

THEA KNOWLES

Last updated: October 3, 2020

University at Buffalo
Cary Hall, 103D
Buffalo, NY 14215

✉ theaknow@buffalo.edu
📁 Faculty Webpage
🌐 CASA Lab Website

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor (tenure system) Director of Clinical Applications of Speech Acoustics Laboratory Communicative Disorders & Sciences University at Buffalo Buffalo, NY	2019 - Present
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EDUCATION

Western University, London, ON PhD, Speech & Language Sciences Health & Rehabilitation Sciences	2014 - 2019
Western University, London, ON MClSc, Speech-Language Pathology Communication Sciences & Disorders	2014 - 2019
McGill University, Montréal, QC B.A. Honours, Linguistics First Class Honours, Distinction	2008 - 2012

FUNDING

Internal Funding

University at Buffalo start-up package · Value: \$275,500	2019-2022
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Funded: Research

Ontario Graduate Scholarship · Value: \$15,000 CAD annually · Competitive (merit-based) scholarship awarded by the Province of Ontario Graduate Scholarship Program	2017-2019
Western Graduate Research Scholarship · Value: approx. \$19,000 CAD annually · Western University graduate student funding package	2014 - 2019

Funded: Clinical

Parkinson Voice Project SPEAK OUT!® and LOUD Crowd® Grant

2020 - 2021

- Value: Supports continuation of the SPEAK OUT!® and LOUD Crowd® programs at the University at Buffalo Speech, Language, and Hearing Clinic, including Parkinson Voice Project consultation, access to graduate student training, clinic resources, and opportunity to receive monetary funding to support LOUD Crowd® groups in 2021
- Role: Lead Speech-language pathologist

Unfunded

ASHFoundation New Investigators Research Grant

2020

American Speech-Language-Hearing Foundation

- Proposed Project Title: Effects of Prominence on Acoustic Distinctiveness and Intelligibility in Dysarthria
- "The New Investigators Research Grant is designed to help further new investigators' research activities by funding preliminary studies that could launch larger-scale research studies."

ASHA Advancing Academic-Research Careers

2020

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association

- "The Advancing Academic-Research Careers (AARC) Award is intended to support the academic-research careers of junior-level faculty in the discipline of communication sciences and disorders (CSD). AARC is an award that supports mentored activities in both teaching and research."

Vanier Scholarship Nominee

2016

Nominated by Western University Faculty of Health Sciences

- "The Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships (Vanier CGS) was created to attract and retain world-class doctoral students and to establish Canada as a global centre of excellence in research and higher learning."

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

6. **Knowles, T.**, Adams, S. G., Page, A., Cushnie-Sparrow, D., & Jog, M. (2020). A comparison of speech amplification and personal communication devices for hypophonia. *Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research*, 63(8), 2695-2712. DOI: 10.1044/2020_JSLHR-20-00085
5. Adams, S., Kumar, N., Rizek, P., Hong, A., Zhang, J., Abeyesekera, A., Mancinelli, C., **Knowles, T.**, & Jog, M. (2020). Efficacy and acceptance of a Lombard-response device for hypophonia in Parkinson's disease. *The Canadian Journal of Neurological Sciences*, 1-8. DOI: 10.1017/cjn.2020.90
4. Sonderegger, M., Stuart-Smith, J., **Knowles, T.**, Macdonald, R., & Rathcke, T. (2020). Structured heterogeneity in Scottish stops over the twentieth century. *Language*, 96(1), 94-125. DOI: 10.1353/lan.2020.0003
3. Abeyesekera, A., Adams, S., Mancinelli, C., **Knowles, T.**, Gilmore, G., Delrobaei, M., Jog, M. (2019). Effects of deep brain stimulation of the subthalamic nucleus settings on voice quality, intensity, and prosody in Parkinson's disease: preliminary evidence for speech optimization. *Canadian Journal of Neurological Sciences*, 46(3), 287-294. DOI: 10.1017/cjn.2019.16
2. **Knowles, T.**, Clayards, M., & Sonderegger, M. (2018). Examining factors influencing the viability of automatic acoustic analysis of child speech. *Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research*, 61(10), 2487-2501. DOI: 10.1044/2018_JSLHR-S-17-0275.

