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Greetings from the Newsletter Editor

This is our seventh annual department newsletter Connections. Each year we have tried to feature the wide variety of activities and achievements of our department faculty, staff, alumni, and current students. Look for several themes in our newsletter: a welcome to new members of the department, awards, professional and community service, and a goodbye. Our department is definitely a living organism that changes and grows over time.

This will be my final newsletter to edit as I am retiring in the next year. It has been a genuine pleasure to volunteer on this project because it highlights our department and reaches out to you our alumni and colleagues. Each year I am impressed by the energy and creativity that emanate from our department. Our academic and clinical faculty members are exceptionally busy with innovative research, and our students are involved, not only in their academic and clinical studies, but also numerous volunteer programs. Do people ever sleep here?

I hope that you enjoy reading this issue and will keep in touch with our department, and me, of course. If you can, please think of making a donation to our department to fund special student or faculty projects. Good luck to each of you in your professional and professional lives. You have made mine terrific.

Rosemary Lubinski, Ed.D., Professor
Newsletter Editor
cdsrosie@buffalo.edu
Greetings from the Department of Communicative Disorders and Sciences. The 2013-14 academic year was a great year of change as it was my last as the Chair, as well as the last year for my Ph.D. student, Kelly Richardson. She finished her student years working for us as a Clinic faculty member while polishing up her dissertation research on intensity perception by individuals with Parkinson’s Disease. As I step down from being Chair and move into a new chapter of a Research Leave, I am proud to send off such a talented individual to a prestigious academic department. She will carry on the UB legacy as she begins her research and teaching career at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, their flagship public university. On the Buffalo home front, the Department will be in great hands as Dr. Jeff Higginbotham moves into the Chair position. As the Associate Chair and Director of Admissions, Dr. Higginbotham has a wealth of administrative experience to use in his next three years heading up the Department.

We were joined in the Fall by the newest member of our academic faculty, Dr. Soroush Sadeghi who quickly went about setting up two very complicated laboratory stations to enable him to study balance and its disorders in animals. A big change for him, too, was the birth of his first child in December. He has had a very busy year, including teaching two classes in the Spring (Advanced Hearing Science and Research Methods for Au.D. students). Dr. Sadeghi was instrumental in carrying on Dr. Jeff Higginbotham’s tradition of having students put together conference-quality poster presentations that the Department supported to have printed on our elite on-campus sheet printer.

We also welcome to our clinical faculty, Dr. Susan Felsenfeld. Dr. Felsenfeld has a wealth of clinical and research experience in fluency and articulation disorders as well as disorders related to emotional and attentional difficulties. We look forward to her adding new dimensions to our clinical offerings.

In our Clinic, we have been joined by a new Assistant to Dr. Susan Roberts, Ms. Rachael Katz. She takes over many of the duties from our prior Business Assistant and is making good use of her Master’s degree work in Creative Writing in revamping brochures, keeping track of student clinical practicum hours, and working on budget issues with Dr. Roberts and Ms. MaryAnn Lamia Doskocz, our Department Administrator. We were aided in the Clinic by very helpful Doctor of Audiology students who greeted patients as they arrived and left. Also, we are happy to report that Ms. Gretchen Bennett will be continuing in our Department as a Clinical Assistant Professor, for now working half-time on the Tower Foundation grant aimed at training school personnel on treatment of autism. She had her second baby this past year as well so, another busy year for her!

In our main office, we were able to hire a new Department Secretary, Ms. Virginia Majewski (Jinny) in January, just in time for her to learn how to use the online application for prospective students to our Department. We are all happy to have a new staff member, our third, with a Master’s degree (this time in Library Science)! Finally, we had many students to recognize with awards this year including our Outstanding Senior, Ms. Kathleen Blackburn. Three students received the Tindle-Shupe award this year, thanks to the continuing generous support from
one of our first Ph.D. graduates, Dr. Lew Shupe. His original work with Mrs. Tindle, inspired the original award to thank Dr. Shupe for excellent care in our clinic after her larynx was removed due to cancer. Dr. Shupe's continued support for our students is gratefully appreciated. The students who received the Tindle-Shupe awards were: Anita-Lee Bjerke, Leanne Meidenbauer, and Marc Johnson. Ms. Meidenbauer also received an award for outstanding clinical achievement from the Speech and Hearing Association of Western New York. Furthermore, Ms. Amy Briggs was recognized with the Jack Weber award in Child Language Disorders. She worked for several years with Dr. Ling-Yu Guo in his Child Language Disorders laboratory collecting speech production and perception data from very young children with hearing impairment. She even pitched in to teach an undergraduate class on occasion! Two outstanding Master’s students were also recognized with the Wanda Frey Joiner award: Ms. Melissa Dauccio and Ms. Lauren Belgraier. The Wanda Frey Joiner award is associated with the support of women and children. In addition to outstanding academic achievement, both participated for over a year in the Speech Production and Perception laboratory working on acoustic signals from participants in a National Institutes of Health Study headed by Dr. Jessica Huber (2001 Alumna and Purdue University faculty member) and Dr. Elaine Stathopoulos (at UB).

