

THE SLHS STUDENT VOICE



The Official Newsletter of IU Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences



Mark Your Calendars!

- March 24th-** Wellness day
- April 5th, 7pm-** NSSHLA meeting
- April 22nd-** Wellness day
- May 8th-** Undergraduate commencement ceremony

Student Contributors

- | | |
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| Liz Benvenuto | Lauryn Johnson |
| Hannah Brownd | Jamie Roberts |
| Claire Callistein | Michaela Sanger |
| Sam Gilligan | Kristen Simons |
| Hadley Hagerty | Madison Street |

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IU Undergraduate Research

IU undergraduate research provides Advanced Summer Research Scholarships to help undergraduate researchers spend their summers undertaking original research or creative projects.

Students in any field are eligible to apply, but must meet the following requirements:

- All applicants must have a well-developed research plan and a faculty mentor who has agreed to supervise the project.
- Applicants must not be receiving other sources of funding or earning academic credit for their summer research.
- Seniors may not apply for funding projects that take place the summer following graduation.
- Past recipients of this scholarship are eligible to apply a second time. However, priority is given to first time recipients.

For more information including the application visit:
<https://undergradresearch.indiana.edu/programs-funding/asrs.html>.

Phi Beta Kappa Awardees

Seven SLHS students have recently been elected to Phi Beta Kappa, the oldest and most prestigious academic honors society in the country. Only a select number of students at member institutions are elected annually. The IU Chapter of PBK recognizes the following students for the excellence and breadth of their undergraduate scholarly accomplishments:



- Emily Barker
- Bailey Barron
- Sarah Gray
- Lauryn Johnson
- Kayma Livermore
- Kristen Simons
- Mimi Tran

Graduation Planning Committee

The SLHS department is looking for students interested in helping to plan, organize, and provide input to the department graduation. We are looking for Freshman, Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors. If Interested please reach out to johnslar@iu.edu by April 2nd.

On the Ground Report

SLHS research laboratories in the New IU Regional Academic Health Center

Contributors: Alyssa Arick, Natalie Bednarz, Claire Callistein, Caroline Gretencord, Bridget Mcgrath, Grace Oeding, Christina Shirley, Kristen Simons, and Karolina Sroka

Note: Students in SLHS-S398, Junior Honors Seminar, interviewed the SLHS faculty about their new research space in the Regional Academic Health Center (RAHC).

The Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences Department made a major transition early this year, moving off-campus to the new Regional Academic Health Center (RAHC) located near 10th and the bypass. The department joins several other academic health sciences including nursing, medicine, and social work. Unlike the research labs in the old building, SLHS faculty have designed shared research space to allow for greater collaboration and teamwork between faculty and students. To learn more about each of the four new labs at the RAHC, students in the Junior Honors Program interviewed the academic faculty about their first impressions.

Drs. R. Anderson, Bent, and Stark each conduct research on language in the Speech and Language Lifespan Laboratory. They are pleased that the new lab is bigger, more open, and allows for more participants to be studied, including adults with aphasia, normal adult listeners, and dual language learning children who are both typical and atypical learners. The new lab features two sound booths, a center area with tables, separate rooms to collect data, workstations, and a huge screen to share. This is a big upgrade from their previous separate laboratories!

The Hearing Sciences Laboratory includes Drs. Lentz, Shofner, and Withnell who share similar research interests related to auditory perception. The new lab includes audiometers to test hearing and a tympanometer to measure how well the eardrum and ossicles are vibrating to interpret hearing loss. The lab also has KEMAR, a head and torso simulator designed especially for acoustic research and can be used for hearing aid assessments. According to Dr. Lentz and Dr. Shofner, the advantage of working closely in a shared research lab is that it offers an exciting opportunity to share new ideas and brainstorm with colleagues on difficult problems.

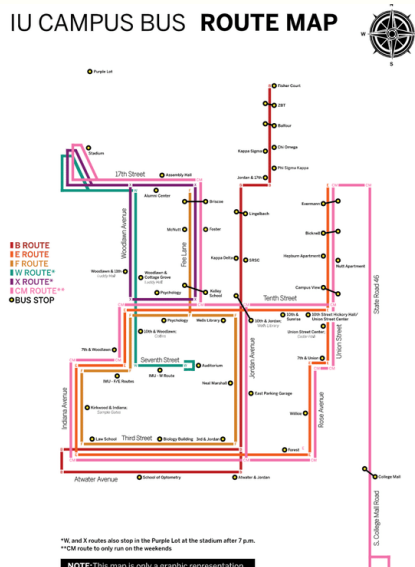
Drs. Lulich and Patel are long time collaborators on research projects related to speech breathing, vocal tract dynamics, and voice and voice disorders in both adults and children. Their new research space is known as the Voice and Speech Production Laboratory. In terms of instrumentation, Dr. Lulich uses 3D and 4D ultrasounds while Dr. Patel uses high-speed video endoscopies, acoustic and aerodynamic systems, and electromyography. They both appreciate the collaborative aspect of sharing ideas back and forth and building off each other's ideas from different but related research fields.

