

Sarah C. Sullivan

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CAREER PROFILE

Exceptionally organized, self-directed, and meticulous auditory cognitive research scientist with more than nine years of experience assisting with study design and development, stimuli creation, subject recruitment, and data collection and analysis; more than seven years directing and mentoring undergraduate, master's and doctoral students; and more than five years managing behavioral scientific laboratories in the fields of Psychology and Speech and Hearing Sciences. Research has been both theoretically and clinically motivated, focused on speech perception and production, using speech and non-speech signals on a variety of populations including human and non-human animals, children and adults, disordered and non-disordered individuals, as well as monolinguals and bilinguals. Funding for these projects was provided by the National Science Foundation and the National Institutes of Health.

EDUCATION**Doctorate of Philosophy Student* in Psychology, May 2007**

University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

Area: Cognition and Perception

*All But Dissertation, withdrew in good academic standing after fourth year

Master of Arts in Psychology, Aug 2005

University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

Area: Cognition and Perception

Bachelor of Arts in Speech and Hearing Sciences, May 2002

Washington State University, Pullman, WA

Area: Audiology

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

University of Arizona Tucson, AZ

05/2011 - Present

Research Program Manager

- Play an active role in research development and preparation of professional presentations, papers, and grant applications
- Supervise professional classified staff and students within the Auditory Cognitive Neuroscience Experience (ACNE) Laboratory
- Coordinate and supervise subject recruitment
- Data analysis and interpretation
- Management of budget and other laboratory documentation
- Update/maintain the ACNE lab webpage and Auditory Cognitive Neuroscience Society (ACNS) webpage
- Continue development/support of ACNS and organization of the annual ACNS conferences
- Research projects: general auditory categorization, the role of rhythm in speech perception, and speaker identification

University of Arizona Tucson, AZ

03/2007 – 05/2011

Research Specialist/Lab Manager

- Helped create and maintain the Department of Speech Language and Hearing Science's first Auditory Cognitive Neuroscience laboratory
- Provided support for graduate students and supervised undergraduate research assistants
- Established research priorities and deadlines

- Oversaw study protocol approval and paperwork, personnel certification and training, annual productivity reports, grant budgets, purchases, as well as laboratory promotion and advertisement
- Assisted with study design and development, stimuli creation, data collection and analysis
- Coordinated participation recruitment from a variety of subject pools
- Helped with the preparation and presentation of research findings in both oral and written formats
- Was responsible for the design, creation and maintenance of the laboratory's webpage
- Developed and organized the Auditory Cognitive Neuroscience Society as well as coordinated all Auditory Cognitive Neuroscience Society conferences
- Research projects: speaker identification, the role of rhythm in speech perception, general auditory categorization, speech perception in noise, and speaker normalization

University of Texas at Austin Austin, TX

08/2004 – 08/2006

Graduate Research Assistant/Lab Manager

08/2002 – 07/2003

- Conducted literature searches
- Responsible for obtaining appropriate protocol approval
- Assisted in the conceptualization and design of research projects, created stimuli, recruited subjects, collected and organized data, performed statistical analyses
- Presented research findings at laboratory meetings, Department of Psychology talks, as well as national and international conferences
- Organized weekly journal group discussions
- Supervised undergraduate research assistants and work-study student
- Purchased laboratory equipment and supplies
- Responsible for the design, creation and maintenance of the laboratory's webpage
- Research projects: applied Bayesian statistical models to general auditory categorization tasks

Boys Town National Research Hospital Omaha, NE

08/2003 – 08/2004

Science Technician

- Responsible for setting up new Speech Production and Speech Perception laboratories in the newly constructed Lied Learning & Technology Center at BTNRH.
- Purchased equipment, computers, software, supplies, as well as furniture and then transformed the empty space into useable lab space
- Performed hearing screenings and equipment calibration
- Recruited and scheduled research subjects
- Collected, organized, analyzed and presented data at conferences
- Oriented new personnel to the laboratories
- Research projects: effects of communication mode on the speech of cochlear implant users, speech clarity strategies used by children, and auditory perception and production of tigers

University of Texas at Austin Austin, TX

01/2003 – 05/2003

Graduate Teaching Assistant

- Assisted in the preparation of teaching material for an Introduction to Psychology course
- Guest lectured to classes of over 250 undergraduate students
- Performed literature searches and summaries of course topic material
- Graded quizzes, exams and papers
- Maintained bi-weekly office hours to assist students

Washington State University Pullman, WA

01/2001 – 05/2002

Undergraduate Research Assistant

- Conducted literature reviews and summaries
- Recruited subjects
- Collected, organized, and analyzed data
- Presented research findings at the Acoustical Society of America while still an undergraduate

Sullivan, S.C.

