Baylor Speech-Language and Hearing Clinic Happenings

Baylor Speech-Language and Hearing Clinic now offers a concussion management clinic with focuses on executive functioning difficulties, aiding symptom management, and supporting learning through instructed compensatory strategies and self-advocacy. In an effort to support this area of need, the Baylor University National Student Speech-Language Hearing Association (NSSLHA) hosted a Fall Conference in September 2021 titled, "Return to Learn and Beyond: The SLP's Guide to Student TBI and Concussion Management," with speaker Dr. Katy O’Brien from the University of Georgia. Free admission was offered to all Baylor University students and parents of children with communication disorders.

With the onset of pandemic precautions in Spring 2020, clinical services at the Baylor Speech-Language and Hearing Clinic transitioned to telepractice. With guidance from the American Speech-Hearing Association and the Council of Academic Programs in CSD (CAPCSD), Clinic Coordinator, Deborah Rainer devised a plan that allowed current clients to continue receiving care and new clients to be evaluated. Even with the many changes and requirements instated by the pandemic, residentially, all graduate clinicians were secured an internship and fulfilled all clinical hour requirements toward graduation. The clinic continues to offer services via telepractice this Fall on a case-by-case basis.

The clinic is also partnering with Baylor University's Center for Global Engagement to offer accent modification services to International graduate students and graduate assistants. All services are provided by CSD graduate students under the supervision and direction of clinical faculty.

CSD Faculty Presenting at National Conference

Several of the CSD faculty are presenting at this year's American Speech Hearing Association's (ASHA) Annual Convention this November. The conference will be held in Washington D.C. and virtually. Presentations by CSD faculty include:

- Examining Clinical Feasibility of Alternative Receptive Language Measures for Autistic Children with Minimal Verbal Skills
  - Presented by Dr. Muller
- Parent and Child Satisfaction with Language and Literacy Intervention Provided Through Telepractice
  - Presented by Dr. Ritter, Dr. Loeb, Prof. Sherman, Prof. Parker, Prof. Sammons, and Prof. Sanker
- Lessons from Starting an Online Master's Program in CSD
  - Presented by Dr. Grandjean, Dr. Moates, Prof. Rainer, Prof. Sherman, Dr. Niessen, and Dr. Loeb
- A Critically Appraised Review of Telehealth Intervention in Speech-Language Pathology
  - Presented by Dr. Loeb and Dr. Ritter
- Utility of Single-Case Research Design for EBP and Collaboration: How to Rise to the Challenge
  - Presented by Dr. Hessling
- Interventions Designed to Improve Child Oral Narrative Language: A Systematic Review with Meta-Analyses
  - Presented by Dr. Hessling

CSD Faculty Supports Waco Community

Serving the Waco community is a privilege for the CSD faculty. A few of the projects CSD faculty have engaged in this year include:

- Social Media videos created and shared with the Waco Public Library throughout 2021 with plans to continue for multiple years to train parents to book share with their infants and young children by Prof. Davis & Dr. Dvorak.

Online M.S. Degree Graduates First Class

In Fall 2019 the first cohort of students enrolled in the Online Master's Degree program in the CSD department. The first cohort of 54 students graduated in Spring of 2021. The online M.S. program is modeled after the residential graduate program and admits approximately 50 students each trimester. The online program has allowed the CSD department to serve an additional 380 students thus far. These students are from states throughout the country and represent eight different ethnicities.
ASL Minor
This past year the ASL faculty have been working hard preparing courses for the recently renamed minor. Their hard work has paid off. We are excited to announce that Baylor students now have the opportunity to add an 18 hour minor in American Sign Language to their course of study.

The courses are designed to enhance expressive and receptive language abilities. In addition, students will explore ASL Art and Literature through the eyes of the Deaf community. We look forward to graduating more “signing” Bears who will without a doubt make an impact in their respective fields.

Ph.D. Program Begins
In August of 2021, the CSD Ph.D. program launched with an inaugural cohort of two doctoral students, Ryan White & Ruthie Knight. The program centers on God and our faith mission as scientists, clinical scientists, and educators aiming to mentor servant leaders in research and education in communication sciences and disorders.

Faculty Funding
CSD Assistant Professor Dr. Yoon received a grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to investigate how acoustic cues contribute to hearing for clients with hearing impairments. Dr. Drew is a consultant on this grant. The project will help determine cutoff frequencies and fine tune frequencies for hearing aids and cochlear implants with the long-term goal of developing tailored bimodal fitting procedures of aided hearing devices. This project also supports Undergraduate Research as four students will be involved in the research annually.

APPLICATION DEADLINE!
Applications for the Summer & Fall 2022 Graduate CSD admission will be due on January 15th. Questions? Contact Susan_Sherman@baylor.edu.

Follow us on Social Media!
Facebook: Baylor CSD Department
Instagram: BaylorCSD

Celebrating Our Students

Undergraduate Thrives in CSD
Megan Mae Oitzman is currently a Senior studying Communication Sciences and Disorders at Baylor University. She has served as a Reading Assistant and Audiology Assistant during the department's Camp Success clinical experience and received high praise from the supervisors she worked with in these roles.

Megan stated, “There is no other program like the Baylor CSD Department simply because the caliber of our educators professionally and relationally. My professors and supervisors have invested in me as a student, a research assistant, a clinic worker and volunteer, and as a person... The spiritual investment that has been sown in my life is something I will be blessed with for my entire life! I am so grateful!” The CSD department is blessed to serve students like Megan and we are incredibly proud of her accomplishments.

CSD Alumni Now CSD Faculty
Kristen Tilton Davis graduated with a Master's degree in CSD from Baylor University in Fall of 2007 and after serving as a Speech-Language Pathologist in multiple educational settings in Texas, she is now back at Baylor serving as a Clinical Assistant Professor in CSD! She is able to fulfill her role as a Christian Clinician each day by modeling God's love through her approach to therapy.

She appreciated the hands-on training and learning she acquired from Baylor and felt prepared for therapy in her first day of her career as an SLPA. One of her favorite memories of the CSD department was attending the celebration meal following the successful completion of her comprehensive exams. The CSD Department is blessed to have served Ms. Davis and to now have her back serving with us!

Graduate Students Educate Music Majors
In September, four leveling graduate students in the CSD department presented an educational lecture to approximately 75 undergraduate students in the Music department titled Hearing Conversation for Musicians, which focused on teaching the future musicians about the structures of the ear, causes and consequences of noise exposure, and methods of protecting hearing health in a music profession. The CSD department is proud to serve all Baylor students!

If you would like to make a donation to CSD, please contact Kaneisha Lloyd at kaneisha_lyod@baylor.edu