



# Alumni Newsletter

## Fall 2008

**Department of  
Communication  
Sciences and  
Disorders**

**Syracuse  
University**



**Don't Forget!**

**Alumni Open  
House**

**Friday,  
November 21, 2008**

**See details inside**

Dear Alums,

On October 22, I saw my first snowflake of the year. It was fleeting, but it reminded me of so many weather-based phenomena that we have shared here in Central New York: children trudging through snow to trick-or-treat on Halloween, families and their graduating students dressed in their finery, sloshing through snow on graduation day in May, the infamous Labor Day storm, and students seeking refuge on others' sofas when 5 feet of snow on the Tug Hill Plateau prevented them from going home. Although many of you may be glad to be past all that, we feel fortunate to have very warm memories of your time here. We are delighted that your responses to our alumni update inquiries allow us to continue to celebrate your professional and personal successes. You are such a talented, effective, and loyal group, and we are proud to have you as graduates of our program.

~Linda Milosky, Ph.D., Department Chair

### FEATURED ALUMNI

**Dr. Gilbert Herer** (BS '53; MS, '54), a highly distinguished and loyal alumnus of the Communication Sciences and Disorders Department, will receive the **Honors of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association** at the November convention in Chicago. The Honors of the Association is ASHA's most prestigious award and is given in recognition of Dr. Herer's lifetime achievements. Dr. Herer is an internationally noted pediatric audiologist who has developed a variety of diagnostic and intervention programs that benefit children with hearing loss. Dr. Herer is a past president of ASHA, was Director of Children's Hearing and Speech Center, Children's National Medical Center for 37 years, and he developed one of the first and largest universal newborn infant hearing screening programs. In 1999, Dr. Herer helped the international Special Olympics organization establish its hearing screening/testing program for adults with intellectual disability who participate in its sports activities. He currently serves as the Founder & Senior Global Advisor for the Special Olympics Healthy Hearing Program which is active in 46 US states and 58 other countries worldwide. In 1998, Dr. Herer received an Outstanding Alumnus Award at Syracuse University in recognition of his career achievements and of his support of our department and Syracuse University. Herer was recognized in 2005 by the American Academy of Audiology as Humanitarian of the Year. Please join us in congratulating Dr. Herer by attending the awards ceremony at ASHA (Friday, 5:30-7:30). There also will be a reception in his honor from 7:30-9:00 in Private Dining Room #1 at the Chicago Hilton.

**Dr. Barbara Lerner Kurman**, another highly successful alumna (M.S., '78), is a founder of Northeastern Technologies Group and Midlantic Technologies Group, companies that provide sales, service and calibration of hearing, balance, and health care equipment. Dr. Kurman's activities demonstrate her commitment to professional growth and development. She has served on the executive Councils of NYSSLHA, NYCSHLA, the NY Metropolitan Audiology Study Group and the National Association of Special Equipment Distributors. She also is very committed to developing professional growth and interaction in the next generation of students, as evidenced by her recent generous gift to the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders to support student research and travel to professional meetings. This gift will help our graduate students in audiology and speech pathology expand their education beyond the classroom and clinic to support student research, as well as attendance and participation in professional meetings. Three students have already been recipients of funds from her gift: Kerrie Nesbitt (AuD student who has conducted research on evoked potentials in hearing impaired individuals), Jamie Desjardins (Ph.D. candidate who has conducted research on speech perception in hearing impaired individuals), and Dora Granato (MS- SLP, '08, whose research has focused on children's comprehension of irony). Dr. Kurman's gift also will assist several students in attending ASHA and AAA this year. We are very grateful for her generosity and dedication to furthering our students' education.



