The Department of Speech Pathology & Audiology

MOUTH 'N' EAR

http://spa.wvu.edu/

Department Newsletter Spring 2013

Special Program Re-Accreditation Issue

At West Virginia University, both the Master of Science program in Speech-Language Pathology and the Doctor of Audiology program are accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CAA) of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. Recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) and the U.S. Department of Education (USDE), the CAA is the major accrediting body for professional programs in audiology and speech-language pathology.

As the current accreditation cycle for our programs ends in June of this year, the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology has submitted comprehensive reports to the CAA as part of the regular reaccreditation process. This process includes sending a team of accreditation site visitors to, among other things, tour our facilities, examine records and files, and meet with students, faculty, and administrators.

Our re-accreditation site visit is scheduled to take place on March 11 and 12 of this year. There will also be a *public meeting* held on Monday March 11 in Room 802B of Allen Hall (near the WVU Speech Center) from 4:15 to 5 pm to allow the site visitors an opportunity to meet with clients, families, and other interested members of the community to discuss our programs, clinics, and services. Please also see 'Call for Public Comment on Applicants for CAA Accreditation' at the this web address—http://www.asha.org/academic/accreditation/PublicCommentList.htm to provide comments prior to, or during, the programs' accreditation site visit.

We devote this issue of *Mouth 'N' Ear* to program accreditation, outlining the specific standards the CAA applies to graduate programs that prepare individuals to enter professional practice in audiology and speech-language pathology.



Some of what's inside:

STANDARD 1.0, PROGRAM GOVERNANCE, pp. 2-3

STANDARD 2.0, FACULTY, pp. 3-4

STANDARD 3.0, PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS, p. 4

WVU STUDENTS TALKING TURKEY THIS SUMMER, p. 5

STANDARD 4.0, STUDENTS, p. 5

STUDENTS RUN 5K RACE TO BENEFIT CLINIC PATIENTS, p. 6

STANDARDS 5.0 & 6.0, ASSESSMENT AND PROGRAM RESOURCES, p. 6

SPA TO HOST INTERNATIONAL STUTTERING CONFERENCE, p. 7



Contact us at MouthNEar@yahoo.com

Standard 1.0, Administrative Structure and Governance

Our Master of Science in Speech Pathology and Doctor of Audiology programs are housed in the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology (SPA) in the College of Education and Human Services (CEHS) of West Virginia University. WVU holds regional accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association (NCA) of Colleges and Schools. Now approaching the end of its regular 10-year accreditation cycle, WVU is currently preparing for institutional re-accreditation for the next decade.

Furthermore, WVU is authorized by the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission (HEPC) to provide post-secondary education and to grant graduate degrees. The West Virginia State Legislature grants this authority to the HEPC through West Virginia Code 18B-4-7. Programs authorized by the HEPC are listed at the following URL: http://www.wvu.edu/~planning/Reports/curr_matrix.pdf. Included in this list are the two WVU professional graduate programs that award the M.S. in Speech Pathology and the Au.D. degrees.

The mission of (and vision for) SPA's programs is consistent with CAA standards for professional programs in communication sciences and disorders, and is congruent with the mission statements of CEHS and WVU. That mission "is to recruit, retain and graduate highly qualified pre-professional undergraduate students and entry-level clinicians who will utilize evidence-based practice; adhere to the highest personal and professional ethical standards; employ critical thinking and self-analysis; recognize the value of advanced and continuing education; demonstrate empathy, altruism, and accountability in their clinical practice; and aspire to provide exceptional quality of service for a diversity of persons of all ages with communication, swallowing, and balance disorders in an equitable and inclusive manner. [SPA] also strives to further the discipline of communication sciences and disorders as well as the professions of audiology and speech-language pathology by excelling in research and scholarship; offering quality post-professional doctoral education

for students who will assume leadership roles as productive researchers and effective educators; and, by providing excellent diagnostic and rehabilitative services to promote the health and well-being of the people of West Virginia and to serve as a resource for West Virginia University and the region."

Informed by our mission, SPA's strategic plan outlines the ways in which we intend to achieve its vision for the future. Although our vision statement extends to 2020, SPA recognizes that strategic planning is an ongoing process whereby both its success and relevance must be assessed regularly to address ever-changing internal and external needs. Accordingly, our faculty evaluates and, when necessary, revises the strategic plan each academic year at the beginning of the fall semester. More information about SPA's vision and most recent strategic plan is available on our website at http://spa.wvu.edu/home/spa-mission.

