

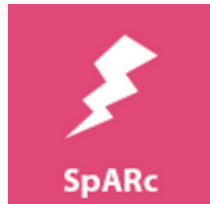
The UofSC Aphasia Lab Newsletter

Research and Community News for People with Aphasia, Their Families and the
Rehabilitation Professionals Who Work with Them

Online Aphasia Studies and Resources

WRITTEN BY JAMES JETT AND LEIGH ANN SPELL

Leigh Ann: One good thing that has come out of the COVID pandemic is an increase in the number of completely online studies and resources for people with aphasia and their families. Many of you already know about the totally online study called **Speech entrainment for Aphasia ReCOVERY (SpARc)** that is available through UofSC. This study, led by our friends at MUSC and Emory University and implemented in our lab by Dr. Mary Aitchison, is recruiting people with expressive aphasia. It uses a therapy approach called speech entrainment to improve fluency of speech.



Please contact Dr. Mary Aitchison at mjaitchi@mailbox.sc.edu or 803-777-5905 for more information about this study.

James: Last January till March I did a study in the Neural Research Lab at Indiana University called Inner speech as a predictor of improved naming after speech therapy in persons with aphasia.

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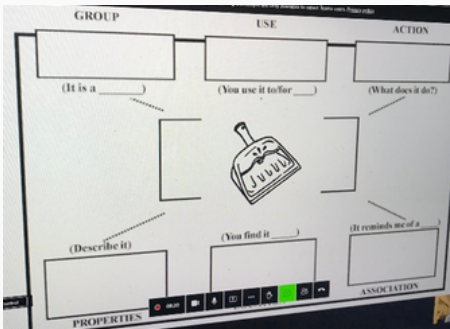
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Online Aphasia Studies and Resources

WRITTEN BY JAMES JETT AND LEIGH ANN SPELL

This course was for 5 weeks for 3 times a week for 1:30 hours. It was a great time with a student and me 1 on 1. I learned a lot. It was also an Amazon gift card for \$15 an hour each time at the end of the course, This is a task that I did in the study (see below).

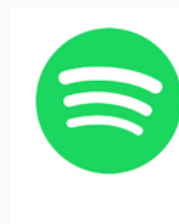


For more information about this study, contact Julianne Alexander at julifrye@iu.edu or go to <https://www.neuralresearchlab.com/participate-in-research>.

Leigh Ann: Another wonderful project that started during the pandemic is called Virtual Connections. Virtual Connections is a community of people with aphasia, their loved ones and professionals who provide free, online groups each week. New sessions are posted each Thursday and include topics like movie discussions, travel, exercise, and yoga for caregivers. For more information on how to register for these free sessions, go to: <https://www.aphasia.com/virtual-connections-info/>.

James: Here are some Podcasts you can find online by searching the titles on your Podcast app or Spotify!

- The Slow Road to Better
- Merriam-Webster's Word of the Day
- Caregiver Dave
- Brain Science
- Stroke Stories



Leigh Ann: For more online resources including websites and therapy apps for people with aphasia, see our UofSC Aphasia Lab Resources page at: <https://web.asph.sc.edu/aphasia/resources/>.

Welcome New Lab Members

WRITTEN BY KATIE BEMAN



Lacey Boss is a graduate student in the Speech-Language Pathology program at the University of South Carolina. She is from Winston-Salem, North Carolina and received her undergraduate degree from UofSC in Public Health with a minor in Psychology. Lacey is excited to be a part of the Aphasia lab and is looking forward to learning more about stroke research. She is interested in working with children in a school or hospital setting. Lacey loves spending time with friends and family, going on walks, and watching movies.



Katie Beman is a graduate student in the Speech-Language Pathology program at UofSC. She is from Ponte Vedra, Florida and obtained her undergraduate degree in Public Health with a minor in Psychology from UofSC. In the future, Katie hopes to eventually work with adults or children who have neurogenic disorders and is very excited to have the opportunity to work in the Aphasia Lab. In her free time, she loves to go on walks, read, and hang out with her friends and family.



Gisele Martin is very excited to be joining the Aphasia Lab! She attended Florida State University for undergrad, where she studied Communication Sciences and Disorders. Gisele originally wanted to pursue the field of SLP after a medical mission trip to Nicaragua in high school. More specifically, Gisele wants to work with aphasia now that she has some clinical experience under her belt. A fun fact about Gisele is that she loves being by the ocean and grabbing coffee with friends.

Welcome to the Lab: Lauren Hammond!

WRITTEN BY KATIE BEMAN

We are so excited to welcome Lauren Hammond, an ASHA-certified speech-language pathologist and doctoral student to the Aphasia Lab. To learn more about Lauren and her past experiences, please read her interview below.



Tell us a little bit about yourself.

I am a Speech-Language Pathologist born and raised in Southern California. I am the youngest of four, with three older brothers. I am a huge family person, so moving across the country to South Carolina was quite the change for me. I graduated with my Bachelor's degree from California State University, Fullerton and my Master of Science degree in Speech-Language Pathology from California Baptist University.

What brought you to UofSC?

My goal in life is to change lives through multi-modalities of communication and helping individuals find their voice. I found love for research early on in my Master's program with the thought that I can change a multitude of lives and participate in the growth of aphasia research. I came across Dr. Dirk den Ouden's interest in measurements of quality of life and formal study of emotional factors that affect aphasia recovery, and I felt that South Carolina was the perfect university to continue my studies. I am honored to be a part of the Aphasia Lab, CSTAR, and the UofSC Arnold Public School of Health.