**Dr. Soren Lowell, Ph.D.**  
**Assistant Professor**

The Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders is delighted to announce the appointment of Dr. Soren Lowell as an assistant professor. Dr. Lowell's clinical and research interests are in voice and swallowing disorders. Dr. Lowell began her education at Columbia University with a Bachelor's degree in psychology. She went on to the University of Arizona to complete her Master's degree in Speech-Language Pathology. For seven years after graduate school, Dr. Lowell worked clinically in hospitals, where her interest in clinical research was piqued. This passion for clinical research brought her back to the University of Arizona where she earned her Ph.D. in Speech and Hearing Sciences in 2005. She has just finished a three year post-doctoral research fellowship at the National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke. During her post-doctoral years, Dr. Lowell examined different forms of sensory and cortical stimulation and their effects on swallowing using functional neuroimaging and behavioral swallowing measures. Initial studies with healthy adults showed that certain forms of sensory stimulation activated similar brain regions as actual swallowing and may have therapeutic potential for people with swallowing disorders.

Dr. Lowell's voice-related research focuses on the respiratory and phonatory physiology of people with voice disorders as well as physiologically-based treatment approaches. Future projects will address the effects of altered speech breathing behavior on phonatory function in people with voice disorders, and differences in sensory and motor cerebral activation for people with versus without voice disorders. She will collaborate with researchers at SUNY Upstate's Department of Otolaryngology. Dr. Lowell brings to our department an important strength in the medically based aspects of communication sciences, as well as a bilingual background in Spanish/English, which will benefit our students as they learn to provide services for multicultural populations. She greatly enjoys the outdoors and has already explored the Adirondacks and several gorges in Ithaca. Being a competitive swimmer since childhood, she has joined the Syracuse Chargers Master's Swim Team and enjoys the exercise and social interaction that it provides. Welcome, Soren!

We are also very excited to welcome back Dr. Janet Ford, who has been appointed as our new speech-language pathology clinic coordinator. Dr. Ford replaces Michelle (Mitch) Williams, who, after 7 years of dedicated service to our department, accepted a position in the Syracuse City School District. We wish Mitch the best in her new position as speech-language pathology supervisor for Medicaid.

As many of you know, Dr. Ford received both her Master's and Ph.D. degrees at Syracuse University. After receiving her Ph.D., Dr. Ford served as an assistant professor at SUNY-Cortland before returning to work at SU in August. Those of you who were students of Dr. Ford's know what an outstanding classroom and clinical teacher she is, and we are fortunate to have her educating our students again.

You also may have read her recently published research on the social and inferencing abilities of children with language impairments. In addition to continuing this line of research, Dr. Ford is implementing and teaching students single subject design research procedures so that students may evaluate the efficacy of their intervention. Acquisition of these techniques for measuring therapy success is critical for evidence-based practice of speech-language pathology.

Dr. Ford is an avid bicyclist, who also enjoys traveling, golf, and playing with her Wheaten terrier, Montie. Welcome back, Janet!



**Dr. Janet Ford, Ph.D.**  
**Speech-Language Pathology  
Clinic Coordinator**

## Faculty/Student Presentations at ASHA 2008

### Thursday, November 20

**Lindsay Ruiz, Jessica Weise and Janet Ford** "PowerPoint in the Classroom: Learning Tool or Hinderance?" Session# 1405, 8-9:30 am, Poster# 314, CC/Hall F2

**Annette Jenner, W. Einar Mencl, Stephen Frost and Ken Pugh** "Comparison of Orthographic-to-Phonologic & Phonologic-to-Orthographic Consistency Effects in Spelling of Skilled & Dyslexic Readers" Session# 1068, 10-11:30 am, Poster# 114, CC/Hall F2

**Lesley Wolk, Christine Brennan and Mary Louise Edwards** "Speech Production Difficulties in Autism: Research Update and Clinical Implications" Session# 0946, 11-12:00 pm, CC/W175

**Debra Burnett and Linda Milosky** "Smart Move: Using Rating Scales to Determine Conventionally Ironic Utterances" Session# 1083, 1-2:30 pm, CC/Hall F2

### Friday, November 21

**Janet Ford and Linda Milosky** "Macaroni, Mommy, Monsters: Emotion Situation Responses of Children with LI" Session# 1777, 10-11:30 am, Poster# 200, CC/Hall F2

### Saturday, November 22

**Karen Doherty and Jamie Desjardins** "Age Effects on Listening Strategies Used to Process Time-Compressed Speech" Session# 0215, 9-9:15 am, CC/W186A

