





Faculty Member Contact Information

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Contact Info	
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Department	Applied Health

1 Funded URCA Assistant

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

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

- Only similar fields

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)

- 8 hours

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

- No

Location of research/creative activities:

- Speech-Language Hearing Center, Founders Hall

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 at the SIUE Speech, Language, Hearing Clinic (SLHC) 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.

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, 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 at the SIUE SLHC, if appropriate.

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?

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- 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:

- At this time, preferred meeting days are M/W between 10-2; however this is subject to change (based on institutional changes to the schedule)

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

- No off campus work is involved.

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

- Academic prerequisites classes are not required.

Other requirements or notes to applicants:

- Experience working with young children and/or children with special needs is strongly preferred.