What are some of your research interests?

I am fascinated about where the field of aphasia is going and growing. I am specifically interested in emotional and emancipatory factors impacting language output including stress, emotions, and other neurochemical responses affecting emotional regulation during speech production in post-stroke aphasic patients.

What are you most excited about when working with the Aphasia Lab?

Collaboration. I feel there are so many brilliant minds working together in this lab and I am grateful to experience and be a part of the growth and change this lab brings to the field of communicative sciences and disorders.

Welcome To the Lab: Lauren Hammond!

WRITTEN BY KATIE BEMAN

What are some of your hobbies?

I really like to be anywhere on the water, as a child I grew up boating and surfing. I also love to golf and be outdoors. But really nothing makes me happier than having a book in my hand.

Drama Club Is Back!

WRITTEN BY DIRK DEN OUDEN AND JAMES JETT

What is it? 'Play on Words', the drama club for people with aphasia, is starting again in person this Fall!

Who can join? Anyone and everyone who is interested in having fun with play acting. No experience needed, and you do NOT have to be able to speak fluently.

When and where does it meet? Fridays from 9am to 10:30am, in the COMD conference room #219 on the 2nd floor of the Close-Hipp building (same floor as where the aphasia groups are, opposite the Montgomery Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic).

Garage entrance: 950 Henderson St, Columbia, SC 29208.

Our first meeting will be on Friday August 26th – we hope to see you there!

For more information, please contact Dirk den Ouden: denouden@sc.edu; telephone 803-777-9241.



Dr. Lynsey Keator: Onto Her Next Adventure!

WRITTEN BY LEIGH ANN SPELL



Many of you already know that former doctoral student and amazing aphasia group and community outreach leader, Lynsey Keator, has graduated from the doctoral program and will be starting her new career soon. While we will very much miss, Lynsey, we are excited for her next adventure and hope to collaborate with her on future aphasia research and clinical projects. I got to ask Lynsey some final questions about her time in the Aphasia Lab as well as what is next for her.

What initially brought you to the UofSC Aphasia Lab?

I started working as a PhD student in the Aphasia Lab in 2018. Prior to starting the doctoral program, I had worked clinically as an SLP in a variety of settings. Following my clinical fellowship year, I worked as a research speech language pathologist at John's Hopkins School of Medicine with Dr. Argye Hillis. My work in Dr. Hillis' lab, paired with my clinical observations and experiences encouraged me to pursue a PhD. My primary motivation to pursue a PhD was to learn how I could better implement evidence-based practices (e.g., interventions, prediction models) and our understanding of the brain and recovery following a traumatic event such as a stroke to improve outcomes for people living with aphasia. The Aphasia Lab was particularly appealing given the close collaboration with Dr. Hillis and the research I was already doing, but also offered a myriad of clinical, technical, and theoretical training approaches that I believed would (and have) allowed me to better serve this clinical population.

What have you enjoyed most about studying/working in the Lab?

One of the best parts of the Aphasia Lab is the people. I am fortunate to work with highly motivated individuals in the fields of speech language pathology, aphasiology, neuroscience, and linguistics.

Dr. Lynsey Keator: Onto Her Next Adventure!

WRITTEN BY LEIGH ANN SPELL

I'm grateful to have received training and had the opportunity to conduct my research from a highly collaborative and interdisciplinary setting. Best of all, however, are the people that motivate my work, both clinical and research. And that is you! All of you who are living with aphasia, your families, friends, and care partners have

served a vital role in my time at the University of South Carolina, and it has been my greatest pleasure to get to know each and every one of you. Thank you for all that you have taught me and for motivating this very important work.

Tell us about what's next for Dr. Keator.

I will be joining the faculty at the University of Delaware as an Assistant Professor in the Linguistics and Cognitive Science Department beginning in the fall of 2022. In this role, I will have the opportunity to teach and train students who are interested in becoming speech-language pathologists. I will also continue my research and clinical work with aphasia.



A Dedication Included in Lynsey's Final Dissertation:

This work is dedicated to those living with stroke and aphasia; without whom this work would not be possible. It is my hope that results from the current study and work from aphasiologists all around the world provide hope for your future and opportunities for you to continue living well with aphasia. Thank you for teaching me, inspiring me, and serving as my greatest motivation. Keep shining your light.

The UofSC Aphasia Lab

Communication Sciences and Disorders

Arnold School of Public Health

Columbia, SC 29208

The Community Leadership Academy is Back!

The UofSC Aphasia Lab is thrilled to be working with our friends at Able SC again to offer an online, 6-week Community Leadership Academy (CLA) class specifically designed for people with aphasia and their care partners. CLA is an effort funded by the SC Developmental Disabilities Council to increase the participation of individuals with disabilities, and their family members, on boards, committees, and councils. The CLA course teaches skills such as professional dress, ethical and legal responsibilities, and Robert's Rules of Order. Able SC staff will assist CLA graduates in finding leadership roles in their local communities that align with their passions and put their new skills to good use! The class will be held on Tuesday mornings from 9:00-10:30 a.m. and will run from October 4th through November 8th, 2022. Contact Leigh Ann Spell @ 803-777-2693 or SpellL@mailbox.sc.edu for more information.

