

SLHS STUDENT VOICE

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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- NSSLHA Meetings
 - November 7th
 - December 5th
- SAA Meetings
 - November 8th
 - December 6th



Image from Office of the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education

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Welcome Letter

from the SLHS Director of Undergraduate Studies

I want to welcome back all our returning SLHS undergraduate students for the 2022-23 academic year as well as welcome our new students to the department. The Department of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences has approximately 235 majors, and this fall we had 27 freshmen directly admitted into the College who have declared SLHS to be their major. Congratulations to those direct-admit students. We are delighted that you have chosen SLHS as a major and have joined the department.

I also want to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is William Shofner, and I am an Associate Professor in SLHS. I am the new Director of Undergraduate Studies for the Department, and I look forward to working with you. Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have regarding the undergraduate program in SLHS. My email is wshofner@indiana.edu. I am happy to meet with you one-on-one or in small groups.

Mia Ranard was the undergraduate advisor for SLHS who many of you know. Mia's last day as SLHS advisor was September 26 as she is moving to become the Assistant Director for the Individualized Major Program at IU. We wish Mia much success in her new position. In the meantime, three advisors will be working to cover Mia's advising until a new, permanent advisor for SLHS is hired. Please use SAS to make an appointment with one of these advisors:
<https://one.iu.edu/task/iub/student-appointment-scheduler>.

These temporary advisors are:

- **Melissa Jackson:** front-line advising, in person and online. Melissa also works part time; her permanent office is in the Geology Building. She is the advisor for Earth and Atmospheric Sciences and other departments as assigned to help with transitions such as this one! She will begin advising SLHS students October 3.
- **Liz Smith:** front-line advising, in person and online. Liz advises for Math, Statistics, and the Computer Science BA. Her office is in Rawles Hall.
- **Valerie Aquila:** front-line advising, online only. Valerie works part time, and remotely, and is also advising for Cognitive Science on an interim basis.

I would like to point out that there are many more experiences to your college education that go beyond the classroom experience, and I would like to encourage you to take advantage of the numerous opportunities outside the classroom that the Department of SLHS has to offer. These opportunities include experiences such as hands-on clinical practice, teaching assistantships, laboratory-based research, education abroad experiences, and student leadership roles. Joining professional organizations such as NSSHLA and the Student Academy of Audiology, or becoming a member of the ASL Club, Student Advisory Board, or Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion are important valuable ways to become involved in smaller, more engaged communities within the department. Finally, this Student Voice newsletter is written by and for undergraduate students like yourself. I invite you to explore how your voice can make a difference.

Finally, we are all excited to be emerging from the COVID pandemic. The return to in-person learning provides you with a richer and more engaging educational experience than on-line experiences offer. Nevertheless, I encourage to remain vigilant and mindful of the campus-wide efforts to keep everyone healthy and safe during these challenging times in order to protect yourself, your classmates, your family, our campus, and the Bloomington community at-large.

I hope you all have a successful, productive and healthy academic year,
Dr. William Shofner



SLHS is Gearing up for Science Fest!

Contributors: Alexis Svihlik and Ana Valdez



Image by the Chemistry Department at IU

The Department of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences is getting ready for the upcoming Science Fest on October 22nd from 9 am to 3 pm! For those of you who don't know, Science Fest is a way for our department to recruit children to participate in their labs. Throughout the day, Science Fest will be filled with fun activities that will get families excited to engage with science using hands-on experiences. In addition to this, it will also give them insight into what the science departments at Indiana University are up to.

One activity the SLHS department is running at Science Fest is “Mix & Match: Say it in Spanish”. In this activity, the SLHS volunteers will show pictures and names of animals and have the children learn how to say them in Spanish. According to a research assistant from the LEMuR Lab, “It is really important to get bilingual kids from the Science Fest because my lab focuses on how children learn the language.” Another activity of the Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences department being used in the recruitment effort is “Name Signs and Secret Codes”. In this activity, children can spell their names and decode messages using the International Phonetic Alphabet. In addition to this, children will also have the opportunity to learn how to spell their names using American Sign Language. When asked about this activity, the student from the LEMuR Lab also said, “Activities like this make it possible for young people to be exposed to topics valued by our department and may make them interested in volunteering for a study.”

