

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy Communication Sciences and Disorders
University of South Florida, Tampa, FL

Anticipated May 2026

Doctor of Audiology
University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

Awarded May 2023

- Audiology Doctoral Project: *“Evaluating the Effect of Hearing Status on Gait and Balance in Individuals With and Without Access to Auditory Cues.”*

Bachelor of Arts in Communication Sciences and Disorders
Our Lady of the Lake University, San Antonio, TX

Awarded May 2019

- Graduated Summa Cum Laude

AUDIOLOGY CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center/DoD Hearing Center of Excellence, JBSA Lackland AFB, San Antonio, TX June 2022 – June 2023
1300 hours (anticipated) – Clinical Supervisor: Audrey R. Lewis, Au.D.

- Performing diagnostic audiologic evaluations across the lifespan to include pure-tone and speech audiometry, immittance, and speech-in-noise tests.
- Performing balance screenings for adult patients to determine need for further testing
- Assessing peripheral and central vestibular system function using multiple vestibular assessments.
- Assessing electrophysiologic neurodiagnostic function of the auditory system using electrocochleography, auditory brainstem response, and vestibular evoked myogenic potentials.
- Assisting in the candidacy evaluation, fitting, and follow-up appointments for cochlear implant patients.
- Assisting in the evaluation, fitting, and follow-up appointments for osseointegrated devices.
- Selecting and fitting hearing and assistive listening devices across four hearing aid manufacturers using Real-Ear measures.
- Providing hearing aid care counseling, hearing aid program adjustments and troubleshooting.
- Evaluating significant/permanent threshold shifts for enrolled hearing conservation active duty/civilian personnel and reporting findings to US Air Force Public Health and OSHA.
- Consulting member on interdisciplinary craniofacial board conducted monthly for complex pediatric neurodegenerative, genetic, and physiologic disorders.
- Teaching Progressive Tinnitus Management course to active duty/dependents, and veterans.

University of Arizona Hearing Clinic, Super Clinic, Tucson, AZ
82 hours – Clinical Supervisor: Tom Muller, Au.D.

January 2022 – May 2022

- Unique clinical experience performing independent diagnostic audiologic evaluations for adult and geriatric populations to include pure-tone and speech audiometry, immittance, and speech-in-noise tests.
- Counseling patients on hearing healthcare, reparative communication strategies, and recommendations for individualized treatment plans.
- Selecting and fitting hearing and assistive listening devices across five hearing aid manufacturers using Real-Ear measures.
- Providing hearing aid care counseling, hearing aid program adjustments and troubleshooting.
- Conducting tele-health hearing aid follow-up appointments using secure platforms for instrument adjustments and continued patient education and technology refreshers.

Tucson Ears, Nose and Throat, Tucson, AZ
131 hours – Clinical Supervisor: Sarah Laszok, Au.D.

August 2021 – December 2021

- Performing diagnostic audiologic evaluations across the lifespan to include pure-tone and speech audiometry, immittance, and speech-in-noise tests.
- Assessing peripheral vestibular system function using videonystagmography.
- Assessing electrophysiologic neurodiagnostic function of the auditory system.
- Assisting in the candidacy evaluation, fitting, and follow-up appointments for cochlear implant patients.
- Assisting in the evaluation, fitting, and follow-up appointments for osseointegrated devices.
- Selecting and fitting hearing and assistive listening devices across three hearing aid manufacturers using Real-Ear measures.
- Providing hearing aid care counseling, hearing aid program adjustments and troubleshooting.

Tucson Ears, Nose and Throat, Tucson, AZ

May 2021 – August 2021

100 hours – *Clinical Supervisor: Sarah Laszok, Au.D.*

- Performing diagnostic audiologic evaluations across the lifespan to include pure-tone and speech audiometry, immittance, and speech-in-noise tests.
- Assessing peripheral vestibular system function using videonystagmography.
- Assisting in the candidacy evaluation, fitting, and follow-up appointments for cochlear implant patients.
- Assisting in the evaluation, fitting, and follow-up appointments for osseointegrated devices.
- Selecting and fitting hearing and assistive listening devices across three hearing aid manufacturers using Real-Ear measures.
- Providing hearing aid care counseling, hearing aid program adjustments and troubleshooting.

Tucson Medical Center, Tucson, AZ

January – May 2021

102 hours – *Clinical Supervisor: Shawna Bohn, Au.D.*

- Performed diagnostic audiologic evaluations across the lifespan to include pure-tone and speech audiometry, immittance, and speech-in-noise tests.
- Provided hearing aid care counseling, hearing aid program adjustments, and troubleshooting.
- Performed comprehensive evaluations to include age-appropriate behavioral audiometry (behavioral observation and conditioned play), otoacoustic emissions, and immittance measures.
- Assisted with newborn hearing screenings and reporting results to the Arizona Department of Health Services.
- Helped connect guardians of hearing-impaired children with local/state hearing-related services.
- Interpreted diagnostic procedures and results for monolingual Spanish speakers as required.

