



USC_COMD Newsletter

Spring 2024

Top Articles:



["The Disease Detective Looks at Aphasia"](#)



[Gift from LivJoy Foundation funds postdoctoral fellowship to study females with fragile X syndrome](#)



[A new understanding of how the fragile X premutation affects women](#)



[Center for the Study of Aphasia Recovery embarks on clinical trials, major research](#)



[I am Public Health: Brandi Daves](#)

Announcements:

[Faculty Highlight: Laura Heidenreich](#)

[Faculty Highlight: Dr. Heather Bonilha](#)

[Faculty Highlight: Dr. Laura Droege](#)

A huge thank you to all volunteers, students, and employers who came out to our meet and greet event on February 17th!

Many of our faculty, staff, doctoral and master students presented at the SCSHA 2024 Conference and the ASHA 2023 Conference. USC_COMD had a total of 10 presentations and posters at SCSHA and 15 presentations and posters at ASHA.





[Improving care in the Stroke Belt](#)



[Six speech-language pathology students awarded funding to attend international conference](#)



[Physical therapy meets speech therapy](#)



[Doctoral graduate joins University of St. Augustine's speech-language pathology program as assistant professor](#)



[2023 DEI Awards announced](#)

USC COMD receives SC CREATE funding to help graduate students who are currently employed full-time in SC public or charter schools to further their education toward becoming highly qualified, certified SLPs to serve students with disabilities within our schools.

USC COMD honored Danielle Varnedoe on October 13th at the unveiling of a tree planted in honor of her 40 years of service! It was wonderful to see current and past USC COMD members celebrate Danielle.

[Alumni Highlight: Leslie Walker, MCD, CCC-SLP](#)

[Alumni Highlight: Celeste Riddle Schnabel, MSP, CCC-SLP](#)

[Alumni Highlight: Addie Bradford, MS, CCC-SLP.](#)



Recently Awarded Grants and Awards*:

Heather Bonilha, NIH/NIDDK. [Excess Radiation Exposure in Infants and Children From Videofluoroscopic Swallow Studies](#). 2/19/2024. \$385,871.

Julius Fridriksson, [Office of Sponsored Awards Management](#) established an account funded by [National Institute on Deafness & Other Communication Disorders \(NIDCD\)/NIH](#). [Center for the Study of Aphasia Recovery \(C-Star\)](#) – Admin Core (Year 9). April 1st, 2024. \$28,641.00.

Julius Fridriksson, [Office of Sponsored Awards Management](#) established an account funded by [National Institute on Deafness & Other Communication Disorders \(NIDCD\)/NIH](#). [Center for the Study of Aphasia Recovery \(C-STAR\)](#) - Core 001 - Clinical Core (Year 9). April 1st, 2024. \$72,843.00.

Julius Fridriksson, [University of Texas at Dallas](#). [Neural bases of Vocal Sensorimotor Impairment in Aphasia](#). March 2024. \$434,916. (subaward)

Dirk-Bart Den Ouden, [Office of Sponsored Awards Management](#) established an account funded by [National Institute on Deafness & Other Communication Disorders \(NIDCD\)/NIH](#). [Center for the Study of Aphasia Recovery \(C-STAR\)](#) - Project 001 (Year 9). April 1st, 2024. \$136,950.00.

Jessica Klusek, [LivJoy Foundation](#). [Fragile-X-focused postdoctoral fellowship](#). Start August 2024.

* Recent Grants and Publications from November 2023- March 2024

Faculty members are **bolded**

Mentees are underlined



Recent Publications*:

Arjmandi, Meisam, and Roozbeh Behroozmand. "On the Interplay between Speech Perception and Production: Insights from Research and Theories." *Frontiers in Neuroscience* 18: 1347614. <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fnins.2024.1347614/full>

Bonilha HS, Reedy EL, Wilmskoetter J, Nietert PJ, Martin-Harris B. Impact of Reducing Fluoroscopy Pulse Rate on Adult Modified Barium Swallow Studies. *Dysphagia*. 2024 Jan 24. doi: 10.1007/s00455-023-10643-5. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 38265506.

Will, Elizabeth A., et al. "Developmental associations between motor and communication outcomes in Fragile X syndrome: Variation in the context of co-occurring autism." *Autism* (2024): 13623613231225498.