The Science Fest is worth checking out if you want to get involved with the SLHS department and have fun! A senior volunteer from the Speech Perception lab will be attending the Science Fest for their third year and is excited to meet different people from the community while also potentially recruiting new children for her lab. When asked why people should check it out, she said, “People should consider checking out Science Fest as a whole because this is a wonderful opportunity to get involved and be a part of the research community at IU.” She also said that “Volunteering for these events is also a great opportunity for students to gain experience with communication among peers, children, and adults!” Overall, events like this are a great opportunity to come to show your support for the department and get to know others in the science community. For more information, visit <https://sciencefest.indiana.edu/>.

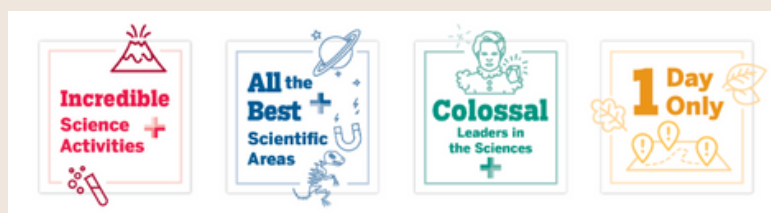


Image by Office of Research (College of Arts & Sciences)



FAQs

Contributors: Kierra Wiles and Emi McClaine

The SLHS major has three new interim academic advisors: Liz Smith, Valerie Aquila, and Melissa Jackson. These advisors will work closely together to answer any questions and help SLHS students get ready as they enroll in classes and throughout the semester. Feel welcome to schedule an appointment with any of these three advisors. To do so, go to one.iu.edu and search for the Student Appointment Scheduler (SAS) app. Then you can search for any advisor, including the three listed above, and available appointment times will appear.

"Who are the interim academic advisors and how do you schedule an appointment?"

"What is the difference between a BS and BA degree and which should I choose?"

Indiana University offers both; Bachelor of Science (BS) and Bachelor of Arts (BA) degrees for the SLHS major. While these degrees are very similar, they are fitted in their own ways to target different career goals. The Bachelor of Science degree (BS) is recommended for individuals who would like to obtain a Ph.D. and work as a researcher or professor in the future. This degree's goal is to provide a scientific and mathematical background. The Bachelor of Arts degree (BA) is for students who would prefer to work in a clinical setting. This degree provides a liberal arts foundation, as well as preparation for normal processes in speech, language, and hearing/communication disorders. To find more information check out the following website.

<https://sphs.indiana.edu/undergraduate/ba-bs-degree.html>

When preparing for your class registration advising appointment, there are many important steps to follow. You first want to check your remaining degree requirements. This information can be found within the Academic Advisement Report on one.iu.edu. Second, check the iGPS Degree Map to view suggested sequences for required courses. Next, use the iGPS Plan to list the class choices you prefer to take. Lastly, check for any Holds listed under "My Information" in the Student Center (SIS) and take care of the ones that will keep you from registering.

"What can you do to prepare for Spring 2023 registration advising appointments?"

"How do you find your enrollment date?"

Go to one.iu.edu and search for the Student Center (SIS). Once you are at the Student Center, click the "Enrollment" tab on the left-hand side, then click "Enrollment Dates". There, you will see when you are able to enroll in classes for next semester.

Faculty Spotlight: Dr. Jen Bidelman

Contributor: Olivia Geers

I sat down with Dr. Jen Bidelman, who started at IU Bloomington this year as a Clinical Associate Professor in Audiology. Dr. Bidelman was born and raised in Indianapolis and most recently lived in Memphis, Tennessee before accepting a position in Bloomington. She has a connection to the university as she received her bachelors in Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences here at IU! While she initially had trouble choosing between majoring in SLHS and Psychology, her desire to be in a healthcare setting (specifically a hospital) and to help kids who have trouble hearing made her realize SLHS was the path for her. She recalls babysitting for a boy before college, which first piqued her interest in the field. She mentioned, "It was always one of my career goals to end up working at a children's hospital and working with children who had cochlear implants." After receiving her bachelors at IU, she went on to pursue her Doctorate of Audiology from Purdue University. In her free time, Dr.



Bidelman loves and appreciates spending time with both her immediate and extended family. She has loved the opportunity since being back in Indiana to reconnect with friends. Dr. Bidelman also enjoys listening to podcasts, especially true crime, and reading in her free time.

