Notes from the Chair

The 2010–11 academic year has been busy with change and celebration. The IPFW administrators have agreed to implement the M.A. program in speech-language pathology, to launch in approximately the next four or five years. What great news.

As you will read in the rest of the newsletter, there are many changes happening within the department. The one that most of you know by now is that I retired at the end of May. My long professional career at IPFW has been a wonderful journey, in good part because of you, the interesting and delightful students. You challenged me to keep current, share my research, enjoy learning with you about our wide array of topics and disorders, and assist you as you developed your academic and clinical skills. The lively and inspiring times with you created memories I will cherish. I am privileged and grateful that I was allowed to be part of the college years where you identified your talents and began to realize your career goals. As a department we have always taken great pride in our majors and understood that we were the fortunate ones to have you as students.

My plans are developing, but I will travel, continue my literacy work, engage in some research with adolescents and/or toddlers, and explore new topics and develop skills that I have thus far not taken the time to do. Please keep in touch, as I will always be interested to hear how your lives and careers evolve. Email messages are welcome. I will keep the IPFW email: hess@ipfw.edu.

Change in Faculty

Jonathan Dalby, Ph.D. will begin as acting chair in July. The department will search for a new chairperson and a new assistant professor this fall.

Joy (Stepinski) Musser, Ph.D. will re-join the department, teaching Introduction to Communicative Disorders and Anatomy and Physiology for Speech and Hearing both fall and spring terms. Professor Musser specializes in voice disorders and other neurogenic motor disorders. Last October, Joy, her husband, and Liam welcomed their new daughter/sister into their lives. We are delighted to have Joy in the CSD family again.

Linda Sickman, Ph.D. will join the faculty in August. Professor Sickman’s areas of specialty include language development and disorders, phonological disorders, and literacy. Several years ago, Professor Sickman also taught the introductory course for CSD before returning to the University of Cincinnati to earn a Ph.D. We happily welcome Linda back to the CSD family.

Thanks and Congratulations to Mrs. Ramer

Deb has retired! We know—she is too young! Deb has been at IPFW for 22 years and with CSD for over 18 years. We were so fortunate to have her as our secretary. Her experience was invaluable to everyone—students, faculty, and visitors. We wish Deb the best in her retirement.

Change in Administrative Assistant

With Deb retiring, we were delighted to find Joanne Blosser almost immediately to run our office. Joanne has IPFW experience and she quickly catches on to how our department works. Stop by and introduce yourself; you will like her right away.

Lucille J. Hess, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

Associate Professor
Chair, Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders

Lucy Hess began her teaching career at IPFW in 1968 as an instructor with the then-named Department of Audiology and Speech Sciences. Her preparation for the post included a master’s degree and clinical certification in speech-language pathology from Western Michigan University. After two years, she left IPFW to bear a child and enter private practice in speech-language pathology in the Fort Wayne area. She also served as director of speech and hearing services at Byron Health Center, as speech-language pathologist for the community schools of Churubusco, and then returned to IPFW in 1979, again as an instructor. Certain at that point that she wished to teach, she entered the Ph.D. program at Indiana University in 1980 and completed a degree in 1984. In 1985, she was appointed assistant professor and director of the Speech and Hearing Clinic, and in 1992 was promoted to associate professor based on her demonstrated excellence as a teacher. Lucy became chair of the department in 2001, at which time she was forced to give up the directorship of the clinic.

During her 10 years as chair, Lucy presided over a department in which the enrollment of majors rose from about 50 to the current 150+ students, a new master’s degree program in speech-language pathology was developed and achieved, as was a change in the department’s name (from the somewhat misleading ‘audiology and speech sciences’ to the more descriptive ‘communication sciences and disorders’).
Westgerdes shared the generous Downtown (Fort persons with multiple disabilities. Grote was selected for daughter and sister, Anne, who was deaf, blind, and physically challenged. She was working in schools, hospitals, and clinics in the northeast Indiana area.

Lucy has always loved teaching and her students have always loved her. She considers every student a protégé and is extraordinarily generous in the time she spends fostering the personal and professional development of her charges, inside and outside the classroom and clinic. Two of her current students have described her thus:

“Dr. Hess will do anything to benefit the quality of education for her students. She is always willing to help anyone in the program to make sure that he/she is successful until and even after graduation. Everything she does is for the students, not for her benefit.”