1. **Knowles, T.**, Adams, S., Abeyesekera, A., Mancinelli, C., Gilmore, G., & Jog, M. (2018). Deep brain stimulation of the subthalamic nucleus parameter optimization for vowel acoustics and speech intelligibility in Parkinson’s disease. *Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research*, 61(3), 510-524. DOI: 10.1044/2017_JSLHR-S-17-0157.

Proceedings & Working Papers

5. Cushnie-Sparrow, D., Adams, S.G., **Knowles, T.**, Leszcz, T.M., Jog, M. (2016). Effects of multi-talker noise on the acoustics of voiceless stop consonants in Parkinson’s disease. *Western Papers in Linguistics*.
4. **Knowles, T.**, Clayards, M., Sonderegger, M., Wagner, M., Nadig, A., & Onishi, K. (2015). Automatic forced alignment on child speech: Directions for improvement. *Proceedings of Meetings on Acoustics*. DOI: 25:060001.
3. Clayards, M. & **Knowles, T.** (2015). Prominence enhances voicelessness and not place distinction in English voiceless sibilants. *Proceedings of the 18th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences*. Glasgow, UK: the University of Glasgow.
2. Little, C. & **Knowles, T.** (2012). Didja know? A comparative study of affrication across word boundaries in Canadian and American English. *Strathy Student Working Papers on Canadian English*.
1. Cheng, J. & **Knowles, T.** (2012). Mandarin VP-Shell: Not as hard as you think. *McGill Cellar Door* 1, 4-20.

MANUSCRIPTS

Avenia, K., Ahmed, J., Borovsky, A., McRae, K., Jenkins, M., Sprengel, K., Fraser, J.A., Orange, J.B., **Knowles, T.**, & Roberts, A. (Submitted). Predictive language comprehension in Parkinson’s disease.

Knowles, T., Adams, S.G., & Jog, M. (In review). Voice acoustics along a modified speech rate continuum in Parkinson’s disease.

Knowles, T., Adams, S.G., & Jog, M. (In prep). Speech intelligibility along a speech rate continuum in Parkinson’s disease.

Knowles, T., Adams, S.G., & Jog, M. (In prep). Stop voicing contrast is robust in Parkinson’s disease along a speech rate continuum.

Knowles, T., Clayards M. (In prep). Effects of prominence on stop consonant contrasts.

CODE

Keshet, J., Sonderegger, M., & **Knowles, T.** (2014). AutoVOT, v. 0.93.

- A software package for automatic measurement of voice onset time (VOT), using the algorithm described in Sonderegger & Keshet (2012).

Knowles, T. (unpublished). Publicly available Praat scripts.

- <https://github.com/thealk/PraatScripts>
- Includes Visual Analog Scale administration tool, interactive tutorials, and various scripts designed to facilitate speech analysis.

PRESENTATIONS

Invited presentations

5. **Knowles, T.** Speech acoustic adjustments along a speech rate continuum in Parkinson's disease. Rehabilitation Science Seminar. University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY. 3/2020.
4. **Knowles, T.** Speech amplification clinic: Speech-language pathology in-service. H.A. Leeper Speech & Hearing Clinic. Western University, London, ON. 1/2019.
3. **Knowles, T.** Louder but not clearer: Exploring underpinnings of speech intelligibility in dysarthria through acoustic, clinical, and technological lenses. Job talk presented at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities. Minneapolis, MN. 1/2019.
2. **Knowles, T.** Louder but not clearer: Exploring underpinnings of speech intelligibility in dysarthria through acoustic, clinical, and technological lenses. Job talk presented at the University at Buffalo. Buffalo, NY. 11/2018.
1. **Knowles, T.**, Adams, S., Page, A., Cushnie-Sparrow, D., & Jog, M. A comparison of speech amplification and personal communication devices for individuals with Parkinson's disease. Communicative Disorders & Sciences Research Colloquium. University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY. 4/2018.

