



# THE SLHS STUDENT VOICE

*The Official Newsletter of IU Speech,  
Language and Hearing Sciences*

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**MARK YOUR  
CALENDARS!**

**NSSHLA MEETINGS THIS SEMESTER**

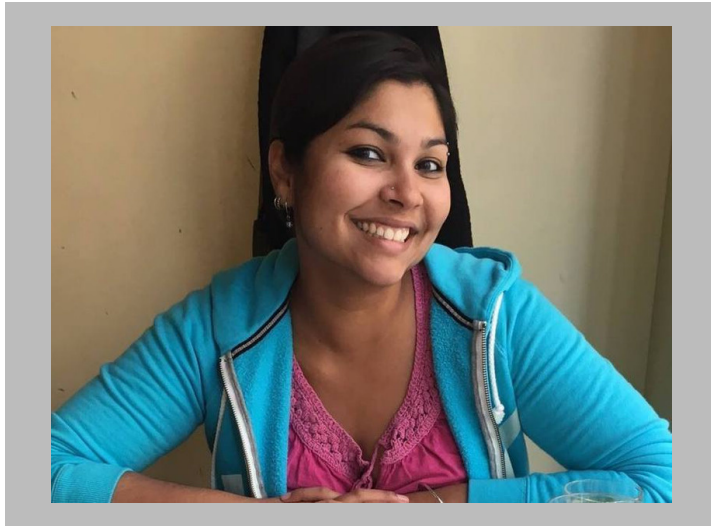
**NOVEMBER 4TH AT 7PM**

**DECEMBER 2ND AT 7PM**

## STUDENT CONTRIBUTORS

**LIZ BENVENUTO  
HANNAH BROWND  
CLAIRE CALLISTEIN  
SAM GILLIGAN  
HADLEY HAGERTY**

**LAURYN JOHNSON  
JAMIE ROBERTS  
MICHAELA SANGER  
KRISTEN SIMONS  
MADISON STREET**



# FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

*by Liz Benvenuto*

We sat down with Dr. Ishanti Gangopadhyay who is new to the speech, language and hearing department this year. Although Dr. Gangopadhyay is a newcomer to Indiana University this semester, she has worked in the field of speech, language and hearing science for 10 years. She teaches two courses this semester which are Childhood Language and Child Language Disorders.

Dr. Gangopadhyay was born and brought up in India and then decided to attend college in the United States. She attended Clark University for her undergraduate degree where she studied psychology and mathematics. Before attending college in the United States, she was unaware of the field of speech, language and hearing science. Dr. Gangopadhyay got the opportunity to explore the field while conducting research at John Hopkins University. She then attended the University of Wisconsin-Madison where she received her Ph.D. in communication sciences and disorders, with a focus on bilingualism and language disorders. After she attended the University of Wisconsin, Dr. Gangopadhyay conducted postdoctoral research at New York University, where she researched children's language learning, particularly in children with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Dr. Gangopadhyay is very passionate about her research, which broadly examines language development in children with and without communication difficulties who come from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. This summer she will be creating her lab called the LEMuR (Language Experience and Multilingualism Research) lab. Dr. Gangopadhyay would love for students to get involved in her lab!

When Dr. Gangopadhyay is not teaching or conducting research; she enjoys long walks and exploring new neighborhoods. She loves to listen to music while on her long walks. Dr. Gangopadhyay also practices Indian classical singing in her free time so she doesn't lose her skills.

Dr. Gangopadhyay shared that her favorite part of teaching in the department is when she is able to learn from her students. She loves when she teaches something and students ask questions about the material she taught. Hearing students questions enables her to think in new ways she's never thought of before. Dr. Gangopadhyay shared with us that online zoom classes haven't really affected her negatively because this is her first year teaching and this is all she is used to. Her advice to students: "Be excited to learn, be curious and challenge yourself, don't stay too much in your comfort zone!" Dr. Gangopadhyay also tells students to: "Join a research lab, it is a great experience to get to work with different populations of people."

**If you would like to contact Dr. Ishanti Gangopadhyay to discuss her courses or her future research lab, she can be reached at [ishgang@iu.edu](mailto:ishgang@iu.edu)**

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

by Michaela Sanger, Hannah Brown

**Q: What are research labs and how do I get involved with research labs within the SLHS department?**

A: Working or volunteering in a research lab is a unique opportunity for undergraduate students to experience research firsthand. If you are interested in joining a research lab, it is important to familiarize yourself with the professors in the department as well as their specific fields of interest. Consider reaching out to a professor who is conducting research in a particular area that interests you, then ask them if they are accepting students to work or volunteer in their lab. Different professors have different policies, but demonstrating an interest is the first step in getting involved with research. Another great way to be more involved with research is to apply to the SLHS honors program in your junior year.