2011 CSD Scholarships and Awards

Seven of the department’s outstanding students were honored at the 2011 College of Arts and Sciences Honors Banquet April 14. All have their names added to the honor roll plaques that hang in the department office.

Graduating senior Tanya Gamble was named the Outstanding Communication Sciences and Disorders Major for 2011. The CSD department continues to have a large group of outstanding seniors, so the selection was difficult. The award acknowledges a high standard of scholarship and demonstrated effectiveness in leadership or service roles. Tanya did a study entitled “Intelligibility of Mandarin-accented English Speech in Noise” as part of the requirements for earning an honors certificate. Volunteering for tasks around the department is something we could always count on Tanya to do. She served as secretary of the speech and hearing club this year. A cash award was given to Gamble as an award from the Psi Iota Xi Theta Sigma Chapter in Syracuse, Ind.

Senior Jennifer Grote was awarded the generous scholarship from the Anne M. Balentine Foundation. The scholarship funded by the Conrad Balentine family of Bluffton, Ind., is in honor of their daughter and sister, Anne, who was deaf, blind, and physically challenged. Grote was selected for meritorious scholarship and her interest in serving persons with multiple disabilities.

Senior Camille Zimmerman and junior Danae Westgerdes shared the generous Downtown (Fort Wayne) Sertoma William Doctor Scholarship for their demonstrated high scholarship. The award was named for a founding member of the Sertoma Club. Zimmerman plans to use her skills in Spanish to provide bilingual intervention to persons of all ages; Danae’s goals are to provide services to infants and toddlers who receive cochlear implants so she can help to prevent communication disorders.

Senior Melissa Helm received the Psi Iota Xi Delta Gamma (Fort Wayne)-Donald Doster Memorial Scholarship. This award provides tuition reduction for a CSD major who has demonstrated academic excellence. Helm currently helps a boy with autism and she expresses great joy as she sees him accomplish socialization. Helm is an energizer for other students who recognized this and elected her the president of the SHC next year. This is the last year that the Delta Gamma scholarship will be offered because the chapter is dissolving. These women have been staunch supporters of the CSD majors. We are thankful for all of their efforts to fund a scholarship since 1993. These scholarships have made a difference for each student who received it. Most are practicing SLPs today. Thank you, Delta Gamma Chapter women.

Senior Kayleigh Robinson was awarded the Psi Iota Xi-Eta Rho Chapter (New Haven, Ind.) Scholarship. In addition to good academic ability, she appreciates the effect an SLP can have as she witnessed the growth in the language of her younger brother who received early intervention services.

Junior Alicia Bigelow received the Psi Iota Xi-Theta Theta Chapter (Fort Wayne) annual CSD Textbook Award for her scholarship and for her interest in teaching young children who have hearing loss how to communicate. Alicia serves as the president of the IPFW Students for Life.

“Dr. Hess has always found a way to encourage me since the very first time I met with her in her office. Her passions are evident and through sharing those passions with her students, she has ignited passion in many of us as well. I will always appreciate her for that and her incredible willingness to help whenever she can, no matter what the topic.”

Her determination to provide her students with the training and the motivation they need to excel was formally acknowledged when she received the Friends of the University Outstanding Teacher Award in 2006.

Lucy has been an active participant in her professional associations, in university governance and service, and in organizations providing vital services to the community. She has held several leadership positions in her national organization, the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (Certificates of Appreciation), as well as in the Indiana Speech-Language-Hearing Association (Honors), President 1990–1992. Lucy is a member of Phi Kappa Phi and served as an officer of the IPFW chapter for seven years, including one year as president. She has also served on many university, senate, and college committees.

