

SLHS STUDENT VOICE

IU SPEECH, LANGUAGE, AND HEARING SCIENCES

NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2024

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

WELCOME LETTER..... PG 2

ON THE GROUND.....PG 3

FAQ..... PG 4

STAFF SPOTLIGHT..... PG 5

WHAT I WISH I KNEW..... PG 6

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COMING UP:

SCIENCE FEST- APRIL 6TH

NSSLHA MEETINGS- MARCH 18TH, APRIL 8TH



WELCOME LETTER

FROM: SLHS SAB '23-'24

HI ALL, WELCOME TO OUR
FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER. THIS
NEWSLETTER HOPEFULLY PROVIDES
INSIGHT FOR YOU INTO WHAT IS
HAPPENING IN THE SLHS
DEPARTMENT. THIS IS MEANT TO
HELP YOU MAKE CONNECTIONS AND
STAY UP-TO-DATE. WE HOPE YOU
HAVE A GREAT REST OF THE
SEMESTER!



ON THE GROUND

ON THE GROUND: THERAPY ABROAD THAILAND TRIP

THIS SPRING, A GROUP OF IU STUDENTS WILL BE GOING ON A TRIP TO THAILAND ORGANIZED BY THERAPY ABROAD. THERAPY ABROAD IS AN ORGANIZATION THAT FACILITATES PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS, POST-BACC AND GRADUATE STUDENTS IN THEIR FIELDS OF STUDY. THE TRIP WILL TAKE PLACE AFTER THE SEMESTER CONCLUDES, FROM MAY 10 TO MAY 21. THEY WILL VISIT CHIANG MAI, THE LARGEST PROVINCE OF THAILAND, AND THE THIRD LARGEST CITY IN THE COUNTRY. STUDENTS WILL GET THE CHANCE TO COLLABORATE WITH LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS AND GAIN HANDS-ON SPEECH THERAPY EXPERIENCE AND OBSERVATION HOURS. THEY WILL ALSO GET THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN ABOUT THE CULTURE AND HISTORY OF THAILAND.

THIS IS A TRIP FOR IU STUDENTS, BUT IT IS NOT AN IU-SPONSORED STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM. THE DATE TO SIGN UP HAS ALREADY PASSED, BUT IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE REACH OUT TO THE IU STUDENT AMBASSADOR FOR THE TRIP, LINDSAY MESSINGER (LINDSAYPAIGEMESS@GMAIL.COM).





FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



WILL THERE BE A GRADUATION EVENT SPECIFICALLY FOR SLHS?

YES, THE DEPARTMENT WILL HOLD A RECEPTION FOR STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES. ALL GRADUATING SENIORS FROM DECEMBER 2023, MAY 2024, AND AUGUST 2024 WILL BE INVITED. THE DETAILS OF THE EVENT HAVE NOT BEEN FINALIZED YET SO KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR INBOX FOR AN INVITATION LATER THIS SEMESTER!

- ANNELIES STOELINGA



HOW DO I GET INVOLVED IN RESEARCH?

FOR SLHS LABS YOU'RE WELCOME TO REACH OUT DIRECTLY TO THE FACULTY MEMBER DIRECTING THE LAB AT ANY TIME TO ASK IF THEY'RE CURRENTLY ACCEPTING VOLUNTEERS. A LIST OF ALL THE SLHS LABS IS LOCATED ON THE DEPARTMENT WEBSITE. FOR OPPORTUNITIES OUTSIDE THE DEPARTMENT, IDEAS INCLUDE: CHECK OUT RESEARCH LABS IN RELATED DEPARTMENTS LIKE LINGUISTICS OR SECOND LANGUAGE STUDIES, EXPLORE THE IU UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH WEBSITE FOR SOME INSPIRATION (UNDERGRADRESEARCH.INDIANA.EDU), OR APPLY TO THE COX RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP OR EMERGING SCHOLARS RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- ANNELIES STOELINGA

WHEN SHOULD I START PLANNING FOR STUDY ABROAD IF I'D LIKE TO GO?

