

Speech And Hearing Lab Offers Training, Experience In Therapy

By Beth Robbins
Junior Staff Writer
The University speech and hearing laboratory, spreading over three floors of the Temple Building, offers the student majoring in speech and hearing therapy practical clinical experience.

The laboratory serves two functions, according to Dr. Herbert Schliesser, laboratory director. Besides training students to do speech and hearing therapy, it offers speech and hearing services to the public, he said.

Pre-schoolers from the Lincoln area, children and adults from the surrounding region and out-of-state come to the laboratory, as well as University students.

Begin Junior Year
Students begin working in the clinic during their junior year, Schliesser said. They begin with simple cases, working up to more complex ones as they gain experience.

"All therapy done by students is under the supervision of the staff, all of whom have certificates of clinical competence from the American Speech and Hearing Association.

All majors in speech and hearing therapy must work in the clinic at least 200 clock hours for graduation, he said.

The laboratory tries to give the trainee experience in working with a wide variety of disorders, David Hamnett, a staff member who does much of the clinical supervision, said.

This variety of disorders includes cases of stuttering, speech and hearing problems related to cerebral palsy and cleft palates, aphasia (stroke

patients) and victims of cancer of the larynx.

Handle Two Cases
Hamnett said that each trainee has approximately two cases at a time. This may vary from one to four.

"Perhaps a student has just one case," he said, "but it's a more difficult one. It depends on the severity and the nature of the problem."

Seniors and graduate students occasionally drive out to their cases. Patients in Veterans Hospital, the Lincoln Clinic and the State Hospital can receive therapy from the University clinic.

These, as well as all other cases who are not University students pay a fee to the speech clinic. This fee is two dollars per session for therapy and ten dollars for a speech and hearing evaluation. Service is free to the college student.

Schliesser estimated that 25 to 30 of the 200 cases handled annually by the speech and hearing laboratory are University students.

Unaware Of Problems
Most are freshmen and sophomores, Hamnett said, noting that they are well motivated. "Many were honestly not aware of the problems they have," he said.

Since speech and hearing defects are more easily corrected or improved in young children, the clinic emphasizes therapy for pre-schoolers. The children receive therapy by group and individual sessions lasting from 30 minutes to an hour.

All therapy rooms are equipped with one way mir-



Photo by Tom Rubin
PRE-SCHOOL SPEECH CLINIC . . . Mrs. Joanne Thietje, graduate student in speech pathology, shows four-year-olds that communication can be fun and rewarding.

rors. This allows observation for both supervisor and other students. Some are wired for sound, others are in the process of being wired so that observers in the adjoining booth can hear as well as see.

Therapy is only part of the laboratory's program. Many individuals also come to the clinic for diagnosis and evaluation. Diagnoses of speech and hearing problems are made by staff members assisted by students.

Assist Evaluation
Some seniors and graduate students also assist in the final case evaluation, although this is done mainly by staff members. All students write

initial, mid-term and final program reports for each case.

Schliesser and Hamnett both said the clinic receives some cases with very severe speech problems, such as those related to cerebral palsy and mental retardation.

"We cannot always help these cases develop normal speech," Schliesser said. "But we can usually improve their

speech so that others may understand them better."

Hamnett added, "Part of the job is educating the family to help them do better with what they have."

Sponsors 'Well Pleased' With Hyde Park Forums

By Jan Itkin
Junior Staff Writer

After four sessions of the Hyde Park forums, it seems to be going well, according to Liz Aitken, chairman of Union talks and topics.

"I think the forums are excellent," Miss Aitken said. "We're pleased to see the interest from such a cross section of the students—both as speakers and observers."

"The forums speak well for the student body," Richard Scott, Union program manager said. "Both the speakers and audience have handled themselves in an impressive fashion."

"The whole thing has exceeded my expectations," Scott added. "Perhaps it was the question of timing. Campus awareness is at a peak this year."