The Department is looking forward to another busy year for 2014-2015, including a Comprehensive Program Review. We will also be searching for two new faculty members in the 2014-2015 year— one on the academic side of things, the other for the Clinic. We are very excited to be able to do so and continue to maintain our very high ratings, excellent students, and the creation of terrific clinicians and researchers. The support from the College of Arts and Sciences to do so is very welcomed by all faculty, students, and staff. As always, keep an eye on our website (www.wings.buffalo.edu\cds) and Facebook page. Hope to hear from you through the year.

Joan Sussman, Ph.D., Associate Professor and Department Chair
New Audiology Professor Joins Faculty

Dr. Soroush Sadeghi joined the CDS Audiology Faculty in Fall, 2013. Dr. Sadeghi received his M.D. degree from Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences in Tehran, Iran in 1997, his Ph.D. from the Department of Physiology at McGill University in 2009, and did a Post-Doctoral Fellowship from 2009-2013 at Johns Hopkins University.

Dr. Sadeghi’s primary area of interest is the vestibular system and balance. As a medical student, under supervision of Dr. Nayer Rassaian, he began investigating vestibular compensation and rehabilitation in patients with vestibular dysfunction. This led to his research on compensatory changes in the vestibular nerve and central nuclei in non-human primates under normal conditions and following vestibular lesions under the supervision of Dr. Kathleen Cullen at McGill University. He continues to collaborate with numerous researchers including Dr. Lloyd Minor (Stanford University), Dr. Jay Goldberg (University of Chicago), and Dr. Maurice Chacron (McGill University). As a Post-Doctoral Fellow, Dr. Sadeghi continued his research on the underlying cellular mechanisms mediating vestibular compensation in Dr. Elisabeth Glowatzki’s laboratory at Johns Hopkins University. His research involved the use of the in vitro patch clamp recording technique to study the synaptic properties of vestibular hair cells and afferent nerve fibers as well as the role of efferent inputs. His research has been published in nearly 20 articles in journals such as the Journal of Neurophysiology, Journal of Neuroscience, and Experimental Brain Research.

Dr. Sadeghi teaches Advanced Hearing Science, Research Methods, and Vestibular Disorders courses in the Department of Communicative Disorders and Sciences. He is married to Dr. Tara Deemyad (also an MD/PhD neuroscientist) and has a son. Dr. Sadeghi has played classical piano for about 30 years and enjoys playing as well as listening to music in his sparetime.

Dr. Susan Felsenfeld joined the Clinical Faculty in October, 2013. Prior to arriving in Buffalo, Dr. Felsenfeld was an Associate Professor at Southern Connecticut State University, a Research Associate at Haskins’s Laboratories, and a Clinical Assistant Professor at Yale University’s Child Study Center, where she served as the speech and language diagnostician for Yale’s Academic Skills Clinic. Her areas of clinical expertise include stuttering in children and adults, articulation and phonological disorders, and communication disorders associated with learning, emotional, and attentional disabilities.

