



AuDs & Ends:

News about CU's AuD Program

Fall 2023

IN THIS ISSUE

Welcome Dr. Pontis!

by Tammy Fredrickson

HeIIIIIIlooooo!

I'm a bit late in getting this newsletter together. I always think things will slow down, but then they don't. Anyone else notice that too?

Needless to say, prioritizing things on my To Do list is absolutely necessary. It likely won't surprise anyone reading this that I use my Outlook Calendar to help me organize my To Do's – and they're color coded. In these last few months, I've been needing to prioritize things week-by-week. So much to do and so little time! Well, this week, I've prioritized this (short) newsletter!

First things first: **Welcome, Dr. Pontis!** Some of you already know her.... Dr. Pontis (aka Lauren Durkee) was an AuD student in our program (shout-out to the Class of 2017!) and also did her undergraduate work here at CU Boulder. She's worked at Seattle Children's Hospital and, more recently,

as an educational audiologist here in Colorado. With her expertise in pediatrics, she'll be teaching primarily pediatric courses in our program. She'll also serve as a preceptor to our AuD students in a variety of experiences.

Dr. Pontis' passion for students and for audiology have already made her a fantastic addition to our team. Please reach out to say hello to her! Or if you'd be interested in guest lecturing in a peds class, I bet she'd welcome that! (lauren.pontis@colorado.edu)

As always, THANK YOU to preceptors for all you do for our audiology program and for our students – you are vital to our students' success! And THANK YOU to our alumni who have taught me a lot while, hopefully, learning a lot themselves!

Tammy

We discuss feedback and opportunities to learn more about it in [Perspectives on Precepting](#)

Our [Student Academy of Audiology \(SAA\)](#) is (once again) up to all kinds of good!

[Alumni Update](#): Where are they now?

SAA made some pretty cool tshirts (see below). Want one? Email saa@colorado.edu!



Perspectives on Precepting

By Tammy Fredrickson

Today's topic:

Providing feedback

Feedback. It's vital to student learning but can be tough for clinical educators to provide. Sometimes, the obstacle is time – the clinical day is so busy that it can be tough to fit in providing feedback to a student. Sometimes, we hesitate to provide critical feedback to students; it makes us uncomfortable. Other times, we think "I'll tell them later" but then we forget.

Needless to say, providing students with feedback is how they learn!

Heck, we should be asking the students for feedback about our precepting too – it's how we learn!




Consider jotting down your observations as you work with a student. This way, you won't forget them. Another idea: Schedule a regular 10-minute meeting with the student to discuss how they're doing – and ask what you can do to help further their learning.

Watching a student gain skills and confidence is really fun! Providing feedback is how we help them 'get there'.

Want to learn more?

The Council of Academic Programs in Communication Sciences and Disorders (CAPCSD) has eLearning courses about topics in Precepting and Supervision – and they're FREE for you. There is an entire course dedicated to feedback – its importance in clinical education as well as tools that you can use to help you provide feedback. CAPCSD has informed us that they plan to phase out these handy online learning tools in 2024, so take advantage of them while you can!

See the image below for log in information.

Free Online Learning Courses in Clinical Education!

Training in Clinical Education/Supervision Matters!

Your work as a highly skilled clinical educator of graduate students in audiology is important to the success of our profession!

ASHA now requires that preceptors have a minimum of two hours of professional development in the area of supervision, post-certification.

To help meet this need, CU Boulder is pleased to offer their clinical preceptors the opportunity to participate in the CAPCSD Clinical Education eLearning Courses **at no charge!**

ASHA CEUs are available **at no charge** for successful completion of each course module!

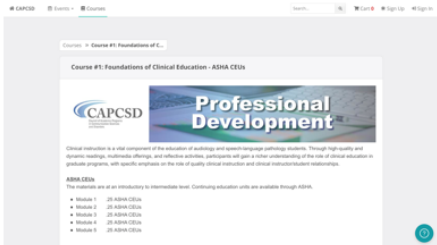
Access the courses here:

Course 1 – Foundations in Clinical Education: <https://www.pathlms.com/capcsd/courses/21495>

Course 2 – Effective Student-Clinical Educator Relationships: <https://www.pathlms.com/capcsd/courses/21574>

Course 3 – Feedback in the Clinical Education Environment: <https://www.pathlms.com/capcsd/courses/21579>

Course 4 - Assessing Student Performance: <https://www.pathlms.com/capcsd/courses/21586>



Each course has five (5) modules that may be completed independently of the others. Course modules contain readings, video tutorials and interactive learning activities that you may complete on your own schedule.

Questions? Contact Tammy at 303-579-6347 or fredrict@colorado.edu

Support SAA!