A: The Honors Program in the Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences department is open to students who are academically talented, motivated, and wish to engage in independent study and research under the close supervision of a faculty advisor. All juniors with an overall GPA of 3.5 or higher are eligible. Those with qualifying GPAs are contacted by the SLHS academic advisor in the fall semester of their junior year. An additional informational meeting is held in early October for those interested in learning more about the program. Honors students, like all SLHS majors, are encouraged to seek out overseas study opportunities. However, this option requires advanced planning and special approval in order to meet honors graduation requirements. If this is something you are interested in, be sure to discuss your plans with the Director of Undergraduate Studies and your faculty honors advisor. We will work with you to determine alternative coursework and requirements you can satisfy while you are abroad.

**Q: What is the Honors Program in the SLHS department and can I still get involved if I go abroad?**

**Q: How many clinical observation hours do Speech, Language, and Hearing Science majors need to complete and how can we complete them during COVID-19?**

A: As an undergraduate student, it is recommended that Speech, Language, and Hearing Science majors complete approximately 25 observation hours at any ASHA accredited institution. However, these hours may be completed before and during graduate school. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, students had the option to obtain observation hours through the Robert L. Milisen Speech and Language Clinic at IU, as well as through various settings outside of the department such as at schools, hospitals, or nursing homes. However, due to the pandemic, students now have the opportunity to obtain hours virtually. This can be done by watching clinical videos online through the Master Clinician Network. The Master Clinician Network is a platform where treatment and assessments are done virtually by an expert clinician in the field. Be sure to visit the Clinic Observation page for more information and to download observation forms.

# ON THE GROUND REPORT

## Move to the Hospital

by Jamie Roberts

Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences is excited to be moving its research labs, graduate programming and the Speech-Language and Hearing Clinics to the new Health Sciences building at the Regional Academic Health Center (RAHC). The move will take place in late December 2020, with clinics opening in mid-January 2021 and classes beginning in February 2021. SLHS undergraduate programming, including coursework, will remain on the main campus, along with a learning lab in a space yet to be determined. SLHS, the largest occupant of the more than 100,000 square foot building, will share the space with other Bloomington Health Science Programs. These include the Indiana University Schools of Medicine, Nursing and Social Work. Also going to be connected to the Health Sciences building is the new Indiana University Health Bloomington Hospital, slated to open in late 2021.



## Master Clinician Network

by Lauryn Johnson

**Due to the current pandemic, here is an exciting announcement from Laura Karcher, Director of the Speech-Language Clinic:** Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences is purchasing a 1-year subscription to Master Clinician Network (MCN), an online platform for guided observations of clinicians who are experts in their field. A subscription will be made available to students enrolled in S108 and SLHS undergraduate majors interested in obtaining observation hours in order to fulfill the 25 hours required by ASHA. This opportunity is available for the current 2020-2021 academic year, at no cost to the student

### Student Registration Instructions:

- Go to [masterclinician.org](http://masterclinician.org) (Links to an external site.)
- Click the “Join Now” button in the top right corner
- Select the “Join As A Student” option
- Once you reach the payment page, click the “I have a Code” button
- Copy and paste the IU Registration Code wf0zqjpmbq4s
- Select Laura Karcher as the faculty member

For any questions regarding Master Clinician Network, please contact their support directly via their Contact Us ([Links to an external site.](#)) messaging portal.

Observations will be reviewed approximately every two weeks. Fall 2020 final reviews will end the week of December 8th, 2020. Spring observation reviews will resume on January 18, 2021 and end the week of April 30, 2021. Summer 2021 reviews will begin the week of May 17, 2021 and end the week of July 26, 2021. Keep these timelines in mind as you apply to graduate programs that require 25 hours for admission.

# WHAT I WISH I KNEW

## EMERSON WOLFF, FIRST-YEAR MASTERS STUDENT

As a first-year master's student this semester, I've been so happy to discover just how well IU's undergraduate speech, language and hearing sciences program prepared me for my coursework and clinic experiences.

During my time as an undergraduate here, I was involved in many departmental activities, including completing an honors thesis with Dr. Tessa Bent, serving as an Undergraduate Teaching Assistant for Dr. Jennifer Lentz, and participating as a board member on the Student Advisory Board with Dr. Lisa Gershkoff.

One of the greatest benefits from my involvement within the department were all the faculty members and peers I got to know from each of these experiences. I was able to learn from and was introduced to the wide variety of interests and perspectives of the women in this department. I met one of my best friends through our involvement in the honors program, and Dr. Bent is someone who I consider as a life-long mentor for me and my career.

