



10TH ANNUAL DR. ROBERT A. HULL JR.'S MEMORIAL LECTURE SERIES WAS HELD ON JANUARY 31ST, 2025

IN HONOR OF DR. HULL



Dr. Robert A. Hull, Jr.'s foresight in academia led him to develop and teach undergraduate and graduate courses at Ball State University and Valdosta State University. In addition to his role as a beloved professor and advisor, Bob was a clinical supervisor, a clinic director, an off campus placement coordinator, and the parliamentarian and executive secretary of the university faculty senate.

His impact on the SLP profession spanned the country through his service to multiple state and national professional organizations, including being a member of GSHA for 23 years. Over time, he held every office in the association, including President for two terms. At the 2009 GSHA annual convention, he was awarded the Honors of the Association in recognition of his outstanding performance in clinical service, academic teaching, service to GSHA, and service to other local, regional, and national organizations.

Dr. Hull will always be remembered for his love for family, VSU, and his students. All proceeds from the Hull Memorial Lecture Series benefit the Dr. Robert A. Hull Scholarship Fund.

Topic: The Importance of Phonetics And Phonology for Reading, Spelling, and Speech Sound Production

PRESENTER

Kelly Farquharson, Ph.D., CCC-SLP is an SLP, an associate professor, and director of the Children Literacy and Speech Sound Lab at Florida State University. The mission of her work is to help children with speech and language impairments achieve classroom success. She runs an active Instagram account - @classlab_Kelly in which she posts about the clinical application of research. This includes a popular weekly series called "phonetics Friday". She has a related line of interest in working with school-based speech-language pathologists to ensure that they are prepared to implement best practices and work at the top of the license.



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Sponsored by Soliant



**Presentation by Kelly Farquharson, Ph.D.,
CCC-SLP.**

Attended by VSU Faculty, staff, students, and alumni

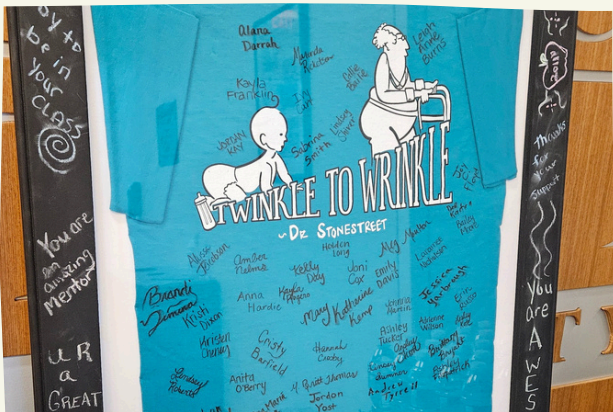


Honoring Dr. Ruth Stonestreet



This Spring semester, our department honored the late Dr. Ruth Stonestreet. We planted a camellia shrub in memory of her outside of the VSU Speech and Hearing Clinic.

We express our gratitude towards her commitment and dedication of shaping student lives in and out of the classroom. Dr. Stonestreet's history will live on here at VSU CSD department and beyond as we continue to prepare clinicians to serve from "Twinkle to Wrinkle"!



NSSLHA News

NSSLHA MEMBERS AND OUR DEPARTMENT



With the help of the NSSLHA faculty advisors, Dr. Ruth Hannibal and Dr. Katherine Lamb, our local NSSLHA chapter qualified for “Gold” Chapter Honors, the highest distinction awarded by National NSSLHA. They are currently working towards 2025 Honors goals with the help of NSSLHA advisors, Dr. Ruth Hannibal and Dr. Laura Abercrombie.

Our chapter earned this award by showing excellence in membership recruitment, community outreach and service, legislative advocacy, diversity, equity, inclusion, and fundraising.

NSSLHA EVENTS



NSSLHA hosted their community service event, Cultural Exchange Night! They enjoyed playing games and connecting with VSU's foreign exchange students. They created good memories with a night of fun!

Cultural Exchange Night



Pal-entine's Day



NSSLHA hosted their Palentines Drop-in celebrating Valentine's Day with their fellow CSD pals! They celebrated with snacks and fellowship, while creating phonetically transcribed Valentine's Day cards! They enjoyed a fun time!



Dr. Laura Abercrombie



Dr. Abercrombie supervises in the VSU Speech-Language and Hearing Clinic, where she currently oversee 14 graduate student clinicians. With four years of experience as a clinical supervisor, she has come to value the process of watching students grow in both confidence and competence throughout the semester. Dr. Abercrombie finds it especially rewarding to support clinicians as they refine their skills, discover their professional voice, and begin to view themselves as capable, future practitioners. One of the most significant challenges she encounters in supervision is striking the right balance between providing support and fostering independence. She aims to guide students while also empowering them to make clinical decisions and adapt in the moment—particularly during real-life sessions when clients may not respond as expected or plans must shift quickly. She shared, although these situations can be difficult for novice clinicians, they often become the most impactful learning experiences. Thank you Dr. Abercrombie for all that you do!