**Dora Granato and Linda Milosky** "The Nature & Role of Experience in Children's Irony Comprehension" Session# 2193, 10-11:30 am, Poster# 119, CC/Hall F2

**Ryan Branski, Susan Thibeault, Carolyn Richie, Kathy Vander Werff, and Carolyn Brown** "Promoting Academic-Research Careers: AARC Award Success Stories" Session# 2489, 10:30-11:30 am, CC/S102D

**Kathy Vander Werff and Kerrie Nesbitt** "Cortical Evoked Potentials to Frequency Change in Hearing Impaired Individuals: Evidence of Cortical Plasticity?" Session# 0237, 3-4:30 pm, Poster# 382, CC/Hall F2

### Alumni Open House in Chicago

*The CSD department will be hosting a reception for all alumni, friends, and prospective students on **Friday, November 21** from 7:30-9:30 pm.*

*It will be held at the Chicago Hilton Private Dining room #3.*

*We look forward to seeing you!*

The logo for ASHA 2008 features the text "ASHA 2008" in a large, bold, sans-serif font. The letters are filled with a gradient of orange and yellow, giving them a 3D, glowing appearance. The text is set against a white background within a thin black border.

### **CSD at the 2008 ASHA Convention Grad School Fair**

The department will take part in the annual Graduate School Fair at the ASHA Convention in Chicago. This event is located at:

**McCormick Place West, 2301 S. Lake Shore Dr.  
Level 3, Ballroom W375A.**

Thursday, November 20 for Doctoral students  
Friday, November 21 for Masters students





**CSD 2007 SCHOLARSHIPS**

At our 2007 Holiday party, we recognized this year's scholarship recipients (left to right) Lindsay Eagleson (SLP)- Scime-Tubolino Scholarship, Shawna Synakowski (SLP)- NYS SLP Consortium Scholarship, Katrina Milo (SLP)-Louis DiCarlo Scholarship, Dora Granato (SLP)- Maureen Higgins Scholarship, Amanda Brouillette (SLP) - NYS SLP Consortium Scholarship, Jacqueline Laretti (SLP)- NYS SLP Consortium Scholarship, Kerrie Nesbitt (AuD)- Louis DiCarlo Scholarship, Mark Kielecki (AuD)- Louis DiCarlo Scholarship

**2008 Student Master's/Honors Theses**

**Dora Granato**  
(Master's Thesis)  
*The Nature and Role of Experience in Children's Irony Comprehension.*  
Advisor: Dr. Linda Milosky

**Amy Sled**  
(Master's Thesis)  
*Presentation Level Effects on Listeners' Weighting Strategies for Speech.*  
Advisor: Dr. Karen Doherty

**Dana Roberts**  
(Honors Thesis)  
*The Challenges of Bilingual Speech Therapy: Perspectives from Speech-Language Pathologists*  
Advisor: Dr. Mary Louise Edwards

**2008 Student Awards & Recognition**

**Lauren Calandruccio**, 2008 CENGAGE Learning Research Award for Ph.D. research

**Jamie Desjardins**, Barbara Kurman Research/Travel Award, 2008

**Dora Granato**, Barbara Kurman Research/Travel Award, 2008

**Kerry Nesbitt**, 2008 Audiology/Hearing Science Research Travel Award (ARTA) from ASHA, Barbara Kurman Research/Travel Award

**Dana Roberts**, 2008 Remembrance Scholar and 2008 College Marshall at Commencement

**Kyle Wilson**, 2008 Students Preparing for Academic-Research Careers (SPARC) Award from ASHA

**Jonathan Preston Ph.D.**  
Congratulations to Jonathan for successfully defending his dissertation in July 2008 entitled "Phonological Processing and Speech Production in Preschoolers with Speech Sound Disorders."



Congratulations to  
Dr. Mary Louise Edwards (left), who  
received NYSSLHA's Distinguished  
Achievement Award at the 2008  
Convention in Saratoga Springs

## 2008 Faculty Research Updates

The Hearing Journal's Special Issue that honors the Year's Best Articles (June 2008) selected the following article as one of the best hearing aid articles in 2007:

**Shi, L. F., Doherty, K. A., Kordas, T. M., & Pellegrino, J. T. (2007).** Short-and Long-Term Hearing-Aid Benefit and User Satisfaction: A Comparison between Two Fitting Protocols. *Journal of American Academy of Audiology*, 18 (6), 482-495.

