Notes from Chair, Jonathan Dalby

The headline in the CSD news of this year is the appointment of a new assistant professor. Pam Britton Reese will be joining our faculty in August. Pam has clinical certification in speech-language pathology and is currently completing her doctorate in applied speech and language science at the University of Louisiana-Lafayette. A brief biographical sketch of her is presented below.

The search for a permanent chair which failed at the last moment in the spring of 2012 left the department short of one full-time faculty member for the past academic year. Nevertheless we were able to complete the year in fine form, thanks to the efforts of our clinical and associate faculty members. Sharon Egly prepared and taught pre-clinic for the first time in the fall. Dr. Joy Musser served as part-time visiting instructor and taught anatomy and physiology as well as her usual intro class spring and fall semesters. Chanda Lichtsinn volunteered to prepare and teach two more of our core courses, language development in the fall and language disorders in the spring, both new preparations for her. Karen Thomas covered assessment once again in the fall, and Anita Tom prepared and taught healthcare settings for the first time this spring. Karen’s assessment course was, regrettably, her last at IPFW as she has relocated to Indianapolis with her husband, Kerry. She will be missed.

Thanks to all of those who devoted extra effort and extra hours to keeping our boat afloat and on course this year.

Reese to Join CSD Faculty

Pam Reese has been appointed Assistant Professor of Communication Sciences and Disorders for the 2013-2014 academic year. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Education of the Hearing Impaired from Southern Methodist University and a Master of Arts for Teachers in Speech and Hearing Sciences from Indiana University. She received her C’s in 1998 while at the University of Texas, Dallas. After acquiring some years of teaching and clinical experience Pam decided to earn her doctorate and entered the Ph.D. program at Louisiana University-Lafayette. She is in the processes of completing her dissertation which examines methods for improving the literacy skills of young readers. Pam describes herself as follows:

I enjoy reading and writing and have just learned that I am going to receive an editor’s award from the Louisiana Speech and Hearing Association for work I have done this year on the association newsletter. Joe and I have three adult children, Kate, Matthew and Sam. We enjoy traveling and writing mysteries together. The first Nina Bannister mystery “Sea Change”, published by Cozy Cat Press, appeared in Kindle, e-book and print versions in early June. I love to cook, explore new recipes and exercise with yoga, swimming and walking. We have enjoyed exploring Acadiana and Cajun culture (even attempting the Cajun waltz) but are eager to explore Ft. Wayne, as we have happy memories of Indiana from our time spent in graduate school at Indiana University.

Sharon Egly Presents AAC Camp Survey Data at ISAAC

As a follow-up to the great success of the third annual Fall AAC Camp, Sharon Egly presented research study she conducted during and after the camp at the 2012 conference of the International Society of AAC in Philadelphia last August. Although it was known from anecdotal reports that campers, parents, and students found the camp to be a terrific learning opportunity, Sharon quantified those reports by collecting responses to a survey of seven measures of satisfaction with the experience using a five-point Likert scale rating system. During her presentation, Sharon received requests for further information about setting up a similar camp experience from conventioneers from France, Denmark, and Sweden.

Pam Britton Reese, Assistant Professor of Communication Sciences and Disorders

Pam Britton Reese has been appointed Assistant Professor of Communication Sciences and Disorders for the 2013-2014 academic year. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Education of the Hearing Impaired from Southern Methodist University and a Master of Arts for Teachers in Speech and Hearing Sciences from Indiana University. She received her C’s in 1998 while at the University of Texas, Dallas. After acquiring some years of teaching and clinical experience Pam decided to earn her doctorate and entered the Ph.D. program at Louisiana University-Lafayette. She is in the processes of completing her dissertation which examines methods for improving the literacy skills of young readers. Pam describes herself as follows:

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2012-2013 Graduates

A record number of students, twenty four, graduated with BS degrees in communication sciences and disorders this academic year. The graduates are Alicia Bigelow, Joelle (Palmer) Bobay, Tanda Brownlee, Amber Decker, Kristen Chaffant, Destiny (Torres) Erhardt, Chesley Haizlett, Rita Jakubowicz, Kayleigh (Robinson) Krouse, Stephanie (Sims) Martin, Cari (McAfoos) Kinsman, Karissa Mills, Amy Mowery, Tina Peaks, Lisa Quach, Chelsea Schmidt, Britteny Schweizer, Andrew Senter, Brooke Smith, Cara Smith, Thomas Summerville, Diana Wayman, Danae Westgerdes, and Anna Winterhalter. Cari Kinsman graduated with distinction and Danae Westgerdes graduated with highest distinction. Congratulations and Best Wishes to all of you as you begin the next phase of your lives.

