Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences

2013

RESEARCH REPORT
Communication Disability Centre
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The mission of the University of Queensland's Communication Disability Centre (CDC) is to enhance the life of people cross their lifespan, with particular focus on those experiencing communication disability. Through research and education the CDC has continued to develop strategies and techniques to improve the lives of others.

The CDC has been at the University of Queensland since 1997. The team is led by Professor Louise Hickson and Professor Linda Worrall and consists of a dynamic research team of audiologists, speech pathologists and occupational therapists. The team welcome enquiries from prospective Masters and PhD students, who are interested in the area of communication disability and actively seek collaborative ventures.

The aims of the CDC are:
- To provide a focus for national and international scholarship and applied research in communication disability.
- To disseminate research findings through publication, education and translation of research into practice.
- To foster relationships with key stake holders in the research process to optimise impact and clinical relevance.

The role of the CDC is to:
- Respond to the health-disease continuum through strategies of prevention and intervention.
- Emphasise research that translates theory into practice.
- Be committed to the dissemination of research findings.
- Deliver gerontological education to undergraduate and graduate speech pathologists and audiologists.

The CDC Team is comprised of Academic Staff, Research Staff and students from audiology, speech pathology, occupational therapy and psychology. We are committed to the support and development of our members and we fully encourage:
- mutual recognition and support for members’ skills and talents.
- independence of thought and research interests.
- thoughtful reflective discussion and active communication amongst members.
- unified team work approach.
- consensus based and collaborative decision making.
The Communication Disability Centre continues to provide a forum for cross-fertilization of research interests in speech pathology and audiology. Meetings are designed to promote discussion on research methods or concepts. The Centre also provides an opportunity for early career researchers to establish collaborations and access mentoring through the research team.

A focus on the development of early career researchers is beginning to show in the increasing number of early career RHD supervisors. This in turn increases the number of RHD students who can be supervised within the CDC.

The aphasia team were successful with two large NHMRC grant applications in 2013 and the hearing team continues to receive major funding from the HEARing Cooperative Research Centre and an NHMRC project grant. Congratulations also to Dr Brooke Grohn, a long-time member of the CDC who started her PhD after completing Honours and is now transitioning to a postdoctoral research position in the CDC.

Early successes in 2014 ensure that this will be another outstanding year for the Communication Disability Centre.

Louise Hickson and Linda Worrall
Awards and Honours

Abby Foster

- Academy of Neurogenic Communication Disorders and Sciences Fall Conference Fellowship. Abby was awarded a one year ANCDS membership, financial support to attend the ANCDS 2013 Fall Conference and the support of an ANCDS Mentor. She also received support from the British Aphasiology Society to attend the BAS Conference in Manchester, 2013.

Caitlin Grenness

- The Herbert J. Over Student Research Award for 2013 – Academy of Rehabilitative Audiology (30 minute conference presentation and scholarship towards attending conference in 2014)

Brooke Grohn

- Awarded the Doctor of Philosophy on 25th November 2013

Louise Hickson

- Professional Manager of the Year, Brisbane Regional Finalist – Australian Institute of Management
- American Academy of Audiology International Award for Hearing
- University of Queensland Leadership Award

