What a whirlwind year! Our fall semester began with 36 bright new faces in the MA, AuD and PhD classes. As is always the case from my vantage point, seeing these new promising faces arrive reinvigorates the entire building, faculty and staff alike. A little later in the fall we had an exciting new – and hopefully annual – event sponsored by the NSSLHA students. The live/silent auction was held in conjunction with two other momentous events: The Julia Davis Memorial Day and the Distinguished Alum Award. All were held on Friday, October 18. Family and former students and colleagues gathered to celebrate Julia’s colorful personality and very successful career, and mourn her unexpected death in March of 2013. The event and its participants spilled into the student-sponsored fundraising dinner, which was held at the Iowa Club that evening. Besides announcing a number of student awards, I was able to welcome our Distinguished Alum for 2013, Pat Stelmachowicz (PhD 1980), currently at Boys Town National Research Hospital in Omaha. The evening was a blast for all, and the students raised $10,000 to support clinic programs! The activity level around here never subsided as we started the spring with the search and hire of our newest faculty member, Meredith Saletta. Meredith hails from Purdue University where she is finishing her dissertation and defense just in time to join us for the fall semester. Onward to our three retirement events: Bruce Tomblin on April 4, Richard Hurtig on April 25, and Chris Turner on May 2. Each gave a rousing farewell lecture followed by a variety of very enjoyable festivities. And, finally, as we go to press, we congratulate our newest graduates: 54 undergraduates, 29 MA’s in Speech-Language Pathology, 7 AuD students, and 5 PhD’s. Life is never dull around here…

- Ruth Bentler
Alumni Updates

Hughlett Morris (BA ‘52; MA ‘57; PhD ‘60) has published a new book: *The Cass Street Kid*, (Wheatmark 2013). The title refers to his street address in Dayton when he moved there at 15. His memoir includes his 45 years in Iowa’s Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology, as a client, student, and faculty member. *The Cass Street Kid* is his seventh published non-technical work. Morris’s books are available at amazon.com.

Anne Smith (PhD ‘78) was awarded Honors of the Association at the 2013 ASHA convention in Chicago.

Charissa Lansing (PhD ‘84) and Ron Scherer (PhD ‘81) were named ASHA Fellows.

Ron Scherer was given fellow status from the Acoustical Society of America. In a recent note to the faculty, he said, “I wish to emphasize that the rigorous education and professional development I received as a doctoral student, especially witnessing what the elite in our profession do and receiving a remarkably high quality education, were the backbone to the professional successes I have had the good fortune to experience. I am deeply indebted to the department.”

Brooke Hallowell (PhD ’91) was honored with Outstanding Contributions in International Achievement at the 2013 ASHA convention.

Kristi Musser (BA ’07), works as a pediatric audiologist at the University of Minnesota Amplatz Children’s Hospital. She welcomes new graduates (or new transplants to Minnesota) and invites them to participate in the local Iowa Club.

Mary Sloan (BA ’09) is now screening newborn hearing at Unity Point Health in Des Moines.

2013 Distinguished Alumnus

Patricia Stelmachowicz (PhD ’80), was honored as the 2013 Distinguished Alumnus. Ruth Bentler presented her award at the 1st annual NSSLHA auction and fundraiser. More event photos appear on page 9.
Faculty Achievements

Paul Abbas, Carolyn Brown and Rich Tyler were recognized for their Technique to Restore Natural Stochastic Independence to the Deafened Auditory Nerve (licensed to Direct Spinal Therapeutics) at the University of Iowa Discovery and Awards Ceremony.

Fari Alipour is the 2014 recipient of the Voice Foundation’s Quintana Research Award. The award honors those who design or utilize technology and apply engineering principles that provide further understanding of the voice.

Katherine Gordon Millett’s F32 application for three years of postdoctoral funding was awarded; she will work with Karla McGregor in the Word Learning Lab.

Richard Hurtig mentored a business and engineering student team that won the 2012-13 Hubert E. Storer Engineering Student Entrepreneurial Start-up Award. Their plan, Iowa Smart Switch, seeks to improve the quality of life for individuals with disabilities by developing high technology devices.

