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# Hears the News

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### **Starkey Mission Trips**

This semester our program was fortunate enough to continue our collaborations with the Starkey Hearing Foundation. Several 4th year students, including one alumni of the Class of 2017 and faculty traveled to the Phillipines and India to continue to spread the gift of hearing. Below are reflections from our 4th years students on their experiences.

"My name is Amanda and I went on the Starkey Hearing Foundation mission trip to the Philippines from 11/11/17 to 11/20/17. We had mission sites both in Tarlac and Manila. I don't even know where to start with how amazing this experience was. The patients and their families were so kind and thankful for what the foundation is doing to help them. I believe it honestly changes their lives to be able to communicate with others around them and to hear better. The first mission day was very tiring, but by the end of the day I felt very accomplished and like I had really made a difference in my patient's lives. There were so many children that had been placed in schools for the deaf and only taught to sign, not use their voice, even though it seems they only had a moderate hearing loss that was greatly benefited from a hearing aid set a a low to moderate level. Many times there were patients that cried out of happiness because it was the first time they heard well (or at all) in a long time, and often it was me that was crying too! Overall, Bill and Tani Austin, the founders of the Starkey Hearing Foundation are amazing at what they do, and they are so dedicated to helping as many people as they can! If anyone ever gets the opportunity to go on a mission trip with SHF I would absolutely recommend it! " - Amanda Ledogar

"In November I went on my second mission trip to the Philippines with the Starkey Hearing Foundation. We saw over 3,000 patients in our 5 day mission and to say it was amazing experience does not even do it justice. I was absolutely touched by all of the patients that we saw and how thankful they were for the work we were doing. One patient in particular that stood out was a 5 year old little boy who has been nonverbal and hearing impaired since birth. Once we fit him with devices at the appropriate level, his eyes lit up and he started looking around and could not contain his excitement. After a few minutes, this little boy was able to repeat some sounds such as "ba-ba" and he could not believe the sound of his own voice, and his mother could not stop crying. This is why we are in this field, to change lives and open the doors of communication. Thank you to our professors for giving our program this opportunity and thank you to Mr. and Mrs. Austin for welcoming us back for a second mission. " - Victoria Laurella



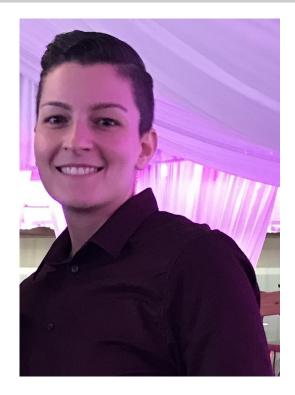
**Roseann Valenti: 4th year Student in India** 

### 4th Year Spotlight: Victoria Laurella

Hey everyone! My name is Victoria Laurella and I am currently a fourth year student at the Long Island Consortium. I was born and raised in Staten Island and I attended Kean University in New Jersey where I fell in love with audiology and received my undergraduate degree. When entering the Consortium I did not know what to expect, but looking back 3 years later, I could not have picked a better program with the most amazing faculty and classmates that will be life long friends. I had very well rounded clinical rotations at St. Alban's VA, Manhattan Avenue Hearing Aids and Lutheran Medical Center. Through the program, I also was given the opportunity to go on a mission trip with the Starkey Hearing Foundation to Trinidad and Tobago January 2017. It was an experience I will never forget to go to an underprivlaged country and be able to help individuals hear for the first time in years and for some, the first time in their lives. In November 2017, I was given a second opportunity to go on another mission to the Philippines with Dr. Murad and my classmate Amanda Ledogar and it was again an amazing life changing experience.

I am currently completing my fourth year at New York City Hearing Associates in Manhattan where I see patients for diagnostic testing, hearing aid fitting, adjustments, and repairs, Lyric fittings and, just recently, Cochlear implant testing and stimulation. There are a few things that I wish I knew before starting my fourth year. First, you do not need to know everything and you are not expected to know everything! You are still a student and you are there to absorb and learn as much information as you can and be able to apply that when you are given the independence. Second, when faced with a new experience that you may have not had at previous rotation (for me it was the business side of hearing aids), try to look at the task as a learning experience without putting an immense amount of pressure on yourself. Third, remember that the patient sitting across from you is a person and you need to find out what method of treatment is best for them and their lifestyle. Finally, even as a fourth year, you are the hearing health care professional that the patient is coming to for an 'expert' opinion, so have confidence because you have all the tools necessary to do this!

I would like to wish all of the students good luck on their journey and to the first years, it may seem overwhelming at first, but stick it out for the long haul because it will all be worth it!