Ms. Katie Reagan



Ms. Reagan supervises in the VSU Speech and Hearing Clinic. She overseeing a caseload that includes 21 clinician-client pairs and 5 externs off campus.

With six years of experience as a clinical supervisor, she has developed a deep appreciation for the lasting relationships built with graduate clinicians. Ms. Reagan finds great fulfillment in watching students grow more confident in their clinical skills throughout the semester, with graduation serving as the highlight of the year. One of the primary challenges she faces as a clinical supervisor is time management, as therapy sessions are scheduled throughout the day, leaving limited time for office hours, student meetings, and grading. Thank you Ms. Reagan for all that you do!

Huge Congratulations to Ms. Reagan on her well-deserved promotion this semester to Senior lecturer! Her hard work, dedication, and leadership continues to inspire those around her. We wish her great success in this next chapter!

Community Involvement

Students Volunteer at The Canopy

Every semester, the students in Dr. Hannibal's Aphasia class complete a Gerontology interaction project at The Canopy at Azalea Grove, where they further their knowledge in geriatrics. The students visit the residents once a week and participate in a wide range of activities from playing trivia to puzzles. During this experience, students develop meaningful friendships with the residents while also completing memory and problem-solving tasks. Students collaborate with an on-site speech language pathologist where they can interact and participate in activities with memory care residents. Below are pictures of the Fall 2024 Cohort volunteering at The Canopy during the Spring 2025 semester.



Departmental News

NEW STAFF MEMBER

PLEASE JOIN US IN WELCOMING Mrs. Megan Brown



Huge welcome to Mrs. Megan Brown
our CSD department's newest administrative assistant! She
recently pivoted into education public service after being a
librarian for 14 years! Mrs. Brown is native to the Valdosta area,
and is happy to serve our academic community!
Welcome to the Blazer community!

SUPERVISORS

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A SUPERVISOR?

The CSD Department seeks clinical supervisors for our graduate program, to assist in the growth and learning experience of our graduate students. To qualify as a clinical supervisor, you must be a current ASHA certified speech language pathologist, with three years of experience. For more information, please contact our clinical director Mrs. Walden at kmwalden@valdosta.edu!



The CSD Department also seeks externship partnerships for our graduate students advancing to externship placements. We understand the amount of commitment that is required for such a position and really appreciate you! For more information about becoming an externship placement partner, please contact our clinical director Mrs. Walden at kmwalden@valdosta.edu!

VSU Career Day

This Spring Semester VSU CSD hosted an exciting Career Day for clinical seminars. VSU CSD Career Day served as an opportunity for speech-language pathology students to interact with professionals in the field and gain some knowledge of opportunities available for their future careers. VSU hosted many companies including hospitals and private practices. We look forward to seeing what relationships we can foster with professional organizations and our students. If you would like to be hosted as a vendor in the future, please contact our department at csd@valdosta.edu!



VSU takes on GSHA

This Spring Semester VSU CSD department enjoyed a wonderful weekend at GSHA! Dr. Katherine Lamb and Dr. Laura Abercrombie had the pleasure of presenting at the convention. Also, a huge congratulations to Dr. Laura Abercrombie and Dr. Matt Carter on receiving the Community Impact Grant! A few of our graduate students were also in attendance.



Graduates of the CSD Program



This May, we celebrate our undergrad and graduate students graduating with their B.S.Ed and M.Ed degrees in Communication Sciences and Disorders!



Alumni News

Alumni Spotlight



The CSD Department loves to highlight & recognize our students. This semester we recognize several former students on our social media platforms. We want to hear from you! To share about your accomplishments, please follow the link below, or join us on our Instagram @vsuspeech, Facebook: VSU Communication Sciences & Disorders !

[Alumni Spotlight Link](#)

Alumni Survey

Please respond no later than May 8, 2025!

The CSD Department is seeking feedback about the program from alumni. Your feedback is anonymous and will assist the department in program and strategic planning and improving the overall effectiveness of the program. Please use the QR code below to take a brief survey.

Thanks for your support!



Donations

YOUR SUPPORT MEANS THE WORLD TO US!

The CSD Department is so grateful for all of our supporters and those who donate to us! Your generous donations allow us to stay up to date with our tests, equipment, and materials to provide our graduate clinicians with the a top-notch learning experience! Thank you for all that you do to continue to support this program. Scan the QR code to the right to access our donation page!