Her research program has focused on investigating the role that genes may play in increasing the susceptibility for complex speech disorders, primarily stuttering. In 2007, she received a Fulbright Senior Specialist Award in Public and Global Health that enabled her to travel to Bukina Faso (in western Africa) to provide public education and to investigate the high familial rates of stuttering in that country. Dr. Felsenfeld has taught a number of classes at both the graduate and undergraduate levels, including Disorders of Articulation and Phonology, Disorders of Fluency, Phonetics, and Evidence-Based Practice for Speech-Language Pathologists. When not working, she is kept busy chasing after her two and a half year old daughter and her English bull dog.
Mrs. Virginia (Jinny) Majewski joined the department staff as Department Secretary in 2014. Jinny has been employed at the University of Buffalo for over 15 years in positions in Biological Sciences, Student Advising Services, and Microbiology. She was also a UB Employee Assistance Program (EAP) Coordinator for four years. Jinny has a Master’s Degree in Library and Information Studies from UB. She was a School Library Media Specialist for three years and an adjunct Information Technology instructor for four years at Bryant & Stratton College. Jinny says, “Education is important to me—whether I’m the teacher or the student. I’m an information junkie and need to know the ‘why’ to everything. You’re never too old to learn!” Jinny is married to Tom, has two sons Joe and Adam, and two grandsons Austin, 13 and Jaxon, 6 months. She is an avid Buffalo Bills fan, loves to garden, read, and spends lots of time with family and friends. Welcome Jinny!

New Clinic Administrator

Ms. Rachael Katz joined our Speech, Language and Hearing Clinic staff in Fall, 2013 as Clinic Administrator. She is also working with Dr. Susan Felsenfeld to develop the Language and Creative summer program for clients with language-based learning disabilities. Rachael taught at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, Summer Institute for the Gifted and the Juniper Institute for Young Writers. When not at UB, Rachael works as a teaching artist at Just Buffalo. Her fiction and poetry have been published online and in print, and she will have a chapbook out from iO Books this summer. Welcome Rachel.

New Little Addition to Our Department

On August 21st, 2013 Mrs. Gretchen Bennett, her husband Andrew, and daughter Adelaide welcomed a baby boy to their family, Robert Henry Bennett. Hooray to all the Bennetts!
Professor Salvi Receives Tinnitus Research Award

Dr. Richard Salvi, SUNY Distinguished Professor, received the Jim Snow Tinnitus Research Award from the Association for Research in Otolaryngology in February 2014. The award recognizes Dr. Salvi’s ground-breaking research on tinnitus using human brain imaging techniques as well animal models designed to investigate the neurophysiological, molecular, and neurochemical bases of Tinnitus.

Sertoma Winner

Ms. Jordan Stewart, a second year graduate Speech-Language Pathology student at UB received Sertoma's annual Communicative Disorders Scholarship. The award is funded by the Sertoma Annual Fund and is for graduate students pursing advanced degrees in audiology or speech-language pathology from institutions in the U.S. These scholarships are awarded in the spring to help offset the cost of tuition, books, and fees incurred during the following school year. Congratulations to Jordan for winning this prestigious award!

NYSSLHA Award to Dr. Salvi

Dr. Richard Salvi received the Distinguished Clinical Service Program Award at the 2014 New York State Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Inc. Conference in Saratoga, NY for a clinical service program that has contributed substantially to the clinical care of communicatively impaired individuals on a continuing basis. In 1992, Dr. Salvi, Director of the Center for Hearing and Deafness, and Dr. Alan Lockwood, Department of Neurology, started their innovative studies aimed at identifying the neural correlates of tinnitus in the brain using positron emission tomography. This research, supported by an NIH grant, revolutionized current thinking on the origins of tinnitus by shifting the aberrant neural activity from the cochlea or inner ear to the brain, a concept that is now well accepted in the scientific community.

The publicity generated by this research resulted in numerous phone calls to the Center and UB Clinic by patients wishing to be diagnosed and treated for tinnitus. At the time, there were few treatment options with the exception to Tinnitus Retraining Therapy, a sound/counseling/education technique pioneered by Dr. Pawell Jastreboff. In response to a deluge of tinnitus patients, Dr. Susan Roberts and Dr. Christina Stocking enrolled in Tinnitus Retraining Therapy courses offered by Dr. Jastreboff. Within a few years, the UB Speech and Hearing Clinic began seeing tinnitus patients and successfully
In addition, Dr. Salvi in collaboration with Drs. Roberts, Stocking, and Stecker, started the Western New York Tinnitus Support group. The UB Clinic has been called upon to participate in new clinical treatment strategies for tinnitus. The most recent clinical trial is sponsored by the National Institutes of Health, awarded to the University of Iowa, with the UB section directed by Dr. Stocking. This novel clinical trial involves vagal nerve stimulation combined with sound therapy with the goal of reorganizing the aberrant neural circuitry of the auditory cortex in an effort to suppress tinnitus.