Lucy has always considered her talent, training, enthusiasm, and natural instinct for hard work as resources to be shared with the community she lives in, and the list of her contributions is astonishing. The short list includes founding the Fort Wayne Stroke Club in 1973 and serving as advisor for 18 years; serving as an officer of Cedars Hope and, since 2005, its vice president; serving continuously in the First Steps of Allen County program since 1990, on its executive board for 14 years, and followed by seven years of service as vice chair and one as president; working as a consultant to Head Start and a leader of the family support team of Habitat for Humanity; providing training in language development for the staff of Healthy Families of Allen County since 1990; and has continuously volunteered her time and effort in support of many church-based charitable activities.

Back Row (l-r): Chair and Professor Lucy Hess, Megan Bowers, Sarah Herendeen, Danae Westgerdes, Kayleigh Robinson, Melissa Helm, Jenna Gerg, Danielle Haggard, continuing lecturer Sharon Egly, and Associate Professor Jonathan Dalby Front row: Camille Zimmerman, Jennifer Grote, Alicia Bigelow, and Tanya Gamble
Kudos to CSD majors

Amanda Hirshey was awarded the Dr. Robert W. and Susan L. Detterman Scholarship. This scholarship is based on good academic standing for a student in Arts and Sciences. The donors were connected to the medical and educational aspects of the community and wanted to support students who have goals to work in these sectors.

Rita Jakubowicz was awarded a one-time textbook gift for the 2011-12 school year.

Tanya Gamble’s Honors Degree Research Project Completed with Dr. Dalby

Senior honors student Tanya Gamble completed an experimental investigation of the intelligibility of English speech produced by native speakers of Mandarin Chinese who learned English as adults. After finishing the education requirements for conducting human subjects research, she presented isolated words spoken by two native American-English speakers and two Mandarin-accented speakers to 10 native American-English listeners. Some of the words were presented in quiet background conditions while others were embedded in noise of varying volumes. Listeners simply repeated the words they heard and their responses were recorded. Tanya then transcribed all six thousand responses phonetically and analyzed the results over the course of summer and fall. The description of this work she submitted in April has been accepted by the IPFW Honors Committee. She also presented a summary at the Spring Honors Symposium.

Jonathan Dalby served as mentor for the project. Tanya graduated with highest distinction and with an Honors Program Certificate in May.

Greetings from Professor Emerita Flynn

Greetings to the students and alums of 1970–2003—my time as “AUS” professor/chair—and to our more recent grads. I wish the 2011 grads a full measure of success. How proud I am that you, each in your own way, carry our banner forward, making an important difference in the world.

I’m thrilled to learn of your client progress and professional involvements and that several of you are authors of journal articles and important treatment materials. Remember, I’m always eager to receive a copy of your work. Autographed is nice!

I encourage you to consider the general public as an important audience for your oral and written information sharing. Because the prevention of communication disorders has been my professional interest, I’m so pleased when the public media is flooded with accurate, enabling information about “our” topics—literacy, autism, hearing loss risks, fluency, language development, head injury risks, and so much more. From among members of this critical public audience, we build our treatment and financial support teams.

Even comic strip developers seem to have developed an interest in our area of expertise. Recently one of Dennis the Menace’s friends told him that “Reading is fun. It gives you some place to go when you can’t go anywhere.” If only every child would come to experience that truth. One Adam@home panel showed dad on the couch with two children and a book, telling mom, “We’re having reading group.” Indeed they are! That’s so grown up, too. Family Circle’s Billy asked, “Grandma would you like me to listen to you read a story?” Encourage the good speaking/listening/reading models and partners, like grandma and dad, during May’s Better Hearing and Speech Month and all year long.

AND… I offer my sincere best wishes to Professor Hess, who is about to retire from IPFW and her role as my most able successor as chair of our department. I know personally that she always devoted the full measure of her considerable energy and talent to the enhancement and development of academic opportunities for our majors. May all her future experiences lend themselves to a very interesting new chapter of her life—one that we all will be very interested to read!

Pauline Flynn, Ph.D.
paulinetwin@aol.com

From the Communication and Disorders Clinic

Ten students performed clinic this semester with five of them earning gerontology certificates. Four of the students participated in the Photography as Language program (see separate article). Clients served in the typical therapy program this year included a geriatric client, a university student, and four other students, three of whom were school-aged and one who was in preschool. CSD students chose an appropriate evidence-based technique for their client’s disorder. As a result of therapy, all of the clients made good progress toward their goals. In addition, the CSD students met all of their self-selected goals for the clinical semester. Congratulations to Emily Bell, Stephanie Fryback, Tanya Gamble, Megan Ronot, Averi Smith, and Diana Snell for the fine work they did as student clinicians.