Five of this year’s graduates will be pursuing master’s degrees in speech-language pathology in the fall. Chesley Haizlett will be at East Tennessee State, Rita Jakubowicz will be studying at Western Michigan, Chelsea Schmidt will be at Marshall, Thomas Summerville has been accepted at Alabama A&M, and Danae Westgerdes will attend Bowling Green State, where she has been awarded an assistantship. Another 2013 graduate, Destiny (Torres) Erhardt, has been accepted into the graduate program in applied behavior analysis at Ball State. Good luck to all of you on this next stage of your academic careers.

CSD Scholarship and Awards 2013

Six outstanding CSD students were recognized with awards for their achievements at the 2013 College of Arts and Sciences Honors Banquet on April 19.

Danae Westgerdes was named Outstanding CSD Major for 2013. This award acknowledges high standards of academic performance combined with leadership and service. Danae’s graduation with highest distinction places her in the top 3% of her class at IPFW. We are happy to be able to say that, as always, the competition for this award among our graduating seniors was keen. Danae received a cash award from the Syracuse, Indiana Theta Sigma Chapter of Pi Iota Xi. Danae was also honored as the recipient of this year’s Gerontology Award for Excellence.

Mallory Buffenbarger and Kathryn Mossburg are co-recipients of the Anne M. Balentine scholarship this year. This generous scholarship is funded by the Conrad Balentine family of Bluffton, Indiana in honor of their daughter and sister, Anne, who was deaf, blind and physically challenged. Both recipients have outstanding academic records and both are interested in professional careers that will aid people with disabilities.

Teresa Barceos and Stephanie Shamo are co-recipients of the generous Downtown Sertoma William Doctor/Charles M. Henry, Jr. Scholarship through their continuous record of notable academic achievement. William Doctor was a founding member of this Fort Wayne service club and Charles M. Henry, Jr. was a long-time officer and donor.

Teresa is an Honors Program student with plans to become a speech-language pathologist specializing in bilingualism. Stephanie is completing an associate’s degree in business along with her CSD degree, with the goal of someday owning her own SLP practice.

Erika Lutz received the second annual ASAP scholarship. ASAP (After Sorority, All Philanthropic) was a chapter of Pi Iota Xi until they broke away from national affiliation last year. In addition to her high level of academic work Erika has served as a volunteer with the Girl Scouts. She aspires to a career as an SLP working in a hospital setting.

All of these fine students have their names engraved on the appropriate plaques that hang in the CSD office in Neff Hall.

Musser awarded DECCO grant

The IPFW Distance Education Coordinating Committee (DECCO) awarded Dr. Joy Musser a Course Development Grant for an on-line version of CSD 115, Introduction to Communicative Disorders. Joy successfully completed the design and implementation of course elements this spring, making it available to students for the fall 2013 semester. The course is already a hit with students as it has reached its maximum enrollment capacity of sixteen during the priority registration period in April.

From the IPFW Communication Disorders Clinic

Ten students performed clinic this spring and seven of these earned gerontology certificates. Four of the students participated with their geriatric clients in Photography as Language, described below. Other clients included one adult client, three geriatric adults, one school-aged child, and three preschoolers. Two of the clients “graduated” from speech and the remainder made substantial progress toward their goals. Congratulations to Diana Wayman, Jill Wiggins, Chelsea Schmidt, Danae Westgerdes, Rita Jakubowicz, Cari (McAfoos) Kinsman, Chesley Haizlett, Tina Peaks, Karissa Mills, and Alicia Bigelow for jobs well done!

Photography as Language

During the 2013 spring semester at IPFW, the Department of Visual Communication and Design (VCD) assisted CSD in a program called Photography as Language. This collaboration provided an opportunity for four CSD student clinicians (Tina Peaks, Chesley Haizlett, Alicia Bigelow, and Karissa Mills) to build their skills in working with gerontology clients who have suffered speech impairing strokes. Using photographs created by the clients as a focus for conversational interaction, the student clinicians worked at eliciting increasingly complex and precise utterances from their clients. Jim Gabbard, a VCD instructor, provided guidance in what constitutes good photography using point-and-shoot digital cameras. Aja Wagenfeld, a sophomore in upper-level photography classes, attended the group speech therapy sessions to assist with editing and enhancing photos and to instruct clients in photographic techniques and camera functions. Along with developing her instructional abilities, Aja learned about aphasia/stroke and how using planned conversational strategies can assist clients in relearning conversational skills.