This article is a collaboration between a Ph.D graduate, Dr. Lu-Feng Shi, (now an assistant professor at Long Island University - Brooklyn Campus), his SU advisor, Dr. Karen Doherty, Dr. Joseph Pellegrino (Audiology Clinic Director) and Dr. Tammy Kordas (Audiology Clinic Supervisor). Congratulations to all for this recognition!

One of our new faculty members, **Dr. Soren Lowell**, was selected to participate in ASHA's Leadership Development Program. In a collaborative research study, she is seeking to identify barriers to CSD students conducting research with faculty at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. The long-term goal is to initiate some feasible solutions within the next year. The need for this study is based on the critical Ph.D. shortage that our field is facing.

**Dr. Beth Prieve** has several ongoing research projects funded by the March of Dimes Foundation. This research is designed to help identify hearing loss, especially in young infants.

**Dr. Kathy Vander Werff** and her colleagues recently have begun exploring the effect of traumatic brain injury on the central auditory system. By examining neural responses to speech at multiple levels of the auditory system, she seeks to provide a better understanding of how auditory processing at brainstem and cortical levels may be affected by not only head injury, but other disorders of the central auditory system.

**Dr. Annette Jenner** is currently conducting a study that examines the neurobiological bases of spelling in adolescents with and without dyslexia. Her study incorporates both behavioral measures and fMRI data. She is collecting data from participants throughout the CNY and Rochester areas. If you know of individuals with dyslexia who may be interested in participating in such a study, please contact Dr. Jenner for more

### ***Recent Presentations***

- Desjardins, J.L., Calandruccio, L. and Doherty, K.A.** (2008). Aging effects on the processing of spectral information in speech. American Auditory Society Meeting, Scottsdale, AZ.
- Doherty, K.A.** (2008). The Aging Ear. Summer Institute: Age and engagement in the classroom. Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY.
- Long, G., Talmadge, C. and Prieve, B.** (2008). Changes in the generator and reflection components of DPOAE with development and hearing loss. Mechanics of Hearing Meeting, Keele, England.
- Long, G., Talmadge, C., Prieve, B. and Lahtinen, L.** (2008). Extraction of DPOAE generator and reflection components in the time domain in adults and infants. Association for Research in Otolaryngology, Phoenix, AZ.
- Lowell, S.Y., Dietrich-Burns, K., Griffith, C., Knorr-Chung, B.R., & Ludlow, C.L.** (2008). Effects of oral-sensory and vibrotactile stimulation on swallowing in humans. Oral presentation, Dysphagia Research Society, Isle of Palms, SC.
- Prieve, B., Culpepper, B., Martin, P. and Sabo, D.** (2008). Serving children with hearing loss and their families: Memories of Toni Maxon. American Academy of Audiology, Charlotte, NC.
- Prieve, B.** (2008). Otoacoustic Emissions in Infants and Children. In C. Flexor and J. Madell (ed). *Pediatric Audiology: Diagnosis, Technology and Management*. (Thieme, New York).
- Prieve, B., Lahtinen, L., Long, G. and Talmadge, C.** (2008). Otoacoustic emissions model prediction of DPOAE fine-structure in humans. American Auditory Society, Phoenix, AZ.

