

LISA SOMMERS, M.A., C.C.C.-SLP
Clinic Director and Clinical Associate Professor
University of Massachusetts Amherst
Department of Communication Disorders
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EDUCATION

- 1987 Master of Arts
Speech-Language Pathology
Kent State University
- 1985 Bachelor of Science
Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, *Summa Cum Laude*
Bowling Green State University

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

University of Massachusetts Amherst, Amherst, MA, July 2014-present

Clinical Associate Professor and Clinic Director of Center for Language, Speech and Hearing. Designated Privacy and Security Officer in September 2015. Responsibilities include management of business, fiscal and privacy/security of operations of Communication Disorders Department's clinic, marketing of clinical services, coordination of on-campus and off-campus clinical placement programs, program development, collaboration with clinical and academic faculty, supervision of support staff, assistance with clinical supervision of graduate students, development and implementation of interprofessional education opportunities, and teaching graduate level courses.

Northeast Rehabilitation Hospital, Portsmouth, NH, December 2005-June 2014

Senior Speech-Language Pathologist in outpatient and inpatient Speech-Language Pathology departments. Responsibilities included delivery of direct therapy services for speech, language, voice, cognitive, and swallowing deficits, as well as supervision and mentoring of students and clinical fellows, and education of rehab staff and public re: role and scope of practice of the SLP. Areas of clinical expertise included voice and motor speech disorders, dysphagia, and diagnosis and treatment of language disorders. Developed LSVT Loud® and Big® programming and PD Community Wellness groups.

Southern New England Rehabilitation Center, St. Joseph's Hospital, Providence, RI, March 2000-December 2005

Resource Clinician for the Speech-Language Pathology department. Responsibilities included department management, clinical development, and ensuring competency of SLP staff, supervision and mentoring of students and clinical fellows, as well as direct therapy services for adults with neurogenic communication and swallowing deficits in the acute rehab and acute hospital settings.

Vencor, Inc., February 1997-March 2000

Manager and clinical program developer. Duties included providing direct therapy services and clinical supervision of Clinical Fellows as well as training staff in clinical programs. Achieved ranking of Clinical Ladder III, the highest clinical achievement recognition within the organization.

Concept Rehab, Inc., February 1995-1997

Responsibilities included providing direct therapy services, clinical supervision of CF's and other SLP's and supervision of all disciplines as Regional Manager for six facilities in central Ohio.

Downeast Therapy Associates, P.A., Ellsworth, ME, September 1989-1993

Co-founded and developed Downeast Therapy Associates, an agency providing diagnostic and therapy services to a varied pediatric and adult population in eastern Maine. Responsibilities included co-administration of business, staff supervision, and direct services to pediatric and adult patients.

Mount Desert Island, ME, September 1989-September 1993

Private practice in Mount Desert, Ellsworth, and surrounding areas in Downeast Maine, serving pediatric outpatients, and adult neurogenic inpatients, outpatients and home health patients.

St. Camillus Health and Rehabilitation Center, Syracuse, NY, September 1988-August 1989

Staff speech-language pathologist

Vanderbilt Rehabilitation Center, Newport Hospital, Newport, RI, October 1987-July 1988

Staff speech-language pathologist

PUBLICATION

Bernhard, A., Sommers, L., and Richardson, K. (2019), Make Your Voice Heard! Healthy Communication and Parkinson's Disease. American Parkinson Disease Association.

Sommers, L., and Pierce, R. (1990), Naming and Semantic Judgments in Dementia of the Alzheimer's Type. *Aphasiology*, 4, 573-586.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Sommers, L. (Nov 2019). Person-Centered Strategies for Managing Communication Challenges in PD Support Groups. Invited presentation at the APDA Support Group Facilitator Conference, Worcester, MA.

Higgins, A., Richardson, K., & Sommers, L. (Nov 2018). Choral Singing: Effects on Speech, Voice, & Quality of Life in Individuals with Parkinson's Disease. Technical

Research Presentation at the American Speech-Language Hearing Association Convention, Boston, MA.

Richardson, K., & Sommers, L. (Sept 2016). The Effects Of Choral Singing On Speech And Voice Characteristics In Individuals With Parkinson's Disease. Poster presentation at the World Parkinson's Congress, Portland, OR.

Asselin, A., Choe, Y., Slade, J., Foster, T., & Sommers, L. (November 2015). Left- Vs. Right-Hand Movement During Spoken Naming Tasks: A Single-Case Report Of Computerized Anomia Treatment. Poster presentation at the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Convention, Denver, CO.

CLINICAL PRESENTATIONS

Sommers, L., Caruso, S., Palatino, M., Jassal, M., Quach, L., Manzi, L., Stockley, J. (March 2020). Social Communication Skills. Invited 1-hour educational seminar at BIA-MA Support group, Hadley, MA.

