The anniversary of the department this year reminds us all of the long and productive history of our department and the effect that it has had on the field. When I came to Iowa and joined the faculty many years ago, I was coming from an engineering program and was truly an “outsider,” not knowing about the field or the individuals involved in creating and modifying the tradition of speech pathology and audiology. It was through my interactions with colleagues here at the time that I came to appreciate that tradition of the department and the individuals involved with its inception and growth. As the new chair, the tables are turned in that I have the responsibility of welcoming new students in the beginning of the fall semester. In that welcome session I included a short presentation of the “history of department and field.” This is one small thing that I can do to be sure that at least some of that tradition is passed on to new students going through our program.

The history of the department and the field has always been important to us. One tradition has been to save old equipment -- basically not throwing anything out. I learned this early on in my tenure at Iowa from colleagues such Arnold Small and David Lilly, although I must admit that I have always had that inclination. We would go on “shopping trips” to surplus, picking up old tubes and computer parts,

(continued on page 2)

tentative schedule of anniversary events

Thursday evening, May 3
► Informal get together at George’s Buffet

Friday, May 4
► Student Posters; Tours of Laboratories and Clinic; Campus Presentations; Party and Variety Show

Saturday, May 5
► Presentations; Picnic and “Awards” Ceremony
Message from the chair (continued)

trying to keep the electronic switches and Interdata computer functional. In
the past few years we have expanded lab space in the building, obviously a
good thing, but in the process we have necessarily eliminated old equipment
graveyards. In the process of expansion however we have still tried to pre-
serve many of the important artifacts such as the Henrici Analyzer. As part of
the 50th anniversary celebration and reunion in May, we hope to put some of
those artifacts in a permanent display.

Of course, individuals rather than equipment are much more important
to the legacy of the department. The department began many years ago to
honor emeritus faculty by displaying portraits in the first-floor hall. I think this
began sometime in the early 80s and over the years we have added faculty
portraits that now include: Dorothy Sherman, Dean Williams, Jim Curtis, Hugh
Morris, D.C. Spriestersbach, Ken Moll, Arnold Small, Charlie Anderson, Erich
Luschei, and most recently, Jim Hardy. These individuals represent different
time periods and fields of expertise, but all have made important and lasting
contributions to our department and to students in the field.

As part of the 50th anniversary celebration and reunion, several indi-
viduals are working to pull together old photos and other materials (see page 7
for details). In the process of doing that we hope to put together a new
permanent exhibit in the building to further educate students and visitors of
the history and the contributions that our department has made to the field.

accommodations for guests

Blocks of rooms have been reserved at local hotels: The Iowa
House, at the Iowa Memorial Union (319/335-3513 telephone,
http://imu.uiowa.edu/iowa_house); as well 20 rooms held until April 4,
2007, at The Sheraton Hotel, 210 S. Dubuque St. (319/337-4058
telephone, or http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/Speechpath).
A new laboratory on the third floor WJSHC aims to answer questions in voice research, such as why one school-teacher wears out his or her voice faster than another teacher. Director of the lab is Ingo Titze, Ph.D., the Distinguished Professor of Speech Science and Voice. Titze also is executive director of the National Center for Voice and Speech (NCVS), housed at the UI and the Denver Center for the Performing Arts.

Titze and his team of research assistants and graduate students are using the facility, called the Laryngeal Molecular and Cell Biology Laboratory, to investigate genetic and cellular aspects of voice development and health. This lab represents the first molecular biology research area in the UI Wendell Johnson Speech and Hearing Center.

The hearing sciences are more advanced in using molecular biology in research, Titze explains, but work in this laboratory brings an exciting new facet to the field of voice science. Past research has shown that some people experience vocal fatigue much faster than others and that the vocal folds may be affected by genetic or environmental factors. However, little is known about what actually happens to cells within the vocal folds. In addition, other voice disorders and conditions are poorly understood at the molecular or cellular level.

Titze explained how the UI lab is different, compared to hundreds of other molecular biology labs.

“We look at the cell growth and expression of genes in an unusual environment, where tissue is vibrated at frequencies of 100 hertz or more,” he explained. “For most organs in the body, tissue movement is at slower rates, but not for the vocal folds. We’re going to see what happens to cells and their environment when they get ‘tossed around’ at these frequencies.”

Findings could eventually help lead to improved therapies and even have an impact on other fields, such as space flight, where people may be exposed to vibration, Titze said.

The lab will provide opportunities for interdisciplinary research and for the department’s graduate students to learn about molecular biology and how it impacts patient care.