Karen McLellan

- Karen was awarded the Professor Sir Don Beavan Memorial Award (NZSTA) in 2013

Tanya Rose

- Graduate Certificate in Higher Education – awarded 10/12/2012

Nerina Scarinci

- University of Queensland Promoting Women Fellowship

Linda Worrall

- Linda received a Commendation in the Excellence in RHD Supervision Awards in 2013. There were a high number of applications in 2013 and the calibre of applicants and awardees was outstanding.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years (Start to End)</th>
<th>Funding Source</th>
<th>Chief Investigators</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Amount Awarded</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013-2014</td>
<td>Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital</td>
<td>Grenness, C.</td>
<td>The patient-practitioner relationship: Older adults and their audiologists</td>
<td>$9,633.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>UQ Teaching and Learning Grant</td>
<td>MacDonald, D., Coppieters, M., Russell, T., Vicenzino, B., Meredith, P., Scarinci, N., &amp; Driscoll, C.</td>
<td>ebooks</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>UQ - SHRS Learning Enhancement Grant</td>
<td>Rose, T., &amp; Worrall, L.</td>
<td>Developing an eCommunity to engage speech pathology students in experiential learning: A study exploring impacts on self-efficacy and acquisition of clinical assessment skills</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Australian Communication Exchange</td>
<td>Worrall, L., Hickson, L., Theodoros, D., Copland, D., Kei, J., Meyer, C., &amp; Rose, T.</td>
<td>Communication Research Registry</td>
<td>$60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Speech Pathology Australia</td>
<td>Worrall, L., Hickson, L., Theodoros, D., Copland, D., Kei, J., Meyer, C., &amp; Rose, T.</td>
<td>Communication Research Registry</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
## Active (Continuing) in 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years (Start to End)</th>
<th>Funding Source</th>
<th>Chief Investigators</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Amount Awarded</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012-2013</td>
<td>Go8 Australia – Germany Joint Research Cooperation Scheme</td>
<td>Copland, D Meinzer, M Rodriguez, R</td>
<td>Enhancing language learning through physical exercise and cortical stimulation</td>
<td>$15,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012-2013</td>
<td>National Stroke Foundation</td>
<td>Finch, E., Fleming, J., Brown, K., McPhail, S., Cameron, A. Lethlean, J.</td>
<td>Using people with aphasia to train health Professionals in effective communication strategies over the internet</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012-2014</td>
<td>NHMRC Project Grant</td>
<td>Hickson, L., Fuente, A., Williams, W., Morata, T., &amp; Khan, A.</td>
<td>Occupational hearing loss induced by solvents and noise: development of new strategies for hearing loss prevention programs in the workplace</td>
<td>$242,925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008 - 2014</td>
<td>HEARing Cooperative Research Centre</td>
<td>Hickson, L.</td>
<td>Overcoming barriers to hearing rehabilitation in adults</td>
<td>$1,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012-2013</td>
<td>National Stroke Foundation Small Project Grant</td>
<td>Lannen, B., Marley, J., Worrall, L., Allan, C., &amp; Sweetapple, A.</td>
<td>Brainwaves: The impact of choral singing on community dwelling stroke survivors.</td>
<td>$12,551</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009-2014</td>
<td>NHMRC - Centre for Clinical Research Excellence</td>
<td>Worrall, L., Togher, L., Ferguson, A., Copland, D., Nickels, L., &amp; Douglas, J.</td>
<td>CCRE in Aphasia Rehabilitation</td>
<td>$2,750,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Source</td>
<td>Investigator(s)</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Amount</td>
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<td>--------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012-2013</td>
<td>Speech Pathology Australia Post-Graduate Research Grant</td>
<td>Pearson, C., Worrall, L., &amp; Brown, K.</td>
<td>Giving feedback to the clinician: How do people with aphasia want to provide feedback about the services they receive?</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012-2014</td>
<td>UQ CIEF</td>
<td>Worrall, L., Copland, D., Rodriguez, A., &amp; Khan, A.</td>
<td>Further evaluation of the UQ Aphasia LIFT: an intensive, comprehensive aphasia program.</td>
<td>$74,940</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Full Peer Reviewed Manuscripts


Books and Book Chapters


Conference Abstracts


Implications for clinical practice. Australian and New Zealand Head and Neck Cancer Society Annual Scientific Meeting, Melbourne, Australia.