SPA Department Chair Robert Orlikoff received his Ph.D. degree with a major emphasis in speech and voice science from New York's Columbia University. He maintains his CCC-SLP and holds a West Virginia license as a speech-language pathologist. His area of clinical and research expertise is laryngeal physiology and voice disorders. As SPA chair, Dr. Orlikoff is responsible for both the M.S. and Au.D. programs. He is assisted by Drs. Conrad Lundeen and Mary Ellen Tekieli Koay, who chair the SPA Graduate Affairs Committees for Audiology and Speech Pathology, respectively. These committees are responsible for initiating, implementing, and evaluating decisions that affect all aspects of their respective professional education program, including curriculum, policy, and procedure.

WVU is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action (EO/AA) Institution. Consistent with its Non-

GOVERNANCE, continued on page 3

Governance (continued from p. 2)

Discrimination Statement, SPA's Nondiscrimination policy states that the Department and its clinics "fully supports [the commitment to EO/AA and expects to maintain a positive clinical and learning environment based upon open communication, mutual respect, and nondiscrimination. Our facility does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, age, disability, veteran status, religion, sexual orientation, color, or national origin. If you are a person with a disability and anticipate needing any type of accommodation in order to participate in clinic, please advise the staff or supervisors."

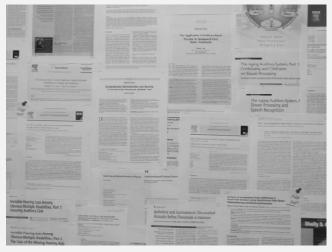
WVU's Sexual Harassment Policy states that the University's "Board of Governors is committed to providing students, faculty, staff, and applicants for employment with a work and educational environment free from all forms of sexual harassment. Therefore, sexual harassment, in any manner or form, toward WVUBOG students, faculty, staff, or applicants for employment is a violation of Board policy and is expressly prohibited. This policy officially states the policy and expectations regarding sexual harassment of those associated with West Virginia University. This policy also includes the official definitions of what constitutes sexual harassment. Under the President, the Executive Officer for Social Justice, in conjunction with the Deans and Vice Presidents, shall implement and ensure compliance with this policy."

A sealed Client Satisfaction Survey box is available in the Speech and Hearing Center Waiting Room. Clients and their families may provide written feedback or make specific complaints using this box or by presenting them to Ms. Melissa Mitchell, clinic receptionist and Program Assistant II, whose office is adjacent to the waiting area. Students, faculty, adjuncts, and staff are encouraged to provide written feedback or complaints to SPA Chair Dr. Robert Orlikoff, who secures this information in his office (Allen 805A) and is responsible for taking appropriate and effective action depending on the nature of the complaint.

Standard 2.0, Faculty

The SPA faculty consists of eight (8) tenured full professors, one (1) tenured associate professor, two (2) tenure-track assistant professors, and five (5) instructors or assistant professors who are non-tenure track.

Our tenured faculty members bring decades of experience as teachers, researchers, scholars, and expert clinicians, but all are committed to the education of the next generation of speech-language pathologists and audiologists, to advancing the discipline of communication sciences and disorders, and, above all, to making a difference in the lives of children and adults with communication disorders. Although most have spent all or most of their



Detail of a bulletin board displaying recent publications by SPA faculty members. Since 2008, faculty have produced over 70 research articles, texts, books, book chapters, and reviews. See SPA's Research and Scholarship page for a complete bibliography.

professional careers at WVU, the faculty are well recognized nationally and, in many cases, internationally for their expertise in wide-ranging areas within audiology and speech-language pathology.

FACULTY, continued on page 4

Faculty (continued from p. 3)

For instance, SPA faculty member Linda Shuster's current research is funded by a twoyear NIH grant. She is investigating the recovery of speech following stroke, focusing on lesions in three areas of the brain that may be tied to the development apraxia of speech. Dr. Ken St. Louis, working with colleagues in many countries, has published a bevy of research and review articles on public attitudes toward stuttering. He developed the Public Opinion Survey of Human Attributes-Stuttering (POSHA-S), a survey instrument that has now been tested in over 70 different studies with more than 7000 respondents from 23 different countries in at least fifteen languages. Dr. Vishakha Rawool has published several influential articles on noiseinduced hearing loss, as well as the recent book Hearing Conservation in Occupational, Recreational, Educational, and Home Settings, published by Thieme. Likewise, Dr. Dennis Ruscello has published widely on velopharyngeal insufficiency, motor speech problems, and developmental speech sound disorders. He recently edited the study guide, Review Questions for the Speech-Language Pathology Praxis Examination, published by Mosby. This



volume would be nicely paired with *Review of Speech and Hearing Sciences*, a new Mosby text authored by Dr. Norman Lass that has just become available.

