

THEA KNOWLES

Buffalo, NY
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Last updated: January 20, 2020

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor (tenure system) Communicative Disorders & Sciences University at Buffalo Buffalo, NY	2019 - Present
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EDUCATION

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

HONOURS & AWARDS

Graduate Student Conference Travel Subsidy (Summer) <i>Western University Society of Graduate Students</i> · Value: \$500.00	2018
Graduate Student Conference Travel Award <i>Western University Faculty of Health Sciences</i> · Value: \$250.00	2018
Graduate Student Conference Travel Subsidy (Spring) <i>Western University Society of Graduate Students</i> · Value: \$300.00	2018
Graduate Student Teaching Award Nominee (not awarded) <i>Western University</i>	2018
Ontario Graduate Scholarship · Value: \$15,000	2018-2019
Ontario Graduate Scholarship · Value: \$15,000	2017-2018
Graduate Student Research Program Award <i>Parkinson Society Southwestern Ontario</i> · Value: \$20,000	2017-2018

Vanier Scholarship Nominee (not awarded) <i>Nominated by Western University Faculty of Health Sciences</i>	2016
Western University “3 Minute Thesis” First Place Winner <i>Western University</i>	2016
· Value: \$1,000	
Harmonize for Speech Graduate Student Award <i>Harmonize for Speech Ontario</i>	2016
· Value: \$750	
Graduate Student Conference Travel Subsidy (Spring) <i>Western University Society of Graduate Students</i>	2016
· Value: \$500.00	
Graduate Student Conference Travel Award <i>Western University Health & Rehabilitation Sciences</i>	2016
· Value: \$400.00	
Graduate Student Conference Travel Award <i>Western University Faculty of Health Sciences</i>	2016
· Value: \$300.00	
Student Achievement Award <i>Ontario Association of Speech-Language Pathologists & Audiologists</i>	2015
· Value: OSLA Membership	
Acoustical Society of America Student Poster Honorable Mention <i>Meeting of the 170th Acoustical Society of America, Jacksonville</i>	2015
Best PhD Student Poster Award <i>Health & Rehabilitation Sciences Graduate Research Conference, Western University</i>	2015
Graduation with First Class Honours & Distinction <i>McGill University</i>	2012
Dean’s Honour List <i>McGill University</i>	2010

PUBLICATIONS

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- Sonderegger, M., Stuart-Smith, J., Macdonald, R., **Knowles, T.**, & Rathcke, T. (2019). Structured heterogeneity in Scottish stops. *Language*.
- 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
- 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.

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.

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*.

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.

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.

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*.

Cheng, J. & **Knowles, T.** (2012). Mandarin VP-Shell: Not as hard as you think. *McGill Cellar Door 1*, 4-20.

SUBMITTED MANUSCRIPTS

Adams, S. Kumar, N., Rizek, P., Hong, A., Zhang, J., Abeyesekera, A., Mancinelli, C., **Knowles, T.** and Jog, M. (Submitted). Efficacy and acceptance of a Lombard-response device for hypophonia in Parkinson’s disease.

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.

CONFERENCE & WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

Refereed conference presentations

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*

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*

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.*

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.*

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.*

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.*

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.*

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.*

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.*

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.*

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.*

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.*

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.*

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.*

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.*

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.*

Invited presentations

Knowles, T. Speech amplification clinic: Speech-language pathology in-service. H.A. Leeper Speech & Hearing Clinic. Western University, London, ON. 1/2019.

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.

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.

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.

Local presentations

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.*

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.*

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.*

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.*

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.*

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.*

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.*

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.*

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.*

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

Research Assistant November 2014 - August 2019
Speech Movement Disorders Lab, Western University London, ON

- 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 October 2014 - June 2017
Language & Cognition Lab, Western University London, ON

- 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 August 2013 - June 2014
McGill University *Montréal, QC*

- 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 August 2013 - June 2014
Linguistics Department, McGill University *Montréal, QC*

- 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 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

Camp ShoutOut

August 2017
Holton, MI, USA.