Purchase a mug, water bottle, or T-shirt and support SAA!

Email SAA at saa@colorado.edu to learn more or to make a donation!

SAA's 2023-2024 Board of Directors

Mara Smith, President

Elency Valle-Ortega, Vice President

Victoria Rivera, Secretary

Graham Gansar, Treasurer

Madison Romero, Social/Education
Chair

Ana Sanchez, Colorado Academy of
Audiology Representative

Vanessa Lucero, Graduate &
Professional Student Government
Representative

Chloe Tierney, Undergraduate
Representative

Student Academy of Audiology

CU's SAA group has been busy! Check out what great things they've been up to....

Special Olympics

In June, some CU SAA members headed to Grand Junction to perform hearing screenings for athletes at Special Olympics. This was also a great opportunity for them to help others learn about their ears and hearing.

Interested in donating supplies or money for next summer's Special Olympics event? *Email SAA to learn how!*



Doing good while having fun

Polar Plunge: 4th year student Eileen Ford took part in the Polar Plunge (in late winter) at the Boulder Reservoir to raise money for Special Olympics & Boulder's EXPAND program. Eileen has worked at EXPAND for a number of years – it's a place that is near and dear to her! The EXPAND program creates and provides recreation opportunities for people with disabilities.

Trivia Night: Folks had so much fun at last year's trivia night that SAA choose to hold another one! Funds raised went to Special Olympics to help obtain supplies for the Healthy Hearing Screening program.

AAA Convention

A number of students attended AAA in Seattle, WA. This was a great opportunity to check out presentations, network, and have fun!



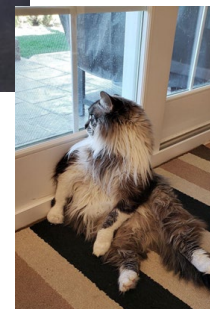
Alumni Updates!

Are you an alum who'd like to share an update with fellow alumni and preceptors via this newsletter? Let me know! fredrict@colorado.edu

Alina Peisley

When I graduated from school and accepted my first job, I had no clue I would be responsible for 11,000 children (don't panic, not all of them have hearing loss). Seems like a lot but that's my job! After graduating I started working for Cherry Creek School District in Denver, Colorado. Every day is different and I love the variety and flexibility. One day we could be screening 600 students (one class of 30 kids every 15 minutes makes for a long day). The next day I could be doing IEPs, troubleshooting FM equipment, or explaining a student's hearing loss for the 10th time to a teacher. This job has taught me a lot about myself though. It has taught me how to let things go and how to be goofy with kids. This job has also taught me how to think outside the box and be creative in coming up with solutions. FM systems/screening equipment breaks often and we can't always call someone or pay to have it fixed. Or sometimes kiddos need a unique FM system set up that has all of the caveats leaving me wishing I also had a cheat sheet.

On a personal level, after graduating I suddenly had a WHOLE BUNCH of free time to kill with very few ways to fill it. I took up archery and found out I am terrible at it but it is a blast every time! I have also been learning Japanese and ASL. Someday I will be able to put a sentence together in either language, or maybe both. Who knows! Most of the time I laugh at my cat sitting like a person watching the birds.



Kendra Huskey

Hello SLHS and friends! I love getting these newsletter updates and to know that all is well in beautiful Colorado. I certainly miss it up there considering how terribly hot this summer has been in Texas! Since completing the Au.D. program in 2019, I have practiced at 2 locations in Southeast Texas. My first few years were spent at the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) in Galveston seeing all patient ages for a variety of audiology specialties. I always imagined I'd eventually go all pediatric and am happy to report I've finally done so. I am currently working at Texas Hearing Institute (THI), which is a nonprofit organization that serves children from infancy to age 21. We provide audiology and speech pathology services as well as educational service coordination. We are also home to the Melinda Webb school, serving children with hearing loss between the ages of 18 months and 6 years. A fun fact is that Texas Hearing Institute was founded in 1947 as The Houston School for Deaf Children. My parents both attended that school at different times between 1968 and 1978- I actually recently came across some old memorabilia in our development team's office that had their names and photos on them. It's been a really wonderful full-circle experience for me! Outside of work, I'm spending time with friends and family and taking care of an angel kitty named Josie. ☺ We're loving the Houston life! Please keep in touch if desired!

Krhuskey409@gmail.com

AuDs & Ends: News about CU's AuD Program

2501 Kittredge Loop Rd
Boulder, CO 80309-0409

I hope you've enjoyed this issue of our AuDs & Ends newsletter! We'd like to share news with you twice per year – every fall and spring.

If you think you know someone who'd be interested in receiving this newsletter, please share it with them!

Thank you for supporting our students and our program!

Visit our website: slhs.colorado.edu