## Meet your SAA E-Board for 2018

#### Lauren Keller—Co-President

Lauren Keller is a second year AuD student, with St. John's University as her home school. She attended undergrad at Iona College, where she double majored in Psychology and Speech– Language Pathology and Audiology. She has always been extremely active in her professional organizations, which began when she served as the Iona College NSSLHA chapter vice president for two years during her undergraduate career. In her time as secretary on the LI AuD Consortium chapter E-

board, she loved being able to maintain the social media accounts, volunteer at hearing screenings, as well as represent the chapter at the Student Academy of Audiology national meeting at the 2017 AudiologyNow! conference in Indianapolis. This year she is also serving with SAA and NSSLHA on the national level, as a member of the SAA conference sub-committee and the NSSLHA Audiology Student State Officer for New York.

#### Colleen O'Brien — Co-President

Colleen O'Brien is a second year Au.D. student who is currently serving as Co-President of our SAA chapter. She is a graduate of St. John's University, which is also her home school. This is Colleen's second year on the "Ear-Board," as she served as SAA's Treasurer last year and helped coordinate our chapter's fundraising efforts. Her favorite events from last year included volunteering at the Special Olympics and participating in the preschool hearing screening at ACE



Headstart in Brooklyn. Colleen is excited to serve as Co-President this year and she hopes to get our local chapter more involved on the national level. Outside of SAA, Colleen will begin her first external placement at Jacobi Medical Center in the Bronx this spring. She is a Research Assistant for Dr. Shruti Deshpande and also works with Dr. Aniruddha Deshpande on research projects in the Hear-Ring Lab at Hofstra University. Colleen enjoys attending national conferences, and has represented our SAA chapter and presented her research at the AudiologyNow! Conference in Indianapolis and the 2017 ASHA Convention in Los Angeles.

#### Cassandra Mazzacco — Treasurer

Cassandra Mazzacco is a first year student with Hofstra University as my home school. She is originally from Orange, CT and she attended Hofstra University for undergrad where she majored in Speech-Language, Hearing Science. During undergrad she was an active member of DEASL and Alpha Phi. Between these two organizations, she was constantly raising money and volunteering in the community. She didn't want these opportunities to only be restricted to her undergraduate years, so by joining the SAA as a first year she was given the opportunity to get involved and advocate for the field of audiology. She is so excited to be serving the LI AuD Consortium SAA chapter as the treasurer for the 2018-2019 school year.

#### Raissa El-Houyek — Public Relations Chair

Raissa El-Houayek is a first year AuD student with Hofstra University as her home school. In her undergraduate career, she went to Brooklyn College, where she double majored in Speech-Language and Hearing Disorders and Linguistics. At Brooklyn College, she was involved in the NYSSLHA chapter executive board, holding the position of an event coordinator. In the Speech Language and Hearing Department, she was a peer counselor and tutor. Currently, she is a substitute teacher at Fort Hamilton High School. After working at the Auditory Oral School of New York, she was inspired to work with cochlear implants and the pediatric population in the future. One quote she tends to live by is "always give back", which is what she hopes to do through her public relation position.

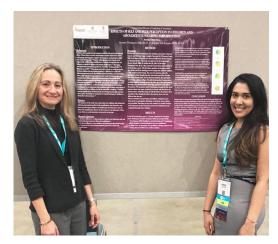
### 2nd Year Student Spotlight: Rachel Miller



My name is Rachel Miller and I Graduated with a BA in psychology and a minor in Communication Sciences Disorders from Syracuse University. Growing up I always knew I wanted to be in a helping profession; however, it was not until my third semester in college when I stumbled upon audiology. The professor for my introduction to CSD class was an audiologist and I became fascinated with the field, and the rest is history. Audiology encompasses everything I was looking for and so much more. Since starting at the Long Island Au.D. Consortium I have only become more

confident that this profession is exactly what I want to be doing with my life. I have met so many people involved with the field who express a love for helping patients on such a basic level. Providing an opportunity to restore one of the five senses is truly an opportunity I will cherish each day.

### 2017 American Speech and Hearing Association Convention



Dr. Yula Serpanos Professor and LI AuD Program Coordinator



Pictured: Colleen O'Brien (Left)—2nd year Areeka Tiwari (Right) —4th year



Dr. Ianthe Murad LI AuD Clinical Coordinator

## NYS Speech Language and Hearing Association President: Dr. Schoepflin



Congratulations to Dr. Janet Schoepflin for serving as the President of the New York State Speech Language and Hearing Association this past year. Thank you for all your work advocating for the profession!

**Consortium Pride!** 

### **Hearing Screenings**

This semester our chapter conducted a free hearing screening activity at The ACE Headstart Charter School in the Bushwick and Bedford Stuyvesant communities in Brooklyn. We screened over 60 children.



