



DEPARTMENT OF SPEECH, LANGUAGE AND HEARING SCIENCES



2023-2024 Newsletter



A Message from the Chair:

I continue to be extremely proud to lead the Department of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences. As you will read, our students, faculty, staff, and alumni have excelled in all their roles this year. Many of our students have won awards; academic faculty have made new scientific discoveries; our student clinicians and clinical faculty have provided the highest quality, compassionate care to our clients and so much more.



The 2023-2024 academic year again brought substantial growth and change to the Department. We welcomed six new faculty members, including Dana Demeter (Senior Lecturer in ASL), Julie Jones (Clinical Assistant Professor in Audiology), Carol Mesa (Assistant Professor in Language Science), Mini Shrivastav (Senior Lecturer in Hearing Science), Laura Smith (Senior Lecturer in ASL), and Caroline Spencer (Assistant Professor in Speech Science).

Beginning in the 2024-2025 academic year, we have two new faculty: Samantha Gustafson and Brooke Burke. Dr. Gustafson is joining us as an Assistant Professor in Hearing Science. She is a clinically trained pediatric audiologist and translational scientist. She studies how complex acoustic environments, such as noisy classrooms, impact the communication abilities of children who are D/deaf and hard of hearing. She earned her B.S. and Au.D. from Arizona State University and her Ph.D from Vanderbilt University. Before coming to IU, she was a post-doctoral fellow at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and an Assistant Professor for several years at the University of Utah. Ms. Burke will start as a Clinical Assistant Professor stationed at the Indianapolis Public Schools. She received both her B.S. and her master's degrees from Purdue University and previously worked at two school corporations as an SLP. Thus, she can share her wealth of knowledge about providing clinical services to children in the school setting with our student clinicians. We are delighted to welcome these two new faculty members!

We also had some substantial changes in our staff including a new preschool teacher (Skila Brown), Clinical Services Coordinator (Elizabeth Salyers), and Department Manager (Kelsey Archer). All of these new staff members are wonderful additions to the department. Their contributions are vital to fulfilling our mission.

This past year brought several retirements of long-time members of the department including Professor Raquel Anderson, Professor William (Bill) Shofner, Fiscal Officer Marcia Frederick, and Preschool Teacher Ellen Sbarounis. We will miss them and wish them all the best in their retirements! Below are a few fun photos of the retirement party for Bill and Raquel, where we celebrated their contributions to the department with current and retired faculty and their families. We wore ties to celebrate Bill and cat ears for Raquel.



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I hope that you enjoy reading about our activities. We always love hearing from our students, alums, and supporters. Please stay in touch!

All my best,

Tessa Bent

Provost Professor and Chair





Alumni and Student Spotlights

Marianna Gay



Marianna Gay is a recent graduate from IU and the STEPS Program. During her time at IU, she attended the ASHA convention in Boston, Massachusetts, as a part of the Minority Student Leadership Program. Here, she connected with other SLP and AuD students to discuss issues in the SLP field as well as build leadership skills alongside renowned experts. This was an incredible opportunity for her, and she is grateful to the department for their support in her journey. She is now completing her CF year in a school-based SLP position in Ohio with Dayton Public Schools.

Since graduating from Indiana University in May 2023, Kaylie has been pursuing her master's degree in Speech-Language Pathology at Illinois State University. During her first year, she provided therapy to a diverse range of clients. She has gained valuable experience in providing language therapy, treating speech sound disorders, working with AAC, and offering gender-affirming care. This summer, she interned at a pediatric private practice where she had the unique experience of providing feeding therapy to infants and school-aged children. Recently, she was honored to receive the Graduate Clinician of the Year award from her clinical educators. She reports that she is incredibly grateful to the faculty at IU for preparing her for success in graduate school!

