Dr. Campbell
Soon Joins Callier Center
—page 3

UTD/Callier
Graduate Programs
U.S. News & World Report
America’s Best Graduate Schools
—page 6

Humanitarian Award
Callier Audiologist: Dr. Clark Receives Recognition
—page 7

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The Time Is Here  
from Executive Director, Ross J. Roeser

Victor Hugo is credited with saying, “There is nothing so powerful as an idea whose time has come.” Creating a multidisciplinary center that would address clinical, educational, and research needs of all those with hearing, speech, and language disorders was an idea that began almost 50 years ago, when Callier’s matriarch, Nelle Johnston, wrote the prospectus outlining what is now Callier today. I have read that prospectus multiple times through the years. Even though the vocabulary we use today has changed and our available treatments are drastically different, the germinal ideas Nelle proffered in that historic document were indeed powerful. Today, Callier is thriving, with two campuses, research programs that are generating over $2 million yearly in extramural funding, over 80,000 patient visits per year, nationally ranked graduate programs in audiology and speech-language pathology, and a nationally accredited preschool for children with hearing loss and children who hear. Yet, it is my belief that Nelle’s idea about Callier is yet to come.

Ideas and imaginations are stimulated through strategic planning. When President Daniel arrived on campus about a year ago he began the strategic planning process for the university. The process was all encompassing, involving the entire university. Rightly so, Dr. Daniel put forth the effort to project what will be in the future UTD and all of its components. Callier has had a strategic plan for years. It was formalized in the late 1980’s and has had varying amounts of attention since then. However, the recent attention on the need for strategic planning has rekindled interest and two important activities have occurred.

The trustees of the Foundation for the Callier Center met a little over a year ago and developed their strategic plan. This plan identifies three areas of focus: promoting awareness of Callier’s programs, refurbishing and expanding Callier facilities, and helping to fund endowed Chairs and Professorships. Those interested in reading the entire plan are welcome to drop by my office for a copy. The strategic plan for the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences (BBS), of which Callier is a component, is under development and will soon be posted on the BBS website. The section outlining Callier’s focus is as follows:

Establish new Institutes of Excellence in Pediatric Hearing, Autism, and the Communication Needs of an Aging Population

The focus of the Callier strategic planning initiatives will be on establishing new institutes of excellence in pediatric hearing.

“Indeed, the vision for Callier to create new initiatives that deal with highly needed research, education and service is a tall order.” states Dr. Roeser, “However, with the success we have been able to achieve since opening the doors in the late 1960’s, and with the outstanding support of all those who are helping Callier to achieve, our time for success in these areas is ripening.”
Dr. Campbell Joins Callier

Newly invested UTD president, Dr. David E. Daniel, has announced the improvement of health and quality of life for individuals and society as one of his six key initiatives of his presidency. While the Callier Center has shared Dr. Daniel’s focus for more than 30 years, it was this initiative that led Callier administrators to pursue a key addition to its team by naming Dr. Thomas Campbell of the University of Pittsburgh as the future Executive Director of the Callier Center. Dr. Campbell, a certified speech-language pathologist, will assume his new duties in September.

dr. campbell will be leaving his administrative position as associate professor in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at the University of Pittsburgh. Dr. Campbell concurrently served as director of the Center for Research on Acquired and Neurologic Communication Disorders at the Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh. Dr. Campbell recalls, “over the past 20 years, my research has focused on understanding the environmental, physiological and behavioral markers that underlie speech and language disorders in children. In recent years, I have been especially interested in understanding both the genetic and physiological processes that are associated with childhood motor speech disorders. I have also had a keen interest in developing an outstanding clinical program at Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh and intergrading clinical service delivery with clinical research. One important aspect of my plan or vision for Callier is to continue to develop the center into a world-class institution for clinical service delivery for both children and adults with hearing and communication disorders. I believe that this goal cannot be achieved without innovative clinical research and clinical education programs that are carefully integrated with the clinical programs.”

“My time in Pittsburgh has been rewarding both professionally and personally. This is where Chris Dollaghan and I have raised our two daughters, Annicka and Kelsey, who are currently juniors in college. Although it is always difficult to leave friends and colleagues, Chris and I are very excited about our move to Dallas and our new positions at the Callier Center at UTD” remarks Dr. Campbell.

Dr. Campbell will be joined at UTD/Callier by his wife, Dr. Christine Dollaghan, a professor in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at the University of Pittsburgh. Dr. Dollaghan studies child language development and language disorders, biologic and sociodemographic influences on speech and language development and evidence-based diagnosis and intervention in communication disorders.