Standard 3.0, Academic and Clinical Education

The purpose of the WVU M.S. degree program in Speech Pathology is to provide aspiring professionals with a firm understanding of the normal processes of speech, language, and hearing; the competence to diagnose and treat the full range of communicative disorders in all age groups; and the opportunity to practice in a wide variety of clinical settings, including schools, hospitals, clinics, special treatment centers, and private practice. The program emphasizes the knowledge and skills requisite for competent and ethical clinical practice. Graduation thus depends on completion of all academic requirements and the demonstration of sound clinical expertise. The minimum requirements include 64 credits of course work (including clinical practicum), 25 initial observation hours, and a minimum of 375 clock hours of graduate clinical practicum. Details are provided online at http://spa.wvu.edu/home/sp masters program and within the latest edition of the Graduate Student Handbook for Speech-Language Pathology.

The purpose of the WVU Au.D. program is to produce graduates who have a firm understanding of the normal processes of hearing and communication with the academic and clinical preparation to diagnose and treat the full range of hearing and vestibular disorders in all age groups. Our goal is to prepare audiologists who are competent in a wide variety of clinical settings, including hospitals, clinics, special treatment centers, schools, industry, and private practice. Like the M.S. program, the Au.D. program emphasizes the knowledge and skills requisite for competent and ethical clinical practice, such

that graduation depends on completion of all academic requirements and the demonstration of sound clinical expertise. The minimum requirements include 116 credits of course work (including clinical laboratories, practicum, and residency)



and written/oral scholarly work. Details are provided online at http://spa.wvu.edu/home/doc_audiology and within the latest edition of the Graduate Student Handbook for Audiology.



Eskişehir, a Turkish city with a 3000-year history, is home to Anadolu University. Anadolu's Education, Research, and Training Center for Speech and Language Pathology will be visited by WVU students this summer.

Turkish Delight for SPA Students

"Merhaba" is the first Turkish word (meaning "hello") practiced by at least six SPA students who will be traveling to Turkey from May 11th to June 2nd 2013. The students will experience a different culture first-hand and learn about the practice of speech-language pathology, audiology, special education, deaf education, and related areas in that country. Professor Ken St. Louis, a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer from Turkey in the late 1960s, will lead the study-abroad experience for the SPA class, *International Experience in Communication Sciences & Disorders*.

Students will spend time in Istanbul, the exotic capital of Turkey, travel south to ancient ruins and touristic sites along the Aegean Sea, and then go inland to visit Pamukkale, a Byzantine site with natural limestone

pools that formed along a steep cliff. After visiting some of Ken's Peace Corps villages for a sampling of rural Turkish life, they will proceed to Anadolu University in the ancient city of Eskişehir, where they will learn about their profession from another country's perspective. No doubt the students will return with their eyes opened to a new culture, new culinary delights, a new majority religion, a new language, and a better appreciation of the value of their profession. It is also very likely that they will come back knowing at least 100 Turkish words and phrases. *Let's see!*

The deadline for registering for this 3-credit course is March 12th. If anyone is interested in joining the group, he or she should contact Ken St. Louis by email at kstlouis@wvu.edu as soon as possible.

Standard 4.0, Our Students

All students in the M.S. in Speech Pathology and Au.D. programs have access to a faculty member who serves as his or her academic advisor and is provided a clinic manual, as well as access to a program-specific handbook. In accordance with our mission, students in our professional programs are expected to not only develop and demonstrate competence in providing clinical services to individuals with communication disorders, but cultural competence as well. "Cultural competence," according to a 2011 ASHA position statement, "is a dynamic and complex process requiring ongoing self-assessment and continuous expansion of cultural knowledge. Cultural competence involves understanding the unique combination of cultural variables that the professional and patient/client bring to interactions. These variables include, for example, age, ability, ethnicity, experience,

gender, gender identity, linguistic background, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status."

In addition, students must possess fundamental sensory/observational, communication, motor, intellectual/cognitive, and social/behavioral abilities that will allow them to acquire the knowledge and skills that are requisite to the practice of audiology or speech-language pathology, to function effectively in a broad variety of clinical situations, and to render competent patient care.



WVU Chapter of SAA to Host 3rd Annual MountainEAR 5k Race

The West Virginia University chapter of the Student Academy of Audiology (SAA) will host its third annual MountainEAR 5k on March 16, 2013 at 11 a.m. at Hazel Ruby-McQuain Park in Morgantown. The course of the 5k runs along the Caperton Trail, which parallels the Monongahela River from the entire length of the park to the turnaround at point near the Morgantown Utility Board water plant. This year there will also be the option of a one-mile run for children under 13 years of age.



This event raised more than \$3,500 last year, which went to a fund designed to assist WVU Speech and Hearing Clinic patients who have financial limitations. "It is our hope that the MountainEAR 5k raises awareness on how prominent hearing loss is and what can be done to protect your hearing," said third-year audiology graduate student

and race director Crystal Vimpeny.