"One thing that troubles me," Miss Aitken said, "is that although I realize Viet Nam is a major issue, it shouldn't smother interest on campus issues."

Scott also commented on the prominence of Viet Nam as a topic of discussion.

"It is very good for Viet Nam to be a focal point of interest," he said, "but it would be interesting to hear more about something else. The only drawback is that it could stifle talk on campus and national issues."

Miss Aitken stressed that the forum is not a platform for any one organization or any group of organizations.

"Just look at the speakers who've spoken," she suggested. "There have been speakers on women's hours, civil rights, the Berkeley riots, the draft and Viet Nam—just to mention a few."

"We will be moving to the Pan American room starting Thursday at 3:30 p.m.," Scott said. "The room can become a set meeting place with not as many distractions as the lounge. It will also ease the congestion problem the forums were causing in the lounge."

"The only other changes would probably take place by the speakers," he continued.

Miss Aitken reported she was "happy with the format. The time limit was changed from 20 to ten minutes after the first one and we have added a five minute question answer period."

She also said that time cards are being made for future use to allow the speakers to know how much time they have left when speaking. Speakers still must sign up to speak, she added.

"No one is taking any names—in fact we throw the papers away after the forum," she said. "Signing up is to protect the speaker's order of speaking and to stop disagreements that could arise."

Panhellenic Discussion Focuses On Drinking

By Diane Lindquist
Junior Staff Writer

Panhellenic featured at its Monday meeting a panel discussion of the role of drinking on the University campus, how existing attitudes can be changed and what sorority members can do to change the situation.

The panel, consisting of Di Kosman, Mary Lee Jepsen, Susie Cunningham and Jan Binger, presented questions for discussion to its members and to the sorority alumnae, actives and pledges present.

Miss Kosman, chairman of the panel, explained there was a need for the discussion because the Inter-Fraternity Council had recognized the problem, and sorority women should contribute to the discussion and help to change the situation.

Commenting on the role of drinking on this campus, Miss

Cunningham said, "It's a role of conflict. There are a lot of people on campus who don't know what convictions to set."

Miss Jepsen added, "There are too many of us who can't think for ourselves."

One suggested program was a committee of Panhellenic and IFC members to work with the Lincoln Liquor Commission.

"Maybe we have lost our spirit of fun," Miss Jepsen said when asked how existing attitudes can be changed; she suggested trying something new in which the presence of alcohol is not needed "to have a good time."

Others present at the meeting added that it was up to juniors and seniors to set the

standards and that the problem should be considered throughout the year.

Miss Kosman said that the older sorority members do have the authority and responsibility to channel thinking and activities, and that they must encourage creativity and individuality.

A Greek charity Basketball tournament was also proposed at the meeting. The purpose is to raise money for the March of Dimes, encourage constructive competition among the Greeks and to create favorable public relations between the Greek system and the University and Lincoln communities.

Panhellenic defeated a motion that it contribute as an organization to the All University Fund.

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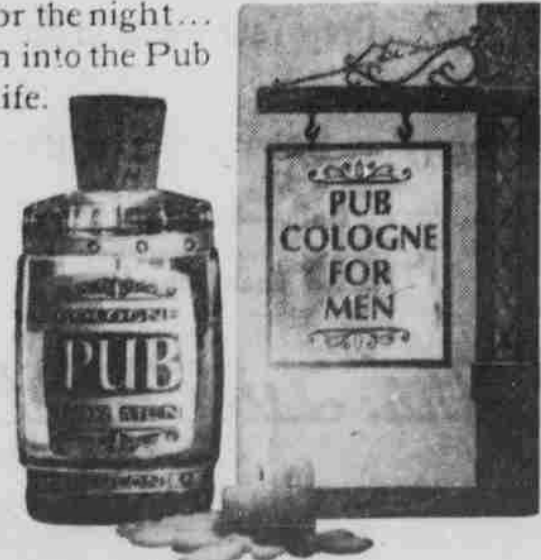
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