Kaylie Maucieri





Megan Diekoff

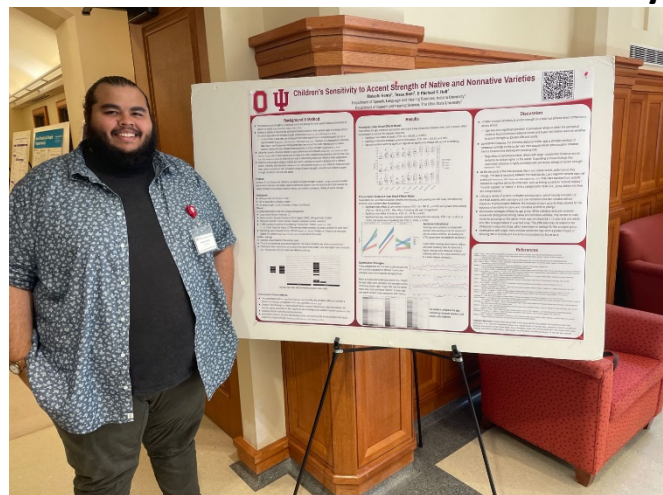


Megan Diekoff, a PhD student in the department, recently completed the Graduate Teaching Apprenticeship Program (GTAP) at the Associate Level. The GTAP recognizes graduate students who participate in activities at the CITL to further their teaching development and pedagogical leadership and scholarship. Her previous teaching experience prior to joining GTAP included undergraduate peer teaching at the Global Living

Learning Community at Indiana University and time spent as a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant at La Universidad Santo Tomas in Villavicencio, Colombia. As a graduate student at IU, Megan has taught two courses as Instructor of Record: Speech Anatomy (SLHS-S 201) and Childhood Language (SLHS-S 333) and she hopes to teach more courses in the coming semesters. One of Megan's proud teaching moments is when a student told her that they don't normally speak up in class but felt comfortable participating because of the welcoming environment.

Malachi Henry

Malachi Henry, a PhD candidate in Dr. Bent's Speech Perception Lab, has gained a wide variety of experience since starting at IU. Over the past three years, he has completed a range of projects relating to the perception and acoustics of accented or disordered speech. He has presented many posters and talks at various regional, national, and international venues including The Acoustical Society of America, ASHA, and ISHA. He has also developed mentorship skills, serving as a mentor for the Groups STEM Summer Research

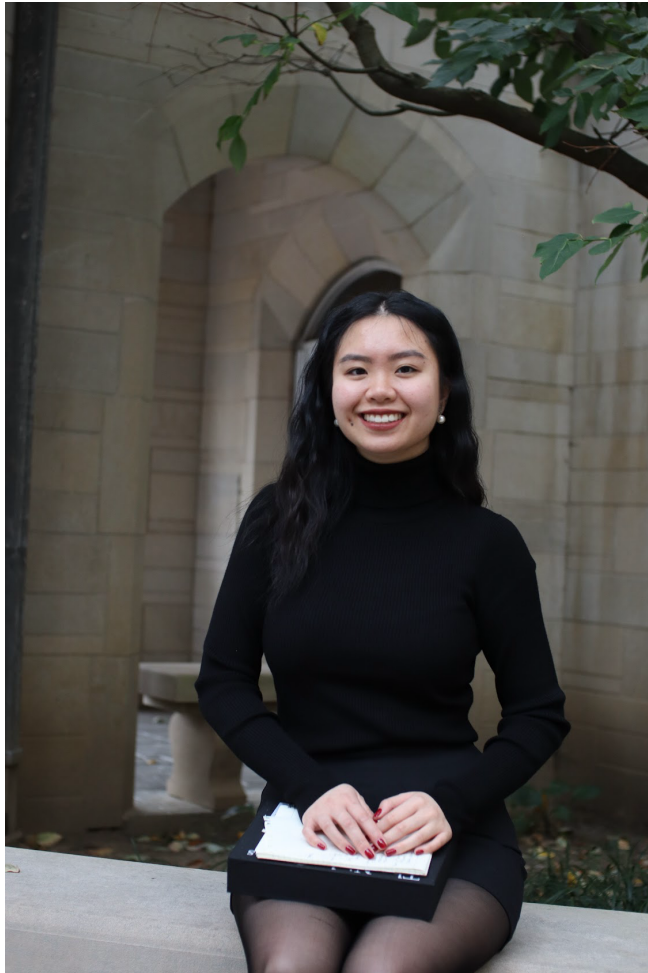


Experience program for incoming freshman from underrepresented and underserved communities as well as the Center of Excellence for Women & Technology's Research Experiences for Undergraduate Women program. This past Spring, his first paper was accepted for publication in the Journal of Child Language. He has also received several awards including departmental research and travel awards and the 2022 Fred W. Householder Best Student Paper



Award by the Linguistics Department. He was also recently awarded the James E. West Graduate Fellowship by The Acoustical Society of America. This award is offered to a single student every two years and will support him as he conducts his dissertation work. In the future, he hopes to become a faculty member at a large R1 institution, like IU.

