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In September, PACS celebrated the fourth anniversary of the merger with the School of Medicine. Looking back, the merger couldn’t have come at a better time. The fields of deaf education and audiology have been evolving rapidly in response to changing needs of the populations served by these professions.

In deaf education, we have greatly improved early intervention services, which means better outcomes and earlier mainstreaming for the children served in oral deaf education settings. In response, our graduate program in deaf education has added coursework in early intervention, and the Missouri teacher certification was recently expanded to include the birth-kindergarten population.

In audiology, the scope of practice continues to expand, and our curriculum reflects these changes. Exciting coursework and practicum opportunities in areas such as cochlear implants, intraoperative monitoring, genetics, and practice management reflect the latest needs of the profession. We also have continued to expand our practicum and externship locations, and we continue to infuse research training into our strong clinical and educational foundations. The Ph.D. program also is experiencing a rebirth of sorts. The merger gave us the opportunity to revise the curriculum and the research opportunities available to our students, and we’ve enrolled one new student in each of 2006 and 2007.

We also plan to continue to improve and expand the academic, practical and educational aspects of all of our programs in an effort to stay on the forefront of new knowledge and skills in the fields related to hearing and deafness. For example, we recently served as one of two beta sites nationally for a new accrediting body for Au.D. programs, the Accreditation Commission for Audiology Education (ACAE). After completing ACAE’s comprehensive “Computerized

William W. Clark, PhD, and Maureen Valente, PhD, with the ACAE site visit team.

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In early 2007, The Chronicle of Higher Education ranked top-10 programs in six aggregated fields. In those rankings, the PACS communication disorders program ranked number six nationally! Our Au.D. program also continues to hold a top-10 spot in the U.S. News and World Report rankings.

- William Clark, Ph.D., and Kevin Ohlemiller, Ph.D., co-authored a new anatomy and physiology textbook designed for audiologists and audiology students. The textbook Anatomy and Physiology of Hearing for Audiologists, published by Thomson Delmar Learning, is now available. Other contributors include faculty members Barbara Bohne, Ph.D., David Dickman, Ph.D., Brian Faddis, Ph.D., Dwayne Simmons, Ph.D., and Mark Warchol, Ph.D. / 
- L. Maureen Valente, Ph.D., co-authored a white paper recently published in the most recent issue of Audiology Today (Vol. 19, Number 5, September/October 2007), titled “Licensure and Payment Issues of Audiology Externship Students.” Co-authors are Alan Desmond, Kenneth Cox, David Hawkins, Tabitha Parent Buck, Sharon Sandridge, Dianne Meyer and Gail Whitelaw.
- Three PACS students presented their research projects at the April 2007 Audiology NOW! convention. At the Student Research Forum, Lisa G. Potts, Ph.D. presented “Bimodal Hearing: Localization and Speech Recognition” and Au.D. student Sarah King presented “TIMIT List Equivalence by Cochlear Implant Recipients.” In addition, Au.D. student Sarah Borton presented a poster titled “Quality of Life in Children with Unilateral Hearing Loss: A Pilot Study.” These students were chosen as three of only seven recipients of prestigious James Jerger Student Research Awards, with more than 300 participants considered. King also presented her project at the annual meeting of the American Auditory Society (AAS) in March 2007 in Scottsdale, AZ.
1990s
Lora Hill Boyd, 1998 - Boyd married husband Justin on Dec. 31, 2004. She works as an audiologist at Cooper Clinic in Fort Smith, AR.
Lisa Cantarini Simone, 1999 - Simone and her husband, Alan, welcomed a daughter, Grace Marie, on June 13, 2007.

2000s
Tina Prout, 2000 - Prout received her Ph.D. degree in Audiology and Speech Language Pathology from the University of Memphis in 2005. She is currently appointed as an Assistant Professor of Audiology and Speech-Language Sciences at the University of Northern Colorado.
Lisa di Maria, 2002 - Di Maria is working as a cochlear implant audiologist at the Children’s Communication Disorders Program at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
Erin Mahnke Lévy, 2002 - Lévy and her husband, Hervé, were married in Feb. 2006. She sends word that they are expecting a son in Nov. 2007. The couple resides in the Los Angeles area.
Elizabeth Knopf Satchell, 2002 - Satchell and her husband welcomed daughter Olivia Kate on July 8, 2006.
Angela Clabots Byrd, 2003 - Byrd, who married her husband Jon on Aug. 19, 2006, is working as an audiologist at Montgomery ENT in Cincinnati, OH. She will complete her Au.D. from the University of Florida in December.
Kristin Anderle Lillie, 2002 - Lillie is currently pursuing her Au.D. through Pennsylvania College of Optometry and hopes to complete her degree in 2009. She works for Willamette Educational Service in Woodburn, OR.
Mary (Peggy) Paris, 2002 - Paris tells us that she retired in 2005 and now runs a small business making art quilts. She also consults part-time, assisting children with cochlear implants to make the transition to the mainstream. Paris plans to move to S. Padre Island, TX, next year when her husband retires.
Aimee Woolard, 2002 - Woolard sends word that she is now in private practice in Bryan, TX. Her business is Hearing Services.
Insook Lim, 2003 - Lim and her husband welcomed their third child, son Daniel Youngwook, on Aug. 15, 2006. He joins older siblings Nicole and Nathan.
Margaret Basile Matusofsky, 2003 - Basile and Tom Matusofsky were married on Oct. 9, 2004. The couple resides in St. Louis, where she works as a pediatric audiologist at Central Institute for the Deaf (CID).
Krisjeana Ballard, 2004 - Ballard sends word that she is working as an audiologist at Midwest ENT Centre in St. Peters, MO.
Christina Borders, 2004 - Borders is pursuing her Ph.D. degree at the University of Cincinnati.
Kathleen Faulkner, 2004 - Faulkner is pursuing her Ph.D. degree at the University of Washington. She also

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Accreditation Program,” a site visit was conducted October 21-24. The site visit team’s report applauded many aspects of the program, including the number and diversity of clinical sites, the quantity and quality of research opportunities, and our preservation and celebration of the history of hearing care.

We couldn’t be more proud of the many faculty, staff, students, friends and alumni who have brought us to this day, and we look forward to your continued participation in our future successes.

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authors the “A Moment of Science” column that appears periodically in Audiology Today.


**Erika (Nikki) Knox, 2006** - Knox is working as an audiologist at the VA hospital in Murfreesboro, TN.