Our latest graduates celebrate their success

GO SPEECHIES!

OUR PEOPLE

Welcome to some new and returning Discipline Staff

We are very pleased to welcome Dr Julia Starling as an Adjunct Lecturer for our discipline and faculty. Julia’s expertise in adolescent language impairment (LI) will significantly contribute to our curriculum and research development.

Mrs Simone Drizos has joined the Discipline’s clinic team as a Clinical Administrator, working with Dr Cate Madill and Mrs Helen Inns to manage the Communication Disorders Treatment and Research Clinic (CDTRC), its students and its clients. Welcome Simone!

Mrs Clare McCluskey, Clinical Educator, has re-joined the Discipline to fill-in for Mimi Naylor, who is going on leave. Lovely to have you back with us Clare!

Ms Julia McLean, Clinical Educator, has joined the clinic team. Julia is a graduate of our bachelor program and brings a wealth of clinical experience to the Discipline. Welcome Julia!

Dr Ian Simpson, Research Project Manager is back working with A/Prof Joanne Arciuli on her ARC funded project that is looking at prosody in children and adults. The project is looking at both prosody perception and production and whether these skills are related to general literacy skills. He has been helping to recruit and train research assistants, design and create experiments, gain ethics approval, recruit schools and collect data from participants. Glad to have you home Ian!

Recognition of Teaching Excellence

Dr Emma Power (left) has been awarded The Faculty of Health Sciences Early Career Teaching Award for her innovative curriculum re-design of the neurogenic language disorders units of study for the Bachelor of Applied Science (Speech Pathology) and the Master of Speech Language Pathology programs. Emma utilised a health-education partnership through a NSW wide clinician reference group to help bridge the theory-practice gap in her curriculum development and delivery. She will receive her award, along with other staff and students, at the Faculty’s annual awards ceremony on Thursday 22nd of May, 2014.

Congratulations again to Dr Emma Power, who has received a 2014 Vice Chancellor’s Award for Outstanding Teaching, which is just outstanding! The award is focused on the redevelopment of her case-based curriculum, and in particular on her comprehensive stakeholder consultation in developing her course content. We all know how fantastic Emma’s teaching is - it’s absolutely brilliant that this has been more widely recognised – Well done Emma!!

Postgraduate Teaching Fellowships and Postdoctoral Fellowship

Welcome to Ms Clare Eastwood, Mr Edward Johnson, Mrs Dominique Scholl and Ms Maha Zaitoun - our new Postgraduate Teaching Fellows. An impressive addition to the teaching team!

Dr Cristian Leyton started on 2nd January. He is a Neurologist from Brazil who completed his PhD last year with John Hodges at Neuroscience Research Australia (NeuRA). Cristian will be studying “Differentiation and treatment for non-fluent variants of primary progressive aphasia”. He has been awarded a University of Sydney Postdoctoral Fellowship to carry out this work. Congratulations to Cristian on this prestigious award.

Professor Leanne Togher Elected to Board of IBIA

Professor Togher has been elected for a four-year term to the Board of Governors of the International Brain Injury Association (IBIA). Founded in 1993, the IBIA is the largest association of its kind dedicated to the collaboration of brain injury resources, from prevention to long-term care issues. The IBIA’s newsletter has a significant audience of 75,000 health professionals worldwide.

2013 SPA National Speaker

Dr Elise Baker enjoyed being the National Tour Speaker for Speech Pathology Australia last year. She toured all States and Territories. Given the popularity and positive feedback from her two-day workshops, Speech Pathology Australia have asked her to present three more workshops in 2014 – in Sydney, Melbourne and Cairns. Two of the three have already sold out. According to Elise, the National Tour was a great opportunity to hear about the many different service delivery challenges and innovative solutions across Australia.

Academic Promotions

Congratulations to Dr Tricia McCabe and Dr Joanne Arciuli who have both been promoted to Associate Professor.