HONESTLY IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY TO START THINKING ABOUT STUDY ABROAD, AND I ENCOURAGE ANYONE INTERESTED TO ATTEND A "FIRST STEPS INFO SESSION" FROM IU EDUCATION ABROAD TO GET AN INTRODUCTION TO HOW IT WORKS. HOWEVER, YOU DON'T REALLY NEED TO START SERIOUS PLANNING UNTIL YOU'RE WITHIN A YEAR OF WHEN YOU'D LIKE TO GO. SUMMER AND FALL PROGRAM APPLICATIONS OPEN IN EARLY DECEMBER AND WILL BE DUE SOMETIME IN JANUARY OR FEBRUARY. SPRING PROGRAM APPLICATIONS OPEN IN EARLY AUGUST AND WILL BE DUE IN LATE AUGUST OR SEPTEMBER.

- ANNELIES STOELINGA





FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

PROFESSOR LAURA SMITH

FOR THIS EDITION OF SPOTLIGHT, WE GOT THE OPPORTUNITY TO INTERVIEW PROFESSOR LAURA SMITH, WHO RECENTLY JOINED IU'S AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE PROGRAM. SHE GREW UP IN WESTERN MICHIGAN ON A FARM WITH HER FAMILY, WHO ARE ALL DEAF. WHEN ASKED ABOUT HER FAVORITE PART OF WHERE SHE GREW UP, PROFESSOR SMITH HAD MANY FOND MEMORIES TO SHARE. SHE MENTIONED HOW SHE PARTICIPATED IN 4H, WHICH ALLOWED HER TO MAKE MANY FRIENDS AND TRAVEL AROUND.

DURING THIS TIME, SHE WOULD ALSO TEACH HER FRIENDS DIFFERENT SIGNS. PROFESSOR SMITH WENT ON TO ATTEND GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY FOR HER BACHELOR'S IN ASL STUDIES. SHE THEN RECEIVED HER MASTER'S FROM MCDANIEL COLLEGE IN DEAF BILINGUAL EDUCATION. HERE, SHE DID TRAINING IN ORDER TO WORK WITH GRADE SCHOOL CHILDREN WHO ARE DEAF, AND THIS PIQUED HER INTEREST IN WORKING WITH COLLEGE-LEVEL STUDENTS. BEFORE COMING TO BLOOMINGTON, PROFESSOR SMITH WAS A LEGAL COURT INTERPRETER IN CALIFORNIA. SHE WENT ON TO DO FORMAL TRAINING AND CONTINUED HER WORK AS AN INTERPRETER IN MANY COURTROOMS, INCLUDING SOME IN WASHINGTON, D.C. AND KENTUCKY. ADDITIONALLY, PROFESSOR SMITH WORKED AS A DEAF INTERPRETER IN CLINICAL SETTINGS FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES. AFTER THIS, SHE REALIZED SHE WANTED TO BE CLOSER TO HOME, SO SHE MOVED TO INDIANA TO BE CLOSER TO HER FAMILY IN MICHIGAN AND INDIANAPOLIS!

GROWING UP, PROFESSOR SMITH TAUGHT HER FRIENDS HOW TO SIGN AND COMMUNICATE, ALTHOUGH TEACHING ASL WAS NEVER ON HER RADAR. IN COLLEGE, ONE OF HER PROFESSORS ASKED HER TO SUBSTITUTE TEACH, AND SHE QUICKLY FOUND HER GIFT IN THE CLASSROOM. SHE ALWAYS WANTED TO TEACH AT IU BECAUSE SHE KNEW HOW EXCEPTIONAL THE ASL PROGRAM WAS. HER CURRENT POSITION HERE IS AS AN ASL SENIOR LECTURER. WHEN ASKED ABOUT HER FAVORITE PART OF HER JOB, SHE IMMEDIATELY RESPONDED WITH THE FACULTY AND TEAM COMMUNITY, AS IT IS FILLED WITH LOTS OF KNOWLEDGE SHARING AND DEEP CONVERSATIONS. ADDITIONALLY, SHE GREATLY VALUES INSPIRING STUDENTS AND LANGUAGE SHARING IN THE CLASSROOM. PROFESSOR SMITH ALSO MENTIONED HOW SHE REALLY ENJOYS BLOOMINGTON'S NATURAL AND DOWN-TO-EARTH ENVIRONMENT. IN HER FREE TIME, SHE LOVES SPENDING TIME OUTDOORS. SHE RECENTLY SWITCHED UP HER ROUTINE AND TOOK UP PICKLEBALL. SHE ALSO LOVES GARDENING, AS IT FONDLY REMINDS HER OF HER CHILDHOOD. LATELY, SHE HAS EXPANDED HER GARDEN BY ADDING HERBS AND FLOWERS IN HOPES OF ATTRACTING BEES, BIRDS, AND BUTTERFLIES! SHE HOPES TO DESIGN HER BACKYARD GARDEN SO THAT SHE CAN SUPPORT THESE CREATURES THROUGH WHAT SHE GROWS. IN TERMS OF BLOOMINGTON, SHE WISHES TO FURTHER EXPLORE THE TRAILS IN THE AREA WITH HER BROTHER ON HER ELECTRIC BIKE.

