels, K.,** et al. (in preparation). Long-term naming recovery: Differential value of the BNT and WAB object naming subtest.

## GRANT FUNDING

### **Funded**

- University of Arizona Graduate and Professional Student Council Travel Grant (\$1,000; February, 2023)
  - *The 2022 American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Annual Convention*
- University of Arizona Graduate and Professional Student Council Research and Project Grant (\$1,500; May, 2022)
  - *A Phonological Intervention for Individuals with Primary Progressive Aphasia*

### **Not Funded**

- NIH F31 – Ruth L. Kirschstein Predoctoral Individual National Research Service Award (April, 2022)
  - *Addressing Phonological Deficit in Primary Progressive Aphasia*

## AWARDS AND HONORS

<b>2022 Outstanding Research in Cognitive Science Award</b> <i>University of Arizona</i>	11/2022
<b>New Century Scholars Doctoral Scholarship</b> <i>American Speech-Language-Hearing Foundation</i>	11/2022
<b>Student Travel Award</b> <i>Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences, University of Arizona</i>	10/2022; 01/2022; 11/2021
<b>Bill Bennett Memorial Endowment</b> <i>Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences, University of Arizona</i>	08/2021
<b>Galileo Circle Scholarship</b> <i>College of Science, University Arizona</i>	03/2022; 03/2021; 04/2020
<b>William C. Jackson Scholarship</b> <i>Callier Center for Communication Disorders, The University of Texas at Dallas</i>	07/2018
<b>Graduate Student Scholarship</b> <i>School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences, The University of Texas at Dallas</i>	08/2017; 08/2018
<b>Outstanding Junior Award</b> <i>School of Communication Science and Disorders, Florida State University</i>	05/2015
<b>Florida Bright Futures Scholarship</b>	2014-2016

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**Co-Instructor**

Fall 2022

Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences, University of Arizona  
*Survey of Human Communication (Co-Instructor: Alyssa Sachs, M.S., CCC-SLP)*  
3-Unit, Lower Division Undergraduate Course with 52 Students

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the scientific study of human communication and its disorders. In addition, it provides an introduction to the professions of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology.

**Co-Instructor**

Spring 2022

Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences, University of Arizona  
*Survey of Human Communication (Co-Instructor: Alyssa Sachs, M.S., CCC-SLP)*  
3-Unit, Lower Division Undergraduate Course with 21 Students

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the scientific study of human communication and its disorders. In addition, it provides an introduction to the professions of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology.

**Co-Instructor**

Fall 2022

Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences, University of Arizona  
*Survey of Human Communication (Co-Instructor: Alyssa Sachs, M.S., CCC-SLP)*  
3-Unit, Lower Division Undergraduate Course with 75 Students

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the scientific study of human communication and its disorders. In addition, it provides an introduction to the professions of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology.

**Co-Instructor**

Spring 2021

Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences, University of Arizona  
*Survey of Human Communication (Co-Instructor: Alyssa Sachs, M.S., CCC-SLP)*  
3-Unit, Lower Division Undergraduate Course with 16 Students

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the scientific study of human communication and its disorders. In addition, it provides an introduction to the professions of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology.

Fall 2020

**Guest Lecturer**

Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences, University of Arizona  
*Survey of Human Communication (Trianna Oglivie, Ph.D., CCC-SLP)*  
Topic: Primary Progressive Aphasia and Dementia

**Graduate Teaching Assistant** Fall 2020  
Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences, University of Arizona  
*Communication Disorders I (Trianna Oglivie, Ph.D., CCC-SLP)*  
Upper Division Undergraduate Course with 63 Students

**Graduate Teaching Assistant** Spring 2020  
Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences, University of Arizona  
*Language Acquisition (Mary Alt, Ph.D., CCC-SLP)*  
Upper Division Undergraduate Course with 58 Students

