



Speech and Hearing Sciences

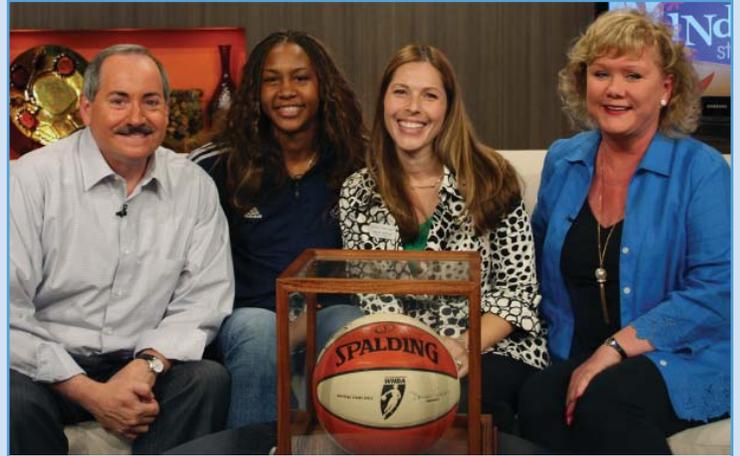
UNC Alumni Making a Difference: Naomi Huber Horton ('02)

In May of 2002, I graduated from UNC Chapel Hill (MS/SLP) with a focus in pediatric aural rehabilitation. Eager to begin working with children and their families, I opened my own business, Horton Hears LLC, in 2003 in Crawfordsville, Indiana. Through Horton Hears, I provided listening and spoken language therapy to infants, toddlers, and school age children with hearing loss. I also saw how time and time again the "systems" were failing my clients and their families.

Indiana's early intervention program was refusing to pay for Spanish interpreters for my therapy, and as a result, those children on my caseload were quickly falling behind. Clearly the powers that be in Indiana had never taken a course with Dr. Crais, or they would have known that an early interventionist's job is to encourage parents to be the teachers.

School-age services were not much better. School districts were rarely providing auditory verbal therapy and current FM technology to my clients. The stories piled up, and finally in 2008 I decided to dedicate my time to promoting systems change in Indiana. To this end, I joined the board of directors for Hear Indiana, a chapter of the Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (AG Bell). It quickly became apparent to our board that in order to make significant progress, we needed to hire an executive director. But with an annual operating budget of \$25,000, how could Hear Indiana make that happen?

A start-up grant from the Lilly Endowment enabled Hear Indiana to hire me to launch AG Bell's Hear from the Start, Talk for a Lifetime Campaign. The start-up grant quickly paid dividends. In 2011, we raised \$55,000 and had 700 attendees at the 8th Annual Talk Walk Run (5K). We now have over 4,000 individuals and organizations in our database. Our programs, which encompass advocacy, parent support, a week-long camp, and an annual conference, directly assist over 300 individuals, including children with hearing loss, deaf and hard of hearing adults, and the professionals who serve them. In the last four years our operating budget quadrupled, and the recent demand for our services permitted the hiring of an administrative assistant, an intern, and a development director.



Pictured from left, WISH-TV anchor Dave Barras, Tamika Catchings, hard of hearing WNBA All-Star with the Indiana Fever, Naomi Huber Horton ('02), and WISH-TV Ancho Patty Spitzer. Horton and Catchings appeared on WISH-TV to promote a Hear Indiana social outing with the Indiana Fever.

We have made great strides, but sadly, many of our schools are still falling short of providing a free and appropriate public education for deaf students who use hearing and speech for communication. On July 27, 2011, the need to increase Indiana's budget for deaf education was discussed on the front page of *The New York Times*. As I stated in that article: "No one wants to take the American Sign Language option away; we simply want to see that parents who choose listening and spoken language instruction (over placement at the Indiana School for the Deaf) have equal access to a free and appropriate public education."

Naturally I miss providing therapy, but I go to work every day for Hear Indiana because I believe all parents deserve the right to choose the communication mode that best fits their family, and that all families regardless of their socioeconomic status should have access to their choice. For more information visit our Facebook Cause: Doing Deaf Differently.

—Naomi Huber Horton ('02)

New Personnel Preparation Grants for UNC Speech and Hearing Science Students

Preparing Occupational Therapists and Speech-Language Pathologists for Working with Young Children with Autism and Their Families. U.S. Department of Education, Elizabeth R. Crais, Project Director, Grace Baranek & Linda Watson, Co-Directors. Interdisciplinary master's preparation, 2009-2013.

Preparing Speech-Language Pathologists and Occupational Therapists for Working in Teams: Focus on High-Need Socioculturally Diverse Children. U.S. Department of Education, Elizabeth R. Crais, Project Director, Cara McComish & Ruth Humphry, Co-Directors. Interdisciplinary master's preparation, 2012-2015.