Refereed conference presentations

19. **Knowles, T.**, Adams, S., & Jog, M. VOT voicing distinction is robust along a speech rate continuum in dysarthria. Laboratory Phonology, Virtual, 07/2020. *International poster presentation.*
18. **Knowles, T.**, Adams, S., & Jog, M. Speech intelligibility along a modified speech rate continuum in Parkinson's disease. International Clinical Linguistics & Phonetics Association. Forthcoming; postponed to 09/2021 due to COVID-19. *International poster presentation.*
17. **Knowles, T.**, Adams, S., & Jog, M. Acoustic changes along a modified speech rate continuum in Parkinson's disease. Motor Speech Conference. Santa Barbara, CA. 02/2020. *International poster presentation*
16. **Knowles, T.**, Adams, S., Page, A., Cushnie-Sparrow, D., & Jog, M. Evaluating the efficacy of speech amplification and personal communication devices in Parkinson's disease. American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) Conference. Boston, MA. 11/2018. *International poster presentation*
15. **Knowles, T.**, Adams, S., Page, A., Cushnie-Sparrow, D., & Jog, M. A comparison of voice amplification devices in Parkinson's disease.
 - American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) CONNECT Conference. Baltimore, MD. 7/2018 (new data presented). *International poster presentation*
 - Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Canada (SAC) Conference. Edmonton, AB. 5/2018. *National poster presentation*
14. Mancinelli, C., Adams, S.G., Abeyesekera, A., **Knowles, T.**, Delrobaei, M., & Jog, M. Deep brain stimulation parameter optimization for rate of speech in Parkinson's disease. American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Convention. Philadelphia, PA. 11/2016. *International poster presentation, presented by first author.*
13. **Knowles, T.**, Adams, S.G., Abeyesekera, A., Mancinelli, C., & Jog, M. Deep brain stimulation parameter optimization for speech intelligibility and vowel acoustics in Parkinson's disease. International Clinical Phonetics and Linguistics Association Conference, Halifax, NS. 6/2016. *International oral presentation.*

12. Abeyesekera, A., Adams, S.G., **Knowles, T.**, Mancinelli, C., Delrobaei, M., & Jog, M. Deep brain stimulation and speech in Parkinson's disease: Effects of stimulator settings and electrode contact positions. Southern Ontario Neuroscience Association, Waterloo, ON. 5/2016. *Provincial poster presentation, presented by first author.*
11. **Knowles, T.**, Adams, S.G., Abeyesekera, A., Mancinelli, C., Delrobaei, & M., Jog., M. Deep brain stimulation parameter optimization for speech intelligibility and speech acoustics in Parkinson's disease. Motor Speech Conference, Newport Beach, CA. 3/2016. *International poster presentation.*
10. Abeyesekera, A., Adams, S.G., **Knowles, T.**, Mancinelli, C., Delrobaei, & M., Jog., M. Deep brain stimulation parameter optimization for voice quality, speech intensity and prosody of speech in Parkinson's disease. Motor Speech Conference, Newport beach, CA. 3/2016. *International poster presentation, presented by first author.*
9. **Knowles, T.**, Clayards, M., Sonderegger, M., Wagner, M., Nadig, A., & Onishi, K. Automatic forced alignment on child speech: Directions for improvement. Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, Jacksonville, FL. 11/2015. *International poster presentation.*
8. Sonderegger, M., Stuart-Smith, J., Macdonald, R., **Knowles, T.**, & Rathcke, T. Stability and change in Scottish stops: A real-time study of three acoustic cues in Glaswegian vernacular. New Ways of Analyzing Variation 44, Toronto. 10/2015. *International oral presentation, presented by first author.*
7. Clayards, M., & **Knowles, T.** Prominence enhances voicelessness and not place distinction in English voiceless sibilants. 18th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences. Glasgow, Scotland. 8/2015. *International oral presentation, presented by first author.*
6. Stuart-Smith, J., Sonderegger, M., Macdonald, R., **Knowles, T.**, & Rathcke, T. (2014). The private life of stops: VOT in a real-time corpus of spontaneous Glaswegian. 14th Conference on Laboratory Phonology. Tokyo, Japan. 7/2014. *International oral presentation, presented by first author.*
5. Clayards, M., & **Knowles, T.** Sibilants, prominence, contrast and breathy voice. Phonetic Building Blocks of Speech. University of Victoria. Victoria, BC. 9/2014. *International poster presentation, presented by first author.*
4. Clayards, M. & **Knowles, T.** Prosodic strengthening and sibilants. Linguistic Institute Conference on Universality and Variability in segment-prosody interactions. Ann Arbor, MI. 6/2013. *International oral presentation, presented by first author.*
3. Fleischer, D., **Knowles, T.**, Cheng, J., Wagner, M., & Clayards, M. Syntactic effects on compensation for assimilation. Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing. Riva del Garda, Italy. 9/2012. *International oral presentation, presented by last author.*
2. Little, C. & **Knowles, T.** Didja Know? Affrication in North American English Dialects.
 - Change and Variation in Canada 7. University of Toronto. Toronto, ON. 5/2012. *National oral presentation.*
 - 2nd Annual Hunter Undergraduate Linguistics and Language Study. Hunter College. New York, NY. 5/2012. *International oral presentation.*
 - International Linguistic Assoc. 58th Annual Conference. Kingsborough Community College. Brooklyn, NY. 4/2012. *International oral presentation.*
 - 10th Annual Harvard Undergraduate Linguistics Colloquium. Harvard University. Cambridge, MA. 4/2012. *International oral presentation.*
1. **Knowles, T.** (2011). Gender and Lexical Variation: Coffee Tasting Descriptors.