Mimi Tran



Mimi Tran, a 3rd-year Au.D. student originating from Tây Ninh, Vietnam, has always believed that uplifting diverse student perspectives is important. During her involvement in the departmental Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice (DEIJ) Committee, she initiated projects including an annual DEIJ workshop and peer support program. She was later invited to join Mentors-4-us, a peer-mentoring program for underrepresented minority students applying to graduate school in speech, language, and hearing sciences. Her dedication led to her election as president of IU's local chapter of Student Academy of Audiology (SAA) for the 2023-24 term. Notable feats during her presidency include implementing "Hearing Aids," a mentorship program between the first—and second-year cohorts to foster relationships, providing free hearing screenings at the Asian Culture Center, and raising over \$1000 in proceeds to Hear Indiana and the Center of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Education

Foundation. Given these efforts, IUB's chapter was awarded the title of "Diversity and Inclusion Challenge Champions" by the National SAA's Chapter Challenge for 2023-24. Such titles are only given out to the most active SAA chapters who showcase their commitment to building a sense of community among audiology students. That said, Mimi attributes such success to her wonderful executive board of her fellow cohort members and supportive faculty. As a future audiologist, she aims to work in an academic institution where she can contribute to student success and empower marginalized groups, ensuring they never feel insignificant in the SLHS field.



Preschool Program Highlights

The IU Bloomington SLHS Language-Based Preschool program continued its longstanding service to the community and our graduate students this past year. Each semester, the preschool provides services to approximately 12 children with speech-language delays associated with a variety of disorder areas, and 8 typical peers. Through our Monday/Wednesday morning and afternoon preschool classes, 18 graduate clinicians from each cohort have an opportunity to earn 5 clinical hours per week for preschool, and often also conduct individual services with their assigned clients, resulting in additional clinical experience. Ellen Sbarounis, our preschool teacher for the last 20+ years, is taking a well-deserved retirement. Ellen has been instrumental in the ongoing language, cognitive, and emotional development of the preschool children. She also played a vital role in designing the new preschool space, including our new sunshade to protect the children in our outdoor sensory garden. We are excited to welcome Skila Brown, our new preschool teacher, who brings previous preschool experience and is a published children's/young adult author.

Hearing Clinic Highlights



The Hearing Clinic welcomed a new audiologist to the practice in September 2023. Dr. Julie Jones earned her undergraduate degree in Speech and Hearing Sciences at The Ohio State University in 2009, and her Au.D. from Ball State University in 2013. She completed her final externship year in the Chicago suburbs at Hearing Associates, Inc., a private audiology practice owned by IU alumni Carly (Smith) Girard (Class of 2008). At this office, she regularly supervised Au.D. graduate students where she first became interested in clinical supervision (preceptor). Dr. Jones joined IU SLHS in Fall of 2023 as a Clinical Assistant Professor. See our interview with her below!

1. What drove you to apply to a university Au.D. training program?

Over my career, I've always felt that working with students "keeps you honest" in patient care. While students are in the midst of learning exactly the right way to do things, they are inquisitive, thoughtful, and motivated. It gives me a deep sense of responsibility to provide exceptional patient care that aligns with the standards of our profession, while simultaneously shaping young professionals to do the same.

2. What has surprised you most about working at IU SLHS?



The cohesion and open-mindedness amongst all academic and clinical faculty. Everyone seems to find common ground in prioritizing the success of their students and our SLHS program. Differing opinions and fresh ideas are always welcomed and encouraged, which is such a great environment to work in! Our faculty is committed to continually evolving our program to provide unique experiences for our students.

3. What are you most excited about contributing to IU SLHS?

Prior to joining the faculty at IU, I worked in the private practice sector of audiology for 10+ years. Within the lens of clinical learning, I'd like to help students learn how to balance the "by-the-book" recommendation with the more "real-world" solutions for hearing care. On a broader scale, I'd love to expand the availability of tinnitus care within our IU Hearing Clinic and serve in leadership roles both within the university and our professional organizations to be an advocate for our profession and our patients.

