

**Faculty Member Contact Information**

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<b>Department</b>	Public Health and Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology

**1 Funded, 2 Unfunded URCA Assistant**

	This position is <b>ONLY</b> open to students who have declared a major in this discipline.	<b>M</b>
	This project deals with social justice issues.	
	This project deals with sustainability (green) issues.	
<b>X</b>	This project deals with human health and wellness issues.	
<b>X</b>	This project deals with community outreach.	
	This mentor's project is interdisciplinary in nature.	<b>I</b>

**Are you willing to work with students from outside of your discipline? If yes, which other disciplines?**

Yes

**How many hours per week will your student(s) be required to work in this position?**

(Minimum is 6 hours per week; typical is 9)

6-10

**Will it be possible for your student(s) to earn course credit?**

**Location of research/creative activities:**

SIUE Speech, Language, Hearing Clinic, various schools in O'Fallon, IL

### **Brief description of the nature of the research/creative activity?**

The project will compare the middle ear function of children receiving therapy for atypical speech and language development in the O'Fallon, IL school district to a population of children with typical speech and language development.

Middle ear problems are very common in young children and can lead to hearing loss. The primary adverse effect of hearing loss in children is speech and language delay. However, standard practice protocols in speech and language clinics do not screen for middle ear function. If there is a statistically significant difference between the middle ear function of the two groups, this suggests that a protocol for regular middle ear screenings should be recommended for speech/language delayed population receiving services at the SIUE SLHC.

FA25 update: The FA25 research position will continue work on the project comparing the middle ear function of children receiving therapy for atypical speech and language development in the O'Fallon, IL school district to a population of children with typical speech and language development.

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### **Brief description of student responsibilities?**

The student will be asked to assist in design of the research study, submit the IRB approval request, complete the literature review, communicate with the control and experimental groups regarding appointments and other logistics, collaborate on writing the methods protocol, complete data collection, analyze data to determine statistical significance, and provide a discussion of results. Based on outcome of the research, the student may also help develop a hearing/middle ear status screening protocol for children receiving speech/language therapy.

**URCA Assistant positions are designed to provide students with *research or creative activities* experience. As such, there should be measurable, appropriate outcome goals. What exactly should your student(s) have learned by the end of this experience?**

- 1) How to design a research study
- 2) How to review the literature and write a literature review
- 3) How to request approval of the IRB.

4) How to conduct a middle ear screening using impedance testing, analyze and interpret the findings of the data collected.

5) How to manage the logistics of a research project using human subjects.

6) The student will learn the nature of speech and language impairments experienced by children with middle ear dysfunction.

### **Requirements of Students**

**If the position(s) require students to be available at certain times each week (as opposed to them being able to set their own hours) please indicate all required days and times:**

Tu/Th afternoons are preferred; however, the schedule will be flexible to accommodate student needs.

**If the location of the research/creative activities involves off campus work, must students provide their own transportation?**

yes - potentially to/from O'Fallon, IL

**Must students have taken any prerequisite classes? Please list classes and preferred grades:**

no

**Other requirements or notes to applicants:**

It is recommended that students have experience or wish to gain experience working with children.