This is the third year for the collaborative effort in which CSD students earned credit toward certificates in gerontology. The students hosted a reception and exhibit of the photos on April 17th in the CSD library and in a hallway gallery just outside the department offices where friends, family and the public could enjoy the photographs the clients produced (above and p.1).

Nine graduating seniors earned gerontology certificates this year. Alicia Bigelow, Chesley Haizlett, Rita Jakubowicz, Cari (McAfoos) Kinsman, Karissa Mills, Tina Peaks, Stephanie (Sims) Martin, Diana Wayman, and Danae Westgerdes, were awarded Certificates in Gerontology along with their Diplomas in Communication Sciences and Disorders. To earn the certificate students are required to complete 18 credit hours of study including a three-hour capstone course which involves providing speech/language therapy to a geriatric client. To complete the required practicum experience, four of the student clinicians delivered therapy through their participation in the Photography as Language program, three students conducted one-on-one therapy as part of the regular spring clinic course, CSD 549, and two students completed practicums in local nursing facilities. The students presented summaries of their work to CSD students and faculty on April 29th.

Award winners and faculty pictured above left to right: Dr. Dally, Mallory Buffenbarger, Kathryn Mossburg, Teresa Barceos, Erika Lutz, Sharon Egly, Danae Westgerdes and Stephanie Shamo.
American Sign Language ‘PAH’ Club

The ASL-PAH Club hosted the annual Deaf Heat World event in March. Club officers for the coming academic year are: Stephanie Shamo, president; Han Nguyen, vice-president; Teresa Barcenas, treasurer; Kayla Dammeyer, secretary; Molly Hinderman, historian; Meredith Holt, publicist. Check out the facebook page for the club at: http://www.facebook.com/groups/108536469204678/

ASL Sign Choir

The ASL Sign Choir members performed at two events this year, the Deaf community Christmas party and the IPFW commencement ceremony where they signed the lyrics to the national anthem. This year’s choir members were Karissa Mills, Alicia Bigelow, Stephanie Shamo, Han Nguyen, Alex Grate, Meredith Holt, Erika Lutz, Genesis Perez, Rita Jakabowitz, Chelsey Hazelett, Danae Westergard, Chelsea Schmidt, Stephanie Simia, Martin and Tina Peaks. The choir is open to students from any IPFW program.

Speech and Hearing Club

Under the leadership of Chelsey Hazelett, the Speech and Hearing Club was busy this past year beginning with participation in Freshman Fest in August and continuing through commencement in May. Club activities included two zumba and one yoga fundraisers, Make-it-Take-it, Sensative Santa, a materials drive for ASHA, T-shirt and fleece jacket sales, and volunteer ushering at commencement. The club also raised money by selling Pizza Hut discount cards. Club members also assisted with the IPFW Health Fair by distributing information concerning care of the voice, by performing hearing screenings, and by escorting participants to and from the department. The following organizations benefited from SHC fundraising activities: AAC Possibilities Camp, AAC World, Turnstone, Care Connection, IPFW Communication Disorders Clinic, Red Cedars, Dusty Dreams, and Buddy Walk for the Alzheimer’s Association. Congratulations to new club officers Meredith Holt, president, Mallory Buffenbarger, vice-president; Molly Hinderman, secretary; Erika Lutz, treasurer; Katlyn Knuth, publicist; and Stephanie Swapo, historian. Visit the club’s facebook page at: http://www.facebook.com/groups/11384555771339/pages/IPFW-Speech-and-Hearing-Club/231033160269537

Alumni News

Tanya (Gamble) August (‘11)
Professional: She graduated with her Master’s degree from BSU in May 2013. She was awarded the Outstanding Master’s student award and she is looking for employment in a medical setting. Personal: She and Matt celebrated their one-year anniversary in December. They have a puppy – beagle/terrier mix – Eli.

Rachel Baker (‘12)
Professional: She graduated from Indiana State University with her Master’s degree in May 2013. She has completed her school practicum at Arlingon Elementary and will be completing her hospital practicum at Lutheran Hospital. Personal: She has moved back to Fort Wayne.

Emily Bell (‘11)
Professional: She graduated from Indiana University in May 2013 with a Master’s of Arts degree in Speech-Language Pathology.

