

Hears the News

Happy 2 Year Anniversary to the Hear– Ring Lab

Congratulations to Dr. Anirudda Desphande and the student researchers on the two 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 multiple projects that are currently being worked on by several students in the program including Jaclyn Castoro, Rachel Cohen, Raissa El-Houayek, Cassandra Mazzacco, Colleen O'Brien, Nicole Trupo (lab manager), and Brittany Ziarko. 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.

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Third Annual Meet and Greet

On October 5th, students from all four years gathered to participate in a night of fund-raising, 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 lifelong professional relationships and friendships.



Faculty and Alumni



Class of 2020



Class of 2021



Class of 2022



Class of 2022

Faculty Spotlight: Aniruddha Deshpande

Aniruddha K. Deshpande, Ph.D., CCC-A is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Speech-Language-Hearing Sciences at Hofstra University. He completed his Ph.D. at the University of Cincinnati and his postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Iowa. His research interests include tinnitus, hyperacusis, amplification, noise induced hearing loss and hearing conservation. His current research focuses on investigating the effectiveness of physiological and psycho-acoustic approaches for the assessment and management of tinnitus in different populations.

Dr. Deshpande directs research projects at his lab - The Hear-Ring Lab. His research has been supported through intramural and extramural funding. Dr. Deshpande has authored/co-authored several publications and presentations. He is a recipient of prestigious honors and awards such as the ASHFoundation scholarship, ASHA's Lessons for Success and SRTA, University of Cincinnati's All University Honor of Exemplary Scholarship in the Life Sciences, and Starkey's William F. Austin scholarship. Dr. Deshpande was nominated for the Excellence in Teaching Award for demonstrating high standards of teaching and exemplary performance in and out of the classroom.

Dr. Deshpande loves to discuss audiology-related concepts with his wife - the other Dr. Deshpande (and no, he was not coerced in any way to include this statement in his bio), travel, and spend lazy afternoons playing fetch with Cymba - their Labrador retriever.



Second Year Spotlight: Kristen Brancucci

Kristen Brancucci is currently a second year doctoral student at the Long Island Doctor of Audiology Consortium. She completed her undergraduate studies at SUNY Cortland where she received her bachelor's degree in Speech and Hearing Science with a minor in Psychology: Children with Exceptionalities. She is from Westchester County, NY. She discovered her love for Audiology when she was a senior in high school learning about the auditory system while taking an Anatomy and Physiology course. This led to her interest in learning American Sign Language, and choosing to pursue a career in Audiology. Her clinical interests include diagnostic assessment in the adult and geriatric population, cochlear implantation and mapping, and intra-operative monitoring. She is a member of the Student Academy of Audiology and has participated in numerous hearing screenings including Hempstead School District, Special Olympics, and Goldman Sachs.



Third Year Students Present Research Proposals



Class of 2020: Where are they going?

Meagan Allergrini---ENT & Allergy

Olivia Bender---AuDSLIP

Sarah Reyes---ENT & Allergy of Florida

Lauren Keller---Columbia University Medical Center

Kalli Monti---Manhattan Audiology

Colleen O'Brien---NYU Cochlear Implant Center

Yehudit Askarinam---Hearing Help Associates

Meaghan Curley--- Weill Cornell Medicine

Nicole DelleDonne---NYC Hearing Associates

Sarah Frisina---ENT & Allergy

Vasilia Meskouris---Total Hearing Care

Katie Rutcofsky---Jacobi Medical Center

Elizabeth Shields---Audiology and Communication Services

Kenneth D'Auria---ENT & Allergy

Jessica Kotak---Long Island Jewish Hospital

Lauren Barnett---Hearing Help Associates

Rachel Miller---Long Island Jewish Hospital

Rachel Cohen---NYC Hearing Associates

Emily Norton---Hearing Help Associates

Nicole Trupo---ENT & Allergy

Fourth Year Spotlight: Amanda Zaino Brady

My name is Amanda Brady and I am a fourth year student at the Long Island Doctor of Audiology Consortium. I completed my B.S. at Molloy College in Speech language Pathology/Audiology. I am like most audiology students who went to school to become a speech pathologist and when it came time to writing soap notes, lesson & treatment plans and the waiting weeks on end to see results, I knew it was not for me.