Dr. Kim Tillery received the Distinguished Achievement Award at the 2014 New York State Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Inc. Conference in Saratoga, NY for outstanding academic, research, and clinical contributions in audiology. Dr. Tillery received her Ph.D. from the University at Buffalo in 1997. She is currently the Department Chair at The State University of New York at Fredonia. Dr. Tillery's research and clinical expertise involves the areas of Auditory Processing Disorders (APD), learning and attention deficits, specific therapy aspects of APD, and the effect of Ritalin on APD.

**SLP Student Wins SHAWNY Scholarship**

Ms. Leanne Meidenbauer was awarded the 2014 Speech-Language-Hearing Association of Western New York (SHAWNY) Scholarship. SHAWNY is a professional and educational organization whose membership includes speech-language pathologists and audiologists practicing in a wide variety of settings. Each year SHAWNY awards the scholarship to one graduate and one undergraduate student in Western New York who is working toward a degree in speech-language pathology or audiology. Leanne was a graduate student studying speech-language pathology at the University at Buffalo and graduated in May 2014. She was presented with the award at the Annual Awards Dinner on May 6, 2014. Congrats to Leanne!
Dr. Christina Stocking Invited to Copenhagen

In December, 2013, Dr. Chris Stocking was invited by the Oticon company to come to their headquarters in Copenhagen, Denmark to take part in a Master Class on Tinnitus. Dr. Stocking was one of five instructors for the course. The other faculty included practitioner/researchers from England, Scotland, the US Veteran's Administration, and a private practitioner from Minnesota.

The purpose of the class was to educate the Oticon engineers, audiologists, and product development and sales staff about tinnitus and management strategies. There were about 75 attendees from various countries. Chris had the pleasant surprise of reuniting with one of our former graduates, Jamie Westbrook, who now works for Oticon in their medical division on their bone-anchored hearing aid. She travels all over the world and would love to hear from any of her former classmates.

Dr. Stocking was also asked to spend a day with the team in charge of developing a new Oticon product, which will address the needs of tinnitus patients and support the audiologists who serve them. One of Oticon's audiologists in charge of training subsequently came to Buffalo to observe our clinical practice with tinnitus patients. UB continues to be a leader in the study of tinnitus and a role model for provision clinical services for tinnitus patients.

White Coat Ceremony May 16, 2014

The fourth annual White Coat ceremony was held on May 16, 2014 to honor the graduating Doctor of Audiology students. Special congratulations go to this year’s graduates: Jennifer Campolo, Caitlin Cooper, Lauren Doolittle, Marc Johnson, Stephanie Loccisano, Brittany Mott, Krystal Vera, and Kristine Weinert. The Student Academy of Audiology organized the event and provided refreshments for the graduates and their families.

AAA Trivia Bowl

Dr. Nancy Stecker and second year Au.D. students Katie Roberts and Alexa Ohlson were part of the winning team at the 25th Annual Siemens Trivia Bowl at the AAA Convention in Orlando, FL. Their team name was “Lions, Tigers, and bEARs, Oh My!” A monetary prize was awarded, and our name was placed on the trophy. This is the first time that UB has won the AAA Trivia Bowl, and we hope this is the start of a new tradition for UB!
Cinotti Receives SHAWNY Award

On May 6, 2014, a past alumna, as well as former faculty member of the department, received the Honor of the Association /Recognition Award from the Speech-Language and Hearing Association of Western New York (SHAWNY) for outstanding service and dedication to the fields of Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology. Ms. Terri Cinotti graduated from the University at Buffalo CDS department in 1993 and later returned as a clinical faculty member in 1996, a position she held for 17 years. She now continues her academic career as a clinical supervisor at SUNY Buffalo State and as an adjunct faculty member at SUNY Fredonia, in addition to providing services via her private practice. At the recognition ceremony, Terri attributed her honor to the many positive influences in her career such as her UB mentors, colleagues, and peers: Jack Katz, Rosemary Lubinski, Carol Sellers, Kim Tillery, Donna Ringholz, and Stephanie Verrico. Terri was grateful to be able to share the evening with family, colleagues, and friends, as well as with a former student, Leanne Meidenbauer, who received the SHAWNY Graduate Student Scholarship.

Teddy Bear Clinic Participation

On February 7, 2014, Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology graduate students from the UB Speech Language and Hearing Clinic volunteered their time at Harriman Hall to participate in the annual Teddy Bear Clinic. This event was coordinated with the “Give Kids a Smile Day,” a day of free dentistry for children who do not have access to a dentist. The event services between 700-800 Head Start children from pre-k to kindergarten, with approximately 400 volunteers from various disciplines. Clinical faculty from Communicative Disorders and Sciences supervised graduate students as they used a portable audiometer and speech materials with teddy bears to make the children feel more comfortable about hearing and speech testing.