- McGill Canadian Conference for Linguistics Undergraduates. Montréal, QC. 3/2011. *National oral presentation.*
- 9th Annual Harvard Undergraduate Linguistics Colloquium. Harvard University. Cambridge, MA. *International oral presentation.*

Local presentations

10. **Knowles, T.**, Adams, S., Page, A., Cushnie-Sparrow, D., & Jog, M. Evaluating the efficacy of voice amplification and personal communication devices in Parkinson's disease. Speech & Language Seminar, Health & Rehabilitation Sciences, Western University. London, ON. 10/2018. *Local oral presentation.*
9. **Knowles, T.**, Adams, S., Page, A., Cushnie-Sparrow, D., & Jog, M. A comparison of voice amplification devices in Parkinson's disease.
 - 5th Annual Movement Disorders Research Retreat. London, ON. 6/2018. *Local oral presentation.*
 - Health & Rehabilitation Graduate Research Conference. Western University, London, ON. 2/2018. *Local oral presentation.*
8. **Knowles, T.** The effect of rate manipulation on acoustic distinctiveness and intelligibility in dysarthria: Prospectus.
 - Speech & Language Seminar, Health & Rehabilitation Sciences, Western University. London, ON. 10/2017. *Local oral presentation.*
 - 4th Annual Movement Disorders Research Retreat. London, ON. 6/2017. *Local oral presentation.*
7. **Knowles, T.**, Adams, S.G., Abeyesekera, A., Mancinelli, C., Gilmore, G., & Jog, M. Deep brain stimulation parameter optimization: Vowel acoustics in Parkinson's disease. Health & Rehabilitation Graduate Research Conference. Western University, London, ON. 2/2017. *Local oral presentation.*

Cushnie-Sparrow, D., Adams, S.G., Leszcz, T., **Knowles, T.**, & Jog., M. Effects of multitalker noise on the acoustics of voiceless stop consonants in Parkinson disease. Western Interdisciplinary Student Symposium on Language Research, London, ON. 3/2016. *Local oral presentation, presented by first author.*
6. **Knowles, T.**, Adams, S., Leszcz, T., Jog, M. Acoustic correlates of noise-related speech intelligibility deficits in Parkinson's disease. Health and Rehabilitation Sciences Graduate Research Conference. Western University, London, ON. 2/2016. *Local oral presentation.*
5. **Knowles, T.**, Adams, S.G., Abeyesekera, A., Mancinelli, C., Delrobaei, & M., Jog., M. Deep brain stimulation and speech.
 - 3rd Annual Movement Disorders Research Retreat. Toronto, ON. 6/2016. *Local oral presentation.*
 - 2nd Annual Movement Disorders Research Retreat. London, ON. 6/2015. *Local oral presentation.*
4. **Knowles, T.**, Adams, S.G., Abeyesekera, A., Mancinelli, C., Delrobaei, & M., Jog., M. Effect of deep brain stimulation parameters on speech intelligibility and speech acoustics in Parkinson's disease.
 - Health & Rehabilitation Sciences Graduate Research Conference. Western University, London, ON. 2/2015. *Local poster presentation.*

