

Speech and Hearing Sciences



From the Director

Greetings from Chapel Hill!

In this issue we celebrate the many accomplishments of our students in all three degree programs. We also welcome new faculty and share news about those who have received special recognition.

Another important development for our program and for the entire Department is the appointment of Dr. Stephen Hooper as the new Associate Dean and Chair of Allied Health Sciences. Dr. Hooper succeeds Dr. Lee McLean who retired after 13 years at UNC. Dr. Hooper holds academic appointments in Psychiatry, Psychology, Pediatrics, and Education at UNC and has served in a number of leadership roles at the Carolina Institute for Developmental Disabilities. We are excited to have him on board and look forward to his leadership in the coming years.

On behalf of our program, thank you for your loyal support. Many of our scholarships and events are possible only through the generosity of alumni and friends; your donation in any amount is always appreciated. We will soon be launching a new campaign aimed at increasing the number of alumni donors by 10% each year for the next six years leading up to our 50th Anniversary celebration in 2020. Watch for details on this and other opportunities to support our students, and again thank you for staying connected as alumni and friends.

Warm regards,

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

Watson Named ASHA Fellow

Dr. Linda Watson, Professor, has been named a fellow of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA). Dr. Watson was recognized at the ASHA Convention in November 2013 in Chicago. The UNC Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences hosted a reception to honor Dr. Watson during the conference as well.



Dr. Linda Watson

The status of Fellow is retained for life and is one of the highest honors ASHA bestows. It recognizes professional or scientific achievement and is given to members who have made outstanding contributions to the profession – contributions that are significant and would be so regarded within and beyond one's community or state.

For Dr. Watson, these contributions include supervising and mentoring over 250 future clinicians and scholars; conducting and disseminating research, especially in autism, with over \$8M in grants, 39 articles, and more than 100 presentations; and serving in varied ASHA leadership roles related to autism.

2014 David E. Yoder Symposium

The Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences hosted the 2014 David E. Yoder Symposium on March 28. The all-day session, titled "Combining Literacy and Language Intervention of Young Children," was led by Dr. Laura Justice, Executive Director of the Children's Learning Research Collaborative and EHE Distinguished Professor at The Ohio State University. The Division hosts the Yoder Symposium every two years to honor Professor Emeritus David E. Yoder.



Above, from left, Dr. Sharon Williams, UNC Associate Professor; Dr. Betsy Crais, UNC Professor; Dr. David E. Yoder, UNC Professor Emeritus; Dr. Laura Justice, 2014 Yoder Symposium Speaker; Dr. Jack Roush, UNC Division Director and Professor; and Dr. Karen Erickson, Yoder Distinguished Professor, Director of the UNC Center for Literacy and Disability Studies. Right, Dr. Justice addresses audience members at the Friday Center in Chapel Hill.



Students and Donors Recognized at Annual Brunch

The Department of Allied Health Sciences (DAHS) hosted its annual Student Scholarships and Awards Brunch on November 9, 2013, at the Rizzo Center in Chapel Hill. Each DAHS division had the opportunity to acknowledge the accomplishments of its scholarship and award recipients and the generosity of its scholarship donors. Eleven Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences students were recognized at the event.

Adult Communications Disorders Annual Scholarship

Katherine Emily Loebner of Los Altos, California, 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.



Katherine Loebner

Audiology Alumni Annual Scholarship

Sarah Hall Webster of Fairfax, Virginia, received the Audiology Alumni Annual Scholarship. More than 30 alumni and faculty responded to the call to create the AuD Annual Scholarship, which was first awarded in 2011. The audiology scholarship is intended to honor an outstanding first-year AuD student while helping to ensure that our program has the resources needed to maintain its record of excellence and attract the nation's top applicants.



Sarah Webster

Janice Rebecca Pettie Bowles Speech and Hearing Sciences Annual Scholarship

Rachel Ann Rhyne of Laurinburg, NC, received the Janice Rebecca Pettie Bowles Speech and Hearing Sciences Annual Scholarship. The scholarship was established by Lauren Graves Madden (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. Ms. Bowles worked in many capacities for the Martinsville City School System for 26 years, teaching special education and mathematics, serving as an educational diagnostician, and coordinating community outreach.



Rachel Rhyne

Robert W. Peters Award

Whitney Rebekah Doub of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, 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.



Whitney Doub and Sheila Barnett, daughter of Robert W. Peters.

Diversity Scholarship in Speech-Language Pathology

Jonathan Lyle Jolivet of Houston, Texas, and **Petros Pravasilis** of Jamaica, New York, 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.



Linda Watson, Jonathan Jolivet, Petros Pravasilis, and Jack Roush.