4. How has clinical teaching informed your clinical practice?

Clinical teaching has definitely sharpened my skillset! Outside of the university setting, articulating the application of evidence-based decisions was not regularly required; in this setting, I need to draw on my deeper understanding of clinical decision-making and be able to explain what is happening and why I am choosing the protocols I am using on a more frequent basis. In a classroom or clinic with doctoral students who are eager to really learn and understand, their questions and ideas help push me to dig deeper in the research base to provide effective services. Students also generate innovative ideas of their own which are welcome additions to my practice! I welcome all these opportunities to grow professionally and believe I am a more comprehensive clinical practitioner than I have ever been as a result. I also believe that it is good for students to see that we are ever evolving as professionals, and that the quest for learning should not stop when they receive their degree.

5. If you have any advice for students when they are working in the clinic, what would it be?

Always remember to listen to your patient. Ask questions with the intent of understanding their concerns, rather than with the anticipation of replying. What are they saying, or sometimes more importantly, what are they not saying? Developing this level of respect and consideration for your patients will allow you to move in partnership towards a solution that is well-informed and accurately addresses their needs.



Speech-Language Clinic Highlights

This year the Speech-Language Clinic provided over 3,000 hours of services to our clients! The Clinic provides bilingual evaluations and weekly treatment through the STEPs program and now offers weekly outpatient clinical swallow evaluations (non-instrumental). In addition to providing evaluation and treatment services across the age-span and disorder areas, the clinic is home to several support groups including the weekly Aphasia Support Group, the monthly Brain Injury Support Group, both in their 29th year of operation, weekly SPEAK OUT!® voice therapy groups (Bloomington BOOMERS!), and monthly Parkinson's Support Group. These active and thriving support groups provide the win-win scenario of offering relevant training opportunities for the graduate clinicians, in tandem with provision of support for persons living with acquired speech, language, and cognitive challenges, and their families. This statement from a current contributor/participant to the Brain Injury Support Group, captures the essence:

"...and thank you for your staff's tireless efforts in helping those with TBIs (Traumatic Brain Injury). Your department has been a huge help to me over the years. I greatly appreciate your department. The advocacy, partnerships in the social services community, rehabilitation therapies and the network of support you and your team give to us is priceless. For me personally, I feel validated, encouraged, and have gained more confidence, while coping with a world that often doesn't understand. Thank You!"

The IU SLHS and Indianapolis Public Schools partnership offers B.A. and M.A. students the unique opportunity to spend a full day assessing and treating elementary students in downtown Indianapolis. The partnership offers a wide range of diverse experiences and a chance to live a day in the life of a school-based SLP. We are excited to welcome Brooke Burke, MA, CCC-SLP to our IPS team. Brooke comes to us from the Clark Pleasant Community School Corporation where she provided speech and language services from kindergarten to high school aged students. She is an excellent fit for our team.

The Speech-Language Clinic welcomed Clinical Assistant Professor, Carrie Wade as new Clinic Director, July 1. After serving as Clinic Director for twenty-three years, Laura Karcher is excited to focus on expansion of neurogenic communication disorders evaluation and treatment opportunities and interprofessional education in the clinic.

IU SLHS and Monroe County Community School Corporation (MCCSC) partnered for the tenth year of Camp Connections to provide a free, language enriched summer camp experience to 38 children with communicative differences and their neurotypical peers. There were so many smiles, moments of laughter and opportunities to learn and grow. The camp served as an interprofessional training experience for 36 IU MA graduate clinicians and 16 special education staff from MCCSC. The campers taught them all so much about communication, engagement and how to create a better sense of belonging for individuals with and without communication differences.



Undergraduate Program Highlights

There were 85 students graduating with a B.A. or B.S. degree from our department; 9 students graduated in December 2023; 72 students graduated in May 2024; 4 students in August 2024. Of these 85 graduating seniors with majors in SLHS, 17 were also graduating with the American Sign Language Minor. Many of these students will be attending graduate school in the fall for programs in Speech-Language Pathology or Audiology.

Phi Beta Kappa is the oldest and most prestigious honor society in the country, and this year we had 8 students inducted into PBK. In addition to PBK, there were 52 seniors graduating from the College of Arts and Sciences with honors levels of Distinction, High Distinction and Highest Distinction. We had 41 incoming first-year students as direct admits to the Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences major in the College of Arts and Sciences with another 8 transfer students that were directly admitted to the major.

In addition to the B.A./B.S. degrees and the SLHS minor, one of the major highlights for the curriculum in the department was the approval by the College of Arts and Sciences of a new Pre-Professional Certificate in Speech-Language Pathology. This Certificate is designed for students who are not majoring in Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences but wish to prepare for possible study in speech-language pathology at the graduate level. The certificate includes courses and clinical observations generally required for admission to master's level speech-language pathology programs.