WHEN ASKED ABOUT PROVIDING ANY ADVICE FOR STUDENTS STUDYING ASL, SHE ENCOURAGES YOU TO KEEP AN OPEN MIND AND USE TECHNOLOGY TO YOUR ADVANTAGE! YOU CAN FIND DEAF INFLUENCERS AND SIGNING VIDEOS ONLINE, WHICH IS A GREAT WAY TO EXPOSE YOURSELF TO NEW INFORMATION ABOUT DEAF CULTURE. CONTINUING ON, SHE SUGGESTS THAT SLHS MAJORS KEEP AN OPEN MIND TO THE IDEOLOGY OF DEAFNESS, FROM BOTH A CULTURAL AND CLINICAL PERSPECTIVE. SHE ENCOURAGES US TO BE OPEN, CHALLENGE OURSELVES, AND ASK QUESTIONS! WE WANT TO SAY THANK YOU TO PROFESSOR SMITH FOR BEING INVOLVED IN THIS EDITION OF SPOTLIGHT! WE WERE SO HAPPY TO HAVE GOTTEN TO INTERVIEW YOU AND ARE SO GLAD YOU ENDED UP IN BLOOMINGTON!

CONTRIBUTORS: OLIVIA GEERS AND ANNA HILBRICH

WHAT I WISH I KNEW

WHAT I WISH I KNEW... BEFORE I JOINED THE SLHS HONORS PROGRAM!

GOING INTO THE HONORS PROGRAM, I WISH I WOULD HAVE KNOWN NOT TO BE SO NERVOUS AT FIRST! IT'S TRULY SUCH A FUN EXPERIENCE TO BE ABLE TO DEVELOP A CLOSER RELATIONSHIP WITH YOUR LAB MENTOR AND BE ABLE TO LEARN SUCH LARGE AMOUNTS OF INFORMATION FROM THEM. FOR THOSE BEGINNING IN THE PROGRAM, BY THIS TIME NEXT YEAR YOU'LL BE EXCITEDLY THINKING ABOUT THE FINISH LINE OF YOUR PROJECT AND WILL BE THANKFUL YOU TOOK THE LEAP TO BE ABLE TO GROW AS A STUDENT!

ALI HARRIS

BEFORE STARTING THE HONORS PROGRAM, I WISH I KNEW MORE ABOUT HOW THE WHOLE PROCESS WORKS AND COMES TOGETHER, BECAUSE I FEEL LIKE WE DON'T REALLY SEE IT ALL UNTIL THE FINAL SEMESTER. HOWEVER, I THINK IT IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO CONNECT AND BUILD RELATIONSHIPS WITH FACULTY AND OTHER STUDENTS IN THE MAJOR! IT IS ALSO A GREAT WAY TO APPLY WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNED IN YOUR COURSES TO YOUR RESEARCH PROJECT.

RYANE HOHMAN

"I WISH I HAD KNOWN HOW IMPORTANT IT IS TO BE FLEXIBLE AND OPEN TO IDEAS WHILE DOING MY PROJECT. I WAS COMPLETELY SET ON MY ORIGINAL PROJECT IDEA AND MY PROJECT ENDED UP CHANGING IN THE THIRD SEMESTER OF THE PROGRAM. IT WAS A SMALL CHANGE, AND IT ACTUALLY MAKES MY PROJECT EASIER TO COMPLETE, SO I WISH THAT I WOULD'VE BEEN OPEN TO CHANGING IT EARLIER ON. OVERALL, I WISH I WOULD'VE KNOWN THAT YOU DON'T HAVE TO STICK WITH YOUR ORIGINAL IDEA TO HAVE A SUCCESSFUL PROJECT, AND THAT CHANGES LATER ON IN THE PROGRAM WON'T NECESSARILY DISRUPT YOUR PROGRESS."

LILY PETERS

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