Millicent Blair Arnett Memorial Speech-Language Pathology Annual Scholarship

Chanel Iman Blaylock of Raleigh, North Carolina, received the first Millicent Blair Arnett Memorial Speech-Language Pathology Annual Scholarship. Millicent Lavon Blair Arnett was born October 12, 1972 in Charlotte. She earned her BS in Elementary Education from UNC Chapel Hill in 1994 and her MS-SLP from UNC in 2002. A warm and caring person, Millicent dedicated her life to serving children. She was also an ambassador for her profession, encouraging many others to pursue careers as pediatric speech-language pathologists. Millicent died May 22, 2013, leaving two beloved sons and an extensive legacy of inspiration, outreach, and care. Many alumni, faculty, and friends of the division have contributed to Millicent's scholarship fund since it was established in the summer of 2013.



Lynette Mitchell, Herbert Blair, Barbara Blair, Matthew Arnett, David Arnett, and Chanel Blaylock.

Dr. Sylvia Campbell Speech and Hearing Sciences Annual Scholarship

Molly Elizabeth Spears of Wilmington, 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 UNC Chapel Hill in 1974 and 1977, respectively, and a PhD in Speech and Hearing Sciences in 1993 from the University of Maryland, College Park. Currently, Dr. Campbell is an Assistant Professor at the George Washington University Department of Speech and Hearing Science..



Molly Spears

Rebecca Rule Womble Speech and Hearing Sciences Annual Scholarship

Stephanie Jo Carruthers of San Leandro, California, received the Rebecca Rule Womble Speech and Hearing Sciences Annual Scholarship, which 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 from UNC Chapel Hill in 1972.



Stephanie Carruthers

Thorpe-Mitchell Diversity Leadership Development Awards

Lúcia Lopez Fischer, a MS-SLP student from Porto Alegre, Brazil, and **Alexis Ann Williams**, a Division of Physical Therapy student from Raleigh, received the Thorpe/Mitchell Diversity Leadership Development Award, which seeks to increase the diversity of underrepresented minority students in the diagnostic and therapeutic disciplines in the UNC Chapel Hill Department of Allied Health Sciences. The award honors Dr. Robert L. Thorpe and Dr. Brenda Mitchell.



Lee McLean, James Scatliff, Lúcia Fischer, Valdemar Fischer, Alexis Williams, and Brenda Mitchell.

UNC Hospitals Volunteer Association's Allied Health Sciences Fellowships

Susan Mason of Marlboro, New York, was one of six Department of Allied Health Sciences students to receive a UNC Hospitals Volunteer Association's AHS Fellowship. Made possible by a generous gift from the UNC Hospitals Volunteer Association, fellowships are awarded to deserving students who, in addition to having financial need and scholastic ability, exhibit characteristics of emerging professional excellence.



Susan Mason



Tyson Harmon, Gabrielle Scronce, and Mei-Ling Lin.

Community Engagement Fellowship Awarded to Student Research Team

The Carolina Center for Public Service has awarded a Community Engagement Fellowship to an interdisciplinary team of student researchers from the Department of Allied Health Sciences: **Tyson Harmon** (PhD student in the Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences), **Mei-Ling Lin** (PhD student in the Division of Occupational Science), and **Gabrielle Scronce** (DPT student in the Division of Physical Therapy).

In collaboration with the Triangle Aphasia Project (TAP), the research team will seek to establish a mentoring experience between people with aphasia and graduate students in their three divisions.

"Research has indicated that an important quality of life aspect for people with aphasia is participation in meaningful activities, but that can be difficult to address in therapeutic service-delivery post-stroke," said Harmon. "We hope to establish an ongoing program whereby people with aphasia can act as mentors to student by sharing their personal recovery experiences and answering student questions. We believe that such a program will be mutually beneficial as it will provide future clinicians with immediate exposure to people with aphasia, while simultaneously giving individuals with aphasia an opportunity to serve students by offering a personalized perspective of disability and rehabilitation."

Assessments will be conducted pre- and post- participation in the program to measure impact on quality of life across various domains. The program itself will also be evaluated to determine its contributions to educational, therapeutic, and research goals.

Student Research Day 2014

The sixth annual Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences Student Research Day was held April 25 in the Bioinformatics Building on UNC's campus. The event included presentations by students from the PhD, AuD, and MS-SLP programs. Visit www.med.unc.edu/ahs/sphs/files/2014_researchday.pdf to download the abstract booklet.

Students Receive Travel Awards

Sadie Schwarz, a UNC Doctor of Audiology (AuD) student, received an Audiology/Hearing Science Research Travel Award to attend the 2013 ASHA Convention in Chicago last November. Schwarz, AuD student **Jenna Browning**, and PhD student **Nicole Corbin** were selected for student travel awards and presentations at the annual convention of the American Auditory Society (AAS) in Scottsdale, Arizona, in March. Congratulations to these students, their mentors Drs. Lori Leibold and Lauren Calandrucchio, and their colleagues from the Department of Otolaryngology. **Andrea Buckner**, an AuD student mentored by Dr. Meg Dillon, had a poster accepted for the AAS conference as well.

