



THE DEPAUL UNIVERSITY SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY PROGRAM POST

The latest news from the SLP Program & Clinic

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FALL 2021 NEWSLETTER

by Jayne Jaskolski, PhD, CCC-SLP
Speech Language Pathology
Program Director

After over two years of planning we are thrilled to welcome our first cohort of Master Degree Speech Language Pathology students to DePaul. Our first cohort of 33 students arrived on September 3rd and were greeted by our faculty at our brand-new Speech Language Pathology Clinic located at 2400 North Sheffield Avenue, Chicago.

Our inaugural cohort is an amazing group of students. Here's a little bit about them:

- 14% Blue Demons (graduates from DePaul)
- 20% First Generation Students
- 60% from the State of IL
- 29% Identify as a Minority

Follow us on [*Instagram*](#) and [*Facebook*](#) for daily updates.

THE DEPAUL SPEECH AND LANGUAGE CLINIC

Our brand-new state-of-the-art DePaul Speech and Language Clinic (SLC) was completed in July 2021. We are now accepting clients for screenings and evaluations. Our therapy sessions will begin in January 2022.



Applied Hands-On Experience for SLP Students

The DePaul SLC will provide our graduate students opportunities to work with clients from the community on prevention & screenings, comprehensive evaluations and therapy across the life span (e.g., infants, toddlers, children, adolescents & adults) with nine types of disorders:

- speech sound productions (i.e., articulation, motor speech)
- fluency
- voice and resonance
- receptive and expressive language, including literacy
- social communication, including pragmatics
- cognition
- augmentative and alternative communication
- hearing and aural rehabilitation
- dysphagia (swallowing and feeding)

GRAND OPENING



Please join us!

Thursday, September 23rd

5pm to 7pm

2400 N Sheffield

[RSVP HERE](#)



Donation Model Clinic

The DePaul University Speech and Language Clinic (SLC) will provide free services to the diverse population of Chicago reflecting a wide socioeconomic range. Given the SLC is providing diagnostic and therapeutic services that are expensive in the marketplace, families are invited to make a tax-deductible donation on the DPU SLC website, or submit a donation using an envelope provide at the clinic to fund the continued development of the DPU SLC.

CELEBRATING OUR INAUGURAL CLASS OF 2021



The First Cohort of our New SLP program

This wonderful group of students has demonstrated how eager they are to begin their coursework in the SLP program. The entire group joined us on Tuesday, September 7th for AHA CPR Training and a pizza social. This quarter, students will be completing the following courses:

- **SLP 401: Interprofessional Education**
- **SLP 420 : Speech Sound Disorders**
- **SLP 410: Research Methods for SLPs**
- **SLP 411: Topics in Research for SLPs: EBP**
- **SLP 401: Neurological Basis of Communication Disorders**
- **SLP 480: Clinical Methods in SLP**



Meet Dr. Treasyri Williams-Wood, Clinical Assistant Professor & Clinic Director

Dr. Treasyri (pronounced "treasure") Williams Wood, is a native of metro-Detroit, Michigan. She graduated from Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, MI with a Bachelor of Science in Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology and later earned a Master of Science degree in Communicative Sciences & Disorders from Hampton University in Hampton, VA. Treasyri then obtained a Clinical Doctorate in Speech Language Pathology (SLPD) from Northwestern University in Evanston, IL.

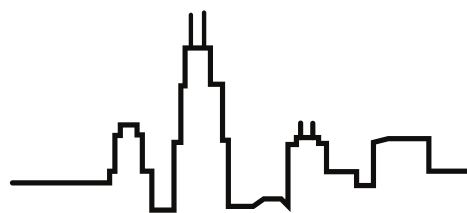
Dr. Williams Wood specializes in teaching topics related to neural bases of communication. She enjoys educating fellow professionals, community members and graduate students. **She is passionate about developing person-centered interventions for individuals with swallowing, cognitive and communicative deficits as a result of neurogenic dysfunction.** She has been awarded a Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC) from the American Speech Language and Hearing Association (ASHA). Additionally, she holds a certification from the National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners. **Dr. Williams Wood has also been appointed to the American Speech Language and Hearing Association (ASHA) SIG 2 Neurogenic Disorders Professional Development Committee (PDC) and is currently serving a 3-year term.**

She is delighted to utilize her specialized training, experience in project management and community outreach initiatives in her role as Speech Language Pathology Clinic Director and Clinical Associate Professor at DePaul University.



Dr. Treasyri Williams-Wood

In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with her husband and their two Parson Russell terriers.



What Dr. Williams-Wood enjoys about Chicago is the diversity of cultures, food and art. "There is always something new to learn or taste here!" she says.