Worrall, L. (2013, September). Invited presentation Synthesizing and translating rehabilitation evidence into practice: the experience of the Australian aphasia rehabilitation team; Rehabilitation boot camps: a solution to the intensity and comprehensiveness issues? The results of Intensive Comprehensive Aphasia Programs (ICAPs) and Tensions between clients living with aphasia and therapists in rehabilitation: Implications for goal setting and outcome measurement, South African Neurological Rehabilitation Association, Johannesburg, South Africa.
### Staff Listing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Contact Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Co-director**           | **Professor Louise Hickson**| BSpThy (Hons), MAud, PhD  
Ph: +61 7 3365 7139  
Email: [l.hickson@uq.edu.au](mailto:l.hickson@uq.edu.au) |
| **Co-director**           | **Professor Linda Worrall**  | BSpThy, PhD  
Ph: +61 7 3365 2891  
Email: [l.worrall@uq.edu.au](mailto:l.worrall@uq.edu.au) |
| **Lecturer**              | **Dr Nerina Scarinci**       | BSpPath (Hons), PhD  
Ph: +61 7 3365 3097  
Email: [n.scarinci@uq.edu.au](mailto:n.scarinci@uq.edu.au) |
| **Lecturer**              | **Dr Tanya Rose**            | BSpPath (Hons), PhD, CPSP  
Ph: +61 7 3365 2830  
Email: [t.rose@uq.edu.au](mailto:t.rose@uq.edu.au) |
| **Lecturer**              | **Dr Alicja Malicka**        | PhD  
Ph: +61 7 3346 7567  
Email: [a.malicka@uq.edu.au](mailto:a.malicka@uq.edu.au) |
| **Postdoctoral Research Officer** | **Dr Carly Meyer**  | BSpPath (Hons), PhD  
Ph: +61 7 3365 8547  
Email: [carly.meyer@uq.edu.au](mailto:carly.meyer@uq.edu.au) |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Postdoctoral Research Officer</td>
<td>Dr Kyla Hudson</td>
<td>BIT, MSpPathSt, PhD</td>
<td>+61 7 3365 7595</td>
<td><a href="mailto:k.brown1@uq.edu.au">k.brown1@uq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postdoctoral Research Officer</td>
<td>Dr Katie Ekberg</td>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>+61 7 3365 8547</td>
<td><a href="mailto:k.ekberg@uq.edu.au">k.ekberg@uq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postdoctoral Research Fellow</td>
<td>Dr Amy Rodriguez</td>
<td>PhD, CCC-SLP</td>
<td>+61 7 3365 1382</td>
<td><a href="mailto:amy.rodriguez@uq.edu.au">amy.rodriguez@uq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postdoctoral Research Fellow</td>
<td>Dr Adrian Fuente</td>
<td>BSc (Hons) SpPath &amp; Audiol, MEd, PhD</td>
<td>+61 7 3365 2089</td>
<td><a href="mailto:a.fuente@uq.edu.au">a.fuente@uq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Coordinator</td>
<td>Justine Robins</td>
<td></td>
<td>+61 7 3365 9752</td>
<td><a href="mailto:j.robins1@uq.edu.au">j.robins1@uq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Research Degrees Completed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Name</th>
<th>Supervisors</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Degree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jane Black</td>
<td>Professor Louise Hickson, Professor Bruce Black</td>
<td>Prognostication in Paediatric Cochlear Implantation: Principals and Practice</td>
<td>PhD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helen Glyde</td>
<td>Professor Louise Hickson, Professor Harvey Dillon, Dr Sharon Cameron</td>
<td>The effects of ageing and hearing impairment on spatial processing</td>
<td>PhD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meghann Grawburg</td>
<td>Dr Tami Howe, Professor Linda Worrall, Dr Nerina Scarinci</td>
<td>Investigating third-party disability in aphasia using the ICF</td>
<td>PhD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brooke Grohn</td>
<td>Professor Linda Worrall, Professor Nina Simmons-Mackie, Dr Kyla Brown</td>
<td>Successfully living with aphasia: investigation into what services people with aphasia find valuable and how services can be improved</td>
<td>PhD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karen McLellan</td>
<td>Dr Clare McCann, Professor Linda Worrall, Dr Matire Harwood</td>
<td>The experiences of Māori with aphasia and their whānau (family)</td>
<td>PhD</td>
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</tbody>
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## Research Degrees On-going
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Name</th>
<th>Supervisors</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Commencement Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Akmaliza Ali</td>
<td>Professor Louise Hickson</td>
<td>Evaluation of aural rehabilitation services for adults in Malaysia</td>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr Carly Meyer</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edie Babbitt</td>
<td>Professor Linda Worrall</td>
<td>Intensive Comprehensive Aphasia Programs (ICAP): Exploring Outcomes</td>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Associate Professor David Copland</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Professor Leora Cherney</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michelle Bennett</td>
<td>Professor Liz Ward</td>
<td>A Systematic Investigation of Communication and Oral Intake Difficulties in Residential Aged Care Facilities (RACFs); Using the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) to compare resident need to current intervention.</td>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr Nerina Scarinci</td>
<td></td>
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### Research Degrees On-going

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Name</th>
<th>Supervisors</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Commencement Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Felicity Bright</td>
<td>Dr Nicola Kayes, Professor Kath McPherson, Professor Linda Worrall</td>
<td>Exploring how rehabilitation providers engage with people with communication difficulties after stroke</td>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrea Caposecco</td>
<td>Professor Louise Hickson, Dr Carly Meyer</td>
<td>Client education for older adults with hearing impairment</td>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abby Foster</td>
<td>Professor Linda Worrall, Dr Miranda Rose, Dr Robyn O’Halloran</td>
<td>Acute aphasia management and the factors that influence it</td>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caitlin Grenness (University of Melbourne)</td>
<td>Professor Louise Hickson, Dr Bronwyn Davidson, Dr Ariane Laplante-Lévesque</td>
<td>The patient-practitioner relationship: Older adults and their audiologists</td>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>2010</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Research Degrees On-going