The last of the collaborative research labs is the Developmental Speech and Language Laboratory which includes Drs. J. Anderson, Gangopadhyay, and Gershkoff. As the name suggests, all three researchers conduct developmental research with typical and atypically developing children. Among the unique populations they study are children who stutter, those with autism or speech delays, and children from bilingual backgrounds. One method used to determine what children are thinking without the need to use verbal or physical skills, such as pointing to an object, is exciting new eye tracking technology. In addition to sharing this highly innovative technology, the new lab design will allow students and faculty to engage in joint lab meetings for the purpose of generating new research ideas and expanding on existing ones.

Many exciting opportunities await both students and faculty in the new RAHC. Ph.D., Masters, and undergraduate students will have access to state-of-the-art equipment and can participate in groundbreaking research and experiments side-by-side with established research faculty. Students can also work with acute research populations and learn about opportunities to collaborate with students in the fields of nursing and medicine.

New Bus Route to the RAHC

IU CAMPUS BUS ROUTE MAP



As many students might know the SLHS department has moved to the new IU Regional Academic Health Center (RAHC). Professors' offices, labs and the IU SLHS clinics are located at the new RAHC. To allow students easy access to the RAHC, IU has adapted bus routes. This new bus route will be a great benefit for SLHS students who can reach the RAHC through the E route on the campus bus service. The E route bus service makes stops at campus locations including the IMU, Wells Library, and even 3rd and Jordan (near where the old SLHS clinic and building were located). Buses run Monday through Thursday from 7 am to 11:20 pm and on Friday from 7 am to 8:20 pm. Buses do not run on Saturdays and Sundays. To visit a professor, lab, or clinic at the RAHC, the easiest way to do so is with the E route campus bus.

Source: <https://news.iu.edu/stories/2021/01/iub/inside/26-ride-service-bus-stop-regional-academic-health-center.html>

Promoting Diversity and Inclusion

by: Michaela Sanger, Hannah Brownd

Both Indiana University and the Department of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences have various resources and opportunities to support diversity and inclusion. At IU, the Office of the Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Multicultural Affairs offers information, resources, scholarships, community involvement, academic support, and more. Please visit their website at <https://diversity.iu.edu/index.html> to learn more. Within the College of Arts and Sciences, there are several resources, events, and an Advisory + Action Committee program.

The SLHS department has the Diversity + Inclusion committee that consists of students, faculty, and staff who work to ensure equity and access in research, training, and co-curricular activities. Their objective also includes maintaining an inclusive environment for everyone regardless of demographic or other forms of differences. Please visit the Department of SLHS Diversity and Inclusion page for more information and departmental initiatives at <https://sphs.indiana.edu/about/diversity-inclusion/index.html>.

Lastly, AHSAs is committed to diversity and inclusion as a professional association. They have taken actions against systemic racism. For instance, in February of 2020, ASHA featured the Student to Empowered Professional (S.T.E.P) Mentoring Program which was developed for under-represented populations of students pursuing a career in speech-language pathology or audiology. They also feature the Grant Program for Projects on Multicultural Activities. For more information please visit their website at <https://www.asha.org/about/diversity-and-inclusion-at-asha/>

Frequently asked Questions

by: *Michaela Sanger, Hannah Brownd*

What is the pathway to obtaining certification as a Speech-Language Pathologist (CCC-SLP) or an Audiologist (CCC-A)?

To earn the three C's in Speech-Language Pathology (SLP), you must obtain a masters, doctoral, or other post-baccalaureate degree from an accredited program. Following this, you need to take and pass the Praxis exam. The Praxis, according to ASHA, is an exam to assess starting practitioners' understanding of essential content and practices. There is one for SLP and Audiology. After passing the exam, you must complete a supervised clinical fellowship (CF) for a minimum of 36 weeks, totaling 1,260 hours. According to ASHA, a CF is a mentored professional experience that is completed after academic coursework

and serves as a transition from being a student to being an independent provider of SLP services. To earn the three C's in Audiology, you should obtain a doctoral degree from an accredited program and pass the Praxis exam.