- Participated in regular lab meetings and journal group discussions
- Performed general clerical duties including making copies, running errands, picking up material from the library
- Research projects: auditory enhancement in female speech, listeners' abilities to learn complex auditory categories, the locus of contrast effects, design and development of an auditory skills therapy training CD-ROM

Washington State University Pullman, WA

01/2001 – 05/2002

Undergraduate Speech Pathology and Audiology Clinician

- Performed unassisted Occupational Safety and Health Administration hearing screenings
- Educated clients on the risk of noise induced hearing loss
- Helped perform pure tone threshold screenings and word recognition tests on hearing clients
- Assisted in creating ear molds for hearing aids and hearing aid fittings
- Documented clients progress through the use of SOAP notes
- Provided bi-weekly English immersion therapy for a 16-month-old client
- Performed speech production and cognitive assessments
- Assisted in weekly accent reduction group therapy

HONORS AND AWARDS

Graduated *Summa Cum Laude* from Washington State University (2002)

Washington State University President's Honor Roll (1998-2002)

Multiple Evelyn W. Hacker Scholarships (2000-2001)

Scottish Rite Foundation Scholarships (2000-2001)

Dr. Edward R. Meyer Scholarship (2000)

Coast Guard Mutual Assistance Education Grant (2000)

University Scholar in Residence Awards (1998-1999)

University Achievement Awards (1998-1999)

Merit Scholarship (1998)

Tandy Technology Scholar (1998)

High School Valedictorian (1998)

GRANTS

Co-Investigator, Auditory and cognitive factors in speech perception and category learning (Randy Diehl, PI), National Institutes of Health, \$77,666, 9/01/09-6/30/11 (Subcontract)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS/AFFILIATIONS

Member, Acoustical Society of America

Member, American Auditory Society

Member, Co-Developer, and Organizer, Auditory Cognitive Neuroscience Society

PUBLICATIONS

Lotto, A.J., & **Sullivan, S.C.** (2007). Speech as a sound source. In W.A. Yost, R.R. Fay, & A.N. Popper (Eds.), *Springer Handbook of Auditory Research: Auditory Perception of Sound Sources*.

Lotto, A.J., **Sullivan, S.C.**, & Holt, L.L. (2003). Central locus for nonspeech context effects on phonetic identification. *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, **113**, 53-56.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Carbonell, K.M., Lansford, K.L., Utisanski, R.L., Liss, J.M., **Sullivan, S.C.** & Lotto, A.J. "Stable Production rhythms across language for bilingual speakers." 161st Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, Seattle, WA. May 27, 2011.

Sullivan, S.C., Kittleson, M.M., Lotto, A.J., & Diehl, R.L. "Sensitivity to characteristics of

- Gaussian-shaped stimulus distributions in auditory categorization.” 160th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, Cancun, Mexico. November 18, 2010.
- Vitela, A.D., **Sullivan, S.C.**, & Lotto, A.J. “Perceptual normalization for variation in speaking Style.” 157th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, Portland, Oregon. April 20, 2009.
- Lotto, A.J., Vitela, A., **Sullivan, S.**, & Leibold, L. “Perceptual insertion of phonetic segment induced by speech-shaped noise.” 2008 Meeting of the American Auditory Society, Scottsdale, AZ, March 7, 2008.
- Sullivan, S.C.**, Lotto, A.J., Newlin, E.T., & Diehl, R.L. “Sensitivity to changing stimulus distribution characteristics in auditory categorization.” 150th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, Minneapolis, Minnesota. October 18, 2005.
- Sullivan, S.C.**, Lotto, A.J., Newlin, E.T., & Diehl, R.L. “Sensitivity to stimulus distribution characteristics in auditory categorization.” 149th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, Vancouver, Canada. May 20, 2005.
- Ide Helvie, D.L., McCleary, E.A., **Sullivan, S.C.**, Lotto, A.J., & Higgins, M.B. “Strategies used to increase speech clarity by normal-hearing children.” 148th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, San Diego, CA. November 16, 2004.
- Sullivan, S.C.**, Lotto, A.J., & Diehl, R.L. “Optimal auditory categorization on a single dimension.” 26th Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Chicago, IL. August 8, 2004.
- Sullivan, S.C.**, & Lotto, A.J. “Peripheral and central locus of a nonspeech phonetic context effect.” 143rd Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, Pittsburgh, PA. June 4, 2002.

INVITED ADDRESSES

- Diehl, R.L., & **Sullivan, S.C.** “Bayesian approaches to perception.” Address to the 146th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, Austin, TX, November 13, 2003.

References available upon request