### ***Recent Publications***

- Ford, J. and Milosky, L.** (2008). Inference generation during discourse and its relation to social competence: An on-line investigation of abilities of children with and without language impairment. *Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research*, 51, 367-380.
- Lowell, S.Y., Barkmeier-Kraemer, J.M., Hoit, JD & Story, B.H.** (2008). Respiratory and laryngeal function during spontaneous speaking in teachers with voice disorders. *Journal of Speech, Language and Hearing Research*, 51(2), 333-349.
- Lowell, S.Y., Poletto, C.J., Knorr-Chung, B.R., Reynolds, R.C., Simonyan, K., & Ludlow, C.L.** (2008) Sensory stimulation activates both motor and sensory components of the swallowing system. *NeuroImage*, 42(1), 285-295.
- Prieve, B.A., Calandruccio, L., Fitzgerald, T., Georgantas, L. and Mazevski, A.** (2008). Changes in transient-evoked otoacoustic emission levels with negative tympanometric peak pressure in infants and toddlers. *Ear and Hearing*, 29, 533-542.
- Preston, J.L. & Edwards, M.L.** (2007). Phonological processing skills of adolescents with residual speech sound errors. *Language, Speech and Hearing Services in Schools*, 38 297-308.
- Shi, L. and Doherty, K.A.** (2008). Effect of dynamic compression characteristics and reverberation on aided speech perception. *Journal of Speech, Language and Hearing*.
- Smith, J.L., Sterns, A.R., Prieve, B.A. and Woods, C.I.** (2008). Anesthetic effects on DPOAE levels, middle ear muscles and the medial olivocochlear reflex in rats. *Hearing Research*, 235, 47-59.
- Vander Werff K.R., Johnson, T.A., and Brown, C.J.** (2008). Clinical Application – Audiogram Estimation. In G. Rance (Ed.), *Auditory Steady-State Response: Generation, Recording, and Clinical Applications*. San Diego, CA, Plural.

## GEBBIE CLINIC NEWS.....HEARING.....

Greetings Alumni! It's always a pleasure to spend a few moments each year updating everyone on the news of the Gebbie Hearing Clinic. It certainly is an exciting time as our program continues to prosper. We currently have fifteen excellent AuD students. Thanks to the support of our alumni, these students are gaining valuable clinical experiences through externships around the country. We currently have students as far off as Tampa FL, and Boston, MA. Please contact me if there is an interest in supporting one of our students on externship.

Unfortunately, I must report that Lea Georgantas is no longer supervising in the Gebbie Clinic. Lea has accepted a position as Director of Pediatric Audiology at the Cleveland Clinic. Lea is an alum of our program and has been a clinic supervisor for the last four years. While we are excited about the opportunity she has, she will surely be missed here at SU!

I am pleased to say that our search for Lea's replacement has been a tremendous success. Kristen Kennedy will be joining our clinic in late November. Kristen comes to us from the local BOCES program and will be able to share with our students her ten years of experience working with hearing impaired children.

I would like to extend a warm thank you to **Welch Allyn, Inc.** for their very generous donation of a Digital Macroview to our clinic. The Digital Macroview is a PC supported digital otoscope which allows students to view and capture otoscopic images. It is proving to be a wonderful educational tool.

Lastly, the Audiology Clinic is organizing continuing education events. If anyone is interested in hearing more about the sessions, please send me an email at [jtpelleg@syr.edu](mailto:jtpelleg@syr.edu) or call me at 315-443-2352. I would love to hear from you.

Joe Pellegrino  
Gebbie Hearing Clinic Coordinator

## SPEECH AND LANGUAGE.....

Greetings from one alumna to another! I am very happy to back at Syracuse University, this time as clinic coordinator. I am joining several colleagues in the clinic who are also alums of the program: Anita Lightburn (MS, 91); Ann Kelly Libera (MS, 89); Danielle Rinaldi Roddy (MS, 94); and Ramani Voleti (MS, 03). It really does feel like I am home again.

The clinic continues to burst at the seams. In response to our growing graduate program, the New York State Consortium Grant provided us with a temporary part time position. Cheryl Rogers has joined our team, and will be supervising through this academic year. Our students are benefiting from Cheryl's expertise and energy. Also new to the clinic this year is "job sharing." The University has recently added this option to the WorkLife program, allowing Danielle and Ann to share one position. It keeps their office very busy, and they team together very nicely.

We all wish to commend Anita Lightburn for presenting two workshops this fall (one in Syracuse and one in NYC) for foreign language instructors. The title of Anita's talk was: "Improving pronunciation in foreign language instruction." Among the many skills Anita taught was the use of freeware programs, such as Praat. She is our resident specialist in that area.

We have a great group of future alumni completing clinic assignments at Gebbie. Some of our students are completing single-subject design studies along with their assignments. Please look for future poster sessions from them at ASHA or NYSSLHA conventions.