Thanks To Sertoma Foundation and Downtown Sertoma Club

Every year the Sertoma Foundation generously supports the continuing education of CSD faculty with a stipend to attend ASHA. This stipend helps defray registration expenses for the faculty. We are grateful for the support of both the foundation and the Downtown Sertoma Club, which includes the CSD department as an affiliate. Many thanks and kudos to the Downtown Sertoma Club for the past 24 years of financial support through the scholarship for IPFW speech and hearing majors.

Volunteers included Chanda Lichtsinn, Beth Krill, and Tiffany Roberts from Turnstone (CSD alumni), as well as Jodi Intelicato, IPFW senior student and Faith Reaser, a high school student. The Sunday evening performance was well attended by families of the campers, IPFW students, and the general public. Financial support for the camp was secured from the vice chancellor of academic affairs and vice chancellor of student affairs, who were pleased that IPFW was reaching out to the community in this way.

The camp is scheduled this year for October 7–9. No play has been decided on at this time; so if you have an idea, please contact Sharon. If you know of an individual aged 6–21 who uses AAC and would be interested in participating, please call the office for a brochure.
Cara Abraham, class of '98, lives in Indianapolis, and is employed with Bierman ABA. She is working part time with autistic children using Applied Behavior Analysis approach to encourage learning and communication. Cara is married to Mark and has three boys.

Sarah (Frecker) Archer, class of '98, lives in Fort Wayne and is employed with The Boy Scouts of America. She was promoted to senior district executive, honored as a “Top 50” Boy Scouts of America Executive for 2009, and was selected as an Executive Journey Fellow for 2011. Sarah and her husband Scott welcomed their third child, Madsyen Sophia, in June 2010; big sister Makayla is looking forward to babysitting income. Scott and Sarah are considering a move with her career to Michigan.

Danielle Bishop, class of ’09, lives in Peru, Ind., and is employed with the U.S. Postal Service in Mexico, Ind.. She is volunteer coordinator for Harvesting Capabilities, which is a home healthcare facility in Peru.

Heather (Englert) Cochran, class of ’10, lives in Fort Wayne and is employed at the Children’s Autism Center as an ABA therapist. She married Charlie Cochran in July 2010 and moved into their new home in April.

Nancy Willig DeNise, class of ’76-PUWL, lives in Ohio and recently started two part-time jobs; two days a week at a parochial school and one day a week in a nursing/rehab facility. She retired after 30 years as a school SLP. Her oldest son graduates this spring from University of Toledo and her youngest son is a freshman at Sinclair Community College in Dayton. Nancy’s parents passed away last fall; dad in September and mom in November.

Melissa Drapac, class of ’08, lives in Schererville, and is employed with Kid Power Therapy providing First Steps and clinic-based therapy. She graduated with a master’s degree from Governors State University in December. She is living with her parents and three dogs.

Sharon Egy, class of ’90, became a grandmother for the fifth time. Jacob Allan Egy was born to her son, Keith, and his wife, Amy, on December 17, 2010 and weighed ten pounds two ounces. Jacob is full of giggles and just learned to turn over! Sharon has a few trips planned for the summer and, if the rain ever stops, she will be planting her garden as usual. She also hopes to develop a DVD of atypical oral/facial examinations that can be used for instruction and testing at the undergraduate level.

Teri (Ousley) Fields, class of ’90, lives in Columbia City and is employed at Parkview Hospital where she is the lead speech therapist. Teri and her husband Chad have a two year old named Nolan and are expecting their second child in August.

Melissa Fuller, class of ’09, is employed at East Noble School Corporation where she works at all levels of the school, from elementary to high school. She is currently pursuing a master’s degree from NOVA Southeastern and will begin their program in 2012. Melissa and her husband celebrated their two year anniversary and are expecting their first child in July.

Melissa George, class of ’01, lives in Fort Wayne and is employed at the VA Hospital. Melissa welcomed Maggie Elizabeth George January 6.