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Name</th>
<th>Supervisors</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Commencement Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bernadette Lannen</td>
<td>Dr John Marley&lt;br&gt;Dr Christopher Allen&lt;br&gt;Professor Linda Worrall</td>
<td>From soundwaves to brainwaves: Investigating the effects of choral singing on stroke and aphasia rehabilitation</td>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucette Lanyon</td>
<td>Professor Linda Worrall&lt;br&gt;Dr Miranda Rose</td>
<td>Measuring the impact of communication group participation on the psychosocial health of people living with aphasia</td>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rebecca Nund</td>
<td>Professor Liz Ward&lt;br&gt;Dr Nerina Scarinci&lt;br&gt;Dr Bena Cartmill&lt;br&gt;Associate Professor Pim Kuipers&lt;br&gt;Associate Professor Sandro Porceddu</td>
<td>Dysphagia following non-surgical management for head and neck cancer: Using the ICF to explore the rehabilitation needs of survivors and their carers</td>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Name</td>
<td>Supervisors</td>
<td>Topics</td>
<td>Degree</td>
<td>Commencement Date</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Charlene Pearson | Professor Linda Worrall  
Dr Kyla Brown | Healthcare satisfaction in aphasia rehabilitation: The consumer-provider story | PhD    | 2010              |
| Jason Ridgway | Professor Louise Hickson  
Dr Chris Lind | The development of a motivation assessment tool to better identify prospective hearing aid patients in audiology | PhD    | 2009              |
| Kirstine Shrubsole | Professor Linda Worrall  
Dr Denise O’Connor  
Dr Emma Power | Knowledge translation and Implementation in Aphasia | PhD    | 2012              |
| Barbra Timmer | Professor Louise Hickson  
Dr Stefan Launer | Adults with mild hearing loss: Challenges and predictors of successful hearing aid fitting outcomes | MPhil  | 2013              |
# Research Degrees On-going

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Name</th>
<th>Supervisors</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Commencement Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rachel Tosh</td>
<td>Dr Wendy Arnott</td>
<td>Parent provided home programs and traditional individual speech and language programs for young children.</td>
<td>MPhil</td>
<td>2012</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr Nerina Scarinci</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Wallace</td>
<td>Professor Linda Worrall</td>
<td>Improving Research Outcomes Measurement in Aphasia (ROMA): Development of a Core Outcome Set</td>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>2012</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Professor Guylaine Le Dorze</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr Tanya Rose</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ennur Yanbay</td>
<td>Professor Louise Hickson</td>
<td>Outcomes of rehabilitation for children with hearing loss</td>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr Nerina Scarinci</td>
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</table>
Community and Professional Activities

Caitlin Grenness

- Director, Audiology Australia

Louise Hickson

- President, Audiology Australia
- Invited keynote speaker: American Academy of Audiology, Anaheim, USA
- Invited keynote speaker: NSW ASA Workshop, Coffs Harbour, Sydney
- Invited keynote speaker: Australian College of Audiology Inc. Congress, Sydney
- Invited speaker: National Center for Rehabilitative Auditory Research (NCRAR), Portland, Oregon, USA
- Invited keynote speaker: British Academy of Audiology, Manchester, UK
- Invited course presenter: Faculty of Medicine, University of Chile, Santiago

Amy Rodriguez

- ASMR Medical Research Week, Quiz Convenor for Queensland Secondary Schools

Tanya Rose

- Speech Pathology Australia Continuing Professional Development Committee Member
- Australian Aphasia Association – Aphasia Queensland Committee Member

Nerina Scarinci

- Keynote speaker, Neurosensory Unit Clinical Conference, Noosa, Australia: 9 August 2013.
- Invited speaker, Audiological Society of Australia Queensland Branch Continuing Professional Development Conference, Brisbane, Australia: 5 October 2013.
- Invited speaker, Eriksholm Research Centre Professional Development Series, Smorum, Denmark: 24 January 2013.

Sarah Wallace

- Sarah Wallace and Emma Leach (2013, 11 September). Presentation at the Disability Awareness and Opportunities Expo. “Understanding communication disabilities and opportunities for contributing to research.”
Linda Worrall

- Invited keynote speaker: British Aphasia Society Conference, Manchester, UK
- Invited speaker: South African Neurological Rehabilitation Association, Johannesburg, SA
- Invited participant: European Union COST Action Meeting - Collaboration of Aphasia Trialists, Manchester, UK
- NHMRC Translation Faculty Workshop, Sydney

Major Partners and Collaborations

Audiology Australia
Australian Aphasia Association
Australian Communication Exchange
Australian Hearing
HEARing Cooperative Research Centre
National Hearing Centres
National Stroke Foundation
Speech Pathology Australia

Centre Contact Details

Postal Address:
Communication Disability Centre
School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences
The University of Queensland
St Lucia QLD 4072
Australia

Email Address:
l.worrall@uq.edu.au
l.hickson@uq.edu.au