“When I’m not doing these clinical and administrative duties, I’m an avid baker and gardener!” proclaimed Dr. Tom Campbell.
A Message from the
Foundation for the Callier Center

For over 40 years, Paula Dennard has played a significant role in advancing the Callier Center’s highly regarded standards of excellence. Her unwavering commitment to service, to healing and to passion for programs and services that make a difference in today’s world are an inspiration to all who know her.

Mrs. Dennard’s words reveal her remarkable character and also something special about Callier. “Most of us can hear words. But unless you’re open and loving, you can’t interpret what those words really mean – you must hear not just with the ear but with the heart. And that’s one of the things I really like about Callier. Not only do they provide technology and services that help people hear, they do it with a true spirit of caring. Once you walk in, you realize the nurturing and the love there. You can feel it when you see the interaction with patients and students, the high standards evident in every program, and the quality of services in action.”

Leading by example, Mrs. Dennard’s philanthropic generosity through her family’s Rupe Foundation has helped make possible such vital projects as the Advanced Hearing Research Center at Callier, the Dennard Fund for program excellence, the Callier Richardson satellite facility and, most recently, the public awareness initiative of the Callier Foundation. Mrs. Dennard also makes frequent contributions to the Callier Center in honor of friends and family members for special occasions, holidays, or memorials.

A visible landmark on the UTD/Callier Center campus is the beautiful sculpture entitled “Joy of Sound” by Annie Crawford Davis. Mrs. Dennard commissioned the sculpture in 1992 as a gift from The Rupe Foundation to commemorate the establishment of the Nelle C. Johnston Chair in Communication Disorders.

Mrs. Dennard was first nominated to the Foundation for Callier Center board after she served as the 1967 Crystal Charity Ball (CCB) Datebook Chair under Lead Chair Margaret Jonsson Rogers (daughter of UT Dallas founder Erik Jonsson). Callier was selected as a CCB beneficiary that year and, again, on four subsequent occasions with support totaling over $2 million to date from the Crystal Charity Ball.

Paula’s father, D. Gordon Rupe, was among the Dallas civic leaders who established the Pilot School for the Deaf during the 1940’s. Continuing his legacy of community service, Mrs. Dennard was a guiding force during a transitional era when the Pilot School merged with other organizations in 1968 to become the Callier Center for Communication Disorders.

Another major milestone occurred in 1975 when Mrs. Dennard was among the visionary Foundation for Callier Center board members who made the decision to transfer the Callier Center to The University of Texas System. This significant gift included the Callier building at 1966 Inwood Road, the 5 acre Callier campus on which the building is located, and additional financial assets including the Lena Callier Trust. This was a pivotal gift during the critical early years of The University of Texas at Dallas.

During Mrs. Dennard’s term as President of the Foundation for the Callier Center in the early 1990’s, the Callier Center was again on the national forefront with the emergence of a remarkable new device - the cochlear implant. Since then, cochlear implants have provided the miracle of sound to countless children and adults with hearing loss around the world. Callier’s dedicated professionals and research scientists continue to break new ground in this vital area.

Today, Paula Dennard remains a stalwart supporter who is actively involved as a Trustee Emeritus of the Foundation for the Callier Center. Thank you, Mrs. Dennard, for being such a wonderful friend of the UTD/Callier Center throughout the years. You inspire us every day to seek even greater levels of excellence.

We welcome the opportunity to visit personally with anyone interested in our board’s philanthropic endeavors on behalf of UTD/Callier Center. Call 214-905-3149 to learn how you can help with a tax-deductible contribution.
Ear Infections

Hearing Loss in Children, Can Delay Speech Development

Ear infections rank as the No. 1 reason for infant and children visits to the doctor and emergency rooms, as well as the most common cause of hearing loss in children.

Affecting approximately 20 million children per year, ear infections can occasionally cause temporary hearing loss in children. Such hearing loss, especially in children, may impair learning capacity and even delay speech development. Because children learn speech and language from listening to other people talk, the first few years of life are especially critical for this development.

For many children, ear infections are frequently recurring and parents need to recognize the warning signs and understand the importance of proper treatment.

Otitis media (middle ear inflammation), without infection presents a special problem because symptoms of pain and fever usually are not present. Weeks and even months can go by before parents detect a problem.

During this time, the child’s hearing can be affected and speech and language development could be negatively impacted.

