

**College of Health and Human Development
Faculty Research Themes**

Communication Disabilities: Multicultural and Multilingual Issues

Gordon Blood

Research Interests

Professor and Department Head

Communication Sciences & Disorders

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Social aspects (self-concept, perceived communicative competence, stigma, etc.) of fluency and fluency disorders in adolescents and adults; auditory dysfunction in children and adults who stutter; speech, language, and literacy disorders in children in the schools; perceptions of individuals with communication disabilities; job stress of SLPs in rural and urban areas.

Carol Hammer

Research Interests

Associate Professor

Communication Sciences & Disorders

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Language and literacy development and disorders in bilingual children
Cultural and environmental influences on language and literacy outcomes of children from diverse backgrounds, parental beliefs about language and literacy development and disorders, language development and disorders

Elina Mainela-Arnold

Research Interests

Assistant Professor

Communication Sciences & Disorders

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Cognitive mechanisms involved in language acquisition, the way in which these mechanisms interact with environmental input, and how this interaction might help explain individual differences with language ability, especially in individuals with low language abilities, such as children with Specific Language Impairment (SLI). Relationship between working memory and lexical frequency distributions, children's ability to extract and store regularities in verbal and nonverbal input, children's problem solving strategies revealed in speech and gesture.

Adele Miccio

Research Interests

Associate Professor

Communication Sciences & Disorders

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Typical and atypical phonological development, treatment efficacy for phonological disorders, effects of otitis media on early speech development and later literacy achievement, speech-language and literacy development of bilingual preschoolers.

Carol Miller

Research Interests

Associate Professor

Communication Sciences & Disorders

Email Address: **CAM47@PSU.EDU**

Typical and atypical language development; children with specific language impairment; cognitive processes in communication disorders, with emphasis on speed of processing in children and adults with language disorders.