Shala Bradley (‘12)
Professional: She is working as a Developmental Therapist with speech background for First Steps and also as an assistant in the special needs preschool at Whito. She is enjoying both of these jobs and the experience they offer, but loving the kids most! She plans to apply to an on-line graduate school program next year. Personal: She and her husband Scott have been married 8 years. They have two children; Treysen, 7, is doing very well in first grade, and Trenden, 3, will be starting preschool very soon! Her family keeps her very busy and there is never a dull moment!

Julie (Flora) Carrico (‘93)
Professional: She is co-owner of Reaching Out Loud, Inc. pediatric outpatient clinic at Parkview North. Personal: She is married to Mark, celebrating 12 years. They have three daughters, Haidyn 11, Emery 8, and Luca 6.

Heather (Englert) Cochran (‘10)
Professional: She is working at the Children’s Autism Center as a senior ABA therapist. She will begin her master’s program for speech therapy in March 2013. Personal: She has a son, Charles Alan II, born August 21 2012. She says he is the most amazing part of her life!

Justin Cole (‘10)
Professional: He earned his Master’s degree in May 2012. He earned his CCC-SLP in January 2013. He is currently working full time at Bethel Woods Nursing Home.

Nancy Willig DeNise (‘79)
Professional: She retired in 2010 from full time. She is working 2-days per week as a SLP and tutoring four hours per week in spelling and reading. She is enjoying using her iPad in therapy. Personal: Her oldest son, Michael, was married last August. Her younger son works full time as a welder. She and her husband are planning an anniversary trip to Las Vegas this year. She enjoys scrapbooking and card making in her free time.

Chelsea Dougall (‘11)
Professional: She is currently in a master of social work graduate program. She has chosen a health concentration and hopes to be placed in a hospital. Personal: She is living in Indianapolis with her boyfriend of two years, James.

Sharon Egly (‘90)
Professional: She presented at the International Society of AAC (ISAAC) International Conference in August 2012. Personal: She vacationed in Hawaii this summer with her sister.

Diana (Snell) Fargo (‘11)
Professional: She is currently completing graduate school at the University of Akron. She has had clinical experiences with a variety of populations and disabilities. She enjoys early literacy in young children. She spoke at OSUH Ohio Speech-Language Haring Association Convention on using Devices to support communication for those with neurogenic disorders. She is looking forward to starting her CFY this summer.

Personal: She was married in June 2011 purchased a home in Richfield, Ohio. Holly Gayheart (‘12)
Professional: She was accepted into the Master of Science Interdisciplinary Gerontology Program at BSU for August 2013.

Rose Gilani (‘10)
Professional: She completed her AuD in May 2013 at Ball State. She will be completing her CFY at ENT Associates starting in May. She
plans on publishing research in the summer of 2013.

Personal: She is engaged and planning a wedding for June 2014.

Carley (McCullough) Hower 97
Professional: She earned her Master’s degree from Miami University in 2009 and is employed at Adams Memorial Hospital in Decatur. She works primarily with geriatric patients in long-term care.

Personal: She has been married to Tim for six years. They have a son Moses (Mo) 2, and a daughter born in May.

Ashley (Couch) Hudson 99
Professional: She has finished her Master’s in Behavior and Autism Spectrum Disorders. She is working for Hopebridge Pediatrics in Fort Wayne in ABA and waiting to hear if she passed her boards.

Personal: She married her high school sweetheart, Garrett, in September 2012.

Rachel Kline 08
Professional: She is working at Canterbury Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Fort Wayne, as well as PRN work. She recently became VitalStim certified.

Personal: In September 2012, she purchased her own home and now lives in New Haven.

Kayleigh Krouse 12
Professional: She is working at Pine Hills Learning Place as a Lead Toddler Teacher. She is looking into on-line courses and SLPA-A positions.

Personal: She is a newly married to her husband of one year, Anthony.

Chanda Lichtsinn 96
Professional: She is Pediatric Therapy Manager at Turnstone – celebrated 15-years there recently. She recently went to Pittsburgh, PA for an intensive AAC course. She continues to teach classes each spring and fall semester at IPFW. This past year she taught language development (309) in the fall and language disorders (420) in the spring semester – challenging and exciting!

Personal: She and her husband Bill are celebrating 33 years of marriage in June. They enjoy spending as much time as possible with their grandchildren; Kerrigan 7 and Brayden 5. They have a 12 year old Chihuahua (Olo) and a new kitten (Harry), which makes for interesting encounters at home.

Kara (McCrorry) Lowenstein 07
Professional: She is employed at Indiana Physical Therapy.

Personal: She is currently expecting their first child.

Stefanie Masters 12
Professional: She is working for Hand in Hand doing First Steps so that she can live and work close to home. She is considering applications to graduate school in the fall.