Please reference the ASHA website at <https://www.asha.org/certification/maintain-ccc/> for more information

What can Seniors expect for graduation this spring?

There will be an in-person commencement ceremony for undergraduates scheduled on Saturday, May 8, 2021. The ceremony includes all 2020 and 2021 undergraduates with bachelor's and associate degrees. Only graduating students are allowed to participate in the in-person commencement ceremony, but family and friends may attend online through a live streamed video. Additionally, the only in-person commencement activities will be the official campus graduation ceremonies with all other recognition events virtually. Ideas for an SLHS commencement event is still a work in progress. If you are interested with getting involved with the SLHS graduation planning refer back to page 2 or reach out to johnslar@iu.edu

Please visit the Commencement FAQ page for the most up-to-date information at <https://universityevents.iu.edu/commencement.html>

How is the IU Regional Academic Health Center's acronym (RAHC) pronounced?

There has been a slight debate on the "correct" way to pronounce the acronym for the new regional academic health center. Some have been saying it as "rack" while others say "rock". The official word, according to the University, is that the correct pronunciation for the RAHC is "rock". Now we know!



Faculty Spotlight

by *Liz Benvenuto & Kristen Simmons*



Dr. Kristin Baar

We sat down with Dr. Kristin Baar who is a senior lecturer and the Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences AuD Program Coordinator at Indiana University. Dr. Baar also works for IU Health when she is not on campus. Dr. Baar has been at Indiana University in the field of Speech, Language and Hearing Science since 2013. She teaches multiple undergraduate courses, including Principles of Audiology, Rehabilitative Audiology and the Honors seminar, as well as graduate courses in the AuD program.

Dr. Baar grew up in Mount Pleasant, Michigan. Dr. Baar first attended Michigan State University for her undergraduate degree where she studied Political Science. Before attending college Dr. Baar was unaware of the field of audiology.

While at Michigan State University, Dr. Baar realized her love for the field. At the time, Michigan State University didn't have a Speech and Hearing Science program so Dr. Baar transferred to Central Michigan University for the remaining two years of her undergraduate career. After attending Central Michigan University, Dr. Baar completed her MA at Indiana University. She then worked as a clinical audiologist for 10 years, eventually returning to IU where she earned her AuD degree. As a graduate student, she worked on research related to the recording of high intensity otoacoustic emissions in the Auditory Physiology Lab. It was also during this time that she was given the opportunity to teach her first course in the undergraduate program.

Dr. Baar is very passionate about clinical practice. She loves being an audiologist because audiology allows Dr. Baar to be in healthcare and spend more time with her patients than other professions. Dr. Baar enjoys how every patient she sees is different and loves being able to make a difference in their lives. Dr. Baar told us: "I love the joy I receive when one of my patients realizes they can hear better!"

When Dr. Baar is not teaching or working in the clinic for IU Hearing Clinic, she enjoys decorating cookies and taking care of her German Shepherd!

Dr. Baar wishes to clarify many misconceptions students in the department have about the field of audiology. Dr. Baar would like to convince students that audiology isn't all about math. She states, "Don't let math stop you from investigating audiology as a profession!" Dr. Baar also shared with us that if students want to go into the field of speech language pathology, it is important to be aware that speech language pathology and audiology work together as a team. She further noted that audiologists want to be supportive of SLPs and if audiologists are aware of what SLPs are working on with a patient, it is easier for them to provide the best treatment to their patients!

Dr. Baar shared that her favorite part of teaching in the Speech, Language and Hearing Science 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. Students' questions enable Dr. Baar to think in a new way she never thought before. Dr. Baar shared with us that teaching on Zoom has forced her to think about every single aspect of what she does. Dr. Baar shared that from a technology perspective, Zoom has taught her that she took teaching in person for granted. Dr. Baar shared that from a clinical perspective Zoom has allowed some of her patients to program their hearing aids on Zoom instead of coming into the clinic. Dr. Baar's advice to students: "Get involved, network and ask questions!" Dr. Baar also tells students to "help the professors make the Speech, Language and Hearing Science Department better by giving them input!"

If you would like to contact Dr. Baar to discuss her courses or the field of audiology, she can be reached at kbaar@indiana.edu.

Effects of Pandemic on Department Clinics

Speech-Language Clinic: Professor Laura Karcher

by: Sam Gilligan

Note: Telehealth is a live video or phone appointment with a health care provider using a computer or other electronic device.