- Provided individual and group intervention to children with fluency disorders

Student Clinician: Acquired neurogenic language disorders

H.A. Leeper Speech & Hearing Clinic

May 2015 - July 2015
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

Anatomy and Physiology of the Speech Mechanism (CDS288)

University at Buffalo

Fall 2019

Teaching Assistant

Speech Science (COMMSCI9615)

Communication Sciences & Disorders

Fall 2016, 2017
Western University

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

Voice Disorders (COMMSCI9631)

Communication Sciences & Disorders

Spring 2017
Western University

- 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

“RMarkdown and Bookdown for academic writing” <i>R-Ladies, London, Ontario Chapter</i>	January 2020
“Dissertating with RMarkdown and Bookdown” <i>R-Ladies, London, Ontario Chapter</i>	April 2019
“Figuring out figures in R” <i>R-Ladies, London, Ontario Chapter</i>	October 2018
“Using RMarkdown to generate reports and manuscripts” <i>R-Ladies, London, Ontario Chapter</i>	March 2018
“Introduction to Praat Scripting” <i>Department of Linguistics</i>	Spring 2014 <i>McGill University</i>

VOLUNTEER & RELATED EXPERIENCE

Pin Pals Volunteer <i>Autism Ontario</i>	February - March 2016 <i>London, ON</i>
· Weekly one-on-one bowling outings with children with autism spectrum disorder	
Operation Smile Volunteer <i>Western University</i>	September 2015 - June 2016 <i>London, ON</i>
· 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 <i>International Association of Laryngectomees</i>	June 2015 <i>Baltimore, MD</i>
· Passed IAL examination which confirmed acquisition of basic and intermediate levels of knowledge in postlaryngectomy rehabilitation	
Aphasia Retreat Day Volunteer <i>Western University</i>	May 2015 <i>London, ON</i>
· 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 <i>Speech Therapy Montréal</i>	January 2013 - July 2014 <i>Montréal, QC</i>
· Assisted with early intervention language screenings	
· Performed inventory of therapy materials, created client database	
Software Carpentry Bootcamp Attendee <i>McGill University</i>	January 2013 <i>Montréal, QC</i>
· Professional development related to programming skill enhancement with command line tools, GitHub, and Python	
Nor’Easter Marketing Street Team <i>Nor’Easter Outdoor Festival</i>	August 2008 <i>Burlington, VT</i>
· Led a Montréal-based team of volunteers responsible for advertising the “Nor’Easter,” a large-scale outdoor sports and music festival powered by Eastern Mountain Sports and held in Vermont	

ACADEMIC SERVICE & LEADERSHIP

Co-founder <i>R-Ladies London, Ontario Chapter</i>	2017 — 2019 <i>London, ON</i>
Chair/Organizer <i>Health & Rehabilitation Sciences Alumni Speaker Series, Western University</i>	2016 — 2017 <i>London, ON</i>
Sponsorship Subcommittee Leader <i>Health & Rehabilitation Sciences Graduate Research Conference, Western University</i>	2016 — 2017 <i>London, ON</i>
Vice-President Finance <i>Health & Rehabilitation Sciences Graduate Student Society, Western University</i>	2016 — 2017 <i>London, ON</i>
President <i>Health & Rehabilitation Sciences Graduate Student Society, Western University</i>	2015 — 2016 <i>London, ON</i>
Co-organizer <i>Health & Rehabilitation Sciences Graduate Research Conference, Western University</i>	2016 <i>London, ON</i>
Abstract Reviewer <i>Health & Rehabilitation Sciences Graduate Research Conference, Western University</i>	2015, 2016 <i>London, ON</i>
Professional Program Preview Day Volunteer <i>School of Communication Sciences & Disorders, Western University</i>	2015 <i>London, ON</i>

TECHNICAL STRENGTHS

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

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA): Member 2019 - present
- Movement Disorders Society (MDS): Member 2016 - present
- Academy of Neurologic Communication Disorders and Sciences (ANCDS): Member 2018 - present
- American National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association (NSSLHA): Member 2016 - 2019
- Ontario Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists (OSLA): Student Member 2014 - 2019
- American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) Special Interest Groups 2, 19

PERSONAL INTERESTS

- Rock climbing: competed in three US National Championships and one North American Continental Championship
- Long-distance running: completed two marathons and two half marathons
- Coffee preparation science: former Director of Quality Control at Café Myriade, current hobbyist

OTHER INFORMATION

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