Research Fellowship Opportunity

Communication Disorders Audiology Research Graduate School Lab Assistantship (awarded for 2 years; $12,000 per year)

The Communication Disorders Audiology Research Graduate School Lab assistantship provides a graduate student a very special opportunity to work with world-renowned audiologist, Dr. Leslie Dalton. Dr. Dalton has discovered a major missing link in the diagnosis and treatment of tinnitus. The graduate assistant will help maintain hardware and software for the audiology suite, directly participate in research data collection and analysis, and assist with lab compliance and upkeep.

The assistantship is being funded by the Graduate School, but the recipient will be selected by the Communications Disorders department. The recipient will be a new communications disorders student who starts the program in fall 2012, which is when the assistantship will start. The deadline to apply is February 1, 2012. More information about the qualifications for the assistantships are posted here: http://www.wtamu.edu/academics/graduate-assistantships.aspx.

Internship News & Updates

Guymon ISD: The clinic added Noel Clifton as a Clinical Instructor for the fall and spring semesters. We are very excited to have him and his experience join us. We have added an additional day to our Guymon contract which involves taking on a new group of schools and a bigger caseload.

Jan Werner: Things are in full swing at Jan Warner Adult Day Care. The graduate students are doing therapy, administering assessments and screenings. In addition they help out at lunch-time. There is also a special event that all of the participants at Jan Werner are invited to–MindWork–a bimonthly event that facilitates communication between the participants. This takes place in both the West building and the East building. There are approximately 80 individuals in the West building and 40 individuals in the East building who may choose to actively engage in this therapeutic event.
**Thesis Students**

Six graduate students in the Communication Disorders Program will be researching the following topics:

**Timothy Cowdrey:** This research project is based on auditory delay at 0 seconds, 1 second, 2 seconds, and 5 seconds for an adult with aphasia. The purpose is to determine the auditory stimuli and if auditory delay increases performance of word recognition and production.

**Daniel Hill:** Hypothesis: How do language deficits in five-year-old boys influence articulation or phonological abilities?

**Stephanie Campos:** The diagnosis of autism depends on varying assessments from professionals in many areas. For the most part, Autism is diagnosed by a way of behavioral cues presented by the subject. This thesis proposes to present data collected using a protocol, by evoked potentials, that may be the first offering to educators suggesting that neurological features may be present and create a possibility to more successful treatment of autism.

**Kimberly Hudspeth:** There are many myths about the effects of left-handedness on language. This thesis will attempt to determine fact from fiction in regards to left-handedness.

**Sarah Mendez:** This project will compare auditory and visual response using object techniques, such as auditory evoked potentials and visual evoked potentials. The purpose of this project is to analyze the data to determine the most effective technique to use on patients with cochlear implants.

**Stevi Sharp-Lichtie:** This thesis topic is going to explore alternative treatment techniques for /r/ articulation therapy. Traditional /r/ therapy will be compared to therapy from technology.

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**NSSLHA**

National Student Speech Language Hearing Association welcomes…

*The new NSSLHA Officers for 2012*

President: Lauren Abercrombie  
Vice President: Jayme Pierson  
Treasurer: Cresta Deaton  
Secretary: Melissa Camangian  
Historian: Martie Marie  
Sr. Rep: Emily Fuhrmann  
Jr. Rep: R.J. Vasquez
The second year graduate students pictured above have been placed at the following clinical sites for an externship:

- Accolade Home Health Care
- Amarillo ISD: Paramount, Coronado, Landergin, and Woodlands
- Canyon ISD
- ECI Region 16
- Encore Health Care Plum Creek
- Jan Werner
- Progressive Step: Lubbock and Amarillo
- Rehab Care the Ware
- Sears Methodist Craig
- The Turn Center
- Triumph Rehab