Preparation of Pediatric Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists to Serve Infants, Toddlers, and School-Age Children with Hearing Loss. U.S. Department of Education. Jackson Roush and Melody Harrison (Co-Directors). Interdisciplinary preparation for students in audiology (AuD) and speech-language pathology (MS), 2011-2014.

Preparing Professionals for Leadership Roles in Translational Research Focused on Children with Disabilities Including High Need Children. U.S. Department of Education. Elizabeth R. Crais (Director) & Harriet Able, Ph.D. (Co-Director). Interdisciplinary doctoral preparation, 2011-2014.



2012 DAVID E. YODER SYMPOSIUM

Supporting the Families' Role in Family Guided Routines Based Intervention

Dr. Juliann Woods, PhD, CCC-SLP, Professor in the School of Communication Science and Disorders at Florida State University and Director of the Communication and Early Childhood Research and Practice Center, will be the featured speaker for the 2012 David E. Yoder Symposium on March 16, 2012, in Chapel Hill.

The full-day workshop will present strategies that service providers can use to enhance the family role during the assessment process as a foundation for their active participation in assessment and intervention. Developing routines with the family that are flexible and dynamic and yet intentionally embed intervention to promote maximum child learning will be illustrated with video examples. The use of adult learning principles and problem solving practices will be discussed and modeled throughout the training to increase the familiarity of the participants' knowledge and application of these theories to enhance the involvement of diverse caregivers. Finally, a model of consultation that focuses on the interaction between the caregiver and the child will be illustrated for use in routine based assessment and interventions. Participants can earn 0.7 ASHA CEUs (Intermediate level, Professional area).

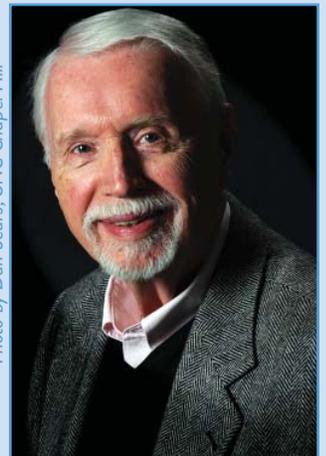
Woods has over 40 years of experience designing and implementing early intervention for children and families, developing model programs, and conducting research with young children and their families including work with families in rural, resource-limited areas, and with families living in poverty. She is recognized for her research in family guided routines based intervention (FGRBI), an approach that supports caregiver's implementation of intervention within their preferred activities and routines throughout the day.

The Division of Speech of Hearing Sciences hosts the Yoder Symposium every two years to honor Professor Emeritus David E. Yoder. Dr. Yoder served as Chair of the Department of Allied Health Sciences at UNC Chapel Hill from 1986-2000. In 1988 he and David Koppenhaver co-founded the Center for Literacy and Disability Studies. In 2000, Dr. Yoder retired from the University and became the Executive Director of the Council for Allied Health in North Carolina from which he retired in 2007.

For more information and to register, visit www.med.unc.edu/ahs/sphs/yoder-symposium. Early registration ends February 28, 2012.



Juliann Woods, PhD



UNC Professor Emeritus
David E. Yoder

Photo by Dan Sears, UNC Chapel Hill

North Carolina Hosts National Conference on EHDI

Over 400 attendees from across the U.S. gathered in Raleigh, NC, October 26-28, for "EHDI: Partnering for Progress." EHDI, an acronym for Early Hearing Detection and Intervention, refers to the broad spectrum of systems and services needed to enable newborn hearing screening, diagnosis, and treatment for congenital and early onset hearing loss.

Hosted by UNC Chapel Hill in cooperation with the National Center for Hearing Assessment and Management (NCHAM) at Utah State University with support from the U.S. Maternal and Child Health Bureau, the meeting combined three conferences: UNC's fifth "Biennial Pediatric Audiology Symposium," the sixth annual "Investing in Family Support Conference," sponsored by NCHAM, and the fourth annual "Southeastern EHDI Conference," sponsored by eight southeastern public health programs.

Those in attendance included professionals and parent leaders from across the U.S. and nearly 100 graduate students from 14 states and the District of Columbia. Many of the student participants were LEND (Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities) trainees who received travel grants from AUCD (Association of University Centers on Disabilities); others had funding from their universities or other sources.

"Combining the conferences enhanced all three meetings while providing valuable opportunities for interdisciplinary interaction and networking," said Jack Roush, conference planning committee

member and UNC Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences Director and Professor.

"The synergy and excitement created by bringing together audiologists, EHDI program staff, graduate students, and families was very valuable," said NCHAM director Karl White. "Participants left the meeting with great ideas, as well as new partners to help in implementing those ideas."



Audiology students from UNC and from across the U.S. traveled to North Carolina in October to participate in EHDI: Partnering for Progress.