Jodi Gogos, class of ’93, lives in Fort Wayne and is the owner of a private outpatient clinic called Reaching Out Loud, Inc.

Michael Jones, class of ’07, lives in Chicago and is employed at Hearing Health Center downtown. He graduated with an AuD in May. Mike and his wife, Abby, are celebrating four years of marriage June 9. They are awaiting the birth of their first niece and nephew in late summer.

Anissa Khouri, class of ’06, lives in Rhode Island and is employed in a small private school for children with special needs in communication, pragmatics, and sensory integration. She reports that the model of education includes a teacher, teacher assistant, SLP, and OT in each classroom with an individualized plan for each child.

Rachel Kline, class of ’08, lives in Fort Wayne and is completing a master’s degree at Indiana State University. She will graduate with an M. S. in August.

Elizabeth Learnard, class of ’10, currently is attending Miami University of Ohio for an M.A. in speech language pathology. She will be completing externship experiences at Parkview in the summer and Cincinnati Children’s Hospital in the fall. Elizabeth reports that she is interested in pediatrics in the medical setting and AAC.

Chanda Lichtsinn, class of ’96, lives in Fort Wayne and is employed at Turnstone and IPFW. She is the lead pediatric therapist at Turnstone, where she has worked for 13 years. Chanda is looking forward to another successful Summer Speech Camp at Turnstone, developing a larger AAC assessment and intervention program, and collaborating with a classroom pilot program working with children who have lead poisoning. She is looking forward to pledging with Psi Iota Xi sorority Theta Theta Chapter in April. Psi Iota Xi is a national philanthropic organization with a focus on service to children in the field of speech and hearing. Chanda and her husband, Bill, enjoy spending time with their son, Steven, daughter-in-law, Nicole, and grandchildren Kerrigan (five) and Brayden (three).

Shawa McIntyre, class of ’09, is employed with Elkhart County Special Education Cooperative (ECSEC) as a speech assistant. She is applying to online master’s programs to complete her schooling. Shawna and her husband will celebrate their 10th anniversary this summer. Her daughter starts preschool next year and her son is a second grader.

Terri McLaughlin, class of ’01, lives in Houston and is employed with Klein Independent School District. She works with K–12 in developmental classrooms and is a member of the Assistive Technology team, which evaluates the communication needs of students in their school district.

Erin (Edison) Moffett, class of ’03, lives in Fort Wayne and is owner of her own photography business, Moffettography Creative Images. Her husband, Jadda Moffett, graduated in May 2010 with a bachelor’s degree in geology. They have two cats: Chester and Peanut.

Erin (Bower) Morrill, class of ’05, lives in Coldwater, Mich., and is employed at Branch ISD. Through START (Statewide Autism and Resources Training), she has begun a peer-to-peer support group in three buildings, targeting students with social difficulties. She and her husband have daughters, Emma (eight), Harper (14 months), and baby number three is due in August.

Whitney (Christner) Rahn, class of ’09, lives in Elkhart County. She is completing her externships for her distance learning program through Western Kentucky University. Whitney will complete her program and begin her CFY in the fall. She was married in the summer of 2009 to Jason Rahn. He works as a patrol officer for the Elkhart County Sheriff’s department. Their first baby boy, Brigham David, was due the first week of May.

Tiffany Roberts, class of ’08, lives in Columbia City and is employed at Turnstone as a CFY. She completed a master’s degree at Tennessee State University and has applied for her CCC’s from ASHA.

Anne (Bear) Robey, class of ’97, is employed by Amedisys Home Health Care. She was married May 2 in St. Martin.

Helen Roth, class of ’10, lives in Gas City and is employed at Homefront Learning Center as a speech therapy assistant. She enjoys working with children of all ages in clinical and school settings. She has applied to graduate schools. Helen has a boyfriend of eight months and they are looking forward to the future.
Rosanna Schenkel, class of ’06, lives in Yuma, Ariz., and is employed at the Yuma Rehabilitation Hospital. She enjoys working with pediatrics and adults. Rosanna was certified in vital stim therapy, interactive metronome, and LSVT. She will be married in June to Curtis Boardman. She has a son, Chris, who is nine in May and is doing well.