**Guest Lecturer** Fall 2019  
Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences, University of Arizona  
*Survey of Human Communication (Trianna Oglivie, Ph.D., CCC-SLP)*  
Topic: Right Hemisphere Dysfunction

**Graduate Teaching Assistant** Fall 2019  
Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences, University of Arizona *Survey of*  
*Survey of Human Communication (Trianna Oglivie, Ph.D., CCC-SLP)*  
Lower Division Undergraduate Course with 77 Students

**Graduate Teaching Assistant** Spring 2019  
Department of Communication Disorders, The University of Texas at Dallas  
*Neurogenic Communication Disorders I (Helen Kenedi, M.S., CCC-SLP)*  
Graduate Course with 80 Students

**Graduate Teaching Assistant** Fall 2018  
Department of Communication Disorders, The University of Texas at Dallas  
*Motor Speech Disorders (Helen Kenedi, M.S., CCC-SLP)*  
Graduate Course with 80 Students

### CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

**Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital, Plano, TX** Spring 2019  
Graduate Speech-Language Pathology Intern  
- Provided speech, language, cognition, and swallowing evaluation and therapy services to adults and adolescents in the outpatient rehabilitation setting

**The Dallas Independent School District Project, Dallas, TX** Fall 2018  
Graduate Student Clinician  
- Conducted literacy groups for preschool-age children identified as being at risk for Developmental Language Disorder (DLD)

**Baylor University Medical Center, Dallas, TX** Summer 2018  
Graduate Student Clinician  
- Administered speech, language, and cognitive assessments to patients in the acute care setting

**Communication Learning Program, Dallas, TX** Spring 2018  
Graduate Student Clinician  
- Provided individual and group therapy services to patients with aphasia, dysarthria, and cognitive-communication deficits

- Callier Center for Communication Disorder, Dallas, TX** Spring 2018  
 Graduate Student Clinician  
 - Provided therapy services and conducted clinical evaluations for preschool- and school-age d/Dhh children
- My Possibilities, Plano, TX** Fall 2017  
 Graduate Student Clinician  
 - Provided group therapy services to adults with disabilities in the classroom setting
- Callier Center for Communication Disorder, Dallas, TX** Fall 2017  
 Graduate Student Clinician  
 - Provided therapy services and conducted clinical evaluations for preschool-age children with language delay
- Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN** Spring 2017  
 - Assisted in speech, language, cognition, and swallowing evaluations and therapy in acute care, inpatient, and outpatient rehabilitation for adult and pediatric medical populations, and in multidisciplinary clinic for patients with ALS

### LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

- Journal Reviewer** January 2018-present  
 • Assisted in the review of articles submitted to the *American Journal of Speech-Language Pathology; Neuropsychological Rehabilitation; Aphasiology; Critical Care Nurse; Neurocase; and NeuroImage: Clinical*
- President of Graduate Chapter** January 2018-May 2019  
 UT-Dallas NSSLHA Graduate Chapter, Dallas, Texas  
 • Developed and presented talks to incoming graduate students regarding the local UTD NSSLHA chapter  
 • Recruited members to the local UTD NSSLHA chapter  
 • Organized board member elections for the local UTD NSSLHA chapter  
 • Held meetings for local UTD NSSLHA board members to discuss chapter progress and implement changes  
 • Completed the local UTD NSSLHA recertification process  
 • Organized social events for students in the graduate program
- Volunteer**  
 Special Olympics, Tallahassee, Florida April 2016  
 • Performed hearing screenings and otoscopies for teams at the Special Olympics

### MEMBERSHIP, LICENSURE, AND CERTIFICATIONS

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| Academy of Aphasia (AoA), Member  | 2022-2023 |
| The Society for the Neurobiology of Language (SNL), Member                | 2021-2023 |
| The National Student Speech Language Hearing Association (NSSLHA), Member | 2017-2023 |
| Protecting Human Research Subjects: CITI Program, University of Arizona   | 2019-2023 |
| MRI Safety, University of Arizona   | 2020      |
| Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA) Certification | 2014-2023 |