Living Well with Hearing Loss, Tucson, AZ

September – December 2020

20 hours – *Telehealth Audiologic Rehabilitation Program Supervisor: Diane Smith, Au.D.*

- Developed/revised course materials for inaugural telehealth group aural rehabilitation course during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Co-instructed two virtual adult aural rehabilitation classes for patients and communication partners.
- Course topic knowledge areas: Understanding hearing loss, identifying communication breakdowns, effective communication strategies, hearing technology options, self-advocacy.

Tucson Medical Center, Tucson, AZ

January – March 2020

72 hours – *Clinical Supervisor: Linda Norrix, Ph.D.*

- Performed comprehensive evaluations to include age-appropriate behavioral audiometry (visual reinforcement and conditioned play), otoacoustic emissions, and immittance measures.
- Assisted with natural sleep and sedated diagnostic ABR on newborn and difficult to test toddlers.
- Provided guardians of hearing-impaired children with information regarding local/state hearing-related services.
- Interpreted diagnostic procedures and results for monolingual Spanish speakers as required.

University of Arizona Hearing Clinic, Tucson, AZ

August – December 2019

61 hours – *Clinical Supervisors: F. Barakat, Au.D., A. Wong, Au.D., E. Hansen, Au.D., & L. Norrix Ph.D.*

- Performed comprehensive audiologic evaluations to include pure-tone and speech audiometry, speech-in-noise tests, and immittance measures.
- Selected and fit hearing and assistive listening devices across six hearing aid manufacturers
- Assisted with hearing aid care counseling and troubleshooting.
- Screened hearing function of 3–5-year-olds at Ocotillo Pre-School as part of the Arizona Early Intervention Program.

PROFESSIONAL AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Assistant: Hearing Clinic and Teaching Assistant

July 2020 – May 2022

Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences, University of Arizona

- Receiving all donations of hearing aids and verify functionality and inventory into the system for the Hearing Aid Bank program at the university clinic.
- Coordinating maintenance and cleaning of inventory with local Sertoma Chapter Volunteers.
- Serving as teaching assistant for courses in advanced audiologic assessment and amplification.

- Assisting with in-class and simulated skills lab for equipment, assessment procedures, and hearing assistive devices.
- Coordinating practice times and assisting first-year Au.D. students with clinical skills.
- Installing and updating audiologic software for all patient care areas.

Hispanic Hearing Healthcare Access Coalition: Communications Coordinator
Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences, University of Arizona

May 2020 – May 2022

- Coordinating with the core project team and community partners on communications that promote the project's mission via multiple platforms, including print, digital media (web, social media, video), and teleconferencing with the Stakeholder Advisory Board.
- Responsible for creating, managing, and supporting communications content in Spanish and English for the project, working in collaboration with the University of Arizona faculty and community stakeholders.
- Moderating dual-language (English - Spanish) monthly Stakeholder Advisory Board meetings to facilitate project developments under the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute.

Otolaryngology Technician/Surgical First Assist/Hearing Conservationist (Full-Time)
United States Air Force, Multiple Duty Assignments

January 2007 – September 2017

- Assisted with surgical procedures related to Ear, Nose, Head & Neck (ENT).
- Provided clinical patient care under supervision of Otolaryngologist.
- Briefed First Term Airmen on hearing conservation and protection in accordance with Air Force Instructions.
- Conducted hearing surveillance using micro-processor monitoring.
- Monitored peripheral hearing of active-duty members post mild traumatic brain injury (mTBI) in combat theater.
- Fitted service members with hearing protective devices according to work situation and OSHA standards.
- Performed cerumen removal using binocular microscopy and instrumentation.
- Performed earmold impressions under supervision of Audiologist.
- Instructed dual-service curriculum for new Otolaryngology/Audiology/Hearing Conservation Technicians.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

National Institutes of Health T-35 Summer Research Fellow
National Center for Rehabilitative Auditory Research, Portland, OR
 Principal Investigator: Frederick J. Gallun, Ph.D.

May – August 2021

- Conducting research that evaluates how binaural hearing serves as a secondary input source for gait and postural stability.
- Writing a manuscript to define clinical correlates associated to scientific research that evaluates the integration of auditory and vestibular cues.
- Surveying audiologists in the field that work with central auditory processing to clinically consider the benefit of app-based assessments using consumer-grade devices.

Hispanic Hearing Healthcare Access Coalition
University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ | University of Miami, Miami, FL
 Principal Investigators: Nicole Marrone Ph.D., David Lee, Ph.D.

May 2020 – Present

- Building patient-centered research capacities focused on Hispanic/LatinX communities.
- Developing communication enhancement trainings for Community Health Workers that focuses on hearing loss.
- Evaluating the patient perspective of audiologic related issues affecting Hispanic/LatinX communities to address future research topics.