Division Welcomes Two Alumni to Faculty

Dr. Patricia Johnson joined the Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences faculty as a Clinical Assistant Professor in June 2013. Dr. Johnson earned her BS in Speech and Hearing Sciences from the University of Washington, Seattle, graduating *cum laude* with departmental honors for undergraduate research, and completed her AuD at UNC in 2013. Her primary role is working as a clinical audiologist at the UNC Hearing and Communication Center, where she performs hearing evaluations, dispenses hearing aids, and supervises audiology students. She especially enjoys working with older adults and their families to facilitate optimal communication in their golden years. Dr. Johnson is a Fellow of the Academy of Audiology and is clinically certified by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) and the American Board of Audiology (ABA). Her research interests include adult aural rehabilitation, hearing aid technology and fitting, and patient advocacy.



Dr. Patricia Johnson

Dr. William Hoole joined the Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences faculty as a Clinical Assistant Professor in January of 2014. Dr. Hoole earned his BS from Middle Tennessee State University in 2001 and his AuD from UNC in 2007. In addition to serving patients at the UNC Hearing and Communication Center, Dr. Hoole's academic responsibilities include course instruction and practicum coordination for audiology graduate students. Dr. Hoole is a licensed audiologist in both North and South Carolina and a certified member of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA). He has served on the South Carolina Academy of Audiology (SCAA) board for the last three years and recently completed a term as President. His research interests include traditional and implantable hearing technologies, professional ethics and industry involvement in clinical education, mitigating socioeconomic barriers for accessing amplification, and societal awareness of abuse among individuals with communicative disorders.



Dr. William Hoole

Buss Receives Inaugural Peters Award for Excellence in Research Mentoring

Dr. Emily Buss received the first Robert W. Peters Award for Excellence in Research Mentoring at the Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences Commencement in May. The award is named in honor of Dr. Robert W. Peters, who founded the Institute of Speech and Hearing Sciences, which later became a division in the Department of Allied Health Sciences. Sheila Barnett and Colin Peters funded the Robert W. Peters Award for Excellence in Research Mentoring Endowment at the Medical Foundation



Sheila Barnett and Emily Buss

of NC to honor their late father. The award will be presented biannually to a deserving faculty member who demonstrates excellence in research mentoring in speech and hearing sciences.

Page Awarded New Century Scholarship

Thomas A. Page, MS, CCC-SLP, Class of 2001, and current Speech and Hearing Sciences PhD student, was awarded a New Century Scholars Doctoral Scholarship from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Foundation in the fall of 2013. These \$10,000 scholarships support strong doctoral candidates committed to working in a higher education academic community in the field of communication sciences and disorders. Sara Mamo, a 2008 graduate of the AuD program and a current PhD student, and Angela Bonino, a 2012 PhD graduate, previously received the scholarship. Page is project coordinator and examiner for the Outcomes of School Age Children who are Hard of Hearing (www.ochl-study.org). His dissertation research focuses on identification of child, family, and environmental characteristics that influence communication and academic outcomes in children who are hard of hearing.

Alumni New & Notes

Jessica Klusek (PhD 2012) has been awarded an NIH Ruth Kirschstein National Research Service Award (F32) to examine social language use in women with the FMRI premutation. Jessica is a post-doctoral fellow at the University of South Carolina.

Elizabeth Lanter (PhD 2009) was Radford University's nominee for a 2014 State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) Rising Star Outstanding Faculty Award (OFA).

Lauren Peterson (MS-SLP 2013) was selected for a Student Travel Award to present findings from her master's thesis, "Parent Report in Identifying Autism in Infants," at the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Convention held in Chicago last November.

Caroline Mitchell Warren (MS-SLP 2002) and her husband John welcomed a son, John Hall Warren, on January 5, 2014. Caroline, John, Hall, and big sister, Dalton (2), live in Charleston, SC, where Caroline works as an acute care SLP at the Medical University of South Carolina.

UNC SHS Professor Emeritus, AuD Student, and Organization Honored at NCSHLA Awards

The UNC Chapel Hill Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences was well represented at the North Carolina Speech Hearing and Language Association (NCSHLA) annual awards dinner on March 20, 2014, in Raleigh.

Professor Emeritus **David E. Yoder** received Honors of the Association, the NCSHLA's highest tribute. Honors are conferred in recognition of consistent, long-term, distinguished contributions to the association or to the communication disorders profession.

Sarah Obarowski, a student in UNC's Doctor of Audiology program, received the Student Educational Achievement Award. Obarowski's faculty mentor,

Dr. Meg Dillon, presented the award, noting that "Sarah exemplifies the academic excellence and merit represented by this award. She excels in the classroom and clinic and is an outstanding member of our clinical research team. Sarah is an extraordinary student as demonstrated by her enthusiasm for clinical research, positive rapport with patients and study participants, and collaboration with faculty and fellow students."

Shannon (Spain) Weynand, a second-year MS-SLP student and president of the UNC NCSHLA chapter, accepted the award on behalf of her organization for the most new members.



Sarah Obarowski and Meg Dillon