We asked Dr. Williams-Wood what is her favorite thing to do in the fall season and she said: "taking trips to the apple orchard and picking out our farm favorites to enjoy all season long."

Meet Dr. Suzanne Williams, Our Assistant Clinical Professor

Suzanne Williams, Ph.D, CCC-SLP received her Doctor of Philosophy degree at the University of Illinois at Chicago, Master of Science degree at University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and her Bachelor of Science degree from Syracuse University. **She has worked as a Speech-Language Pathologist in the private and public-school systems, in both urban and suburban settings for over 20 years.** Dr. Williams has provided diagnostic and intervention services to children and adolescents presenting with a myriad of communication disorders ranging in age from 3-18 years. **Her teaching has focused on undergraduate and graduate courses in language development, introduction to communication sciences and disorders, and counseling.**

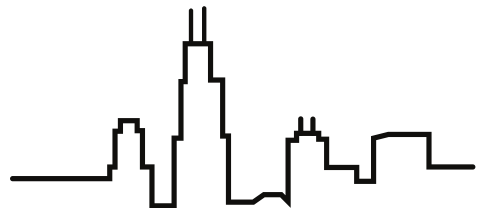
Her research and clinical areas of interest include mothers' use of language, shared book reading, autism spectrum disorders, social cognition and its impact on reading comprehension, and executive functioning.

Additionally, **she has been actively involved with interprofessional collaboration with allied health professionals and general education teachers within the school setting.** She is keenly aware of the importance of communicating with families regarding the impact of their child's communication disorder and assisting parents with strategies to employ within the home environment.



Dr. Suzanne Williams

In her spare time, she enjoys exercising, reading, baking, and spending quality moments with family and friends.



Dr. Williams "loves it all!" she says. Especially, when she is with her friends and family. She loves the entertainment, theater, concerts, and museums.



In the fall season, Dr. Williams enjoys apple picking, walking through crisp leaves, and drinking pumpkin spice coffee. She shares: "I really enjoy cuddling up with a good book, a blanket, and a hot beverage on a cold, fall day!"

THE TEAM WITH A MISSION



The DePaul Speech Language Pathology program faculty have worked tirelessly to develop the SLP program and clinic and bring it to life. This fall, they celebrated building out the new clinic facility, enrolling and welcoming their first cohort, and teaching their amazing inaugural class.

Now that the clinic is ready for clients, the team is focusing on going out into the Chicago community to share the availability of evaluation and therapy services for children and adults. Their donation-based model will allow them to serve clients who may not otherwise have access to services which supports the beautiful DePaul Vincentian mission and vision.

Please join the team on Thursday, September 23rd at the Speech and Language Clinic [Grand Opening Event](#) to get to know more about their vision and mission for the SLP Program.

Meeting the Needs of the Hispanic Population

The DePaul SLP Program recognizes the increased need for Bilingual SLPs in the workforce. According to the Occupational Outlook Handbook from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the employment **openings for SLPs is projected to grow by 29%** between 2020 and 2030.

There is already a great need for SLPs in schools and healthcare facilities. However, **there is an even greater need for Bilingual SLPs**. According to the American Speech Language Hearing Association (ASHA, 2019) only 7,969 of the 201,961 members were



reported to be ASHA certified Spanish-language service providers. Additionally, "in the United States, **there is a shortage of school and health professionals who are competent to service culturally and linguistically diverse students with disabilities and their families**" (Ijiba and Velasco, 2020). Hispanic families with children who have received an ASD diagnosis are often provided interventions in English due to the shortage of bilingual professionals. (Ijiba and Velasco, 2020).

To further our program's Vincentian mission of "What must be Done" and to fulfill the needs of the ever-growing Spanish speaking populations in Chicago, we offer the **Bilingual English-Spanish Specialization Certificate for Speech Language pathologists (BESSC-SLP)**. The certificate program consists of seven specialized courses and clinical practica. Students gain a thorough level of competence across scientific, theoretical, and clinical knowledge and skills in order to equitably serve the needs of primarily Spanish speaking individuals with communication disabilities.

We believe in narrowing the gap between our profession and the community served. DePaul students will enter the work force ready to serve, advocate, and lead.

For more information, contact **Dr. Elia Olivares** at e.olivares@depaul.edu.

Our DePaul SLP Program Mission



Grounded in the Vincentian tradition and urban character of DePaul University, the Master of Science degree will prepare speech-language pathologists to meet the diverse and urgent needs of the Chicago community and beyond with a special concern for those who are most underserved and those who are most vulnerable. Our program will graduate students with sufficient breadth and depth of knowledge, clinical skills, professional practice competencies, clinical reasoning, cultural fluency, and empathy for their practice. Using evidence-based and ethical practice, graduates will use their knowledge and skills to foster meaningful communication for their clients and serve as leaders in the profession.



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