The race not only raises awareness about the importance of hearing awareness, it also informs people about the services the WVU Speech and Hearing Centers have available. "This is a unique event in that no other fundraiser in the area focuses on communication disorders," said Dr. Ashleigh Callahan, WVU assistant professor and SAA faculty adviser. "The majority of the proceeds are donated to a fund to assist WVU Speech and Hearing Clinic patients with financial limitations. A large

amount of this hearing loss can be prevented through proper hearing conservation measures," Callahan said.

For more information or to register for the MountainEAR 5k, visit http://phdispatch.com/mountainear-5k/

Standard 5.0, Assessment

Our professional programs identify student-learning outcomes that address knowledge and skills consistent with the mission of the program and the standards for the Certificate of Clinical Competence in Audiology or Speech-Language Pathology. To do so, we employ a variety of evaluative mechanisms that include both formative and summative assessment, administered by program faculty and supervisors.

Currently, the programs track knowledge and skill acquisition using the web-based Student Assessment Management System (SAMS). In addition to grades and written/oral feedback, students assess their professional development through scholarly work, academic advising, and portfolio construction.

The programs use the current strategic plan as the basis for assessing progress and the need for change.

In addition to accumulating and displaying data regarding student completion rates, Praxis success, and initial employment rates, our professional programs use student, alumni, and employer feedback, as well as assessment from faculty, supervisors, and adjunct instructors. Outcome data are available on the webpage for each program.

Standard 6.0, Resources

The WVU Speech Center provides diagnostic and therapy services Monday through Friday with the services of a fully certified supervisory staff. The Center has a video monitoring system, a wide array of speech and language testing materials, and fully equipped laboratory for acoustic and physiologic study of speech and voice disorders. The WVU Hearing Center Hearing Center is likewise equipped to provide complete diagnostic and rehabilitative services.

SPA to Host First International Conference on Stuttering Attitudes

More than a century of research has sought to identify the nature and cause of stuttering, and those continued efforts are beginning to bear real fruit in such areas as understanding genetic factors in stuttering, brain differences in individuals who stutter, and so on. However, the environment within which stuttering occurs has not enjoyed such a long history of investigation, and scholarly research on public and professional attitudes toward stuttering began just a generation ago in the 1970s. Most of this research has shown that people who stutter are incorrectly regarded as anxious, fearful, weak, and introverted. Other research studies have documented teasing, bullying, and discrimination directed toward children and adults who stutter. A few recent investigations have explored ways to change or improve public attitudes.

It can be argued that research related to public attitudes toward stuttering, often regarded by others in past decades as trivial or not very helpful in understanding the nature of stuttering, has now achieved a level of respectability that more and more clinicians and advocates see as essential in understanding the puzzle of stuttering. Accordingly, SPA Professor Ken St. Louis has organized the first conference of its type to bring together world experts in public attitude research to take stock in what has been learned so far, to identify areas where further research is necessary, and—perhaps most importantly—to team up to carry out the more difficult large or long-term studies that will finally inform clinicians and consumers about how best to deal with negative public attitudes. The *Stuttering Attitudes Research Conference* will be held in Morgantown September 4-7, 2013.

A large number of invited speakers, representing WVU, The Pennsylvania State University, the University of Toledo, the University of Alberta, and the University of Kuwait will address a wide variety of topics, including the international epidemiology of public attitudes toward stuttering, the stigma associated with stuttering, the teasing and bullying of stuttering children, job discrimination associated with stuttering in adults, and changing and fostering long term change in attitudes toward stuttering. In addition to the invited presentations, posters will also be solicited and evaluated through a peer-review process. Although the first of its kind, the Morgantown Stuttering Attitudes Research Conference is expected to attract several international researchers in stuttering and public attitudes, as well as both students and practitioners with an interest in fluency disorders and how the public views them. Please contact Dr. Ken St. Louis at kstlouis@wvu.edu for more information.

Your Support Makes a Difference!

To assist the mission of WVU, the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology strives, through its programs of instruction, research efforts, clinical services, and outreach initiatives, to make a meaningful contribution to the development and enhancement of West Virginia's economic, educational, social, and health status. Please consider helping us in this goal by making a contribution to support the Department's students, clinics, and research by designating Fund #2W581-Speech Pathology and Audiology.

It's easy! Just go to http://cehs.wvu.edu and click on 'Donate'

HR&E Alumni Association

The College of Education and Human Services sponsors a college-based Alumni Association. This organization provides a network of connections for graduating students, outreach activities, and sponsors programs to recognize alumni, students, and faculty.

For more information, please visit http://alumni.cehs.wvu.edu/

Any news to share? Send us the latest news. Just email MouthNEar@yahoo.com
We'd love to hear from you!

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Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology West Virginia University

Degree Programs

B.S. in Speech Pathology and Audiology M.S. in Speech-Language Pathology*
Doctor of Audiology (Au.D.)*
Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)

Clinical Facilities

WVU Hearing Center, 350 Percival Hall WVU Speech Center, 804 Allen Hall

*Accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association