Personal: She is getting married in June and honeymooning in Tennessee. They are purchasing a home. This summer, they will be painting, re-flooring, and redecorating.

Sandra McKiniss 12
Professional: She is working at Westview School Corporation – celebrating 12 years with them. She will be completing a course called Professional Preparation for Cochlear Implants (PPCI). She will be completing this in the summer 2013 and be able to use the auditory verbal strategies and techniques with her clients.

Personal: She, her husband Myron, and son Christian, are remodeling their lake-home on Oliver Lake. The family hopes to have all remodeling complete by the summer and move from Kendalville to the lake before the school year begins.

Marina Poggiali 12
Professional: She is currently attending BGSU to earn her Master’s degree in speech-language pathology. She is busy with the responsibilities of a teaching assistant under her graduate assistantship.

Jenna (Gerig) Rode 11
Professional: She completed her Master’s degree from Western Michigan University in April and is looking for a CFY in a healthcare setting.

Personal: She was married May 4, 2013 to Derek Rode. They are living in Fort Wayne.

Jenni (Schulte) Csenar 08
Professional: She is working at Comenote Pediatric-Rehabilitation in Indianapolis. She is interested in genetic and developmental disorders.

Personal: She moved back to Indianapolis from Northern VA in September. She became engaged on Easter 2012 and was married in April 2013.

Avery Smith 11
Professional: She has completed her coursework at Indiana University. She is completing her externships – graduated with her Master’s in May 2013.

Karrie Steenport 08
Professional: She works for Provida Staff; allowing her to work with students in private schools in the Fort Wayne School District.

Personal: She and her husband Brad are awaiting the birth of their first child this spring.

Susan Stombough 93
Personal: ‘Last March, after a 6-week battle with brain cancer, our oldest daughter Meredith (17), went home to be with the Lord.’ She also was able to move to the country, which was a long-time dream.

Elizabeth (King) Strong 09
Professional: She is living and working at St Vincent Hospital and loves working with the inpatient adults.

Personal: Married to Richard and Simone is now six.

Candie (Biebrich) Takacs 80
Professional: She is working full-time as an SLP for her county’s Early Intervention Program called PACE (Parent and Child Enrichment). She has written Body Awareness and Oral Motor Wake-Up Songs that are used prior to eating/snack with toddlers to build awareness, coordination and control. The songs, which start with larger muscle groups and move to smaller muscles, are individualized for the child according to their oral/body needs. She has also facilitated the purchase and use of Intra-Red Sound Systems for use in the center-based classrooms and in home

instruction. The systems work well to maximize the signal to noise ratio and are especially helpful for kids with attention problems as well as temporary or permanent hearing loss.

Kelsey (Fleming) Tiernon 10
Professional: She is currently working the front desk at Pine Ridge Racquet and Fitness Club.

Personal: She was married on October 6, 2012. She and her husband are looking forward to starting the adoption process in the next year.

Brandy (Manuel) Weaver 08
Professional: She earned her AuD in May. She will be working with Dr. Suzanne Ginter in North Manchester, Indiana in June.

Personal: She has been married to Mark for seven years in September. Her daughter Dalilah will be 5 this year and is in preschool. She is starting ballet in the fall. Her daughter Daphne just turned one and is walking and trying to talk.

Paige (Conwell) Walters 12
Professional: recently married.

Pam Wilke 10
Professional: She is currently at St. Louis University completing her Master’s degree (2014).

Anna Winterhalter 10
Professional: She is working at Parkview with a medical geneticist. She is considering opportunities for her Master’s degree.

Personal: She is currently looking for a job.

Jen Womack 12
Professional: She has finished her first year of graduate school at Bowling Green State University. She is interested in working with adults in a hospital or nursing home setting.

Personal: She was engaged in October 2012 and will be getting married in May of 2014.

Stacey Zelt 93
Professional: She is working full time at Northwest Allen County Schools and PRN at the Rehab Hospital of Fort Wayne.

Personal: She has been married to Eric for 20 years. They are enjoying their teenagers Haley 15, and Kaleb 13.

Camille Zimmerman 12
Professional update: She is currently in her first year at Teachers College Columbia University, pursuing a Masters in SLPA and a bilingual extension in Spanish. She is looking forward to external placements starting this summer.

Personal update: She is enjoying living in NYC. Not only are there many, many opportunities to see and eat new things, but she enjoys listening to a large variety of languages and dialects every day.

Thanks once again to Chanda Lichtsinn for collecting and editing the CSD alumni news.