Danielle Kelsay and Stephanie Fleckenstein, on behalf of the UISAFE group, were awarded an Excellence and Innovation Grant from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. UISAFE (University of Iowa Sound Awareness For Everyone) is a group of faculty and graduate students who inform the public about strategies aimed at preventing noise-induced hearing loss.

Karen Kirk was honored at the University of Iowa Discovery and Awards Ceremony for her Multimodal Lexical Sentence Test for Adults and for Children (licensed to GN Otometrics).

Joanna Chen Lee and Bruce Tomblin were awarded an R21 grant, entitled The Role of the Corticostriatal System in Specific Language Impairment.

Jerry Moon was recognized at the University of Iowa Discovery and Awards Ceremony. His Phonetics: The Sounds of Spoken Language, originally created as a website, has now been updated for the mobile media; more on page 10.

Amanda Van Horne is being awarded a Mentored Patient-Oriented Research Career Development Award, Manipulating Stimulus Properties to Promote Past Tense Generalization in Children with Specific Language Impairment.

Yu-Hsiang Wu earned a New Century Scholars Research Grant to support his work aimed at developing better methods to more accurately measure listening effort. The award was established through a gift to the ASHFoundation by Wayne and Marilyn Olesen; Wu is the first to win the annual award.

Tricia Zebrowski won a $75,000 ASHFoundation Research Award for her project, Applying the Transtheoretical Model of Behavior Change to Stuttering Management Among Adolescents.
CSD salutes retirees Turner, Tomblin and Hurtig

Three retirement celebrations in CSD this spring gave the Department a chance to welcome back former students, friends and faculty and to find out where their research careers have taken them. It also gave us a chance to thank Richard Hurtig, Bruce Tomblin and Chris Turner one more time for all they’ve contributed, but here -- and on the next few pages -- we’re giving them the final word.

Chris Turner

When you were a young undergraduate, did you ever imagine you’d be living and working in Iowa?
Since undergraduate days, I had the dream of being a college professor living in a small town. However, I never dreamed I'd be working at a Number One department and getting big money from NIH grants. I have exceeded my expectations by many miles. Also, growing up in Minnesota, I was only barely familiar with Iowa. All I knew was you went south on Hwy 35, and took a right at Des Moines on your way to Colorado. But Trish and Ruth took me around to see neighborhoods here on my interview, and I was hooked.

What was your first day like in the Department?
No different than any other day at my other faculty positions. Busy.

Were there challenges you didn’t anticipate?
I found working in this department to be so much easier than any other department that I never had any complaints. This department works so very well because people let you run with your ideas and energy, and you can succeed or fail without interference.

Tell us about one of your proudest achievements.
I am most proud of my students and post-docs. I didn't have many of them, but over 90% of my PhD students and 100% of my post-docs went on to receive funding from NIH. I also was very proud of my teaching record in regular classes. I always got good ratings (and some laughs too).

People often believe that college professors work in ivory towers. Can you tell us an incident that proves it isn’t always a glamour job?
Hey, we have to empty our own trash baskets! Seriously, working in my research with real-world hearing aid and cochlear implant patients is not ivory-tower at all. You have to solve real-world problems, not lots of talk about theories and models.

Does it seem real yet that retirement is within your sightline?
Nope. I’m there. I am not sure how I had time to go to work before.

What are your plans for retirement?
I have some land and a cabin on the banks of the Mississippi River and a boat on the river. Its near Chestnut ski area, where I do some ski racing in the winter. There are plenty of good bike riding routes there as well. I plan on splitting my time between my home in Coralville and my river cabin. I tried a little local politics also, it was fun, but I’m probably not doing that again!

Now, one last request: when you retire, do you promise to leave all your knowledge behind with us?
I left my students behind. They can be the source of this knowledge and also they'll produce their own (perhaps showing where I was wrong)!
When you were a young undergraduate, did you ever imagine you’d be living and working in Iowa?
The simple answer is no. I was living in California and assumed that I would stay there. Frankly, I probably couldn’t have shown you where Iowa was on the map. I do recall having a roommate from Indiana, and I would say that he was from one of those “I” states in the Midwest.