The department offers several immersive experience programs to our students. This year we had 9 students participate in the Undergraduate Teaching Assistant Program. UTAs not only learn about teaching methods in the seminar course of their experience, but they provide valuable hands-on contributions and assistance to faculty in their courses. This year we had 8 students participate in the Honors Research Program. Honors students not only learn about how research is conducted by carrying out their own independent research projects under the mentorship of a faculty member, taking a sequence of 3 honors seminar courses, and writing a 25-page honors thesis, but they provide important contributions to the research programs of their faculty mentors. Two honors students also received undergraduate research grants to support their research.

Megan Cunningham is a junior honors student working in the lab of Dr. Travis Riffle. She presented her research at the Midwest Cognitive Science Conference 2024 at Ohio University, Athens, OH May 9-11. Megan's poster won second place in the best-poster competition at the conference among about 40 posters, and most of her competitors were PhD students. Congratulations to Megan!



SLHS Undergraduate Honors Program

Below is the list of the students who completed the Honors Program this spring and the titles of their theses. They all worked incredibly hard on these research projects, and we are very proud of all their accomplishments!

Brooke Albert - *Early-, Middle-, and Late-Acquired Sounds in Spanish- Speaking Children*

Elizabeth Drobny - *Investigating the Effects of Musicianship and Attention on The Subcortical Encoding of Musical Chords*

Allison Harris - *Use of Inner Speech for Emotion Purposes in People with Post-Stroke Aphasia*

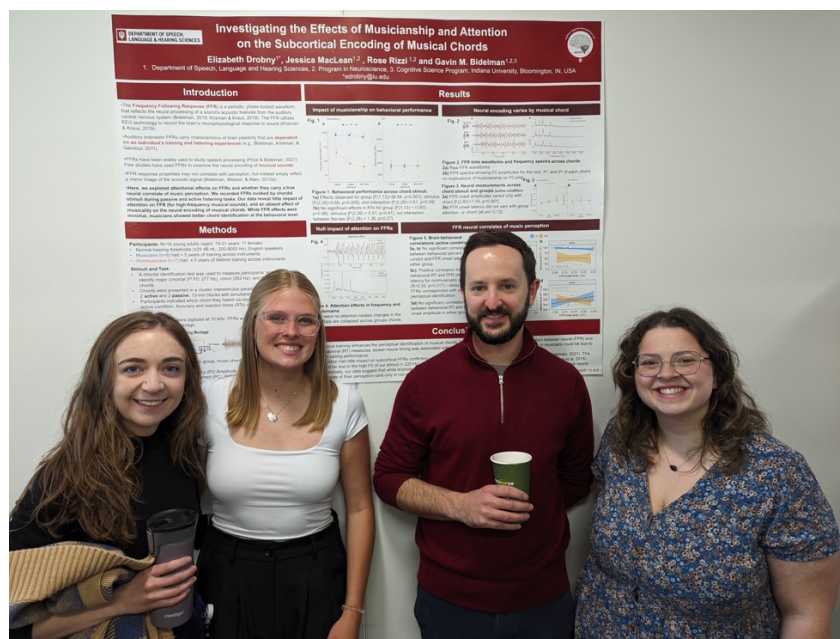
Morgan Haynes - *Spin-the-Pots Task: A Look into Preschooler's Working Memory Capabilities*

Ryane Hohman - *Cepstral Peak Prominence and Electroglottography in Children*

Gabrielle Lane - *The Effect of Speaker Reliability on Novel Word- Learning in Monolingual and Bilingual Children: A Retention Study*

Lillian Peters - *Selective Word Learning in Preschool Children: Replicability and Individual Differences*

Bethany Yagoda - *Use of Inner Speech for Problem Solving and Motivation Purposes in Older Adults with Post-Stroke Aphasia*



Elizabeth Drobny, Honors student and winner of the Charles S. Watson Honors Student Award, stands by her poster with her mentor, Dr. Gavin Bidelman, and two PhD students from the lab: Jessica MacLean and Rose Rizzi.



ASL Program Highlights

By: Joseph Murray, ASL Program Coordinator

ASL Program highlights for 2023-2024: I am honored to report that we have added two exceptional American Sign Language (ASL) Faculty members to the ASL team. Dana Demeter and Laura Smith, both with extensive experience and qualifications, have now completed one year with the program. Please see their profiles below. We are confident their expertise will significantly enhance our ASL program for years.