- Faculty of Health Sciences Research Day. Western University, London, ON. 3/2015. *Local poster presentation.*
- 3. Abeyesekera, A., Adams, S., **Knowles, T.**, Mancinelli, C., Delrobaei, M., & Jog, M. Effect of different deep brain stimulation parameters on voice quality, speech intensity, and prosody in Parkinson's Disease. Health & Rehabilitation Sciences Graduate Research Conference, Western University, London, ON. 2/2015. *Local poster presentation, presented by first author.*
- 2. Mancinelli, C., Adams, S., Abeyesekera, A., **Knowles, T.**, Delrobaei, M., & Jog, M. Deep brain stimulation parameter optimization for rate of speech in Parkinson's Disease. Health & Rehabilitation Sciences Graduate Research Conference, Western University, London, ON. 2/2015. *Local poster presentation, presented by first author.*
- 1. Clayards, M., Wonnacott, E., & **Knowles, T.** A case study of childhood L2 learning of phonological contrasts. McGill School of Communication Sciences and Disorders 50th Anniversary Open House. McGill University. Montréal, QC. 11/2013. *Local poster presentation, presented by first author.*

MEDIA

“Speech in Parkinson’s disease: The potential role of amplification devices.” Article written for *The Parkinson’s Update (68)*. Parkinson Society Southwestern Ontario. Online. Summer/Fall 2018. <https://parkinsonsociety.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Parkinson-68-complete-for-web-Compressed-003-final.pdf>

“The R-Ladies Piece.” Interview by GradCast for *Radio Western*. Radio. 6/2017.

“Research fine-tunes Parkinson’s speech impact.” Interview by Paul Mayne for *Western News*. Online. 3/2016. <https://news.westernu.ca/2016/03/research-fine-tunes-parkinsons-speech-impact/>

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE: RESEARCH

Lab Director: Clinical Applications of Speech Acoustics (CASA) Lab <i>Communicative Disorders & Sciences, University at Buffalo</i>	2019 — Present <i>Buffalo, NY</i>
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Research Assistant <i>Speech Movement Disorders Lab, Western University</i>	November 2014 - August 2019 <i>London, ON</i>
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- Assist with study design, ethics submission, data collection related to a comparison of assistive speech devices for individuals with Parkinson’s disease

Lab Coordinator/Research Assistant <i>Language & Cognition Lab, Western University</i>	October 2014 - June 2017 <i>London, ON</i>
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- Assist with study design, ethics proposals, recruitment, data collection/analysis related to language comprehension in Parkinson’s disease
- Manage research assistants, coordinate meetings, ensure project deadlines are met

Project Manager: Tools for Looking at Variability in Speech <i>McGill University</i>	August 2013 - June 2014 <i>Montréal, QC</i>
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- Multidisciplinary collaboration with Communication Sciences & Disorders, Linguistics, & Psychology investigating viability of automated analysis with large scale variable speaker populations
- Trained & managed 12+ research assistants in speech analysis

Lab Manager: Speech Learning Lab <i>Linguistics Department, McGill University</i>	August 2013 - June 2014 <i>Montréal, QC</i>
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- Trained & managed research assistants in acoustic analysis

- Provided training materials and conducted tutorial on Praat scripting

Lab Manager: Montréal Language Modeling Lab

June 2013 - June 2014

Linguistics Department, McGill University

Montréal, QC

- Developed automated scripts for speech analysis, performed data collection & acoustic analysis
- Trained & managed research assistants & coordinated meetings

Research Assistant: CHILDES PhonBank Project

September 2012 - March 2014

Linguistics Department, McGill University

Montréal, QC

- Edited and maintained corpus of child phonological data
- Provided detailed feedback for ongoing development of PhonBank software

Research Assistant: McGill Prosody Lab

June 2012 - June 2014

Linguistics Department, McGill University

Montréal, QC

- Performed data collection for a variety of speech production and perception experiments
- Assisted in data analysis using MatLab and Praat software

Research Assistant: Speech Learning Lab

November 2011 - June 2014

Linguistics Department, McGill University

Montréal, QC

- Assisted in speech perception and production experimental design
- Conducted acoustic and statistical analysis

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE: CLINICAL

Speech-language pathologist (Clinical Fellowship)

November 2019 - present

UB Speech and Hearing Clinic

Buffalo, NY

- Lead LOUD CROWD® therapy sessions for people with Parkinson's disease.

Student Clinician: Hospital

July 2019 - August 2019

Grand River Hospital

Kitchener, ON

- Provided swallowing and communication assessments on a stroke unit.