The clinic continues to expand our number of externship placements. If you are interested in possibly mentoring one of our students for a semester, no matter how far away (or close you are), please send me an email: [jsford@syr.edu](mailto:jsford@syr.edu).

As with the audiology clinic, we are exploring continuing education opportunities. Just drop me an email if you might be interested, and I can add you to our contact list. It would be great have old friends join us at any event. In addition, if there are continuing education topics you'd like to see addressed, please send us suggestions.

Finally, of course - if you are in the area, please stop by to see us!

Janet Ford (MS, 90; PhD, 2005)  
Gebbie Speech Language Clinic Coordinator



Alumni News...

**1968**—**Robert MacPherson, Ph.D.** (MA 1965, Ph.D. 1968) was named Board Member Emeritus in June by Western Carolinians for Criminal Justice where he served as secretary for eighteen years. WCCJ is the largest agency advocating Restorative Justice and providing alternate sentencing in North Carolina. He remains a proud supporter of SU athletics.

**1971**—**Nancy Rettig** (MS) continues to be a practicing Speech-Language Pathologist at Communications Plus, Inc.

**1976**—**Linda Khan** (MS) is a Speech-Language Pathologist working in Broward Schools in Fort Lauderdale.

**1980**—**Susan Rezen, Ph.D.** retired in May from Worcester State College in Massachusetts and has moved to the Legacy Community in Leesburg, FL. She plans to continue with volunteer work in audiology.

**1981**—**Edward Korabic, Ph.D.** is currently serving as chair of the Speech Pathology and Audiology Department at Marquette University in Wisconsin. He also held this leadership position from 1988-2004.

--**Cindy Pitcher Watson** (MS) is currently the Vice President of Client Services for Concerro, a venture capital backed healthcare technology company based in San Diego. She, her husband, and her two sons will relocate there from Atlanta.

**1982**—**Sue Hansel** (MS) earned her AuD degree this summer. She works as a consulting audiologist at Chicago Otolaryngology Associates at Mercy Hospital and as a clinical audiologist in a private ENT practice in Gurnee, IL.

**1988**—**Michael Robb, Ph.D.** (Ph.D. 88, MS 82) He continues his research on infant vocalizations as a professor at the University of Canterbury in New Zealand.

**1989**—**Laurie Timmis** (BS 1988, MS 1989) graduated in May from the University at Albany with a Certificate of Advanced Studies in Educational Administration and Policy Studies. She continues to work as an SLP in the Mechanicville Elem. School.

**1991**—**Michelle Walsh** (MS) has been married to Glenn for 19 years and their twins are six. She works at the Preschool Learning Center on the Verbal Behavior team with children on the spectrum of pervasive developmental disorders.

**1992**—**Lori Goldberg** (MS) moved back from New England to New Jersey after 15 years with husband, Rob, and daughter, Dinah. She is currently working in South Orange/Maplewood Public Schools.

**1993**—**John Torrens, Ph.D.** (MS) received his Ph.D. in Business Administration at North Central University in 2004.

He is the founder of the InterActive Therapy Group, which he has just sold after 13 years of owning and operating it. He plans to stay on as President to run the company for the new owners and is focused on growing the business through organic growth and further acquisitions in the early childhood space.

**1995**—**Mary Reynolds Gilmore** (MS) is currently a doctoral student at Hofstra University in the Department of Literacy Studies. She is living in Northport, NY with her husband and three children.

--**Jennifer (Earnst) Simpson** (MS) owns and operates her own small business called Sign With Your Kids. She teaches staff trainings for preschool teachers, parents, and day-care providers in the use of sign language. She and her husband Jeffrey, also an SU alum, have 4 children: twin girls Kaite and Emma (6), Bennett (5), and baby Graham born in April 08.

**1996**—**Eleni Pappas-Loizides** (MS) is a stay-at-home mom of two girls ages 3 and 5, but does plan to return to her career.

**1997**—**Jennifer Wetter Grundulis** (BS) was just married at SU's Hendricks Chapel. She received her MS from U.Texas at Dallas.