What was your first day like in the Department?
That is so long ago I can’t remember. I am pretty sure I was terrified, since that was the state I was in for a while here. I was teaching a set of courses that I had not taught before, and in some cases, I had not had as a student. I was still working on my CFY so I was doing clinic work along with my students.

Were there challenges you didn’t anticipate?
I had already been a faculty member for two years at Syracuse University so I had an idea of what being a faculty member involved. I think that I wasn’t prepared for the pressure of maintaining the Iowa reputation.

Tell us about one of your proudest achievements.
It is very difficult to single one thing out. What stands out right now is the symposium that Amanda organized in my honor at ASHA. There were some very nice things said by the presenters, but what I realized was that I actually may have made a substantive contribution to the field. While you are doing it, it often isn’t very apparent. I am now learning that a number of my students and colleagues are traveling to Iowa for the Departmental retirement activities. The fact that these people would take time to do this is very moving.

People often believe that college professors work in ivory towers. Can you tell us an incident that proves it isn’t always a glamour job?
Rather than single out a particular incident, I think I can just say that universities and academia are comprised of people, and people are the same in most institutions and organizations. Most people don’t always get along and some people don’t get along with others most of the time. Academia, in particular is pretty forgiving of difficult behavior and so one might say that the ivory tower is more real world than the real world.

Does it seem real yet that retirement is within your sightline?
I still plan to keep doing research and so a full time retirement isn’t in the offing yet. I view what I am moving into is a time where I have the freedom to do what I want to do, and in particular, not do what I don’t want to do. I am beginning to realize that this is a possibility and it is indeed quite appealing.

What are your plans for retirement?
I hope to be able to not work on weekends and evenings and to spend more with my family and just myself. As I noted above, much of what I plan to do is what I want to do and some of that is to keep doing research.

Now, one last request: when you retire, do you promise to leave all your knowledge behind with us?
What I hope is that I have been able to shape the field and the direction of thinking in my area. Any value my knowledge has had or will have will be in how it leads others to better ways of thinking about communication sciences and disorders.
When you were a young undergraduate, did you ever imagine you’d be living and working in Iowa?
As an immigrant and as a New Yorker, I barely knew that there was life west of the Hudson River. To tell the truth, I couldn’t even imagine life past the bachelor’s degree.

What was your first day like in the Department?
Brutally hot; that may be hard to imagine given how Iowa has been pummeled by this year’s Polar Vortex. There was also the realization that you couldn’t get a great pizza or a bagel in Iowa City. Jerry Zimmermann has changed all that and now I can’t get a great pizza anywhere else.

Were there challenges you didn’t anticipate?
How to deal with “Iowa Nice,” given that NYU, MIT and Columbia had made me naturally argumentative. And maybe also discovering that behaviorism was alive and well despite what my professors led me to believe.

Tell us about one of your proudest achievements.
There isn’t one; it’s the cumulative history of the students I have worked with: great Honors’ students from Anne Wallace, who was the first, to Brooke Gambrall, who was the last, wonderful master’s students from Emily Haas to Sarah Labaz and my PhD students starting with Takako Ayusawa and ending with Rebecca Alper. All in all, there are 29 PhD, 29 MA and 32 Honors theses; I regret space doesn’t permit my listing every one of their names and thesis titles. I guess I am also proud that nearly 2,000 students will forever remember “the oyster the oyster the oyster split split split.”

People often believe that college professors work in ivory towers. Can you tell us an incident that proves it isn’t always a glamour job?
My research outside of the lab brought me front and center with some of the most challenging issues of our times. My IES grant to study the Impact of Breakthrough to Literacy in the Chicago Public Schools brought me into the center of what makes K-12 education so problematic: on the one side the bureaucracy of large school systems and on the other the corporate greed of publishers. A more recent example comes from my work on bringing AAC into acute care and the politics of how to fund healthcare. As the innovations in technology that now make it possible for even “locked in” patients to be able to communicate with their caregivers, it is troubling that institutions are not moving to put AAC strategies into place and for Medicare to adequately support AAC services. Fighting the establishment is in no way glamorous and seeing that we train the next generation of SLPs to be proficient in the “language” part of the scope of practice is and will be challenging.

