From the Director

On May 12, we celebrated three cohorts of new UNC graduates including 26 from our MS/SLP degree program, eight from the AuD program, and three PhDs. I’m pleased to report that most had accepted offers of employment at the time of graduation and all were faced with excellent prospects. I am also pleased to share that the latest national rankings of graduate programs in audiology and speech-language pathology programs conducted by U.S. News and World Report and published in April, 2012, were again highly favorable. Both programs were ranked among the top 10% in the U.S. with audiology moving up from 6th to 3rd (out of 78 programs) and SLP from 18th to 11th (out of 229 programs).

Our success depends in large part on recruiting the best and brightest students to Carolina. This requires funding from a variety of sources including federally funded training grants. We are proud of the success we’ve had in obtaining these grants, but not all students who apply to our program are interested in the areas of specialization targeted by these grants. Thus, our individual student scholarships, funded largely by alumni and friends, are essential to the recruiting process. Moreover, they provide vital assistance to deserving students.

This issue of the newsletter highlights the scholarships we awarded this year and the outstanding students who received them. To those who made these scholarships possible I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude on behalf of our program. Your support has never been more important. I would invite others to consider the possibility of creating a student scholarship in your name, or named in honor of a family member, friend, or mentor. For further information, feel free to contact me by phone at 919-966-9467 or e-mail irroush@med.unc.edu, or you can contact our Director of Development, Kyle Gray, at 919-966-3352 or e-mail kyle_gray@med.unc.edu.

Best wishes for a relaxing and enjoyable summer.

Jackson Roush, PhD
Director, Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences

Contributing Friends

We would like to thank the following individuals for their contributions from April 28, 2011 to May 30, 2012 to the Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences. The generosity of our donors helps us provide the educational resources needed to maintain the excellence of our program.

Audiology Alumni Scholarship
Janna Michelle Ajam
Chanel Andree Coleman
Alison W. Cleland
Mary Lou Buckler Dovantzis
Pamela Williams Halligan
Jack Joseph Hitchens
Adam Patrick Jacks
Lori Leibold
Renee M. McClelland
Nancy R. McKenna
Martha R. Mundy
Kelly Reace Murphy
Amanda Teresa ODonnell
Ellen Joan Pearce
Caitlin Rawn
Ann McKinley Rothpletz
Stephanie J. Soblad
Laurel Elizabeth Thompson
Samuel Frederick Vaught
Sharon W. Williams
Ellen Rosser Wilson
Robert David Wolford Jr.
Annette Maria Zeman

Adult Communications Disorders Annual Scholarship
Amy Chaney Heffern
John Adrian Heffern
Charlotte Leonard Holmes

Program in Early Autism Research Leadership and Service (PEARLS) Advancement Fund
Gregg Ireland
Lori Ireland
Ireland Family Foundation

Dr. Sylvia Campbell Speech and Hearing Sciences Annual Scholarship
Gary V. Campbell

Diversity Scholarship in Speech-Language Pathology Annual Scholarship
Georgia Hobbs Campbell
W. Stanley Campbell
Ming-Chen Chuang
Marilyn Little Johnson
Linda Ritchie Watson
Joel Watson

Norman and Nevada Pierce Annual Scholarship
Charles Caldwell
Patsy Luann Pierce
Kristin Marie Nellenbach
Linda Ritchie Watson
Joel Watson
UNC Chapel Hill Center for Literacy and Disability Studies staff and faculty

FIRST YEARS Advancement Fund
Radford University
SC School for the Deaf & Blind

Janice Rebecca Pettie Bowles Speech and Hearing Sciences Annual Scholarship
Lauren Peyton Graves
Albert J. Pettle

The David E. Yoder Symposium Endowment Fund
Lisa Diane Amundson
William Martin Walker
David E. Yoder

Robert W. Peters Award Fund
Donald R. Abramson
Ming-Chen Chuang
Margaret Lane DeRamus
Susan Mahanes Evans
Elizabeth Hughes Hall
Joseph Walton Hall III
Adam Patrick Jacks
Bobbie Boyd Lukber
John L. Lukber
Robert Huston McClurkin
Elizabeth Ann Poth
Laura Elizabeth Ward