**1998**—**Yvonne (Szymko) Bennett** (MS) is working at the National Institute of Health in NIDCD's Intramural Research Program on auditory processing in the Brain Imaging and Modeling Section. She also does part-time clinical work.

--**Kathleen (Katie Walsh) Castano** (BS) is still employed as a private Speech-Language Pathologist, but works primarily for the Truro Public Schools in MA. She has two daughters: Eliana (3) and Vivian (1).

--**Kristin (Nawrocki) Smidt** (MS) and her husband welcomed daughter, Kaitlin, in September, 2008 joining Erin (4). In 2007, Kristin was a presenter at the Arizona Speech-Language Hearing Association (ArSHA) annual convention in Phoenix. The topic of her presentation was Sensory Motor Integrated Language and Literacy Enrichment (SMILLE) Program for Preschoolers. She developed this technique with an occupational therapist. It combines the techniques of sensory integration, fine motor/prewriting, speech, language and phonemic awareness into a comprehensive treatment regime within the preschool setting.

**1999**—**Michael Piskosz** (MS) is a Product Audiologist for GN ReSound currently working in Ft. Lauderdale for headquarters in Copenhagen.

--**Greg Tibollo** (MS) works at N.Tonawanda Middle School near Buffalo. He is married and has sons, Nicholas, 5 & Christian, 2.

--**Donna Farchione** (MS '97), **Sujini Ramachandar** (MS '99) and **Meg Catanzarita** (MS '99) operate Connections Family-Centered Therapies in Syracuse. They provide services to children birth-5 years old, as well as adults with various disorders like swallowing and language. Find them at connectionstx.com for more info about them and employment opportunities.

**2000**—**Meaghan Huffield Capellini** (BS) and husband, Rob, and son, Ryan, welcomed baby Celeste, in July. She is an SLP doing work at the early intervention and preschool levels. She has returned to Mahopac after moving around with Rob's military positions.

**2001**--**Danielle LaVoie** (MS) recently took a position at Mercy Medical Hospital in the pediatric outpatient clinic in Springfield, MA.



## Alumni News (continued)

**2001**--**Jean Terry** (MS) and her husband, John, have two children. Daughter Bronte is 2. Johnathan (5) was diagnosed with Landau Kleffner Syndrome and Autism. He continues to bless their lives. Jean works as an independent contractor for Early Intervention (age 3-5) in Berks County Intermediate Unit in Pennsylvania.

--**Tracy Fitzgerald, Ph.D.** (MS 1993) is an assistant professor at the University of Maryland, College Park in the Hearing & Speech Sciences Department. She and her husband, Ross, had a daughter, Charlotte, in December of 2007.

--**Echo Winslow Lynch** (MS) welcomed a son, Connor Patrick, in December of 2007.

—**Lisa (Geary) Espina** (MS) is employed at St. Vincent's Catholic Medical Center in Manhattan.

**2002**--**Elissa Jacoby** (MS) was married in September, 2007, and lives in Long Beach, NY. She works at Long Beach Medical Center.

**2003**—**Norah (Wade) Breindel** (MS) was married on October 12. She works full time at the Cicero-North Syracuse High School. She and her coworkers are improving implementation of assistive technology and augmentative communication in the district. She also works part-time for InterActive Therapy Group with EI and PreK clients.

—**Mary Jo Duval** (MS) married Peter Nilsson on October 18.

--**David Glaser** (MS) lives in Apalachin, NY, with his wife, Jessica. He is an audiologist performing diagnostic tests for two ENT specialists in Vestal, as well as a partner in Southern Tier Hearing Services, where he dispenses hearing aids.

**2004**—**Erica Schoenberg Gallagher** (MS) welcomed baby Logan on August 21, 2008. She continues to work part time at her practice that she opened last year, Abington Audiology and Balance Center.

--**Stacy Sinclair** (MS) is working for the Syracuse City School District and is planning a wedding for the fall of 2009.

--**Erica (Weissinger) Shaw** (MS) provides services through Children's Therapy Network to children 0-3 in the Utica area. Her son Luke just turned one in September, so she only works part-time.

**2005**—**Deedra (Carroll) Galarneau** (MS) left her position at Rehab Resources through the Madison-Cortland ARC to stay at home with her son Alex (3) and daughter Sarah (8 mos). Her husband just finished his residency and is working at FF Thompson Hospital.