Kurt Schmelz, class of ’07, lives in Madison, Wis., and is employed at Clearview Brain Injury Rehab Center and Beaver Dam Community Hospital. He received his CCC’s in March 2010 and became certified in LSVT last fall. He was elected as the vice president of communications to the Executive Board of the Wisconsin Speech and Hearing Association in 2009. Kurt has completed triathlons and Ironman competitions and raised funds for the Wisconsin chapter of the American Parkinson’s Disease Association (APDA). He is currently pursuing his private pilot certificate.

Jennifer Schults, class of ’08, lives in Indianapolis, and is employed with Advanced Children’s Therapy as a First Steps provider. She completed a master’s in communication disorders from Marshall University in August 2010.

Karrie (Fredrickson) Steenport, class of ’08, lives in Fort Wayne, and is employed with Prairie Heights Community Schools in LaGrange. She graduated with a master’s degree in July 2010 from BSU. Karrie was married September 18, 2010 and they adopted a schnauzer, Sophie, from the shelter.

Denise Stoltzfus, class of ’97 PWUL, lives in St. Petersburg, Fl., and is enjoying treating patients with Parkinson’s disease using the Lee Silverman Voice Treatment.

Kristin (Miller) Thiele, class of ’97, has renewed her Director of Special Education license. She reports her daughter, Gwyn, will be four and son, Sawyer, will be two this summer.

Anita Tom, class of ’95, lives in Fort Wayne, and is employed with Lutheran Hospital. She has worked with Lutheran for 13 years. She continues to focus in pediatrics, dysphagia, and the NICU. She is joining the IPFW CSD department to teach an introduction class this fall. Anita’s children are now 18, 12, eight, and two. She is proud of her oldest son, Erik, who was awarded the Chancellor’s Scholarship at IPFW.

Jane Hudson Toor lives in Kokomo and is the lead SLP at St. Joseph Hospital in Kokomo. She is the facilitator of Howard County Stroke Support Group and loves working with neurological disorders. She also works as a PRN with an extended care facility. Jane’s oldest daughter, Erica, was married February 2009. Her youngest daughter, Ashley, lives in Camby, Ind., and was married in October. Jane now has a six-year-old grandson, Dominic, who is all boy. Jane and her husband celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary in August 2010 with a golfing vacation in North Carolina.

Rebecca Witte, class of ’10, lives in Fort Wayne and is employed with ENT as a recall specialist and hearing aide technician. She also coaches diving at Carroll High School. Becky and Caleb McClain are getting married on August 6, 2011. Their son, Jackson Jay McClain, was born September 7, 2010.

Stacey Zelt, class of ’93, is employed with Northwest Allen County Schools and as a PRN at Luther’s Rehabilitation Hospital. She and Eric have been married 19 years and enjoy raising their 11 and 13 year old children.

A heartfelt thank-you to the alumni who took time out of their busy lives to share their personal and professional information. Sincerely, your editor, Chanda Lichtsinn (B.S. ’96)

### 2011 Graduating Seniors

The graduates were Kelsey Fleming (December ’10); Amber Rodocker (December ’10); and Averi Smith (December ’10); Carlee Andress; Emily Bell; Megan Bowers; Kirsten Ferrigan; Stephanie Frybeck; Tanya Gamble; Jenna Gerig; Danielle Haggard. Julia Hein; Sarah Herendeen; Elizabeth Houser; Rachel Jones; Alisha Latham; Angie Lebrecht; Brad Quandt; Megan Rondot; Juli Shields; and Diana Snell.

Gamble and Haggard graduated with highest distinction; Bowers, Gerig, and Herendeen graduated with distinction. Gamble earned an honors certificate. Kudos to each of them!

The CSD graduates who plan to attend graduate school in the fall for speech–language pathology are Gerig, WMU; Hein and Gamble, Bowling Green State University, Gamble with an assistantship; Haggard, Purdue; Bell, Bowers, Herendeen, and Smith, IU; Herendeen and Smith with assistantships; Jones, Indiana State; and Snell, Akron University. Latham will attend Salus University, with an assistantship for her AuD. Fleming and Lebrecht will attend Ball State for ABA certification. We are going to miss this wonderful group of graduates and wish them well as they begin new chapters in their lives.