**First Year Students in Action!** 

### Class of 2019: Where are they going?

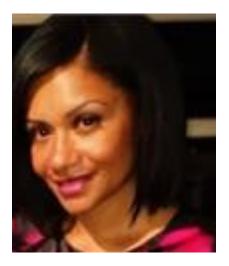
Nechama Maness — Manhattan VA Mary Biordi — Manhattan Audiology Gregory Bonistalli — NYC Hearing Assoc. Adan Ruiz — Brooklyn Audiology Mariya Tuchinskaya — Total Hearing Care Eliana Platovsky — Hear USA Arianna Hatzioannides — NYC Hearing Assoc. Gabrielle Khavin — Audiology Central Rebecca Mancini — Cornell Hosp. Sarah McNamara — ENT & Allergy Kayla Rizzi — Manhattan Audiology Courtney Roth — Hear USA Alexandra Kheyfets — SUNY Downstate Lindsay Beckler - North Shore Eye Care Amanda Zaino — Hear USA Jaclyn Castoro —NYC Hearing Assoc. Jinsook Chang — Hearing Help Assoc. Rebecca Farrell — ENT & Allergy







#### Dr. Murad: Board Member for NYS Speech Pathology and Audiology & NYS Audiology Advisory Council



Congrats to Dr. Murad for being appointed to serve on the NYS Office of Professions - Education Department, Board of SLP and Audiology and for your appointment to serve on ASHA's Audiology Advisory Council as the NYS Representative!

Thank you for your work advocating for the profession!

**Consortium Pride!** 

### 2nd Annual SAA—Meet and Greet

On September 12, students from all four years gathered to participate in a night of fundraising, networking, and gathering as a whole program. Our wonderful students and faculty came together to help fundraise for the Consortium's annual Starkey global mission trip. This was also a wonderful opportunity for students to network with other cohorts to begin to develop life long professional relationships and friendships.

Thank you for your donations and support!



LI AuD Academic and Clinical Faculty



**Consortium Pride!** 

# **Class of 2019 Presents their Research Proposals**



## Dr. Barry Freeman Lecture: The Power of One





Dr. Donna Geffner (Left): Professor and Past ASHA President Dr. Barry Freeman (Right): Guest Lecturer and Past AAA President

**Z-Power Seminar** 

### **NSSLHA Student State Officer for Audiology: Lauren Keller**

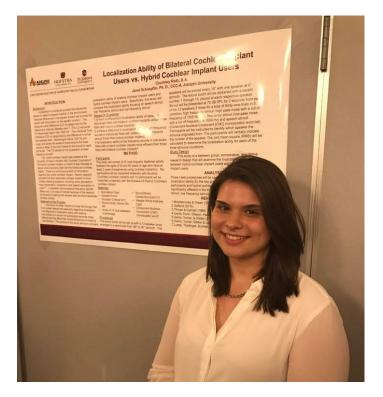
Congratulations to 2nd year student, Lauren Keller, who was elected to serve as the National Student Speech Language and Hearing Association Audiology Student State Officer for the 2017—2018 school year!





#### **3rd Year Spotlight: Courtney Roth**

Hello, my name is Courtney Roth. I received my undergraduate degree in Speech-Language Hearing Sciences at Hofstra University in the 2015. I am a Hofstra University home school student. I completed my first external rotation at Mineola ENT and I am currently at HearUSA in Riverhead. This coming spring, I will be completing my final external rotation at ENT and Allergy Associates in Port Jefferson. I am a graduate assistant for Dr. Milstein as well as a lab assistant at Hofstra University. Outside of school, I work at Marshalls in Melville. When I am not in school, I enjoy being outdoors and hanging out with friends. I love animals and have had a wide variety, but right now I only have a pit bull. I'm excited to continue working with the other students in the program and see what the world of Audiology has in store for us all.



### **Clinical Supervisor Spotlight: Dr. Senzer**

#### Where did you go to school?

Dr. Senzer attended Hofstra University for her Bachelors and Masters degrees. After 20 years she returned to school at Salus University to pursue her Doctorate of Audiology. It was optional for Dr. Senzer to pursue her doctorate, and looking back on her choice she said, "I would say the greatest thing I did in my career was the decision to pursue my doctorate."

#### What populations do you love to work with?

Dr. Senzer enjoys working with the geriatric population. She feels that she is really able to help this population with their hearing loss because of how communicative they are about their hearing limitations, as well as form a more personal bond with that population.