Dr Alison Purcell has been promoted to Senior Lecturer – well deserved recognition of her contribution to the Discipline, the Faculty, to our students and to the profession.
Our students

Student Awards & Scholarships

- Bachelor of Applied Science (Speech Pathology) Honours student, Miss Sophie Brassel (right), was awarded a 2013 Student Award by UK’s The Travistock Trust for Aphasia organisation. Well deserved Sophie!
- Bachelor of Applied Science (Speech Pathology) student, Miss Elizabeth Gengos, has been awarded the 2014 Cerebral Palsy Scholarship – Congratulations Lizzy!
- Bachelor of Applied Science (Speech Pathology) Honours student, Miss Stephanie Forster, has been awarded the 2014 Douglas and Lola Douglas Scholarship – Well done Stephanie!
- Bachelor of Applied Science (Speech Pathology) Honours student, Miss Shern Jia Clarisse Look, has been awarded the 2014 Australian Voice Association’s Student Encouragement Award. An excellent achievement Clarisse!

University Medal Winner

Miss Jacinda Choy was awarded First Class Honours and the University Medal at the March 2014 graduation ceremony. Jacinda will be presenting her Honours research at this year’s Speech Pathology Australia national conference in Melbourne. Jacinda has started a new graduate paediatric position and is also working with Dr Natalie Munro, Dr Elise Baker and University of Sydney Honorary Professor Karla McGregor in order to publish her research in a peer-reviewed journal. Congratulations Jacinda!

Left: Jacinda Choy (right) with Dr Natalie Munro

New and Past Research Students

We would like to welcome Eleanor Sugden, our new PhD research student. Ellie’s research is examining the efficacy of phonological intervention and homework. She has been awarded an Australian Postgraduate Award without speech sound disorder to come to our lab for 1-2 weeks. We are currently recruiting preschoolers aged 3-5;11 years with and without speech sound disorder to come to our lab for 1-2 sessions. For more information about these projects, please email elise.baker@sydney.edu.au or natalie.munro@sydney.edu.au

Meanwhile, Dr Munro and Dr Kimberley Docking, in collaboration with Professor Karla McGregor and our Honours student, Miss Carla Charalambous, are working in preschools/day care centres and recruiting typically developing preschoolers in our Language and Thinking Study. We are looking at the relationship between cognitive skills such as task shifting and inhibition and how they relate to vocabulary and verbal fluency skills.
SPEECH PATHOLOGY AUSTRALIA 2014 NATIONAL TOUR SPEAKER – Dr Julia Starling

We are so proud that one of our recently conferred PhD graduates has been selected by Speech Pathology Australia as the Speaker for this year’s national tour. Congratulations Julia!

She will be sharing the results and experiences of her randomised control trial (RCT) on working with adolescents with language impairment (LI) and their secondary school teachers. Our staff have been recognised as national tour speakers (including Professor Leanne Togher and Dr Elise Baker) and Julia’s contribution will be sure to stimulate future clinical trials in this important area of speech pathology practice.

See this link for full details of dates and venues…..


DEIRDRE RUSSELL AWARD FOR SERVICE

The Discipline’s 2013 annual service recognition award was presented to Ms Gaye Murrills

Congratulations and thank you for your ongoing support and significant contribution to the Discipline and its students.

Gaye runs a vibrant local private practice in Sydney and has supported a number of key projects in the area of neurogenic communication disorders that have had important outcomes for the discipline. She worked hard to provide our brain injury research team, including Professor Leanne Togher and Dr Emma Power, with participants for our TBI Express study into communication partner training (CPT) for people with severe traumatic brain injury (TBI). TBI Express is the first clinical trial to show the efficacy of CPT with everyday communication partners of people with severe TBI, and has resulted in a treatment manual and free video web resources.

Gaye is also a member of The University of Sydney’s Adult Neurogenic Communication Disorders Interest Group, chaired by Dr Emma Power. She has provided voluntary support to the curriculum development and delivery for our two Speech Pathology programs from 2012. She provides specialist advice on TBI from a private practitioner perspective. She has recommended clients as guest lecturers that the students have learnt from immensely and she has contributed to the improved curriculum satisfaction for students.

Additionally, Gaye is a member of our TBIconneCT reference group. TBIconneCT is a telehealth development initiative to study communication partner training for carers of people with TBI, funded through the Institute for Safety, Compensation and Recovery Research. These studies are being conducted by Rachael Rietdijk (PhD student), Professor Leanne Togher and Dr Emma Power. Gaye provides input on issues surrounding provision of telehealth services in neurogenic communication disorders to support our studies and to maximise their relevance for clinical practice.

