

# Living Well with Hearing Loss Listening Letter



UA SCIENCE

Speech, Language  
& Hearing Sciences

## Summer 2016

### Spotlight on our 2016 Graduates

This year the Audiologic Rehabilitation program said goodbye to three of our wonderful students as they graduated with their Doctor of Audiology degree from the University of Arizona! Giau Le, Daisey Sanchez, and Melanie Dunne made wonderful contributions to our program and chose to do research in the area of audiologic rehabilitation for their audiology doctoral projects.

#### Giau Le

Giau is a recent Doctor of Audiology graduate from the University of Arizona, who completed her externship in Arizona at Mayo Clinic. Giau was involved in numerous research projects throughout her undergraduate and graduate studies. The focus of her research at Mayo Clinic pertained to auditory and vestibular disorders, specifically in patients with suspected vestibular migraine.

For her doctoral project, Giau was involved in a collaborative research project with the University of Arizona and the Arizona Commission for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing. The primary goal of this research project is to work towards making amplification accessible to those living at or below the federal poverty line in Arizona. Since her undergraduate studies, Giau has been involved with Living Well with Hearing Loss through the clinical assistant program. Furthermore, during her graduate studies she served as a facilitator of the LWHL sessions.



From left: Pelagie Beeson, Giau Le, Nicole Marrone, Aileen Wong

*Giau has just begun working as a full-time itinerant audiologist for the Southeastern Regional Cooperative at the Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and Blind in Tucson, AZ.*

## Daisey Sanchez

“My audiology research project was “Preparing Community Health Workers to Address Hearing Loss.” This project involved working with community health workers (CHWs) from Nogales, AZ and training them on hearing loss and audiology concepts, with the aims of preparing them to become audiologic rehabilitation (AR) group facilitators. Through this project I garnered experience collaborating in an interdisciplinary team, and integrating the knowledge I learned in my classes to share with the CHWs in a relevant and applicable manner.

I was first introduced to AR as a program assistant for Living Well with Hearing Loss my first year, and later became a research assistant for the Oyendo Bien project. AR has influenced my graduate studies by molding me to think outside of the box in helping patients plan individualized management strategies for their specific needs. I’ve witnessed the benefits patients have experienced after participating in AR groups, and working with CHWS has allowed me to see the strengths of their unique roles as patient advocates and educators.

I’ve been able to use my knowledge from AR during my externship at Banner UMC when counseling patients about their hearing loss, and recommending management strategies that I aim to tailor to each patient’s unique situation. My plans after graduation include finding a clinical audiologist position, preferably in a medical setting, where I can continue to see patients across the lifespan for diagnostics (behavioral and objective) and management (hearing aids, bone anchored devices, and cochlear implants)”

*Daisey recently moved to California to begin her career as an audiologist.*



Giau Le (left) and Daisey Sanchez presenting their research

## Melanie Dunne

Melanie Dunne's audiology project focused on improving communication between health care providers and patients. This goal was met by providing an Interprofessional Education and Practice Program at St. Luke's Home in Spring 2015. During this program professionals learned communication strategies and were trained on screening for hearing loss. Melanie also worked to develop short video segments to demonstrate communication strategies. The effectiveness of the interprofessional training programs were assessed by pre- and post-training questionnaires. These outcomes showed a significant increase in trainee's confidence in screening patients with hearing loss as well as using appropriate communication strategies with hearing-impaired patients. Her results support the use of interprofessional training programs for healthcare providers in order to improve professional-patient communication and improve quality of care.

*Melanie currently works at Banner-University of Arizona Medical Center as a clinical audiologist in Tucson, AZ.*



From left to right: Daisey Sanchez, Giau Le, Melanie Dunne, Vivian Rubiano

## Fall 2016 LWHL Session Times

Days and Time of the 3-week

series:

**Fridays 9am to 11am**

**Session 1:**

**September 9, 16, 23**

**Session 2:**

**October 7, 14, 21**



## University of Arizona Hearing Clinics

1131 E. 2nd St.  
Tucson, Arizona 85721  
Telephone: (520) 621-7070

The University of Arizona Hearing Clinic is a full-service hearing clinic offering diagnostic evaluations, hearing aids, assistive technology, cochlear implant mapping, Living Well with Hearing Loss classes, consultations

**For appointments contact:**

(520) 621-7070

**For local and national resources, consult our website:**

<http://lwhl.arizona.edu/>

**Email us with suggestions or contributions for the newsletter or to be added to the email list:**

[hearing@email.arizona.edu](mailto:hearing@email.arizona.edu)

**Don't miss our community lecture on November 5th at the Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences Building!  
Time and speaker TBA**

### **LWHL Program Members**

*Dr. Nicole Marrone, PhD, CCC-A, James S. and Dyan Pignatelli/Unisource Clinical Chair in Audiologic Rehabilitation for Adults*

*Dr. Stephanie Adamovich, PhD, CCC-A, Program Coordinator for Adult Audiologic Rehabilitation*

*Chloe Robbins, B.S., Program Assistant for Adult Audiologic Rehabilitation*

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***A Special THANK YOU to the Pignatelli Family and Unisource for their continued support of the Audiologic Rehabilitation Program***