Dana Demeter is a Senior Lecturer in the American Sign Language program at Indiana



University. She earned her Master's degree in Sign Language Education from Gallaudet University. Dana has been teaching ASL for 15+ years, and she specializes in university-level education, working with students who are learning ASL as a second language. Her goal is to infuse students with a passion for learning ASL while emphasizing the value of understanding both the language and Deaf culture. She teaches ASL at all levels, focusing on conversation regulators and classifiers.

Outside of her teaching role, Dana enjoys spending time with her family, being active, exploring the outdoors, and traveling. These personal interests make her a well-rounded individual and contribute to her teaching style, making her classes engaging and dynamic.



Laura Smith, is a Senior Lecturer in the American Sign Language program at Indiana University, brings a wealth of experience to our program. With a Bachelor's degree in ASL teaching from Gallaudet University and a Master's in Bilingual Education from McDaniel College, she has taught ASL for over 25 years. Her teaching experience spans various educational settings in Michigan, Maryland, Washington, DC, Virginia, and Kentucky, making her a seasoned professional.

Laura enjoys spending time with family and animals, cultivating herbs and vegetables in her garden, engaging in DIY projects, exploring nature through hiking, e-biking, and recently being involved with pickleball and walking.

This year, the ASL program has hit some historical milestones, including the number of ASL faculty and student enrollment. In 2022, we had six ASL faculty, two staff interpreters, 645 students, and 87 students on the waitlist. In the current 2023-2024 academic year, we have eight ASL faculty, two staff interpreters, 660 students, and 133 students on waitlists. What a massive transformation in the numbers of faculty and students within a year. These numbers wouldn't have happened without an excellent team of ASL faculty members and their passionate teaching efforts. Thank you all! With the expansion of the ASL faculty, we have also



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expanded the ASL suite with more offices for each faculty in Woodburn Hall. Please stop by and visit our new home any time.

As always, the ASL Retreats were two big highlights of the academic year. This spring we hosted the ASL Retreat for our A250 students in President's Hall located in Franklin Hall. I am thrilled to share that approximately 190 students participated in our ASL retreat. This is the most significant number of students we have had participate in our ASL retreat in the program's history. It was a tremendous success, and we received many emails from students saying they felt the experience went beyond their expectations. Below are several photos from our ASL retreat this semester. Enjoy!



In the group photo above, the ASL faculty, staff, and students sign I LOVE YOU. The photo was taken to send our love and best wishes to our dedicated, passionate, and good-spirited ASL faculty member, Daniel Smith, during his fight with pancreatic cancer. With heavy hearts, we report that Daniel passed away on September 17, 2024. His loss will be deeply felt by IU faculty, staff, and students. He was an essential part of the ASL team for 15 years. His steadfast commitment to the ASL program throughout his time on the faculty enriched the program in countless ways. His smile, compassion, and creativity will be sorely missed. We are all keeping his family in our thoughts and prayers.



Speech-Language Pathology M.A. Program Highlights

- A total of 40 graduates.
- Graduates secured placements across 35 school corporations in 10 states, covering the Midwest, West, and Southern regions of the United States.
- 37 different medical facilities, supported by 31 parent healthcare systems or private practices, were involved across 7 states in the Midwest and South.
- 100% of the students passed the PRAXIS exam.
- 13 students successfully completed the STEPS program.
- 16 of the 40 graduates (40%) received at least one award during their time in the program.

The speech-language pathology program bid farewell to 40 graduates earning a Master of Arts degree this spring. This is one of the largest cohorts to date! Thirteen of the 40 graduates successfully completed the Speech Therapy Education, Practicum, and Services (STEPS) program. STEPS is an optional bilingual training program within the master's degree program designed to serve Spanish-English speaking communities. STEPS is one of only six bilingual training programs in the Midwest that train students to become multilingual service providers. We are especially proud of the 16 students who received at least one award during their time in our program. All MA graduates secured school and medical externships placements throughout the United States, spanning three of the five regions of the country: West, Midwest, and South. Placements included 35 school districts and 31 health care systems/private practices across 10 different states. All graduates passed the PRAXIS exam and are well on their way to earning clinical certification in speech-language pathology. We wish our graduates success in the next step of their journey, which is to complete the clinical fellowship experience. The clinical fellowship is a full time mentored professional experience designed to bridge the gap between the graduate program and independent professional practice. Way to go graduates!