This past year has been undoubtedly challenging at times, especially for those working in health care professions. In an interview with Professor Laura Karcher, the Speech-Language Clinic Director, at Indiana University, we discussed the challenges and benefits to teletherapy in speech therapy. At the start of the COVID-19 outbreak, the Speech-Language clinic quickly moved to telepractice in order to continue to effectively and safely provide access to all patients and fit their varying needs. According to Professor Karcher, “everybody rose to the occasion”, so that patients across the life span and their families could continue services through Zoom.

The ability for a patient to hear and perceive in speech therapy is crucial to the learning process, so distractions or obstacles via Zoom can often make therapy difficult; yet everyone in the speech clinic has worked towards finding new and creative ways to provide best practice teletherapy. Under the CDC guidelines, the Speech-Language Clinic started seeing patients face to face again in fall 2020 to provide more evaluation experience for students and to start taking new clients who were on the waitlist, thus benefiting both clinicians and clients. Professor Karcher estimated that this past fall around 50% of their clients came back face to face to the clinic and the other half chose to continue with telepractice. Interestingly, the majority of the clients utilizing telepractice were the pediatric population. In regard to pediatrics, the preschool clinic was not in session late spring, summer, or fall of 2020, due to the pandemic.

In the midst of all of this, the Speech-Language and Hearing Clinics were getting ready to move to the Health Sciences Building. The move has afforded more space in the preschool room, thus allowing children to socially distance and return to school in person at the beginning of Spring 2021. Additionally, the new Speech-Language and Hearing Clinics will be more accessible to patients, as there will be more parking and new video technology systems for telepractice.

To support clinical training, the department purchased Simucase subscriptions for graduate students to continue working toward their 400 ASHA hours and, additionally, purchased Master Clinician subscriptions for undergraduate students to be applied toward their 25 ASHA-approved observation hours. Professor Karcher elaborated that the shift to Simucase is in fact beneficial in many ways for the graduate students, as it is very diagnostic heavy, thus broadening their learning experiences through a low-risk simulation practice.

Despite the many obstacles presented by the pandemic, all of Indiana University clinicians, faculty and students have certainly stepped up to the plate in continuing to care for and provide services to clients of all age groups. Telepractice has allowed the clinic to serve more patients who may not be able to travel to the clinic or who live in remote areas of the state. It has allowed for increased flexibility and reduced the number of missed sessions. In addition, the clinic was able to maintain support groups, such as the Aphasia Support group, and even picked up new members this past year, including four clients who do not live in Monroe County. Telepractice has opened up new avenues for the Speech, Language and Hearing fields as it allows people to connect through the use of technology in the comfort of their own home. Although face to face assessment and treatments are often preferred, telepractice will definitely continue to be an option for clients as time progresses.

Hearing Clinic: Professor Nancy Nelson

by: Hadley Hagerty

The beginning of the pandemic affected the IU Hearing Clinic as well as the Speech-Language Clinic. “The state of Indiana forced us to shut down, and we had limited services available in a curbside format” said Professor Nancy Nelson, director of the IU Hearing Clinic. They communicated with their patients via phone calls and sent supplies to patients as they needed them. The clinic also transitioned to a virtual format for student clinic training. Due to the nature of audiology, telehealth was not practical for the Hearing Clinic. “Things like hearing tests cannot be done via telehealth, and so we were not able to utilize it the way other fields might have been able to,” said Professor Nelson.

When the clinic opened back up, newborn hearing screening follow ups were given priority, as well as anyone with immediate hearing aid needs. “It is a sensitive and difficult time for families, when a newborn fails their screening in the hospital, so we tried to make the waiting period as short as possible for the families,” said Professor Nelson. Sanitation is a high priority for the Hearing Clinic. “Additional PPE, wiping down surfaces, wearing gloves to put headphones on patients, putting on earphone covers, covering microphones, and doing air exchange in sound booths and waiting rooms have all been added to make the clinic safe,” according to Professor Nelson.

The fast-evolving research into coronavirus is still having an effect on the Hearing Clinic. “Now that we know that double-masking is effective, we no longer have to wear shields” said Professor Nelson. Complex tasks, such as examination of one’s ear, have become much easier to perform thanks to this new information.

The move to the new clinic was a complicated endeavor for the Hearing Clinic. Hearing aids are composed of many small parts, and each one had to be moved. “Imagine moving out of your apartment, and instead of just packing all of your silverware, you have to grab each piece individually, that’s what this process was like” said Professor Nelson. “My students were like my colleagues, they were on the team, they were finding solutions and they were ready”.