Does it seem real yet that retirement is within your sightline?
Being 69-plus and having been on the Iowa faculty for 37 years certainly brings the horizon a lot closer. I look forward to the time when there will be no committee meetings and no grade disputes; it is harder to see a time without the wonderful students who have kept me young and on my toes.

What are your plans for retirement?
There are parts of my daily life that will not change. I have had the great fortune in the past year to be working with a group of students in the University’s IMIG program. That work has led to the university filing a patent for the Iowa Smart-Switch that we developed. The students and I have formed a company, Iowa Adaptive Technologies, which will work to bring the technology we have developed to market. We have started clinical trials, and I expect that I will continue my involvement with intensive care units not only at Iowa but also in my new home in Philadelphia. I have a bunch of writing projects that have nothing to do with CSD that I will finally get to, and most importantly, I will have the time to be with my two grandsons and the rest of the family.

Continued on page 11
student publications, posters and presentations

PUBLICATIONS


Shune, S. & Duff, M.C. (accepted). Verbal play as a discourse resource in the social interactions of older and younger communication pairs. Journal of Interactive Research in Communication Disorders

POSTERS and PRESENTATIONS


Steurer, K., Kelsay, D.M.R., Stangl, E., Fleckenstein, S., Barber, B. (2013). Sound Awareness for Everyone: Community Hearing Loss Prevention Programs at the University of Iowa. Poster presentation at the National Hearing Conservation Association Conference, St. Petersburg, FL.


student honors and awards

Britany Barber received the National Hearing Conservation Association 2014 Student Conference Award. She received a complimentary conference registration and an $800 stipend to cover travel and lodging for the meeting.

Spyridoula (Litsa) Cheimarioiu, a PhD student in Jean Gordon’s lab, applied for and was awarded a Graduate College Summer Fellowship.

Maura Curran won Best Graduate Student poster in the DeLTA Days poster competition.

Ani Danelz, mentored by Carolyn Brown, was awarded the 2014 Rhodes Dunlap Scholarship for Third Year Students.

Jessica Hall and Maura Curran both received travel awards for the Symposium on Research in Child Language Disorders to be held in June 2014.

Ben Kirby, PhD candidate, won an award for his poster at the American Auditory Society; Ben defended his dissertation in April 2014 and will move on to a post-doctoral fellowship at Boys Town National Research Hospital.

Eric Liang won a 2013 ASHFoundation Graduate Student Scholarship.

Shanju Lin was given a 2013 Research Mentoring-Pair Travel Award, American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. Her mentor is Karla McGregor.

Ian Mertes was the recipient of the ARO 2014 Audiologist Travel Award -- American Academy of Audiology Foundation, and also won an ECGPS Travel Award -- University of Iowa Executive Council of Graduate and Professional Students.

Samantha Shune was given a Graduate Student Senate Travel Fund Award and also an Executive Council of Graduate and Professional Students Travel Grant

UI Foundation Scholarships

• Kristen Lodge Miller Award to Sarah Labaz
• Ogdahl Graduate Awards to Molly Ternus and Leslie Van Winkle
• Laurel Stanzel Awards to Annie Smith and Katie Soltys
• Salmon Scholarship Awards to Jessica Taylor and Natalie Vanderveen


Student groups put the fun into fundraisers that support Clinic clients, engagement efforts

In early October, the National Student Speech Language Hearing Association group organized their first annual very successful silent and live auction, dinner, and fundraiser to support the programs of the Department. Later in October, the Student Academy of Audiology hosted the Haunted Hustle, a 5K run / walk and kids fun run.

Money raised from both events support programs for those with communication disorders; without benefactors, many clients could not participate in these programs. These include the Listen and Speak Up summer preschool for children with hearing loss, the China and Nicaragua international projects, and UI SPEAKS (camps for kids and teens who stutter).