Student Clinician: Speech Amplification Clinic

September 2018 - June 2019

H.A. Leeper Speech & Hearing Clinic

London, ON

- Developed policies and procedures for and led assessments of individuals with hypophonia seeking a speech amplification device
- Coordinated meetings with speech-language pathologists, audiologists, neurologists and clinic staff to ensure timely prescription of appropriate devices

Student Clinician: Schoolboard

May 2018 - June 2018

Thames Valley District Schoolboard

London, ON

- Conducted assessment and intervention for school-aged children

Student Clinician: Fluency disorders

August 2017

Camp ShoutOut

Holton, MI, USA.

- Provided individual and group intervention to children with fluency disorders

Student Clinician: Acquired neurogenic language disorders

May 2015 - July 2015

H.A. Leeper Speech & Hearing Clinic

London, ON

- Conducted assessment and intervention for adults with aphasia
- Provided individual & group therapy

Student Clinician: Voice disorders

H.A. Leeper Speech & Hearing Clinic

May 2015 - June 2015

London, ON

- Delivered LSVT-LOUD to client with Parkinson's disease

Student Clinician: TykeTalk

H.A. Leeper Speech & Hearing Clinic

January 2015 - April 2015

London, ON

- Conducted assessment and intervention for young children with suspected speech and/or language difficulties
- Assisted in providing Hanen Target Word intervention

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor

Motor Speech Disorders (CDS640)

University at Buffalo, Department of Communicative Disorders & Sciences

Fall 2020

Anatomy and Physiology of the Speech Mechanism (CDS288)

University at Buffalo, Department of Communicative Disorders & Sciences

Fall 2019, 2020

Teaching Assistant

Speech Science (COMMSCI9615)

Western University, School of Communication Sciences & Disorders

Fall 2016, 2017

- Conducted three weekly labs on healthy and disordered speech acoustics for graduate SLP and Audiology students

Voice Disorders (COMMSCI9631)

Western University, School of Communication Sciences & Disorders

Spring 2017

- Graded quizzes and exams related to healthy and disordered voice production for graduate SLP students

Guest Lectures

“Introduction to phonetics”

Speech Science (COMMSCI9615)

September 2017, 2018

Western University

“Treatment trends in hypokinetic dysarthria”

Motor Speech Disorders (SLP714)

March 2018

Central Michigan University

“Pursuing a PhD in communication sciences and disorders”

Professional Practice Issues (COMMSCI9636)

November 2017

Western University

Workshops & tutorials

Coding for Speech

Department of Communicative Disorders & Sciences

Spring 2020

University at Buffalo

- Weekly workshops on using tools to analyze speech data, given to students and faculty at the University at Buffalo and led by me.
- Terminated after 2 sessions due to COVID19 pandemic

“RMarkdown and Bookdown for academic writing”

R-Ladies, London, Ontario Chapter

January 2020

“Dissertating with RMarkdown and Bookdown”

April 2019

R-Ladies, London, Ontario Chapter

“Figuring out figures in R”

October 2018

R-Ladies, London, Ontario Chapter

“Using RMarkdown to generate reports and manuscripts”

March 2018

R-Ladies, London, Ontario Chapter

“Introduction to Praat Scripting”

Spring 2014

Department of Linguistics

McGill University

- Conducted tutorials for various linguistics laboratory research assistants on automating aspects of acoustic analysis by writing scripts in Praat

ACADEMIC SERVICE & LEADERSHIP

Advising

MA Thesis Committees

University at Buffalo, Department of Communicative Disorders & Sciences

- Francesca D'Alessandro. Title TBA. In progress.

Reviewing

Journal Articles

- American Journal of Speech Language Pathology; 2020 (3)
- Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research; 2020 (2)
- International Journal of Language and Communication Disorders; 2020 (1)

Conference Abstracts

- Western University Health & Rehabilitation Sciences Graduate Research Conference (2015, 2016)

Outreach

Co-founder: R-Ladies

2017 — 2019

London, Ontario Chapter

London, ON

- Founded and ran a local chapter of R-Ladies Global, “ a world-wide organization to promote gender diversity in the R community.”
- Curated speakers to give monthly, hands-on workshops on using the R statistical language and programming environment at no cost to members of the London, Ontario community
- I would also occasionally lead the workshops (see Teaching)

Service to the Department

Communicative Disorders & Sciences

University at Buffalo

- Member of Coalition for Anti-Racism & Equity; Summer 2020 - Present
- Member of search committee for Clinical Assistant/Associate Professor; Fall 2020
- Leader of subcommittee departmental SWOT analysis; Winter 2020
- Member of search committee for Assistant Professor; Fall 2019

