“Hi, I'm Jessica. I am a traveling speech therapist.” I never get away with that introductory line. Everyone always wants to know more. Well here it is…

“The biggest adventure you can take is to live the life of your dreams.” -Oprah Winfrey

I am living the life of my dreams. I have found a way to do the two things that I love: speech-language pathology and traveling. More importantly, I have found a way to strengthen my faith, increase my reliance on God and confirm who I am, His child. Sounds good, right? Well here is the back-story…

“The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, My God, my rock, in whom I take refuge; my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.” Psalm 18:2

I graduated from Harding University with my undergraduate degree in 2013 and with my graduate degree in 2015. Once I had that beautiful diploma, I wanted to have an adventure. I wanted the beach! So I applied every place that was less than 30 minutes from the beach in South Carolina, North Carolina and Florida. I eventually found my first home and adventure in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Zorro, my furry friend, and I packed up and moved from Arkansas to Myrtle Beach. I finished my clinical fellowship there and ended up staying for two years, but something was missing. I had the adventure of moving to South Carolina two years previously, but I needed some more adventures!

“Life is either a daring adventure or nothing.” — Helen Keller

My soul was not satisfied. I knew I wanted to make a switch from outpatient pediatrics and gain some adult experience. I thought about moving home to be near my family and my two cute nephews, but I knew if I didn’t embark on another adventure I would regret it later.
Then I found travel therapy. It was the perfect opportunity to travel and to experience a variety of adult settings. Through my initial Internet research, I met a wonderful speech therapist that was traveling in Hawaii. She answered so many questions and helped me get started on my journey. Let me tell you, there was a lot of questions that needed answered before I started to travel.

“He who asks a question, remains a fool for five minutes. He who does not ask a question remains a fool forever.” –Chinese Proverb

Since starting my travels in May, I have only been in two locations: Massachusetts and Maryland. I have had the opportunity in the past six months to travel to a variety of other places: Las Vegas, Boston, Niagara Falls, Baltimore, Washington DC, Mount Washington (NH), and Philadelphia, just to name a few. I have seen mountains and deserts, the Atlantic Ocean and the Chesapeake Bay. I have also gained experiences with different settings in healthcare. I have worked in the following settings: long-term care, acute care, short-term rehab, adult outpatient, pediatric outpatient as well as in radiology for modified barium swallow studies.

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

More importantly, I have learned so much about myself. I have learned how to be more independent, how to stretch past my comfort zone, and how to make quick and fast friends. Most importantly, I have learned that God is always taking care of me. He is always watching over me and He is always giving me opportunities to share His love with my patients, their families and all the other wonderful people I have met as a traveling speech-language pathologist.

I have a list of frequently asked questions and a list of resources to start your investigation if you are thinking about becoming a traveling therapist. This information is posted as “The Need to Know Before Becoming a Traveling-Speech Language Pathologist” on my blog: theadventuresofjess.blogspot.com. Also, feel free to email me with any questions or comments at travelingtherapyadventures@gmail.com
At the beginning of each fall semester, CSD students are given the opportunity to increase awareness and facilitate prevention in the area of hearing. Each night of the fair, students sign up and sit at HUSSHA's fair booth and pass out popcorn and hearing protection to White County fairgoers. This provides the students with an opportunity to educate those in our community about the importance of hearing protection and conservation.

**ArkSHA Convention**

Every year, our faculty and students get a chance to attend the Arkansas Speech-Language Hearing Association Convention. This experience encourages students to get involved with their state organizations, as well as current professionals in the field.

This year, we had the pleasure of hearing from one of our own undergraduate students, Carley Hill (left). Carley was given the opportunity to present her McNair Scholars research project entitled *Examining Teamwork and Values in Interprofessional Health Science Student Teams*. Dr. Melanie Meeker served as her supervisor.

Some of our faculty also took part in a discussion panel over the topic, *It Takes A Village: Why Your Supervisor Matters*. Jan Traughber, Clinic Director, and Jennifer Fisher, Externship Director, presented information about Harding's clinical program at this year's convention.

From working at the registration booths, to presenting, Harding University was well represented at this year's convention.

**CSD Community: White County Fair**

At the beginning of each fall semester, CSD students are given the opportunity to increase awareness and facilitate prevention in the area of hearing. Each night of the fair, students sign up and sit at HUSSHA's fair booth and pass out popcorn and hearing protection to White County fairgoers. This provides the students with an opportunity to educate those in our community about the importance of hearing protection and conservation.
HUSSHA Happenings

Harding University Student Speech-Language Hearing Association (HUSSHA) has been busy this semester. Ellie Coffey and Marisa Ewing, president and vice president, have done a fantastic job of encouraging active participation this year. Each member of HUSSHA must serve on a committee of their choice, including service, fundraising, public relations, alumni, apparel, audiology, autism awareness, Stirrups and Smiles, and Relay for Life. HUSSHA began the semester by serving our community at the White County Fair. They passed out earplugs to individuals to raise awareness about hearing loss prevention. The Stirrups and Smiles committee decorated a float for the White County Fair parade. Members rode the float with the children from Stirrups and Smiles.

