



Pediatric Ground Rounds

LEND Pediatric Audiology Training Program

Webinar Series (#1)

Monday, October 29, 2012

4:00-5:30pm

SPEAKER BIOS



Nicole Corbin

Nicole Corbin is a Doctoral Student of Audiology at Arizona State University completing her fourth year externships as a LEND fellow at Boston Children's Hospital. She is supported by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education to train pediatric audiologists, and is Past-Chair and current member of the Humanitarian Committee of the Student Academy of Audiology. Nicole has a special interest in promoting access to care for under-served populations.



Rebekah Tozer

Rebekah Tozer received her Master of Arts degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders from the University of Maine and is a licensed Speech-Language Pathologist. After discovering her passion for working with children with hearing loss, she decided to pursue her Doctorate of Audiology at Vanderbilt University. Rebekah is currently completing her final year of this degree and is a doctoral extern at Boston Children's Hospital. Her thesis work at Vanderbilt is investigating the feasibility of universal screening for congenital CMV infections.



Lauren Shastany



Lauren Shastany, B.S., is currently an audiology extern at Boston Children's Hospital and is a doctor of audiology candidate at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia. Lauren completed her undergraduate studies in speech-language pathology and audiology at Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts. While completing her studies at JMU, Lauren was the audiology fellow at the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind for three years working with deaf-blind children in addition to participating in hearing screening for the Virginia State Special Olympics. She is presently working on her dissertation examining how background noise impacts visual and spoken stimuli.



Jessica Wells

Jessica Wells MA, is a fourth year clinical doctor of audiology student at the university of Pittsburgh. She is currently completing her audiology externship at the children's hospital of Pittsburgh. Jessica graduated magna cum laude from the university of Pittsburgh, school of health and rehabilitation sciences in 2009 with her bachelor of arts in communication sciences and disorders and a certificate in American sign language. Jessica obtained her Master of Arts in audiology in 2012 from the University of Pittsburgh in conjunction with the clinical doctoral of audiology program.

Jessica has experience volunteering with children of underserved and unreached populations including a Mexican school for the deaf, native American orphanage in Arizona and coaching basketball on the north side of Pittsburgh. Her goal is to work as a pediatric audiologist in an underserved area.



William Dillon

William Dillon is currently pursuing a Doctorate in Audiology at the University of Pittsburgh within the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences. William has earned his Bachelor's degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders at Temple University. As part of his academic program, William has held numerous clinical placements throughout the Pittsburgh area working with both adults and children. His current academic interests include pediatric audiology and amplification.

William is a student-recipient of the Research and Education to Aid Communication Health for Children (REACH) grant. The REACH grant, which is funded by the United States Department of Education, provides clinical training to graduates servicing the needs of children at risk for academic failure. In participating in the training provided by the grant, William was given the unique opportunity to work with children and adolescents in settings such as juvenile detention centers, homeless shelters, and free clinics.



Tessa Utz

Tessa Utz is completing a graduate externship at the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC). Tessa began her graduate work at the University of Pittsburgh under a Pediatric Educational Audiology Grant through the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) of the US Department of Education. In the fall of 2010 she was awarded the University's Emeritus Award for outstanding academic achievement at the graduate level.

In 2005, Tessa began her undergraduate work in Communication Science and Disorders at the University of Pittsburgh. She acted as principal investigator of a research project exploring how children use phonetic cues in perceiving speech. In 2008, she was awarded a Chancellor's Undergraduate Research Fellowship for her contributions to research. From 2008 to 2010, she worked as part of a research team in the Department of Psychology, with a goal of identifying early signs of autism in infants and toddlers. Tessa was twice named a University scholar for her academic achievements. In 2009, she successfully defended her undergraduate thesis and graduated with a Bachelor of Philosophy degree summa cum laude.