#### What were your specialties?

Dr. Senzer's specialties prior to moving to a university setting included: managing difficult cases (mainly pediatrics) and auditory brainstem response testing which was new at the time. Dr. Senzer shared, "Dr. Valvezan and I were one of the very first people to do new born hearing screenings". They were given this opportunity to conduct OAEs and ABRs on NICU babies from a grant that Long Island Jewish Hospital received, prior to new born hearing screenings being mandated.

#### What inspired you to switch from the hospital setting to the university setting?

Although Dr. Senzer loved working in the hospital setting, she was looking for different opportunities that would allow her to be actively involved in her children's lives and still work in the profession. She really enjoyed supervising at the hospital and began looking for opportunities to teach at the university level. She began by reaching out to her Aluma Mater Hofstra to see if there were any positions available. After a year of contacting Hofstra on a weekly basis, she was hired to work in the Speech-Language– Hearing Clinic. Four years later the full time clinical coordinator of audiology position became available at Adelphi University, which she applied for and is currently working in.

#### Have you ever published research?

Although Dr. Senzer doesn't consider herself a researcher, she has conducted clinical research. She has done large amounts of research with Dr. Serpanos on several topics including peer teaching of speech pathology students and audiology students, and ultra high frequency testing for screening.

#### Who was your favorite mentor and why?

Dr. Senzer has had many mentors over the years, each who has impacted her life and career in different manners. Her favorite teacher was Harvey White. He taught neuro- anatomy at Hofstra, and she said how fascinating he was and his teaching methods really inspired her.

#### What is your favorite part about teaching?

"Seeing the enthusiasm of students, there love for audiology, their newness to the field, and excitement on embarking on their career," Dr. Senzer.



#### One Year Anniversary of the Hear-Ring Lab

Congratulations to Dr. Anirudda Desphande and the student researchers on the one year anniversary of the Hear-Ring Lab at Hofstra University. The Hear-Ring lab began as an idea during Dr. A. Desphande and Dr. S. Desphande's time at the University of Iowa, and was created at their home while they were brainstorming names. Then when Dr. A Desphande came to Hofstra , he started working on the creation of the lab in 2015. Then in the fall of 2016 the Hear-Ring Lab was officially created.

The Hear-Ring lab is a great opportunity for students interested in tinnitus research to gain knowledge and conduct research on the subject. Dr. Desphande received the ASHA Leadership Scholarship, which allowed him to travel to ASHA's headquarters to receive training on working with and developing students. There are currently ten projects that are currently being worked on by several students in the program including Jaclyn Castoro, Colleen O'Brien, Krupi Shah, and Tova Shimunova (who is the lab manager).

Students should also take a look at the Hear-Ring Lab's website! The website was created to help provide resources for individuals who suffer from tinnitus. It also provides information on clinics in the area that provide treatment for this information. Additionally, there is information for recruiting of participants on current projects.

If any current students are interested in becoming a student researcher in the lab, feel free to contact Dr. Desphande.



#### Save the Date:

Join Dr. Desphande and SAA on February 16th at East Meadow High School as we educate the students on the risks of loud noise exposure!

## SAA Chapter Raises Over \$3300 at the NYC Walk4Hearing

On September 24th, our SAA chapter participated in the NYC Walk4Hearing in Riverside Park. The Walk4Hearing is an annual fundraiser conducted by the Hearing Loss Association of America. The chapter's goal was to raise awareness for individuals who are affected by hearing loss in their daily lives.

Due to the hard work of our chapter members our team was able to raise \$3,321 for the organization, far surpassing our goal of \$2,100. Many thanks to our top fundraiser Kristina Martinez who raised \$560 for our team. Arianna Hatzioannides came in at a close second raising \$540.



### Alumni Check In: Alexandra Zweig—Class of 2016

Dr. Alexandra Zweig received her Bachelor of Arts degree in speechlanguage-hearing sciences from Hofstra University, where she was admitted into the Phi Beta Kappa Society for demonstrating excellence in the liberal arts and sciences. She then went on to earn her doctorate in audiology from the Long Island Au.D. Consortium, which is comprised of Hofstra, Adelphi, and St. John's Universities.

Her background includes experiences at a well-respected ear, nose, and throat practice in Mineola, the Brooklyn Veterans Affairs Hospital, and a private practice in Glen Cove. She completed her clinical residency at New York Hearing Doctors in midtown Manhattan, where she continues to practice as a licensed audiologist.

Dr. Zweig has a diverse clinical background including comprehensive audiological testing for children and adults, fitting of advanced hearing technology, tinnitus treatment and management, and fitting custom products to musicians.

"My goal is to provide my patients with the quality of care that combines the newest methodologies with the consideration and compassion that will make a lasting impact of their lives."



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