"I believe future clinicians need to understand molecular biology and genetics well enough to assist in directing their patients to the best care," Titze added. "In that sense, work from this laboratory can help build bridges between research and clinical practice."

- excerpted from UI Health Science Relations article
The annual ASHA convention is November 16-18 in Miami, Florida. This year we have a number of students and alumni receiving awards. Those include:

**Ling-yu (Hugo) Guo** was awarded the 2006 Student Research Grant in Early Childhood Language. It is funded by the Arlene Matkin Memorial Fund and ASHA Special Interest Division 1, Language Learning and Education. The grant will fund his dissertation entitled "Acquisition of Copula and Auxiliary BE in English Speaking Children." Amanda Owen and Bruce Tomblin are co-directors of the dissertation.

**Yu-Hsiang Wu** was awarded the 2006 Student Research Award in Audiology. The grant is supported by the Ira Ventry and Brad W. Friedrich Memorial Funds and will help support his dissertation entitled, "Impact of Visual Cues on Microphone Mode Preference." Ruth Bentler is directing his dissertation.

**Elizabeth (Beth) Collison Walker** received the ASHA New Century Scholar Doctoral Scholarship Award. This scholarship is given to one full-time doctoral student in communication sciences and disorders who is pursuing a teacher-investigator career in academia at the university/college level.

HONORS of the Association (2006) are awarded to **Neil Shepard** (PhD 1979) and **Ida Stockman** (MA 1965). The 2006 FELLOWS of the Association include: **Jill Elfenbein** (MA 1975, PhD 1986); **Cynthia Johnson** (BA 1973, MA 1975); **Todd Ricketts** (BA 1989, MA 1991, PhD 1995); and **Margaret Rogers** (MA 1984, PhD 1992).

**student publications in 2006**


Iowa State Fair Outreach

The Iowa State Fair is one of the oldest, largest and most famous state fairs in the U.S. It has been ranked as one of the top events where Americans go for fun. What better place to raise awareness of noise-induced hearing loss and educate the public on hearing loss prevention? Many of the fairgoers are exposed to harmful noise levels right there on the fairgrounds from tractor pull contests, stock car races, and loud concerts. With that in mind, our outreach efforts were put into action in 2004. Since that time, the exhibit has evolved to include information on hearing loss, voice disorders, language development and stuttering. Exhibit organizers are Stephanie Fleckenstein, Danielle Kelsay, Ann Fennell and Julie Ostrem, as well as WJSHC graduate students. In addition to informational handouts, posters, a rolling video, demonstrations, and personal interactions with WJSHC students and staff, fairgoers are referred to local audiologists, speech-language pathologists and Area Education Agencies, when needed. Public awareness and education are keys to preventing noise-induced hearing loss and voice disorders. With the Iowa State Fair hosting nearly a half-million visitors each year, the “Strong Ears/Healthy Voices” exhibit provides an opportunity to help Iowans keep their communication systems in tip-top shape.

- Stephanie Fleckenstein

help us maintain our tradition of excellence

UI Foundation funds and awards established over the years attract excellent students and help them achieve their goals. The following awards were announced in Fall 2006.

Iowa Speech-Language-Hearing Association Scholarships Maureen O’Malley and Erin Kightlinger

Laurel Stanzel Award for Outstanding Graduate Student in Audiology Katie Woodard

Shirley and Thomas Salmon Award Brienne Ruel

Leland and Esther Ogdahl Award Erin Kightlinger

Kristin Lodge-Miller Award for Outstanding SLP Graduate Student Lisa Webster

Bette Williams Scholarship in Clinical Fluency Lauren Danna

Bette R. Spriestersbach Award Maureen O’Malley

Your gift to The University of Iowa Foundation makes a difference!

Here is my check or credit card authorization for a gift of $ ________ to be used for Speech Pathology & Audiology:

○ Scholarship (please specify) ______________

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*For this purpose, "domestic partner" is your spousal equivalent rather than a sibling, parent, child, etc.

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faculty profile

Patricia Zebrowski joined the faculty in 1988, after completing her Ph.D. at Syracuse University. She is now an Associate Professor in the Department. She is a Fellow of the American Speech-Language and Hearing Association, and is also a Board Recognized Fluency Specialist (ASHA Special Interest Division 4). Tricia’s teaching, research, and clinical interests are in the area of stuttering, with specific emphasis on children who stutter. In recent years, she has been actively involved in the development of instructional videos for the Stuttering Foundation, and since 2003 the University has been the site of the Foundation’s two-week workshop for specialists under her direction. Tricia’s current research interests include potential risk factors for stuttering development in young children, and the physiological correlates of early stuttering. She and her students and research assistants are presently collaborating with investigators at both the University of Illinois and Purdue University on longitudinal studies of these phenomena (NIH R01# DC05210 and # DC000559). Since her arrival at UI, Tricia has been involved in a number of different ways in the WJSHC clinic. One example of this activity is the intensive residential therapy program for teenagers who stutter that she and Toni Cilek have directed every summer since 1998.