- Member of search committee for Assistant Professor; Fall 2019

Service as Graduate Student

Health & Rehabilitation Sciences Graduate Student Society

Western University

- Chair/Organizer: Alumni Speaker Series; 2016 — 2017
- Leader of Sponsorship Subcommittee for Graduate Research Conference; 2016 –2017
- Vice-President Finance; 2016 — 2017
- President; 2015 — 2016
- Co-Organizer: Graduate Research Conference; 2016
- Professional Program Preview Day Volunteer (School of Communication Sciences & Disorders); 2015

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND VOLUNTEERING

As faculty member

Pathways Program Attendee

June 2020

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association

Mentorship program (virtual)

- Mentorship program for early career researchers in communication sciences and disorders
- "It is intended as an initial step to enhance the training, retention, and funding success of clinical scientists in CSD, with the ultimate goal of advancing the evidence base of the discipline."

New Faculty Academy Attendee (Scholarly Writing)

Fall 2019

University at Buffalo

Buffalo, NY

- Weekly workshops for new faculty to improve elements of their scholarly research

As graduate student

Pin Pals Volunteer

February - March 2016

Autism Ontario

London, ON

- Weekly one-on-one bowling outings with children with autism spectrum disorder

Operation Smile Volunteer

September 2015 - June 2016

Western University

London, ON

- Assisted in fundraising for medical charity providing surgical training for doctors treating children born with cleft lip/palate in underfunded international locations

IAL Voice Institute Attendee

June 2015

International Association of Laryngectomees

Baltimore, MD

- Passed IAL examination which confirmed acquisition of basic and intermediate levels of knowledge in postlaryngectomy rehabilitation

Aphasia Retreat Day Volunteer

May 2015

Western University

London, ON

- Volunteered as "communication ramp" for adults with aphasia during full day retreat
- Facilitated communication using SCAA strategies during games and activities

Speech-Language Pathology Assistant

January 2013 - July 2014

Speech Therapy Montréal

Montréal, QC

- Assisted with early intervention language screenings
- Performed inventory of therapy materials, created client database

Software Carpentry Bootcamp Attendee

McGill University

January 2013

Montréal, QC

- Professional development related to programming skill enhancement with command line tools, GitHub, and Python

HONOURS & AWARDS

Scholarly Awards

Graduate Student Teaching Award Nominee (not awarded)

2018

Western University

Graduate Student Research Program Award

2017-2018

Parkinson Society Southwestern Ontario

- Value: \$20,000 CAD

Western University “3 Minute Thesis” First Place Winner

2016

Western University

- Value: \$1,000 CAD

Harmonize for Speech Graduate Student Award

2016

Harmonize for Speech Ontario

- Value: \$750 CAD

Student Achievement Award

2015

Ontario Association of Speech-Language Pathologists & Audiologists

- Value: OSLA Membership

Acoustical Society of America Student Poster Honorable Mention

2015

Meeting of the 170th Acoustical Society of America

Best PhD Student Poster Award

2015

Health & Rehabilitation Sciences Graduate Research Conference, Western University

Travel Awards

Graduate Student Conference Travel Subsidy (Summer)

2018

Western University Society of Graduate Students

- Value: \$500.00

Graduate Student Conference Travel Award

2018

Western University Faculty of Health Sciences

- Value: \$250.00

Graduate Student Conference Travel Subsidy (Spring)

2018

Western University Society of Graduate Students

- Value: \$300.00

Graduate Student Conference Travel Subsidy (Spring) 2016

Western University Society of Graduate Students

- Value: \$500.00

Graduate Student Conference Travel Award 2016

Western University Health & Rehabilitation Sciences

- Value: \$400.00

Graduate Student Conference Travel Award 2016

Western University Faculty of Health Sciences

- Value: \$300.00

TECHNICAL STRENGTHS

Computer Languages R, Praat, L^AT_EX, MatLab, Python

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Member

- American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA); 2019 — Present
- ASHA Special Interest Groups 2, 19; 2016 — Present
- Academy of Neurologic Communication Disorders and Sciences; 2018 — 2019
- Movement Disorders Society; 2016 — Present
- American National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association; 2016 — 2019
- Ontario Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists (Student member); 2014 — 2019

OTHER INFORMATION

Citizenship United States
Permanent Residency Canada
Languages English (native), Spanish (advanced), French (novice)