If I could give a single piece of advice to every undergraduate studying in the department, I would highly encourage you to build a network of peers, friends, and mentors within the building. These are the people who when it comes time to apply to graduate school or when you are facing a challenging semester, you will want to lean on. While my parents or outside friends could sympathize with me about the stress of applying to grad school, my speech and hearing friends truly "got it." They were the ones to walk me through the steps of how to mail in my official transcript to CSDCAS or meet me at Starbucks every Friday afternoon to study for the GRE. Dr. Bent and Dr. Lentz were my two main mentors I sought out advice from, and I knew that I could walk into their offices any time of day to ask a question or simply chat.

One of the biggest reasons I decided to come back to IU for graduate school was because of these strong connections I formed in undergrad, and my desire to continue to learn from these professors. I am grateful for the experiences IU has given me so far, and I feel like the best place for me to learn to become a clinician is right here.

# WHAT I WISH I KNEW

## MICHAELA SANGER, SENIOR

As a first semester senior with plenty of time on my hands to think due to the coronavirus, I've reflected on my last three years here at Indiana University and what I wish I could have done differently. Let me start off by saying that my time here at IU has been nothing but wonderful, inspiring, and educating. I have learned how to better prepare for exams, how to make long lasting friendships, as well as how to navigate the Bloomington bus routes.

However, there was one important thing I didn't learn until around my junior year of college: the importance of office hours. Yes, I attended a couple here and there my sophomore year, but I never went consistently enough to feel comfortable going and asking for help until my junior year. Let me first address the obvious question that held me back from attending office hours: what are they and how do you use them?

One might say that office hours are part of an invisible, unspoken set of rules that students should take advantage of. I never realized how much of an impact attending office hours had on not only my success in the class, but also on my relationship with the professor who was teaching it. I understand how nerve-wracking it can be to meet a professor one-on-one in their office, trust me I do, but once you get over that initial awkwardness, you begin to feel comfortable and ultimately realize that the professor is a person too. Going to office hours, whether it be the graduate assistant's, undergraduate teaching assistant's or the professor's, shows them that you are willing to make an effort in their class to learn the material and that you are not afraid to advocate for yourself. As cheesy as it sounds, the professors and teaching assistants are there to help you and want you to succeed in their course. Despite them having a scheduled time for their office hours, they are always willing to make an appointment outside of that hour to meet with you.

College is already hard enough trying to juggle classes, community life, and your personal wellbeing, so I challenge you to take some advice from an old senior and attend office hours one time this week... you might be surprised how much you benefit from it.

# PERSPECTIVE OF A TRANSFER STUDENT

**We know that being new to Bloomington can be both intimidating and exciting during the current pandemic, here is what Junior transfer student, Hadley Hagerty, had to say:**

Being new to Bloomington, Indiana is exciting for all new students. However, in the time of coronavirus, it has proven to be unusual. The busy and lively campus that I toured now looks quiet and deserted this semester. My relationships with my professors have been fostered entirely online. It's a hard time to be new at IU, with almost no live interactions with fellow students. I feel lucky to be at a school that cares so much about my physical health, but an effect of limited social contact has been a lonely first few weeks.

Time and time again I've heard that to get the most out of my college experience I need to get involved, but this is a challenge when everyone's classroom is within their dorm. I know all new students want to make the most of their first semester, but it is hard to figure out how. As a transfer student coming to IU during the pandemic majoring in Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences, I had no idea where to even begin.

**Seniors, Michaela Sanger, Sam Gilligan and Lauryn Johnson respond:**

There are various opportunities for undergraduate students to get involved within the Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences department such as joining student-led clubs, volunteering in a research lab, or becoming an undergraduate teaching assistant! Some student-led organizations are the National Student Speech, Language and Hearing Association (NSSLHA), which is for students that are interested in learning more about communication and other learning disorders within the field of an SLP.

In addition to this, there is the Student Academy of Audiology (SAA), which is focused on students who are interested in pursuing a career as an audiologist or have an interest in audiology. Another organization is known as the American Sign Language club which is for individuals that are interested in ASL and deaf culture. It's a space for students to interact with various levels of signers.

The last student-led organization is the SLHS Student Advisory Board (SAB) which aims to promote active communication between the student body and the professors. If you are interested in research, look into volunteering in a professor's research lab. It's a great opportunity to experience hands-on research as an undergraduate student. Lastly, if you are a current junior enrolled in the SLHS program and want experience as a teaching assistant, feel free to explore the undergraduate teaching assistant program. This program encourages students to take on a leadership role within the department as well as be mentored by a professor in the department. We understand how intimidating it can be coming to a new town especially during a global pandemic, but despite these challenging circumstances, there are plenty of ways to become involved within campus life and the program.

**If you have questions, comments or concerns you would like answered please reach out to [johnslar@iu.edu](mailto:johnslar@iu.edu)!**