

Dr. Darrow



In this Fall issue of our newsletter we highlight new developments in our Department and share news from clinical supervisors, students, alumni, and friends. If you would like to contribute to future issues, please contact us, we would love to hear from you!

## Department Updates

This past year has been a very exciting time in the Department with the addition of several new faculty as well as new roles and promotions.

**Dr. Ralf Schlosser** is now in his 3<sup>rd</sup> year as chair of the Department and was recently appointed the Director of clinical research in Center for Communication Enhancement at Children's Hospital in Boston.

We are proud to announce that **Dr. Rupal Patel** was promoted to Associate Professor and received tenure. Check out her research lab website at [www.cadlab.neu.edu](http://www.cadlab.neu.edu).

We are also very happy to have **Dr. Kevin Reilly** who joined the speech program as a tenure track faculty member with expertise in speech motor control and neuroimaging. Check our department website ([www.slpa.neu.edu](http://www.slpa.neu.edu)) for information on his lab and research interests.

So much has changed on the clinical side! The Behrakis clinic is teaming with new faces from clients to new leadership and staff. **Sarah Young-Hong**, was hired as the director of the speech and language services. We also welcome **Ruth Margulies** who joined us as a full-time clinical supervisor and coordinator of the early intervention program.

This year, our clinical programs are even stronger with the addition of new faculty and part-time supervisors. **Dr. Keith Darrow** joins us as a full-time clinical assistant professor in audiology. On the speech side, **Lisa Anne Guerra**, **Peggy Mayfield**, and **Nicole Stewart** join us as part-time clinical supervisors.

**NUSSLHA** has been hard at work raising funds to cover three orofacial surgeries through **Operation SMILE** and to support autism research raising over **\$2000** during the **walk for autism!** Visit the new NUSSLHA website at [www.nusslha.com](http://www.nusslha.com)!

## Feature Events

This year, we have a sizeable presence at the **ASHA convention in Chicago** with eleven faculty and student presentations on topics such as clinical supervision, inter-institutional research training, influences of ethnicity and race on TBI outcomes, intelligibility testing in schools, effects of dysarthria interventions, peer attitudes toward personalized speech synthesis, systematic reviews, and meta-analysis of AAC interventions. Please join us in congratulating the following faculty and student presenters: Helen Anis, Susan Fine, Ruth Margulies, Dr. Patel, Dr. O'Neil Pirozzi, Dr. Schlosser, Anna Roden, Pamela Campellone, Catherine McNab, Julie Freeley, Cindy

Lau, Laura Olsen, Dori Herskovitz and Caryn Grabowski.

Please join us for our **4<sup>th</sup> annual ASHA cocktail party** for students, alumni, and friends of Northeastern on Thursday November 20<sup>th</sup> @ 8:30 pm at **The Renaissance Chicago Hotel, Lobby bar** (1 West Wacker Drive).

We hope to see many of you at one or more of the department's free **Continuing Education Events**. On September 13<sup>th</sup>, we heard from Professor Alan Kamhi of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Dr. Kamhi is an internationally renowned scholar with expertise in phonological disorders. His talk on "Combing Research and Reason to Make Clinical Decisions" for children with phonological impairments was

stimulating and practical. Please check our website for future CE events and contact us if you'd like to be on the mailing list ([www.slpa.neu.edu/events](http://www.slpa.neu.edu/events)).

The Department's **Speech and Hearing Seminar Series** offers an additional educational experience. This fall, we have already had three talks. **Dr. Kevin Reilly** spoke about the neural substrates of speech sound learning. **Dr. Rupal Patel** presented on her VocaliD project aimed at personalizing a synthesized voice for AAC users and on the Human Speechome Project, an effort to understand speech and language acquisition. **Dr. Morton Jepsen** of the Technical University of Denmark spoke about Basilar membrane nonlinearity.

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## Alumni News

**Gayem Koprucu** (SLP '04) writes to us from Istanbul, Turkey, noting that she is one of the very few SLPs in all of Turkey. Gayem treats a variety of speech, language and swallowing disorders, but her primary work is with patients at the Istanbul Medical School, Department of ENT-Head and Neck Surgery, a well known tumor clinic in her country. Her patients require voice and swallowing rehabilitation post tumor operations.

Gayem reports that she is a founding member of the Voice-Speech and Swallowing Society (VSSS) along with Prof. Ferhan Oz, MD, who is an ENT Specialist-Laryngologist and vice president of the European Laryngological Society. The VSSS is affiliated with the International Association of Logopedics and Phoniatics and also with the American Academy of Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery.

Gayem maintains her connection with Boston through the Mass Eye and Ear Infirmary (MEEI) Voice and Speech Lab. Gayem is participating in an MEEI research project on the treatment of vocal nodules using voice therapy and reflux medication.

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## From the Field

**Community Rehab Care, Inc.** (CRC), a CARF accredited brain injury outpatient Rehabilitation Clinic, has become a valued contributor to our graduate SLP training program. Lottie Dunbar and the OT, PT and other SLP staff at CRC participate in our senior graduate seminar, bringing with them several of their

clients. The graduate students learn about the program, a unique interdisciplinary, functional approach to helping clients regain their abilities in their living environment and community settings.

Students learn about the histories, feeling and life impact of disability as told by the clients. The clients

respond to questions and offer advice for the future SLPs: have patience, have understanding of each individual, and focus on helping each person to be productive in daily life.

[www.brain-injury-rehab.com](http://www.brain-injury-rehab.com)

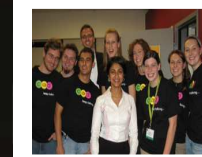
## Literacy @ NU

In light of the changing scope of practice of speech language pathologists, the Department has added coursework and programs to enrich student exposure and experience with issues related to literacy. **Susan Fine** directs the **Language Literacy Program (LLP)** which is a collaboration between the Department and the Boston Renaissance Charter School. It includes a weekly language based literacy session with at-risk K1 children, ages 4-5 years.

Children are identified at the beginning of the school year by developmental language and phonological awareness screening protocols. During the LLP sessions, which are led by first year graduate clinicians, the children listen to a story and participate in a related early literacy project, such as letter identification, rhyming, and/or fine motor activities. The class teachers are provided with copies of the weekly lesson plans and the parents are provided with weekly Book News notes to

facilitate carryover of the program goals.

An elective course in language literacy has also been added to the curriculum. Faculty efforts aimed at literacy learning include **Dr. O'Neil-Pirozzi's homeless shelter program** and **Dr. Patel's Readn'Karaoke software** program that teaches children how to read aloud with appropriate intonation and inflection (<http://www.cadlab.neu.edu/index-projects.htm>).



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