Workshop with Hearing Evaluation Services, Inc.

On April 28-29, 2014 the University at Buffalo Au.D. students and Clinical Audiology supervisors collaborated with the audiologists at Hearing Evaluation Services for a workshop given by Steve Eagon, M.A. Audiology. Mr. Eagon is the Director of Learning and Development at the Sonova Group. The focus of the workshop was to mentor students not to fear selling hearing aids and how to motivate patients to move forward with hearing aids. Over the course of two days, UB students developed a business mindset within a clinical dispensing program. Current trends in hearing aid marketing were discussed as well as the “art of selling” within the clinical audiology setting.
The workshop benefitted students in developing proactive patient interviewing skills, new strategies in explaining test results and presenting hearing aids as a solution. The photo shows Mr. Eagon with his co-worker Christa Coore-Powell and three HES audiologists.

**Amplification CEU Workshop**

Douglas Beck, Au.D. gave a workshop entitled *Issues in Audiology and Amplification-2014* organized by the University at Buffalo Department of Communicative Disorders and Sciences. Dr. Beck earned his Master’s Degree at the University of Buffalo and his doctorate from the University of Florida at Gainesville. He currently serves as the American Academy of Audiology’s Web Content Editor and works for Oticon, Inc as the director of professional relations. The workshop discussed the problems with basic audiograms and how analyzing pure tone audiometry and word recognition scores in quiet and in noise can relate to amplification outcomes. Dr. Beck explained the benefits and limitations of hearing aid features and how they can impact hearing aid fitting satisfaction and optimum outcomes. Evidence based practice and current peer reviewed publications were discussed.

**Cochlear Implant Presentation**

Dr. JoAnn Hammer collaborated with Mrs. Michelle Dube, M.S. Ed, CCC-A in a workshop entitled *Update on Cochlear Implants and Bone Anchored Hearing Aids: New Developments in Candidacy, Technology, and Outcomes* held at Buffalo Hearing and Speech Center. The workshop discussed changes in candidacy for cochlear implant and BAHA devices and the most recent technological advancements in new speech processors recently released by manufacturers. Dr. Hammer reviewed possible outcomes for patients with these devices and strategies to increase success. Over 80 speech-language pathologists, audiologists, and educators attended the workshop. Interdisciplinary team case studies and videos were presented, and the team collaborated to plan case management and outcome goals.

**Gretchen Bennett Presents at NYSSLHA Annual Convention**

This year Ms. Gretchen Bennett, Clinical Assistant Professor in the UB Speech, Language, and Hearing Clinic presented a program on the *Evaluation and Treatment of Adolescents and Young Adults with Pragmatic Language Disorders* at NYSSLHA’s Annual Convention in Saratoga Spring, NY. The session discussed specific informal and formal evaluation methods to assess pragmatic skills and to develop valuable treatment plans. Treatment areas, intervention strategies, and practical therapy ideas were also shared and demonstrated.
Laryngectomy Conference

The Communicative Disorders and Sciences division of the Graduate Student Association organized a conference that was held on April 11, 2014 entitled Vocal and Pulmonary Rehabilitation Following Total Laryngectomy: Trends and Practice Patterns. Lindsey Lambert, a speech-language pathologist from ATOS Medical presented on new technologies being used to facilitate communication after a laryngectomy. Following the presentation, members from the New Voice Club of the Niagara Frontier shared their experiences with various laryngectomy technologies and the communication methods they use. This conference received approval from ASHA to be offered to externship supervisors for .2 ASHA continuing education credits to thank them for all of the time and effort they put in teaching graduate clinicians.

GSA Sponsors Pasta Dinner

The Communicative Disorders and Sciences chapter of the University at Buffalo’s Graduate Student Association (GSA) is proud to announce the success of the Pasta Dinner fundraising event, held on Sunday, March 30, 2014 at the University at Buffalo’s Harriman Hall. The GSA was able to raise enough money to donate a significant portion of the proceeds to the not-for-profit international charity, Operation Smile. Operation Smile strives to provide safe, effective reconstructive surgery, and related medical care to children born with facial deformities such as cleft lip and palate. Operation Smile has provided free healthcare evaluations for more than 3.5 million patients and free reconstructive surgeries to more than 200,000 children and young adults since the organization’s founding in 1982. The GSA recognizes the importance of surgical intervention and reconstruction for children born with cleft lip and palate, particularly in speech and language abilities. The Pasta Dinner fundraising event would not have been possible without the hard work and help of the GSA members, the generous community donors, and the dinner patrons who made the event a great success.