I have had the chance to get a diverse clinical experience here, having had placements at the Brooklyn Veterans Hospital, an ENT office and a HearUSA office. I also got the chance to go to Guatemala this past summer to volunteer with Starkey Hearing Foundation. That was definitely the highlight of the program for me. I had the most amazing time and highly recommend getting involved with a mission trip if you have the opportunity to do so. I also went to the Starkey and Phonak summer programs, which were also a great opportunity I took advantage of.

When deciding on where to apply for my fourth year externship, I made the decision, along with my husband, to move to a new state. I am currently placed at HearUSA in San Diego, CA and I am so happy with the choice we made. [I do have to admit as nice as it is here in California, nowhere is like Long Island!] At my placement I am getting experience with primarily Signia products and I also have got to see some BAHA and Bimodal fittings. The population we see here is mostly adults over the age of 70 however we do see children from time to time. If you have ever wondered what it would be like to live in another state, this is a perfect time to try it out! I am so happy with the choice I made!



Third Year Spotlight: Olivia Bender

Olivia (Liv) Bender is a third year doctoral student at the Long Island Au.D. Consortium, and her home school is St. John's University. She received her Bachelor's degree in Speech Language Pathology and Audiology from Towson University. Liv always knew she wanted to work as a health professional, and decided to pursue Audiology in her third year of undergrad.

She is currently at her third external rotation at Mill Neck Center for Hearing Health. She is extremely grateful for the opportunity to work with amazing audiologists and professionals at this facility. Liv is very passionate about her patients and is excited to work on honing her counseling skills throughout the semester. The best part about this rotation is traveling around Long Island on the "audiology van", and screening people within the community. She feels it is very important to give back.

Liv feels incredibly thankful for the Long Island Consortium and its faculty, for giving her the ability to work independently and grow as a hearing professional. She also loves the fact that she can travel around the country to AAA and hearing aid camps to gain more knowledge about the field. She is especially thankful for her incredible classmates, who have become more like family. She is looking forward to her last academic year in the program, and cannot wait for her fourth year externship.



Walk4Hearing 2018

On September 23, 2018 the Long Island Au.D. Consortium, Student Academy of Audiology Chapter fundraised for and participated in the 2018 NYC Walk 4 Hearing in Riverside Park. Sponsored by the Hearing Loss Association of America, the annual Walk 4 Hearing encourages increased awareness about hearing loss, and also promotes fundraising and advocates for the prevention and treatment of hearing loss. Our Li AuD SAA chapter fundraised a total of \$1,076, several of our students proudly represented our program at the walk. The proceeds will be used to support our community outreach programs both locally and globally. The picture includes students from both Li AuD Consortium and CUNY Graduate Center,



Ask Me About Audiology 2018



Meet the 2019 Ear— Board

Brianna Marcucio (Co-President) -Hey, I'm Brianna Marcucio and I currently hold the position of being one of the co-presidents for the Consortium's SAA chapter! I am a second year Hofstra home school student. For my undergraduate career I attended the University of Connecticut where I received a BA in Speech Language and Hearing Sciences and a minor in Psychology. This spring semester I just started my clinical placement at Advanced Audiology of NY at the Tuckahoe location and love it already! I hope in the future to work with the Navy and afterwards at a VA or even possibly owning my own private practice. I'm excited for this semester to begin and look forward to seeing everyone !