### Independent Study Projects

Six students elected to do an independent study (CSD 590) this year, most under the direction of Professor Hess. Carlee Andress, SR, developed a parent’s information class for the Beginnings Care for Life Pathology and Audiology” in phonetics on the back.

The club t-shirt for the year had the name on the front with “You don’t have to speak to have something to say” on the back. The club had a party at the end of each semester to celebrate. Officers for next year are: Stefanie Masters, president; Karissa Mills, vice president; Stephanie Shamo, secretary; Alicia Bigelow, treasurer; Marina Poggi, publicist; and Robin Grim and Alyshia Swartz, historians.

### Sign Language PAH Club

The ASL PAH! Club continued into the 11th year participating with the deaf community through contact with the Hoosier Connection. Again this year, the club sponsored The Deaf Deaf Deaf World event in April. Everyone must communicate using ASL or through nonverbal means during most of the evening. ALS “police” make sure those rules are obeyed. The event brings the community to IPFW to learn and help educate students. More than 50 people attended the event. The club t-shirt for the year had the name on the front with “You don’t have to speak to have something to say” on the back. The club had a party at the end of each semester to celebrate. Officers for next year are: Stefanie Masters, president; Karissa Mills, vice president; Stephanie Shamo, secretary; Alicia Bigelow, treasurer; Marina Poggi, publicist; and Robin Grim and Alyshia Swartz, historians.

### Sign Choir

The IPFW ASL choir, consisting of Alicia Bigelow, Robin Grimm, Stefanie Masters, Karissa Mills, Marina Poggi, Stephanie Shamo, Brooke Smith, and Alyshia Swartz, performed twice this year. In April, they performed My Wish at the ISHA convention president’s reception. In May, they performed the National Anthem at Commencement.

### Speech and Hearing Club

Under the leadership of Sarah Herendeen, the SHC had an active year. Two Make-It Take-It events were scheduled, one in the fall and one in the spring. There were two guest speakers: Pat Nuffer, an SLPI who is a missionary to South Sudan and Chanda Lichtsinn, former CSD grad and limited term lecturer for CSD, who shared information about Turnstone’s summer camp for children with communication disorders. Lichtsinn invited students to be volunteers and many signed up. The club participated in the campus Health Fair by screening hearing and providing information.

T-shirts were designed this year to have the SHC club name on the front with “I love Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology” in phonetics on the back.

Graduating officers include: Sarah Herendeen, president; Diana Snell, vice president; Tanya Gamble, secretary; and Megan Bowers, treasurer. Officers for next year are: Melissa Helm, president; Jen Womak, vice president; Paige Connell, secretary; Ashley Feller, treasurer; Marina Poggi, publicist; and Alyshia Bigelow, historian.
Photography as Language

Five of the students doing clinic were working toward finishing a certificate in Gerontology. One client for typical speech therapy was found for one student; however, creative endeavors were needed to include the other four. After attending a session by Janet Whiteside at the ASHA convention last fall, Professor Hess and Mrs. Egly proposed the possibility of trying a functional group activity for the remaining four. Three former clients and one self-referred fellow, all of whom were at varying times post-stroke, were invited to participate in a pilot program called Photography as Language. Also involved were community photographer Karin Wilcox and two IPFW photography students, Monica Gerdeman and Rachel Stauss. Each week, the photographer was to deliver a lesson on an aspect of photography along with an assignment for frame, portrait, and home. The clients took between 3–20+ photos composing the theme and returned the following week to talk about their photos. Goals differed for each of the clients and the students learned how to work in the context of a group, collect data on their client’s productions, and develop strategies to improve their client’s speech. All of the clients reported that the experience was valuable for their communication and requested to return if the program continues. The students noted that while they were concerned that it would not be “speech therapy” in the typical sense of the word, they would not have changed the experience they had. Our thanks to the photographer, photography students, and Jim Gabbard, IPFW professor of visual communication and design, for their cooperation in the project.