Student Academy of Audiology Annual Pasta Dinner

The University at Buffalo’s Student Academy of Audiology (SAA) held the Annual Pasta Dinner and Fundraiser on April 29, 2014. The event was held their Hearing Evaluation Services to benefit the Dr. Ann Stadelmaier Foundation which funds hearing aids for patients who are unable to afford them. Dr. Stadelmaier was a UB Alumna and former executive
director of Hearing Evaluation Services who passed away after a long battle with cancer. The Annual Pasta Dinner is a fundraiser held every year to raise money for the fund and to bring community members together. UB students also collected donations for the Dr. Ann Stadelmaier Foundation.

Student Academy of Audiology and UB Alumni Happy Hour
SAA hosted their annual Alumni Happy Hour at the American Academy of Audiology convention in Orlando, FL in April, 2014. The event was attended by former graduates and faculty of UB as pictured above as well as current students and faculty.

Beijing Summer Audiology Clinic Training Program June 2014
In collaboration with the General Hospital of PLA in Beijing, the CDS department participated for the second year in an audiology clinic training and research program. Six students and four faculty members traveled to Beijing this June. This is the second year our students and faculty have traveled to Beijing for this unique learning opportunity. While in Beijing, the group also traveled to Taiyan to the Second Sino-US Audiology Training Program Conference. Drs. Sun, Stecker, and Stocking presented papers at the conference.
Au.D. Students Assist at Special Olympics New York Winter Games

On Saturday, February 22, 2014, the second day of the Special Olympics New York Winter Games 2014 was in full motion at The Oncenter in Syracuse New York. On this bright and sunny day, several health practitioners offered a variety of health screenings to the competitors that included free eye exams to free fitness screenings. In the spirit of Healthy Hearing, the members of The University at Buffalo chapter of the Student Academy of Audiology joined in the festivities and offered free hearing screenings. Co-President Vanessa Rogers stated, “We performed otoscopy, tympanograms, otoacoustic emissions, and pure tone screenings on all of the athletes! We had a large group of UB Au.D. students who participated in the event. Overall, the event was a great success. Every year we participate in the Special Olympics, and we plan to participate in the Summer Special Olympics in Buffalo in July!”

Wellness Fair Volunteer

Julia Murak, Au.D. student volunteered at the 2014 Wellness Fair at Williamsville South High School. Pictured with her is Stephanie Verrico, MA who is a UB graduate, a speech-language pathologist in the Williamsville schools, and an adjunct clinical instructor in the CDS Department.

SLP Student Authors Article

Noel Shafi, a second year MA student in Speech-Language Pathology recently co-authored an article entitled Collaborative Models of Practice with Hugo Segura. The article, published in Advance, a free E-newsletter, focuses on the variety of interprofessional collaborative models of practice available in various clinical settings. The article can be found at http://speech-language-pathology-audiology.advanceweb.com/Features/Articles/Collaborative-Models-of-Practice.aspx.

Au.D. 2014 Student Research Day

The Au.D. Student Research Day was held on May 2, 2014. The Au.D. Research Day is an annual event for audiology students to present their research projects using podium and poster formats. This year, seven third-year Au.D. students, two second-year Au.D. students, and one Ph.D. student presented their research projects in the podium session. These projects cover a wide range of hearing-related disorders, including hearing loss, tinnitus, hyperacusis, and Parkinson’s disease. In these research studies, the students examined the impact of hearing disorders on patients and explored novel methods for...
evaluation of these disorders. Several studies used animal models to investigate the biological bases of hearing disorders. The research projects presented in the podium session include:

- Madeline Vojak and Nicolle Arcara: Parkinson's Disease and Hyperacusis; An Association Study.
- Emily Henderson: Long-term follow-up of tinnitus patients.
- Alyssa Beaton: Examining Speech Perception Abilities in Individuals with Hearing Impairment Comparing Quick-SIN scores and the Adaptive Speech Recognition Test (ASRT). Supported in part by Dr. Joe Bochner, Professor and Chair of the Department of Cultural and Creative Studies at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf at the Rochester Institute of Technology.
- Matthew Johnson and Kathryn Roberts: The impact of salicylate-induced hearing loss on temporal integration in rats.
- Adam Sheppard: Maxipost, a potassium channel opener, demonstrates high-frequency protection against salicylate-induced ototoxicity.
- Morganne Lawrence: Using the startle reflex as a non-invasive method for observing the adaptive plasticity of loudness in animals.
- Lindsey Quenville: Long-term stability of the acoustic startle reflex in sprague-dawley rats.