Cassandra Mazzacco (Co- President) My name is Cassandra Mazzacco. I am a second year, hofstra home school and I am one of the current Co-Presidents of the consortium's chapter of SAA. I went to Hofstra University for my undergraduate degree and graduated with a BA in Speech Language Hearing Science. In addition to being on eboard I am a research assistant with Dr. Deshpande in the Hear-ring Lab and I am a graduate assistant for Dr. Milstein. My clinical experience includes the three university clinics (Hofstra, Adelphi, St. John's) and I am off to Mill Neck Manor School for the Deaf this Spring! My interests include hearing aid technology, diagnostic audiology, and tinnitus. I hope to one day work in a hospital and then eventually own my own private practice! I am looking forward to a great year with the rest of eboard and the chapter!!

Kristin Poptean (Public Relations) Hi! My name is Kristin Poptean. I am a second year Hofstra University home school student and currently hold the position of Public Relations for the Consortium's SAA Chapter. I went to Adelphi University for my undergraduate career where I graduated with a BS in Communication Sciences and Disorders. This Spring semester I'm starting my clinical placement at St. Alban's VA and am very much looking forward to it! In the future I hope to work with the pediatric population and have a specific interest in cochlear implants. This is going to be a great semester ahead and year to come. Let's have some fun!

Camden Orologio (Treasurer) Hi my name is Camden Orologio. My home school is Adelphi. I went to Adelphi for undergrad and my degree was in communication science disorders. I played four years of baseball at Adelphi and lived on campus. I hope to one day be an audiologist in the navy and eventually open my own practice working with musicians. I'm currently the treasurer of the club and think that my prior experience in leadership positions for undergraduate clubs will help me in the role.

Annual Headstart School Screening 11/29/18



Third Year Students Participate in Service Learning Experience



"Third year students in Dr. S Deshpande's Central Auditory Processing Disorders (AUD 516) completed an Academic Service-Learning component during the Fall 2018 semester. They educated local students from John Adams High School about the dangers of hearing loss and offered free hearing screenings to the students."



Alumni Spotlight: Michele Weiss

Michele I. Weiss began working toward her goal of becoming an audiologist in kindergarten. As Daisy Girl Scout she had her very first experience with American Sign Language (ASL) when her troop leader taught her how to sign the song, "Make New Friends" and explained about Deaf Culture. Dr. Weiss did not realize how much that moment would influence her education and her life. Throughout her middle school and high school journeys, she continued to study American Sign Language and Deaf Culture. She also began researching career paths in which these interests would grow. In college, Dr. Weiss continue to study ASL, ultimately completing more courses in the field.

As part of her undergraduate program at St. John's University, she was fortunate enough to have the opportunity to participate in the Audiology Clinical Practicum, during which she experienced what being an audiologist would entail. During one of the many required observations Dr. Weiss did as an undergraduate, a client came in saying that his family was making fun of him because he was unable to hear what they were saying. After being examined and tested, he was told he would benefit from hearing aids. The audiologist programmed a demonstration hearing aid for him. The client asked a few questions and actually starting crying as the answers were given because he was able to understand every word. After seeing this client's reaction to his improved hearing and participating in the clinical practicum, she knew Audiology was what she was meant to do.

Dr. Weiss earned her Bachelor's Degree in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology from St. John's University. She received her Doctorate in Audiology from the Long Island Au.D. Consortium in 2012. She completed her clinical fellowship at Ear Nose & Throat Associates of Nassau County/ Island Hearing and Balance, where she still works today. Dr. Weiss is licensed by New York State to practice Audiology and hearing aid dispensing. She holds the Certificate of Clinical Competence in Audiology (CCC-A) from the American Speech- Language Hearing Association, is a fellow of the American Academy of Audiology (FAAA) and a fellow of the Academy of Doctors of Audiology (FADA). Dr. Weiss provides a wide range of diagnostic tests including comprehensive hearing evaluations, vestibular, and balance assessment. She also fits digital hearing aid technology, custom noise protection, water protection, and custom earmolds for headphones, stethoscopes and more. She works with pediatric through geriatric populations.



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SAA Moderator: Dr. Ianthe Dunn– Murad