Multilingual Language and Linguistics Lab
Our Lady of the Lake University, San Antonio, TX
 Principal Investigator: Casey Taliencich-Klinger

June 2018 – May 2019

- Transcribed bilingual (English – Spanish) language samples using Systematic Analysis of Language Transcripts (SALT) software.
- Assisted in maintaining client database following HIPAA Privacy and Electronic Security Rules.
- Collected screening language sample data to be analyzed that identified at-risk populations and help target effective treatment strategies for monolingual/bilingual children.

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

- Wong, A., Marrone N., Lee, D, **Ocasio Portalatín, N.A.**, McClure, L. (2022, November). Building Communication Resilience: Technical Lessons Learned in Facilitating Discussions for Multilingual Audiences with Hearing Loss. *American Speech-Language-Hearing Association 2022 Convention*, New Orleans, LA. [Virtual Poster Presentation]
- Ocasio Portalatín, N.A.**, Gallun, F.J. (2022, February). Binaural hearing and the integration of auditory and vestibular cues. *American Auditory Society Annual Conference 2022*, Scottsdale, AZ [Poster Presentation]
- Ocasio Portalatín, N. A.**, Marrone, N., Wong, A., Rodríguez, B., & Lee, D. (2021, November). Detours and discoveries in building research capacity on hearing loss intervention for Hispanic/LatinX communities. *American Speech-Language-Hearing Association 2021 Convention*, Washington, D.C. [Virtual Poster Presentation]
- Ocasio Portalatín, N.A.**, Gallun, F.J. (2021, September). Binaural hearing and the integration of auditory and vestibular cues. *National Center for Rehabilitative Auditory Research Biennial Conference 2021*, Portland, OR [Virtual Poster Presentation]
- Ocasio Portalatín, N.A.** (2021, August) National Institutes of Health T-35 Summer Research Fellowship Presentation. Binaural Hearing and the integration of auditory and vestibular cues. *National Center for Rehabilitative Auditory Research*, Portland, OR [Virtual Presentation]
- Marrone, N., Wong, A., Rodríguez, B., **Ocasio Portalatín, N. A.**, & Lee, D. (2021, April). Juntos somos mejores: building research capacity through collaborative community engagement. *Arizona Speech-Language-Hearing Association 2021 Virtual Conference*, Phoenix, AZ. [Virtual Poster Presentation]
- Wong, A., **Ocasio Portalatín, N. A.**, Rodríguez, B. (March 2021). "Hearing Care for All": A Community Coalition Addressing Disparities. *The ASHA Leader Live*. From <https://leader.pubs.asha.org/doi/10.1044/2021-0303-world-hearing-day/full/> [Online Blog]
- Ocasio Portalatín, N. A.**, Taliencich-Klinger, C., Arcos-Hernandez, N., Hernandez, A.M., & Brady, B. (2019, November). Linguistic characteristics pre and post language enrichment for culturally and linguistically diverse children in a title 1 school. *American Speech-Language-Hearing Association 2019 Convention*, Orlando, FL. [Poster Presentation]

HONORS & ACHIEVEMENTS

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| Presidential Doctoral Fellowship
<i>University of South Florida</i> , Tampa, FL | August 2023 |
| National Institutes of Health T-35 Research Training Program
<i>National Center for Rehabilitative Auditory Research</i> , Portland, OR | May 2021 |
| National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association Rising Leader Award – Audiology
<i>American Speech-Language-Hearing Association</i> , Rockville MD | May 2019 |
| Jane Davidson Undergraduate Award
<i>Our Lady of the Lake University</i> , San Antonio, TX | May 2019 |
| Greehey Merit Scholarship
<i>Our Lady of the Lake University</i> , San Antonio, TX | August 2017 |

ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES & AFFILIATIONS

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| American Auditory Society <i>Student Member</i> | May 2020 – Present |
| American Balance Society <i>Student Member</i> | February 2020 – Present |
| Student Academy of Audiology <i>Student Member</i> | September 2019 – Present |

Arizona Speech-Language-Hearing Association <i>Student Member</i>	May 2019 – Present
National Hearing Conservation Association <i>Member</i>	May 2019 – Present
NSSLHA Our Lady of the Lake University Chapter <i>President</i>	May 2018 – May
2019 National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association <i>Member</i>	Aug 2017 – Present

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Arizona–Sonora–Border (ARSOBO) Project Nogales, Mexico	September 2019 – Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivering monthly diagnostic evaluations across the lifespan to include pure-tone and speech audiometry, immittance, and electrophysiological measures. • Providing hearing aid services at no cost to the patient population. • Implementing individual aural rehabilitation strategies to enhance communication outcomes with amplification. 	

SKILLS

- Languages – English and Spanish (Native speaker)
- Pantheon web design
- Basic video and sound editing