This semester HUSSHA has had two bake sales. The fundraising committee chose to have a bake sale to raise money for the Alzheimer’s Association. All proceeds went to a monetary gift in memory of Keri Tullos and in honor of Tony Vendetti, spouses of our chair and administrative assistant. The Audiology committee decided to have a bake sale as well to raise money for Dogs for the Deaf, an organization that gives service dogs to deaf children, those who are hard of hearing, and children with autism.

The Brackett Library hosted a book fair during October to raise funds for a mission trip to Tuba City, Arizona. Many individuals from the Communication Sciences and Disorders department will be participating in this mission trip. HUSSHA members volunteered their time to work the book fair.

HUSSHA hosted a reception during homecoming weekend in honor of HUSSHA alumni. Many alumni were reconnected with each other and their professors. Students were able to make connections with individuals in the field of speech pathology and audiology.

On October 27, Harding University hosted Relay for Life to raise money for the American Cancer Society. Organizations on campus are asked to have a booth. Many HUSSHA members helped set up, work the booth, walk in honor of those who have lost their lives to cancer, and so much more. Overall, Harding’s event raised around $17,300.
HUSSHA Happenings [cont.]

The Harding University Speech Clinic hosts a trunk or treat each year. HUSSHA members volunteer their time to do face painting, decorate their cars, pass out candy, play games, and interact with our clients. This is a good way to provide a safe place for children to get candy on Halloween, and for Harding to interact with the community. Below, you can see some familiar "Inside Out" faculty and staff faces “get into the fall spirit” as they join in on our trunk or treat!

As the semester comes to a close, HUSSHA is planning to visit a local nursing home, and this trip is always a highlight of the semester. HUSSHA members interact with the residents there, learn a little about their story, and gain so much love and knowledge from them.

Next semester, HUSSHA will be working on an Autism Awareness event to raise awareness across the campus of Harding University. In the past years, HUSSHA has gathered the Harding community together to play games, eat snacks, and light up the Swaid building with blue lights in honor of autism. This is an event that is very important to HUSSHA and is also an opportunity to raise the awareness for autism in our community.

As an organization on campus, Harding University Student Speech-Language and Hearing Association hopes to continue to grow and serve our community better each year. This semester has been a semester of growth in participation, leadership, and service. Thank you to all those who have given their time and efforts in helping HUSSHA grow as an organization.
Stirrups [Softball] & Smiles

By Kayla Woolard

For three years, the Harding University Student Speech and Hearing Association (HUSSHA) has participated in an annual softball tournament to benefit Stirrups and Smiles. Stirrups and Smiles is a non-profit organization located in Searcy, Arkansas, that provides equine-assisted therapy to children with special needs. Because Stirrups and Smiles is a non-profit organization, they rely on donations and fundraisers to maintain their facilities. On September 12, 2015, Stirrups and Smiles hosted their first annual co-ed softball tournament.

I became involved because I love both the game of softball and children with special needs. To be able to play my favorite sport, with my chosen profession’s association, all while helping an amazing cause was an enriching experience. My hope is that HUSSHA will participate in years to come in the annual softball tournament so that Stirrups and Smiles may continue to benefit others.

Solar Eclipse at the Swaid 2017

The department prepared for the historic solar eclipse on August 21 by providing solar eclipse glasses, Moon Pies, and Moon Mist sodas for the faculty, staff, and students of the CSD and Nursing departments.

Searcy, Arkansas was in the path of partiality with 95% coverage. This event was an exciting time and everyone enjoyed the view.

We are already planning to host an event for the April 2024 solar eclipse. For this eclipse, Searcy will be in the center of the "totality" area.
Dixie C. Branscum Supervisors’ Dinner

The Dixie C. Branscum Supervisors’ Dinner is an annual event held to show appreciation for clinical supervisors, who educate and guide Harding students in practicum settings. The event included a dinner, seminar and free continuing education units for our current supervisors. The speaker for this year’s event was Sue Hale, speaking on the topic of “Supervision, Ethics, and The High-Demand Workplace.”

The CSD Department at Harding provides CEUs each year at the Dixie C. Branscum Supervisors’ Dinner, and the topics follow the direction of ASHA in further developing knowledge and skills of professionals in critical areas such as supervision and ethical practices.

Collaborating Across Borders

The Center for Health Sciences applies ideas from the World Health Organization (WHO) in interprofessional collaboration, providing the framework for the importance of how care is delivered. The Interprofessional Education Steering Committee at Harding University consists of representatives from the Health Sciences departments. The 2017-2018 members serving on the committee are Dr. Meeker, CSD department, Dr. Killins, Physical Therapy department, Mr. Cox, Athletic Training department, Dr. Waggoner, College of Pharmacy, Dr. Shipp, College of Pharmacy, and Mrs. Reely, College of Nursing.

The faculty on this committee attended the Collaborating Across Borders Conference, which was held in Banff Alberta, Canada this past October. The Conference had a focus on interprofessional education, practice, and provided the attendees an opportunity to learn from and with each other. The response from the conference was encouraging and motivating, as the committee discusses ideas on how to continually improve the bi-annual Interprofessional Experience held on campus. Stay tuned to hear how the committee will develop and expand this event.