Our 35 first year speech-language pathology master's degree students will soon be transitioning to their final year of the program. We congratulate the six students (Kaitlyn Arvin, Isabella Collins, Gabriela Gutierrez, Eliza Klinedinst, Isabel Herrera Rivera, and Carolina Soto) who have already distinguished themselves by receiving an award during their short time in the program. We look forward to watching this class continue to expand their knowledge and skills as they finish up the program this upcoming year!

Lastly, we in speech-language pathology want to acknowledge the contributions of our fantastic colleague, Dr. Raquel Anderson, who retired from the IU faculty after 30 years of service. Dr. Anderson contributed to our department in so many ways. One of the most influential was her development of a highly impactful bilingual training program in speech language pathology: STEPS - Speech Therapy Education, Practicum, and Services for Latino Children and Families. This program is now one of the highlights of the clinical training program in the



Department. Prof. Anderson held several other substantial leadership roles during her time at IU including serving as the Director of Graduate Studies for the MA program from 2016-2019 and Director of Undergraduate Studies from 2001-2011. Her efforts were nationally recognized; she was named a Fellow of the American Speech-Language and Hearing Association (ASHA) in 2021 and received the national Excellence in Diversity Award from the Council for Academic Programs in Communication Sciences and Disorders (CAPCSD) in 2023. Dr. Anderson's classroom teaching and research mentorship has had a profound impact on hundreds of students. We wish her all the best in her retirement!

Au.D. Program Highlights

The Audiology program at IU was pleased to award 8 graduate students the Doctor of Audiology (AuD) degree (including 1 dual AuD/PhD) and 1 Master of Speech and Hearing Science in Summer 2024. In addition to the usual coursework, these students completed a remarkable 2000+ hours of patient interaction.

The 3rd year of the AuD program culminates in the completion of the full-time clinical externship where students embark to become practicing audiologists at an off-campus site. Our 2024 cohort represented SLHS across the nation, completing externships at sites ranging from large medical hospitals to private ENT practices spanning from Colorado to Chicago to South Carolina.

During 2023-24, several of our students were also honored with awards at the department and state levels. Savannah Lamotte received the Psi Iota Xi/ISHA Outstanding Student Clinician Award, for outstanding performance in the clinic. Taylor Holt was awarded the Educational Opportunity Fellowship from IU. Lorelei Schmidt received the Lions Club Award, intended for students who are dedicated to helping those with speech, language, and hearing challenges and graduated from an Indiana High School.

Please help us in congratulating these remarkable accomplishments and wishing our graduating AuD class of 2024 the very best as they embark on a new chapter of their audiology careers!

We are also pleased to announce that the IU chapter of the Student Academy of Audiology won this year's National SAA challenge for Diversity and Inclusion! Congratulations to Mimi Tran (SAA president) and the entire SAA team!

Lastly, we in audiology would like to offer our fondest farewell to our colleague, teacher, and friend, Dr. William Shofner, who is retiring from the IU faculty after 19 years of service. Bill has played a foundational role in building the audiology program from the mid-2000s into the top-ranked program it is today. He also served as the AuD Coordinator for 7 years during the program's most formative years. Bill has been an immense asset to our program and will be sorely missed. We wish him all the best in his retirement!



Ph.D. Program Highlights

This past year saw many student accomplishments by our PhD students. Two students successfully defended their theses and graduated with their PhDs: Ryan Anderson's dissertation was titled "Psychoacoustic and Electrophysiological Measure of the Interaction between Pitch and Timbre Cues in Static and Dynamically Varying Sounds" and Donghyeon Yun's dissertation was titled "Effects of Nonlinear Algorithms on Output Signal-to-Noise ratios of a Digital Hearing Aid." Two of our students also received prestigious fellowships. Julianne Alexander won the New Century Doctoral Scholarship awarded by the ASH Foundation, and Malachi Henry won the James E. West Graduate Fellowship awarded by the Acoustical Society of America. Due to the generosity of the donors to our department, we were able to award the Gierut Award for Outstanding PhD Research to Jessica MacLean for her research titled "Auditory-motor entrainment and listening experience shape the perceptual learning of concurrent speech". The Marty and Larry Humes PhD travel awards were given to Comfort Fabode and Eleanor Birch, who presented their work at professional conferences. Five students received competitive research funding from the department to support their research studies, and all our Ph.D. students were highly active in presenting their research this year with talks and posters at the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Acoustical Society of America, Indiana Speech-Language-Hearing Association, among others.