In addition to the podium session, the first-year Au.D. students presented the posters illustrating their proposed research projects. Audiology and speech faculty members mentored and also participated in the Research Day. Previously, Master's students in SLP had their own Research Day events at the end of the Fall semester in the UB Speech, Language, and Hearing Clinic.

### Alumni in Washington, DC Area

In the past few years, a number of our graduates in speech-language pathology have taken clinical and supervisory positions in the Washington, DC and the Fairfax County Virginia Public Schools. Read about their professional lives in this dynamic area.

**Hello from Alethea Chew**

*After I graduated from the University at Buffalo (UB) in 2004, I moved to Fairfax County in Northern Virginia, near Washington DC. I completed my Clinical Fellowship Year with Fairfax County Public Schools, which is also Virginia's largest school system. I continue to work in this school district with students in preschool, elementary school, middle school, and high school. My students come from many culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. As I conduct bilingual dynamic assessments across the county, I have managed to put my Mandarin Chinese skills (which I learned growing up in my native country of Singapore) to good use. In addition, I have had opportunities to work with students who have a wide range of disabilities, some of whom use AAC extensively. My Communication Disorders Program Manager commented that she is always grateful to work with us UB graduates; as she knows we hit the ground running from Day 1 on the job! In the midst of my career development as an SLP, I got married in Buffalo to my husband, Matthew. We now have two lovely and lively children - a six year-old daughter, Mariel, and 4-year-old son, Andrew.*

**UB Graduate Follows in his Mother's Footsteps**

Geoffrey Greenman, son of Ms. Carol Sellers, a Clinical Assistant Professor in the UB Speech, Language and Hearing Clinic, is a clinical supervisor in the Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences at The George Washington University in Washington, continued >
Currently, Geoffrey provides supervision to first year master’s degree students in the areas of accent modification and literacy.

Each year, Geoffrey partners with a non-profit organization called The Literacy Lab that provides literacy services to high-needs children in the District of Columbia Public Schools. Specifically, clinicians under Geoffrey’s supervision provide literacy services to students in grades K-3 in Southeast, D.C. The literacy services focus on improving students’ phonological awareness and phonics skills. Accent modification services are provided to area professionals as well as George Washington University faculty and students. Accent modification services improve clients’ production of Standard American English stress, intonation, articulation, and grammar skills. Additionally, in collaboration with The George Washington University Medical School’s International Medical Program, graduate clinicians under Geoffrey’s supervision participate in an annual 2-day accent modification workshop for international medical fellows from Saudi Arabia.

**Viola Employed by National Rehabilitation Hospital**

On August 12, 2013, Lauren Viola (MA, 2013) began her Clinical Fellowship at MedStar National Rehabilitation Hospital in Washington, DC. The staff helped Lauren feel right at home in a supportive environment of 20+ unbelievably knowledgeable SLPs.

The Speech-Pathology service is split between outpatient and inpatient therapists, and Lauren currently works full-time on the outpatient team. Working alongside seven other seasoned outpatient clinicians, days are spent seeing a wide variety of diagnoses and etiologies. Most of her patients have sustained CVAs, TBIs, concussions, and brain tumor resections. Ages of patients typically span from early 20s to mid 80s. Treatment sessions are diverse, ranging from motor speech drills, dysphagia management, aphasia therapy (reading, writing, expressive/receptive language), AAC, cognitive-communication skills, counseling, and return to work/community. Lauren says that “Each day is a novelty and a new learning experience. Seeing patients on such a continuum of deficits and impairments is a constant reminder of just how precious the gift of communication is.”
Department Contribution

If you would like to donate to the Teaching, Service, and Research missions of the Department of Communicative Disorders and Sciences, please visit our website (www.wings.buffalo.edu/cds) and look for the “Donate Now” button. Your contributions help to maintain our outstanding programs and are much appreciated.