--**Sandi Chmielewski** (BS) earned her MS in speech pathology at Teacher's College, Columbia University in 2007. She works in the NYC public school system and also provides Early Intervention Services through various agencies in NYC.

**2006**—**Lindsay Gyle** (MS) is working at Eastchester Middle School in Westchester County, NY. She currently lives in the Bronx, and was maid of honor for fellow graduate, Karen Stroszka, at her October wedding.

--**Gina Palma** (MS) lives in the Bronx and sees adults with neurological disorders at Burke Rehab Hospital in White Plains, NY.

--**Sharon (Heyward) Hagadorn** (MS) was married July 12<sup>th</sup> and still works for the Syracuse City School District.

--**Erin Murphy** (MS) is working at St. Joseph Medical Center in Towson, MD. She is marrying Brian Schuppert on May 16, 2009.

--**Karen Stroszka** (MS) works at University Hospital in Syracuse and was just married on October 11.

--**Rachael Katz** (BS) graduated from Emerson College in 2008 and is an SLP for Community Rehab Care in Newton, MA, which is an outpatient rehab center for adults with TBI or stroke. They focus on functional communication and reintegration into the community.

**2007**—**Stefanie (Hayes) Veno** (BS 2005, MS 2007) was married on June 21 and works at Banner Baywood Medical Center in the John J. Rhodes Rehabilitation Institute where she deals with CVA's and neurological disorders.

--**Kari Dumakowski** (MS) continues to work at Saint Margaret Mercy Hospital in Hammond, IN.

--**Katherine (Low) Adams** (MS) was married on June 28 and lives in Toronto where she works with preschoolers at Toronto Preschool Speech and Language Services.

--**Rachel Farrow-Beers** (MS) was married on October 6, 2007 and works for Sherburne-Earlville Central School District.

--**Erin (Houghton) Barger** (MS) lives with her husband in WV where she is employed by Enduracare and works in a local nursing home and hospital. She hopes to relocate to the Central New York area soon.

--**Jeanine Telesco** (MS) is working at the Onondaga-Cortland-Madison County BOCES in Camillus Middle school. She works with children (10-15) with severe autism and children and young adults (13-21) with severe multiple disabilities.

--**Trisha (Breen) Redmond** (MS) gave birth to her son Bryce in May of 2007 and is employed at CP Rochester in the Augustin Children's Center.

--**Mary Lee-Vang** (MS) currently works for the Syracuse City School District as a substitute teacher and is expecting a baby girl in December.

--**Jessica Horvath** (BS) is in her second year of grad school to be an SLP at Emerson College in Boston.

**2008**—**Erin Rinella** (MS) moved to Boston and works for Riverside Early Intervention, where she has been for 4 months. Her CF supervisor is also a Syracuse alumni in Speech-Pathology, Sharon Martens.

--**Alexine (Leon) Abina** (MS) works for KidsFIRST Medical Center in Dubai. She married Rafiu in May, 2008.

--**Amy (Diehl) Rominger** (MS) works for Jefferson University Physicians in the Department of Otolaryngology as an audiologist.

--**Katrina Milo** (MS) just took a position at Birchwood Terrace Healthcare in Burlington, VT.

--**Jonathan Preston, Ph.D.** finished his Ph.D. in SLP in August, 2008. His dissertation, "Phonological Processing and Speech Production in Preschoolers with Speech Sound Disorders" was mentored by Dr. Mary Louise Edwards. Jonathan is now a postdoctoral fellow at Haskins Laboratories in New Haven, CT, where he will be continuing research in speech production, speech perception, and literacy.

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**We Would Like to Thank the Following Individuals for  
Their Generous Donations to the CS&D Department**

*Dr. Evelyn Brayton*

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*Mr. Edward Kaish & Mrs. Olga Kaish*

*Drs. Barbara & Michael Kurman*

*Ms. Rachel Miller*

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*Ms. Melissa Wenters*

*We would also like to thank*

*Welch Allyn*

*for the Digital Macroview donated to the Hearing Clinic  
this year!*