Departmental Mission

The mission of SLHS is to serve the community by advancing innovative basic and applied research in communication sciences and disorders for the purpose of knowledge acquisition, student education, professional training and clinical practice.

Departmental Strategic Plan

Executive Summary

The department's strategic plan has the following goals:

1. Increase the total number of academic faculty with a focus on faculty in hearing science / audiology. A special emphasis will be on recruiting people from minoritized backgrounds to increase the department's diversity.
2. Expand diversity initiatives in the department, with a focus on a) attracting more students and faculty from minoritized backgrounds, b) train current faculty on issues regarding serving students with diverse needs, and c) support students from minoritized backgrounds within our programs.
3. Increase external funding for faculty research and PhD student support.
4. Increase collaboration within the department and with other health science programs.



Graduate Student Award Recipients

Speech-Language Pathology M.A.

Bicentennial Graduate Fellowship

Eliza Klinedinst

S. Kay Burrus Speech-Language Pathology Program Fellowship

Kaitlyn Arvin

Outstanding ASL Graduate Assistant Award

Isabel Visuri

Indiana Lions Club Scholarship

Holly Nagel

Psi Iota Xi Outstanding Student Clinician Awards

Mary Schiff

Dorothy Saltzman Outstanding Preschool Clinician Award

Prit Kaur and Nicola Santangelo

Audiology Au.D.

Educational Opportunity Fellowship

Taylor Holt

Indiana Lions Club Scholarship

Lorelei Schmidt

Psi Iota Xi Outstanding Student Clinician Awards

Savannah Lamotte

Ph.D.

Larry and Marty Humes Student Research Travel Award

Comfort Fabode and Eleanor Birch

Indiana Lions Club Research Grant

Katelyn Urena

Gierut Award for Outstanding Ph.D. Research

Jessica MacLean



Undergraduate Student Award Recipients

Charles S. Watson Honors Student Award

Elizabeth Drobny

Bob and Martie Crist Highest Achievement Award

Maggie Stall and Lillian Peters

Norvelle Student Achievement Award

Allison Harris

Student Assistance Fund in SLHS

Lisbeth De los Santos

Phi Beta Kappa Seniors

Inducted December 5, 2023

Lillian Peters

Inducted April 9, 2024

Brooke Albert

Gianna Cotignola

Elizabeth Drobny

Isabel Korte

Aylivia Mellon

Lauren Schneider

Bethany Yagoda

Undergraduate Teaching Assistants

Madison Bruce

Maggie Stall

Delaney Eminger

Jordyn Tipton

Allison Harris

Amanda VanBuskirk

Isabel Korte

Mirjana Vraniskoski

Emma Willoughby

Undergraduate Research Awards

Morgan Haynes

Ryane Hohman



Special thanks to our donors!

We want to thank all our fantastic donors. Through your thoughtful contributions, we have been able to support student education at all levels – undergraduates, Speech-Language Pathology M.A. students, Au.D. students, and PhD. Students. Your gifts have allowed us to recognize their excellence in academics, clinical practice, and research. You have also supported new scientific discoveries and dissemination of these findings, including student travel to conferences. Your generosity has ensured that all clients, regardless of means, have access to critical speech, language and hearing services in our clinics and preschool. Finally, your contributions have supported our faculty in their professional development, ensuring we are offering the most up-to-date clinical services to our clients and employing innovative pedagogical practices for all students.

Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences Fund



Donating to the Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences Fund will provide the department with broad support for our students, faculty, and clients, including student scholarships, professional development for faculty, and ensuring high-quality provision of clinical care.

Student Assistance Fund



Donating to the Student Assistance Fund will provide the department with support for undergraduate and graduate student scholarships, conference attendance, research travel and equipment. This support will allow our students to deepen their learning and expand their educational opportunities.

Indiana Exchange Club Speech and Hearing Fund



Donating to the Indiana Exchange Club Speech and Hearing Fund will support assessment and treatment of speech, hearing, and language disorders affecting children at the Hearing and Speech-Language Clinics at Indiana University, Bloomington.

For other giving opportunities, please visit <https://give.myiu.org/>.



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