Sommers, L., Felicetti, C., French, S., LaChance, J., Saloio, B., & Aveni, A. (April 2019). Technology for Life's Challenges. Invited 1-hour educational seminar at BIA-MA Support group, Hadley, MA.

Sommers, L., Schwebler, C., Michaud, K., Madison, J., Drown, L., & Pugh, A. (April 2018). The Science of Music. Invited 1-hour educational seminar at Brain Injury Association of Massachusetts (BIA-MA) Support group, Hadley, MA.

Sommers, L. (March 2018). UMass PD Communication and Swallowing Wellness Group. Invited presentation at PD Support Group at Jewish Community Center, Springfield, MA.

Sommers, L., Higgins, A., DuBois, H., Pastushok, H., & Jones, C. (January 2018). Traumatic Brain Injury: A Spotlight. Invited educational seminar at Hadley Police Department, Hadley, MA.

Sommers, L., Panel Member. (Dec 2017). Good Start Program in Parkinson's Disease, hosted by American Parkinson's Disease Association and UMass Medical School.

Sommers, L., and Zawacki, S. (June 2017). Spotlight on Parkinson's Disease: Living Well Everyday. Invited speaker for June 29, 2017 webinar in series hosted by American Parkinson's Disease Association.

Sommers, L., Higgins, A., Holovnia, A., DuBois, H., Pastushok, H., & Jones, C. (March 2017). Traumatic Brain Injury: A Spotlight. Invited 1-hour educational seminar at BIA-MA Support Group, Hadley, MA.

Sommers, L., Panel member (November, 2016). A Conversation with the Experts. New England Regional Parkinson's Conference hosted by American Parkinson's Disease Association.

Sommers, L., Starr, M., and Milanesi, O. (April 2016 and July 2016). Social Communication Skills Following a Brain Injury. Invited 1-hour educational seminar at Brain Injury Support Group at HealthSouth, Ludlow, MA and BIA-MA Support Group in Hadley MA.

Sommers, L. (October 2015). Voice Speech and Swallowing Deficits Associated with Parkinson's Disease. Invited 1-hour educational seminar at the Parkinson's Disease Support Group, Baystate Franklin Medical Center, Greenfield, MA.

Sommers, L. (September 2015). UMass Amherst Parkinson's Disease Communication and Swallowing Wellness Group. Invited presentation at The Parkinson's Disease Support Group, Baystate Franklin Medical Center, Greenfield, MA.

Sommers, L., Downie, A., Barcellos, S., Milanesi, O., & Keator, L. (April 2015). Brain Injury and the Use of Mobile Technology. Invited 2-hour educational seminar at BIA-MA Support Group, Hadley, MA.

Sommers, L. (Nov. 2014). Clinical and Administrative Implementation of LSVT LOUD. Invited 1-hour educational seminar at Cooley-Dickinson Hospital, Northampton, MA.

Sommers, L. (Oct. 2014). LSVT BIG and LOUD. Invited 1-hour educational seminar at Parkinson's Disease Support Group, Hadley, MA.

TEACHING

Fall 2014-Fall 2016 COMM-DIS 520 Counseling in Communication Disorders

Fall 2015-Fall 2017 COMM-DIS 496 K Clinical Observation

Fall 2014-present COMM-DIS 698A Professional Seminar

Spring 2018 COMM-DIS 614 Language Disorders Adults II

Spring 2019-Fall 2019 COMM-DIS 398 Internship

SERVICE UMASS AMHERST

2015-Present Privacy and Security Officer, Center for Language, Speech and Hearing

2016-Present Member, UMass Amherst-appointed Privacy and Security Officers Group

2014-Present Chair, Clinical Advisory Committee

2014-Present Faculty Liaison, Off-Campus Placements

2017-Present Member, Student Advisory Board, Department of Communication Disorders

2017-Present Member, Dean's SPHHS Community Advisory Board

2014-Present Member, College of Education Educator Licensure Advisory Council

2014-Present Member, Northeast Council of Clinic Directors

2020-Present Member, Ad Hoc Committee on Holistic Admissions

2017-2020 Member, Center for Community Health Equity Research (CCHER) Steering Committee

2019 Member, Information Risk and Compliance Analyst Search Committee
2018-Present Member, Pioneer Valley Interprofessional Educational Collaborative
2019-2020 Member, Search Committee, Lecturer/Clinical Faculty/Speech-Language Pathologist
2017-2019 SLP Admissions Committee, Department of Communication Disorders
2015-2016 Member, Search Committee, Clinical Instructor/Speech-Language Pathologist

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology
Licensed by the State of Massachusetts
FIM certified
NOMs certified
LSVT LOUD certified
Certified Brain Injury Specialist (CBIS)

AFFILIATIONS

American Speech-Language Hearing Association
Massachusetts Chapter of the APDA, Board Advisor
Massachusetts Speech and Hearing Association Board, UMass Faculty Liaison