The discipline recognises that running a large private practice presents many challenges to the degree to which practitioners can provide this type of support to the Discipline. However, Gaye’s support has been consistent and given with enthusiasm and wisdom and we are immensely grateful for this important relationship.

SASH RECOGNITION

A big THANK YOU to our graduating SASH Committee Members

The Discipline wishes to thank Miss Aimee-Kate Parkes and Miss Amy Ward. These 2 amazing students volunteered to be a part of the Student Association of Speech and Hearing (SASH) committee during their degree.

They gave up valuable time and energy to:

- organise professional training workshops for students
- negotiate products and services for students at reduced cost
- cater for whole-of-campus and end-of-year events
- give students a voice at Discipline meetings

So very, very much appreciated by all of the Discipline staff.

Aimee-Kate and Associate Professor Steven Cumming

Dr Cate Madill presenting Amy with her certificate of appreciation

Above: (left to right) Amy Ward, Dr Cate Madill and Aimee-Kate Parkes, during the student farewell event in November, 2013
2013 STUDENT FAREWELL - Goodbye and Good Luck!

Above: 2013 Bachelor of Applied Science (Speech Pathology) Pass and Honours - Graduating Class

Above: 2013 Master of Speech Language Pathology - Graduating Class
GRADUATION PHOTOS

New PhD graduates (left to right): Dr Julia Starling, Dr Gina Villar and Dr Anne Fulcher

New PhD graduates (left to right): Dr Samantha Warhurst, Dr Elizabeth Murray and Dr Lyndal Sheepway

Dr Lyndal Sheepway (right) with her PhD supervisor, Professor Michelle Lincoln
NEW speechBITE WEBSITE
Launched at the 2013 ASHA Conference in Chicago by Professor Leanne Togher
Check it out when you have a chance at www.speechBITE.com
You can like our new site on facebook www.facebook.com/speechBITE or follow us on twitter.com/speechbite

LAB UPDATE
Kids Talk Lab
The Kids Talk Lab is a hive of research activity with ongoing data collection for PhD and Masters by research projects, the launch of 2 new projects, a new Higher Degree Research student and upcoming conference presentations.

UP-COMING EVENTS
Sydney Ideas & Health Sciences – 14th May, 2014 – Professor Leanne Togher
The art and science of good conversation: insights from conversation training for families of people with brain injury
This lecture will detail innovative approaches to helping families of people with brain injury re-learn the art and science of having a good conversation, and will show how those same principles can benefit anyone who seeks to enjoy the rewards of satisfying conversation with the people close to them.
Time: 6pm – 7.30pm
Location: Law School Foyer, Level 2, Sydney Law School, Eastern Avenue, The University of Sydney
More information: click on this link…..

Careers and Research Fair (Medicine and Health) – 21st May, 2014
The Medicine & Health Careers and Research Fair is your opportunity to get practical career tips and advice from people working in a wide variety of disciplines in medicine, public health, health and medical research. Find out about career opportunities and seek career advice from staff from a wide variety of health-related government and non-government organisations. Get information about the broad range of research opportunities available including Honours and PhD opportunities. Speak to staff and current research students from major research centres. You can also find out about the wide range of coursework study options available in Medicine, Public Health, Health Sciences, Nursing and Pharmacy.
When: 4.00pm – 6.00pm
Where: MacLaurin Hall, The Quadrangle, The University of Sydney
Cost: Free
RSVP: RSVP by Friday, 16th May, 2014
Contact: Felicity Barry felicity.barry@sydney.edu.au

Your Path to Sydney Uni: An Information Evening for Students and Parents – 21st May
If you’re considering university next year, you probably have a lot of questions. What can you study? How much will it cost? What marks do you need to get in? We will answer all these questions and more at our information evening in May. Come along and meet our staff and students who will tell you about the many pathways to study at the University of Sydney, and how to secure your place here. We look forward to meeting you and your family.
When: 6.00pm – 9.00pm
Where: Revesby Worker’s Club, 2B Brett Street, Revesby (entrance via Tarro Avenue)
Cost: Free
RSVP: Places are limited, so register now to avoid disappointment
Registration: https://events.sydney.edu.au/office2/getdemo.ei?id=20425&s=_7YS0P0EW1
Dress Code: Smart Casual
Contact: Future Students Helpline on 1300 362 006 future.students@sydney.edu.au

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