Speech & Hearing Sciences Advancement Fund
Anonymous
Jean Wheeler Allman
John Andrew Baumann
Patricia Burke Baumann
Maureen Maney Boner
Michael Lynn Boner
Vonde Cherry Caden
Charles Caldwell
Gary V. Campbell
Georgia Hobbs Campbell
Sylvia Sullins Campbell
W. Stanley Campbell
Laura Coulter Caudle
Jessica Lynn Cobble
James L. Copeland
Susan Ashworth Dumbacher
Meghan Durham-Wall
Catherine Torrington Eaton
Kathryn Whittington
Enchelmayer
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Evon G. Good
Elizabeth Baskervill Goodman
Ellen and Jon Greif
Amy Elizabeth Haines
Pamela Williams Halligan
Janet Leigh Harrell
Virginia A. Hinton
Charlotte Leonard Holmes
Linda Franklin Hube
Marlene Hyman
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M. Patricia Walter-Stephan
Laurel Elizabeth Ward
Susan Seagroves Watson
Kimberly Watts Wideman
Kristina Dawn Wilson
Barbara Wolfe
Bonnie Conway Wright

Aphasia Clinical Services Fund
Amy Chaney Heffern
John Adrian Heffern

Organizations:
American Academy of Audiology
California Pizza Kitchen, Inc.
First Friends Meeting
North Carolina Eye, Ear, Nose & Throat

Thank you for your generous support!
Diversity Scholarship in Speech-Language Pathology

Camille LaVette Walton of Alpharetta, Georgia, received the Diversity Scholarship in Speech-Language Pathology, which seeks to increase the number of students from underrepresented groups pursuing a master's degree in SLP. The purpose of this fund is two-fold: 1) to increase the racial, ethnic, linguistic, and gender diversity of the SLP program by providing scholarships to students; and 2) to support recruitment activities aimed at attracting individuals from underrepresented groups to academic programs offered by the Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences.

Rebecca Rule Womble Speech and Hearing Sciences Annual Scholarship

Christina Eugenia Bravo of Cary, NC received the Rebecca Rule Womble Speech and Hearing Sciences Annual Scholarship for the 2011-12 academic year. The scholarship was established through the generosity of George Womble ('68) in honor of his wife Rebecca Rule Womble who graduated with a MS in Speech-Language Pathology in 1972 from the UNC Chapel Hill Division of Speech Hearing Sciences. The scholarship will be awarded to another deserving student for the 2012-13 academic year.

Janice Rebecca Pettie Bowles Speech and Hearing Sciences Annual Scholarship

Alisha Rose Harron of Cape May, New Jersey, received the Janice Rebecca Pettie Bowles Speech and Hearing Sciences Annual Scholarship. The scholarship was established through the generosity of Lauren Peyton Graves (MS '05) to honor the memory of her aunt, Janice Rebecca Pettie Bowles, and continue Ms. Bowles’ legacy of dedication and love for teaching children.

Adult Communications Disorders Annual Scholarship

Sarah Salisbury Persia of Winston-Salem, NC, received the Adult Communications Disorders Annual Scholarship. Established through the generosity of Amy Chaney Heffern ('86) and John Heffern ('83), this scholarship rewards students interested in any aspect of adult communication disorders. Amy received her BA in 1984 and MS in speech and hearing sciences in 1986, and John received a BA in economics in 1983 and an MBA from the Kenan-Flager Business School in 1988.

Robert W. Peters Award

Alexandra Jeannine Cornejo of Chapel Hill, NC, received the Robert W. Peters Award, which recognizes students who have demonstrated excellence in research. The award is named in honor of the late Robert W. Peters, who joined the faculty of UNC Chapel Hill in 1969 and founded the Institute of Speech and Hearing Sciences, which later became the Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences. He chaired the program until 1981 and taught coursework in psychoacoustics, fluency disorders, and research design.

Dr. Sylvia Campbell Speech and Hearing Sciences Annual Scholarship

Ann Marie Bartholomew of Raleigh, NC, received the Dr. Sylvia Campbell Speech and Hearing Sciences Annual Scholarship. The scholarship was established through the generosity of Gary Campbell in honor of his wife, Sylvia, who earned her MS in Speech and Hearing Sciences and MS in Audiology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1974 and 1977, respectively, and a PhD in Speech and Hearing Sciences in 1993 from the University of Maryland, College Park. Dr. Campbell is an active member of ASHA and was awarded the Certificate of Clinical Competence in 1974.

