

### **Faculty Member Contact Information**

<b>Name</b>	Steffany Chleboun, PhD
<b>Contact Info</b>	
SIUE Email	schlebo@siue.edu
Campus Box	1147
<b>Department</b>	Public Health and Speech Pathology & Audiology

### **1 Funded, 2 Unfunded URCA Assistant(s)**

**Are you willing to work with students from outside of your discipline? If yes, which other disciplines?**

- Yes

**How many hours per week will your student(s) be required to work in this position?**  
(Minimum is 6 hours per week; typical is 9)

- 6-8 hours/week

**Will it be possible for your student(s) to earn course credit?**

- No

**Location of research/creative activities:**

- SIUE SLHC and O'Fallon School District Schools, O'Fallon, IL

**Brief description of the nature of the research/creative activity?**

- The project will compare the middle ear function of children receiving therapy for atypical speech and language development at the SIUE Speech, Language, Hearing Clinic (SLHC) to a population of children with typical speech and language development.
- Middle ear problems are very common in young children and can lead to hearing loss. The primary adverse effect of hearing loss in children is speech and language delay. However, standard practice protocols in speech and language clinics do not screen for middle ear function. If there is a statistically significant difference between the middle ear function of the two groups, this suggests that a protocol for regular middle ear screenings should be recommended for speech/language delayed population receiving services at the SIUE SLHC.
-

- Spring update: The spring research position will continue work on the project comparing the middle ear function of children receiving therapy for atypical speech and language development at the SIUE Speech, Language, Hearing Clinic (SLHC) to a population of children with typical speech and language development.
- Fall 26 update: The fall research position will finish data collection and complete statistical analysis of the test results. It will include writing the sections on Results, Discussion, and Future Considerations.

### **Brief description of student responsibilities?**

- During this semester the student will communicate with the control and experimental groups regarding appointments and other logistics, finish data collection in the O'Fallon, IL schools, collaborate on writing the methods protocol, analyze data to determine statistical significance, and provide a discussion of results. Based on outcome of the research, the student may also help develop a hearing/middle ear status screening protocol for children receiving speech/language therapy at the SIUE SLHC, if appropriate.

**URCA Assistant positions are designed to provide students with *research or creative activities* experience. As such, there should be measurable, appropriate outcome goals. What exactly should your student(s) have learned by the end of this experience?**

- 1) How to design a research study
- 2) How to review the literature and write a literature review
- 3) How to request approval of the IRB.
- 4) How to conduct a middle ear screening using impedance testing, analyze and interpret the findings of the data collected.
- 5) How to manage the logistics of a research project using human subjects.
- 6) The student will learn the nature of speech and language impairments experienced by children with middle ear dysfunction.

#### **Spring update:**

- How to request approval of the IRB.
- How to conduct a middle ear screening using impedance testing, analyze and interpret the findings of the data collected.
- How to manage the logistics of a research project using human subjects.
- The student will learn the nature of speech and language impairments experienced by children with middle ear dysfunction.

#### **Fall Update:**

This semester the students will learn how to do:

- Data management and analysis,
- Statistical testing for significance of findings, and

- Write a results and discussion section of the project report.

### **Requirements of Students**

**If the position(s) require students to be available at certain times each week (as opposed to them being able to set their own hours) please indicate all required days and times:**

- At this time, preferred meeting days are M/W between 10-2; however, this is subject to change (based on institutional changes to the schedule)
- Spring update: At this time, preferred meeting days are M/W between 10-2; meeting times will be established in collaboration with all members of the research team
- Fall update: At this time, preferred meeting days are M/W between 10-2; meeting times will be established in collaboration with all members of the research team.

**If the location of the research/creative activities involves off campus work, must students provide their own transportation?**

- Students must be able to provide their own transportation to and from the O'Fallon, IL school district.

**Must students have taken any prerequisite classes? Please list classes and preferred grades:**

- No

**Other requirements or notes to applicants:**

- Prefer individuals who like working with children.