Iowa Homecoming Queen one of our own

Homecoming at The University of Iowa is always exciting, but this year’s event was special. Not only did the Hawks soundly defeat the Purdue Boilermakers (47-17), but Kristi Musser, an undergraduate major in Speech and Hearing Sciences, was chosen as Homecoming Queen! The selection is based on scholarship, leadership, and service, and the judging was done by a panel of University employees and Iowa City community members. Kristi gets an A+ in each of those categories! Besides her stellar grade point, she is a senior and Honor Student in the department, working on a thesis with Carolyn Brown, PhD, involving electrophysiologic measures in cochlear implant users. Her leadership activities with the Dance Marathon, UIHC Volunteer Services, and United Way (to name a few), and her service commitment to the Dean’s Student Advisory Committee, Women in Science and Engineering (WISE) peer mentoring program, and National Society of Collegiate Scholars (as Co-Vice-President) are only the tip of the iceberg for this promising professional. Congratulations Kristi!
Iglesias honored as CLAS Fellow

In September 2006, Aquiles Iglesias, a former doctoral student in the department, was honored by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) as an Alumni Fellow. Each year, up to six CLAS alumni are so honored, a program made possible by funds from the UI Alumni Association Dean’s Chair in the Liberal Arts & Sciences. Dr. Iglesias, currently Dean of the Graduate College at Temple University, returned to campus for a productive and enjoyable visit with students and faculty. He provided us with insight to his very active research program in a public lecture titled “Heterogeneity of English Language Learners.”

It was great to welcome Aquiles and his wife, Ana Maria, back to campus.

Paul Abbas (left) congratulates Aquiles Iglesias on being honored as an Alumni Fellow.

call for photos, memorabilia and more

As we prepare for the Anniversary & Reunion Celebration, we are seeking contributions from you. Your input -- as described below -- may be mailed to the address on page 2 or Emailed as indicated.

**Old photos, anecdotes, legends and/or lore** are being collected by Ruth Benter (ruth-bentler@uiowa.edu). Photos can be submitted in hard copy or electronic format and will be returned to the sender as requested.

**Call for Awards:** An earlier tradition in the department involved identifying students, faculty, and staff who are deserving of recognition for some activity or effort. Please help us retrieve examples of these worthy awards (awardees optional) and send nominations for similar awards and recognition to be presented at the 2007 Anniversary & Reunion. Previous awards have included: Cloak of Clinical Incompetence; Golden Tassel Award; Bruce Clark Instrumentation Award; Jock of the Year; Wild and Crazy Guy; “Duffer Classic” Longest Putt Award; and others. Send them to Rich Tyler (rich-tyler@uiowa.edu).

**Call for Talent:** The annual Talent Show was a departmental tradition until the mid 1970’s when more stringent Truth-In-Advertising regulations and less stringent admissions policies required it be renamed the Variety Show. Nevertheless, the show will go on Friday evening during the Anniversary & Reunion celebration! We are soliciting acts for the show which has in the past included musical groups, and short skits depicting great moments in science or local history. Please submit the name of your show and how much time you prefer. Spotlights, microphones and screaming crowds will be provided, and any other special equipment needs can be arranged. Contact Mike Karnell (michael-karnell@uiowa.edu) or Sandie Bass-Ringdahl (sandie-bass-ringdahl@uiowa.edu) with your Awards and Talent ideas.

**Call for Scientific Presentations:** As part of the weekend we also plan to have a session of scientific presentations as well as talks describing particular memories about individuals, incidents or whatever you wish. Summaries of research, how the research fits into a historical context, or simply reminiscences about the department or individuals are all welcome. Paul Abbas (paul-abbas@uiowa.edu) and Carolyn Brown (carolyn-brown@uiowa.edu) are organizing the program of presentations. Please send them ideas for this session or to volunteer to present.
connections

In addition to the excitement of the 50th anniversary celebration, we’re continually interested in keeping the communication channel open between our 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 www.shc.uiowa.edu for updates on 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 speech-pathaud@uiowa.edu, using “my news” as a subject line. We’d enjoy hearing from you!

keep in touch

Name __________________________________________
Degree / year earned ____________________________________________________________
Current job _________________________________________________________________
Your news ________________________________________________________________

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