Audiology Alumni Annual Scholarship

Cecil Grey Yeatts III of Richmond, Virginia, received the Audiology Alumni Annual Scholarship. More than 30 alumni and faculty members responded to the call to create the Division’s first AuD Annual Scholarship. Their gifts have been matched dollar-for-dollar through other contributions to the Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences Advancement Fund. The new audiology scholarship will be offered for the 2011-12 and 2012-13 academic years and will help ensure that our AuD program (which has risen to #3 in the most recent U.S. News and World Report rankings) has the resources it needs to maintain its record of excellence, attract the best applicants, and provide students with the best educational opportunities.
UNC Hospitals Volunteer Association’s Allied Health Sciences Fellowships

Carly Elizabeth Dragan of Cheshire, Conn., and Kaitlyn Theresa Mortimer ofMillis, Mass., were two of the four recipients of the 2011-12 UNC Hospitals Volunteer Association’s Allied Health Sciences Fellowships. Made possible by a generous gift from the UNC Hospitals Volunteer Association, the fellowships are awarded to deserving allied health students who, in addition to having financial need and scholastic ability, exhibit characteristics of emerging professional excellence.

June C. Allcott Fellowships

Sarah Lynette Ladd of Wilson, NC, received one of three June C. Allcott Fellowships awarded for 2011-12. In her life (1916-1996) June C. Allcott was a gardener of friendships. She explored the world as a traveler, weaver of baskets, culinary adventurer, designer of jewelry and clothes, guidance counselor at the University of North Carolina, computer explorer, music and art lover, and friend. June Allcott helped students expand their potential at UNC and make career choices. She had a particular place in her heart for those interested in the health fields. Fellowships are awarded for students who demonstrate exemplary, ongoing, and new community service.

Norman and Nevada Pierce Annual Scholarship

Erica Janae Miller of Gastonia, NC, became the first recipient of the Norman and Nevada Pierce Annual Scholarship, made possible through the generosity of the Center for Literacy and Disability Studies (CLDS) and the Pierce family. Norman and Nevada Pierce were staunch advocates of higher education and produced three first-generation college completers: Sharon Pierce Culpepper, special and regular education teacher; Jeffrey Pierce, MD, traumatic brain injury specialist; and Patsy Pierce, PhD, CCC-SLP. Patsy was one of the original researchers at the CLDS and is a former faculty member in the Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences.


2012 David E. Yoder Symposium

The Division of Speech of Hearing Sciences hosted the 2012 David E. Yoder Symposium on March 16 at Extraordinary Ventures in Chapel Hill. Juliann Woods, PhD, CCC-SLP, Professor, Communication Science and Disorders, Florida State University, led the all-day session, titled “Supporting the Families’ Role in Family Guided Routines Based Intervention.” The UNC Chapel Hill Division of Speech of Hearing Sciences hosts the Yoder Symposium every two years to honor Professor Emeritus David E. Yoder.

Pictured on cover: From left: Sharon Wallace Williams, PhD, CCC-A, UNC Assistant Professor of Audiology; Betsy Crats, PhD, UNC Professor of Speech-Language Pathology; Karen Erickson, PhD, Yoder Distinguished Professor of Literacy and Disability Studies, Director of UNC Chapel Hill Center for Literacy & Disability Studies; David E. Yoder, PhD, UNC Professor Emeritus; 2012 Yoder Symposium Scholar Juliann Woods, PhD, CCC-SLP; and Lee McLean, PhD, Associate Dean and Chair, UNC Department of Allied Health Sciences.

Fourth PhD Grad Wins Impact Award

Kristin Nellenbach, PhD, (’10) recently became the fourth Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences doctoral program alumna to win the Graduate Education Advancement Board (GEAB) Impact Award. Established in 2003, the Impact Award recognizes outstanding graduate students whose research covers a variety of areas, including education, the environment, economic development, health, and public administration.

UNC Speech and Hearing Sciences alumni Sally Clendenon, PhD, (’06), Elizabeth Lanter, PhD, (’09), and Penny Hatch, PhD, (’09) had previously received the award for their research.

Nellenbach, a practicing speech and language pathologist, studied how various factors influence early adolescents’ silent reading comprehension abilities. To read more about Nellenbach’s research, visit http://gradschool.unc.edu/student/awards/impact/2012.html.

AuD Grad / PhD Student Awarded Competitive NIH Fellowship

Sara Mamo, a 2008 graduate of the AuD program and a current PhD student in the Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences, has been awarded an F32 postdoctoral fellowship by the National Institutes of Health. Her research, titled “Electrophysiological and Psychophysical Measures of Auditory Temporal Processing,” will be conducted in the lab of Dr. John Grose, Department of Otolaryngology, under his mentorship.

Mamo’s research project will focus on temporal processing of speech and other complex sounds in young and older adults with normal hearing. Many older adults have increased difficulty understanding speech in noisy backgrounds, independently of hearing loss, and age-related deficits in temporal processing have been associated with poorer performance on speech perception measures in older adults. This project combines objective and subjective measures of temporal processing to try and understand the underlying neural mechanisms that contribute to speech perception difficulties in older adults.