If you are interested in attending one of our on-campus events, please email csd@harding.edu or keep an eye out for our future event dates within the newsletter.
On Friday, October 20, 2017, students from the College of Allied Health were invited to hear a special presentation by Dr. Swaid Swaid in the Administration Auditorium. As a Harding alum and one of the world’s most renowned neurosurgeons, Dr. Swaid brought a message of encouragement, compassion, and humility. With words that were as sharp as his scalpel, but yet as delicate and skillful as he, Dr. Swaid’s message was able to leave everyone innervated, excited, and full of energy.

As part of his presentation, Dr. Swaid presented videos that highlighted his masterful talents and skillful abilities to bring people much needed healing and relief. He was quick to point out that the skill and healing came from God above and much like the scalpel, Dr. Swaid says he is simply an instrument that our Creator, Healer, and Great Physician uses to make others whole. Additionally, through his personal narratives, Dr. Swaid instilled in the audience a sense of encouragement and confidence of what an education from Harding University means. He spoke of the confidence that he had as a medical student, knowing that Harding University had prepared him with the knowledge and encouraged his deep relationship with God. Both proved to be integral in the journey through medical school at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. He gave specific examples in which simple acts of kindness and compassion, made a difference in the lives of his patients and their families. He encouraged all students and faculty to make that difference while approaching their careers from a Christian world-view with compassion, kindness, and the willingness to let God use us for His service. He challenged us to be confident in our education from Harding University and forever humbled by the opportunities God puts before us to serve His people.
SAVE THE DATE: 2018 Harding University’s Richard Walker CSD Conference

Date: February 1-2, 2018
Speaker: Becky Khayum, M.S., CCC-SLP
Community Forum Topic: Overview of the Different Types of Dementia Syndromes and Relation to Underlying Neuropathology
Conference Topic: Toss the Workbooks: Person-Centered, Functional Interventions for Dementia Care

At this year’s conference, we will have the pleasure of learning from Becky Khayum, M.S., CCC-SLP. Becky Kayhum is the Co-Founder and President of MemoryCare Corporation in Aurora, IL. In addition to our conference, Ms. Khayum has graciously offered to present to the community as well, on the topic of dementia.

The community forum will be held on campus Thursday, February 1st from 7:00-8:30 PM at the Donald W. Reynolds Center for Music and Communication, with free admission to the public. The conference will be held on Friday, February 2nd from 8:00 AM-4:00 PM in the Harding University Founders Room inside the David B. Burks American Heritage Building, with registration opening at 7:30 AM. We encourage our professionals to attend both the conference and community forum.

The CSD Department at Harding provides CEUs each year at the Richard Walker Conference, and the topics follow the direction of ASHA in further developing knowledge and skills of professionals in critical areas such as supervision and ethical practice.

To register for the event, email csd@harding.edu and request registration paperwork. The cost to attend the Conference will be $95. Additional information can be found on the department's web page at https://www.harding.edu/academics/colleges-departments/allied-health/communication-sciences-disorders/news-events.
Eighth Meeting of a Night at the Round Table

Article derived from hunet.harding.edu

Monday, Oct. 16, students from nine health care disciplines met in the David B. Burks American Heritage Building for the eighth gathering of A Night at the Round Table. This interdepartmental event challenged students from different programs to work together through ethical case studies.

If you are interested in reading the full article, please follow the link below:
http://hunet.harding.edu/wordpress/news/eighth-meeting-of-a-night-at-the-round-table/

HIZ-PATH Spotlight in the Arkansas Speech-Language-Hearing Association Quarterly Publication of Sound Expressions

If you are interested in reading the article, please follow the link to the PDF file below.
2017 ASHA CONVENTION–LOS ANGELES, CA

This November, some of the CSD faculty and students headed west to Los Angeles to attend the National 2017 American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Convention. This year’s theme was “Focus on the Big Picture” and attendees could attend sessions on topics all across the scope of practice. Below are some pictures of some of the fun things that went on both inside and outside the convention.

Carley Hill (right) one of our undergraduate students presenting her research on Examining Teamwork and Values in Interprofessional Health Science Student Teams.

Dr. Melanie Meeker (left) holding the textbook in which she had the honor of co-authoring a chapter.

CSD faculty showing some support to Austin Collum (right), a HU CSD alum during his oral presentation of Casting Call: Men!, a presentation highlighting the present and future recruitment of males into the profession.

(Austin is in the center back row behind Jan Traughber)
Devan Wilkerson (below, on far right), current second year graduate student, was selected as a student volunteer for this year’s convention and served alongside students from all over the country.

Dr. Tullos and Mr. Chance (above) taking in the views from the Santa Monica Pier ferris wheel.
On the Tip of the Tongue is a newsletter published by Harding University's Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders. It is produced by the CSD Graduate Assistants for past and current CSD students, faculty, and those interested in our program. It is distributed electronically (with some exceptions), and we would love to hear from all readers. Please contact csd@harding.edu for additional information about this newsletter or about the CSD Department.