Dr. Bidelman is liking her new role at IU and has had a great transition both professionally and personally thus far. When asked about why she chose to accept a position here, Dr. Bidelman said she was ready for a new environment. After spending the first 11 years of her career in patient care and healthcare leadership, she was ready to try something new. She states, "I believed I had a lot of really good professional experiences that I could share with students in an academic setting and was excited to try something new" and how "Coming here really just checked all the boxes". She has noticed how different Bloomington is now that she has a family, compared to how it was when she was an undergraduate student here. She loves raising her kids in a smaller town and has found that everyone has been really nice and genuine, making Bloomington both a great work environment and place to raise her family. Dr. Bidelman's favorite part of her job is the variety of things she is able to do as a professor. She has the ability to teach in the classroom, supervise graduate students in the clinic, collaborate with students and colleagues, and help develop clinical and academic programs for SLHS students. No day for her is the same and she has loved having the opportunity to learn new skills and try new things here at IU.

Dr. Bidelman also expressed some advice she has both in relation to grad school and the field in general. Looking at graduate schools, she finds that you should first make a list of the things that are important to you, whether it is the location, financial aspects, experience opportunities, school size, and anything else that is a priority. After that, try and find a school that checks the most boxes. She realizes how personal the decision is in choosing where you go to grad school and that it is important to find one that includes the elements that matter to you. As far as the field in general, she advises you to think about what it is you want, where you want to be, and your dream career goal or position and not give up on it. It can be easy to get discouraged when you do not find that opportunity the first time around. Continue to work hard and take steps towards your goals. She personally knows how hard this can be as she did not get her dream job of working in a hospital with kids who have cochlear implants immediately. It took her almost three years after she graduated and three job applications to reach her goal. She says to "Be persistent and keep going for it. Don't get bummed because it doesn't happen right away".

What I Wish I Knew

Contributor: DeAvianna Abrons



Kami Moehl

What I wish I had known as a freshman SLHS major is what goes into graduate school. No one in my family has attended a graduate program, so I was not sure what to expect in terms of the competitiveness of applying and getting accepted. I also wish I had known how summer courses worked. Coming into college, I thought that you only took summer courses if you failed a course and had to retake it, instead of being able to get ahead in classes and get courses out of the way, which is helpful. Lastly, I wish I didn't stress out as a freshman over my schedule looking like the recommended degree map on iGPS. I shouldn't have worried about how my schedule looked in relation to my peers or how I'd be behind if they didn't match. I had to remember that everyone works at their own pace.

Colten Mouzin

The number one thing I wish I would have known was to go to office hours early on in my career, not only in the major but with professors in general. Especially for the professors in the SLHS major, I wish I would have gone earlier because the major is so small, and you know so many other students in the major it makes it easier to get to know more people. It would have been nice to take advantage of, now that I am in the graduate application process. It is a great way to make relationships and connections.

Caroline Riefe

The biggest thing I wish I would have known is that your undergraduate GPA is not the end-all be-all for graduate applications. GPA is important for graduate programs, but it is equally as important to get involved early in activities you're interested in. Whether that involvement is in research labs, clubs like NSSLHA, ASL, Audiology club, or different volunteer opportunities in Bloomington and the surrounding communities are especially important to be involved in. It is also important to remember that it is less about the number of things you do but more about the depth of your involvement, meaningful connections, and what you get out of your experiences.

Did you know?

According to ASHA, October is . . .

Audiology Awareness Month

Dyslexia Awareness Month

International AAC Awareness Month

International Stuttering Awareness Day (October 22)

National Disability Employment Awareness Month

Protect Your Hearing Month

"ASHA Observances." <https://www.asha.org/events/observances/>. Accessed 11 Oct. 2022.

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Follow the IU SLHS Department on Twitter @iusphs and Facebook page @ Indiana University - Department of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences



If you have any suggestions of what you would like to see in the Student Voice newsletter, please email Hannah Brownd at hbrownd@iu.edu!

Support the second year AuD students in their annual Red Bird Mission trip! According to their GoFundMe page, their goal is to provide hearing healthcare and fit hearing aids to individuals who may not have the opportunity to receive them. Check out their page for more information at <https://gofund.me/a99004a8>.