To summarize: our students are amazing, generous, bright and wonderfully energetic!

DID YOU KNOW?
Iowa’s National Student Speech Language Hearing Association group was named the top student chapter in the U.S. in 2013!

Photo credits: Toni Becker and Ashley Bahr
A University of Iowa phonetics website created by Jerry Moon has become an incredibly popular English as a Second Language (ESL) teaching tool and is now available as a mobile application for iOS and Android.

Put in the word “phonetics” into a Google search engine, and of more than 6 million results, Moon’s *Phonetics: The Sounds of Spoken Language* website ranks first, averaging five thousand visits a day with visitors from over 180 countries. The site provides animated libraries of the phonetic sounds of English, Spanish, and German so visitors can listen to each individual sound and watch how a speaker’s muscles move to form it.

“Speech pathologists must have a firm grasp of the anatomy and physiology associated with speaking,” says Moon. “Having that in-depth understanding allows them to assist patients with faulty articulatory patterns that affect speech intelligibility. In addition, being able to ‘see’ inside the mouth using computer based animation represents a powerful tool for learning how to produce speech sounds.”

The English sound production component of the site has been particularly successful, emerging as an excellent resource for ESL instructors and learners who benefit from the descriptions of speech mechanism anatomy and articulatory gestures associated with English sound production.

*Phonetics: The Sounds of Spoken Language* was developed in 2000 with funding from a UI Instructional Improvement Award. Moon continues to receive as many as 80 messages per week with feedback from people around the world who are using it.

Given the popularity of the English component of the site and the rising use of tablets and smartphones, the next logical step was to develop a new mobile app. During Fall 2012, Moon applied for and received funding from the Innovations in Teaching with Technology Awards, administered through the Academic Technologies Advisory Council, to create the mobile version, *Sounds of Speech™*, and partnered with Information Technology Services (ITS) to build it.

“Offering the *Sounds of Speech™* app as an on-demand learning tool through an easily accessible mobile platform puts this excellent resource at learners’ fingertips wherever they might be, without the need to have a laptop or traditional Internet connection,” Moon says.

*Sounds of Speech™* can be downloaded through the Apple App Store and Google Play. A “light” version is available for free for those who want to try it before buying it, and the full version is available for $2.99.

While *Sounds of Speech™* is certainly not the first mobile application developed at the UI, it does represent a bit of a milestone in the university’s mobile development efforts. A number of students and startups have commercialized mobile apps born at the university and the UI makes apps focused on the campus and its activities freely available, but *Sounds of Speech™* is the first one to be commercialized directly by the UI.

- Nicole Riehl, Iowa Now
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  __ Student travel awards
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International engagement

In 2013, Ann Fennell led a group of UI and UNI students to Nicaragua to serve children and educate their caretakers at a school for children with disabilities. Ann returns to the school in 2014 with a new set of students.

Now, one last request: when you retire, do you promise to leave all your knowledge behind with us?

One might misconstrue that question to mean will I lose everything I have gained by being at Iowa all these years. Hopefully I will have a few more years before I need the help of my colleagues who deal with the effects of aging. But seriously, I think I have left what I have learned behind in the knowledge and skills that all my students have and will bring to bear on their lives as clinicians, researchers and academics. The next entering class will just know me as one of those portraits on the wall, but hopefully they and their peers across the country will benefit from what their mentors picked up from my generation.

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Hurtig retires, continued

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connections
We’re committed to keeping the communication channel open between alumni, friends, and former faculty of the Department to our current students, faculty, and staff. We hope you will read, enjoy, and respond to this newsletter. We also encourage you to visit the department website at http://clas.uiowa.edu/comsci to keep up to date with your former colleagues and current departmental news. If you have not already done so, consider returning the completed form below to us via mail or FAX (319.335.8851). You may also Email ruth-bentler@uiowa.edu, using “my news” as a subject line. We’d enjoy hearing from you, and if you agree, we will publish your news in the Alumni Updates section.

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