Long-term complications, including hearing loss and scarring, can arise if recurring ear infections are ignored. The reason babies and children are particularly susceptible to ear infections is because their eustachian tubes are short measuring only one half inch and are horizontal. By adulthood, the tubes triple in length and become more vertical, allowing fluid to drain more easily.

The presence of fluid in the middle ear may take months to resolve following a single episode. In one study, the average duration of effusion was 52 months. Hearing loss was discovered in 92 percent of these patients, with speech delay noted in about 17 percent. Because of these potential complications, treatment should be initiated as soon as possible whenever middle ear infections are present.

Experimental Ear Infection Vaccine Yields Favorable Results

A pilot study of infants in Eastern Europe indicates an experimental vaccine may reduce ear infections in babies. Good news since research indicates that the annual cost of ear infections to the U.S. public is enormous – roughly $5 billion in medical expenses and lost wages.

In the study of approximately 5,000 infants in the Czech Republic and Slovakia, Czech Republic researcher Roman Prymula, M.D., and his colleagues at the University of Defense administered the experimental vaccine to half of the subjects. The babies were given the vaccine at ages three months, four months, five months and 12-15 months old. The other half of the infants were given a routine vaccination against an unrelated condition – hepatitis A – and all were followed until they were 24-27 months old.

The results, released in early March, revealed fewer middle-ear infections in the children who received the vaccine compared to those who did not. The vaccine currently is undergoing further testing but has not been approved in the United States.

How can I tell if my child might have otitis media?

Even if there is no pain or fever, there are other signs you can look for that may indicate chronic or recurring fluid in the ear:

• Inattentiveness
• Wanting the television or radio louder than usual
• Misunderstanding directions
• Listlessness
• Unexplained irritability
• Pulling or scratching at the ears

Identifying, Preventing And Treating Language Disorders

DR. CHRISTINE DOLLAGHAN JOINS THE UNIVERSITY

Dr. Christine Ann Dollaghan, a professor in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at the University of Pittsburgh, plans to join Callier in August. Dr. Dollaghan studies child language development and language disorders, biologic and sociodemographic influences on speech and language development and evidence-based diagnosis and intervention in communication disorders.

“I’ve long been interested in questions about the validity of diagnostic and other categories, Dr. Dollaghan said, “but answering such questions requires very large samples. One of my more grandiose hopes is to make UTD the core of a global network of researchers and practitioners interested in large-scale collaborations to address these kinds of questions.” Dr. Dollaghan has been studying some parallels between complex self-organizing systems in other domains and the complex self-organizing system of young children’s language. Also interested in the potential applications of more integrative, systems-level approaches to identifying, preventing, and treating language disorders.

Dr. Dollaghan will continue to work with Dr. Tom Campbell, her husband, on the recovery of children’s speech and language skills after traumatic brain injury and on statistical modeling of developmental change in typical and atypical speakers.

“I am eager to develop collaborations with other faculty at UTD; the breadth and depth of work that is going on in the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences played a major role in our decision to head south,” remarked Dr. Dollaghan. “I’m delighted to have the opportunity to join the faculty and I look forward to seeing you all around the beginning of August.”
150 Alumni Help Celebrate 30 Years Of UTD/Callier’s Communication Disorder Program

The Communications Disorders Program within UTD’s School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences celebrated its 30th anniversary with a fiesta reception that attracted more than 150 alumni who have been an integral part of the program’s history.

The reception, held March 23, 2006, at the Callier Center-Dallas facility featured catered Mexican food and drinks from Blue Mesa Grill. The event was scheduled in conjunction with the annual Texas Speech-Language-Hearing Association’s 50th Annual Convention and Exhibition, March 23-25, at the Gaylord Texan Resort and Convention Center in Grapevine. The university provided shuttle transportation between the Gaylord Convention Center and the Callier Center for reception attendees.

Dr. Robert Stillman, head of the Communication Disorders Program, welcomed the alumni attendees to the reception. Tours of the facility were offered to those interested in seeing how Callier has changed since their days in the program, including the addition of the Advanced Hearing Research Center. A continuously running slide show in Glorig Auditorium throughout the evening provided fond memories of past and present faculty, staff and students.

Callier Graduate Programs Continue Climbing in U.S. News & World Report Rankings

UTD/Callier Center’s graduate programs have continued to climb the ranks of U.S. News & World Report’s Best Graduate Schools. Within the section of Health Disciplines in the magazine’s 2007 edition, UTD Callier Center’s audiology department moved up to a fifth-place ranking, while the speech-language pathology department climbed to 17th in the listing.

U.S. News & World Report annually ranks the top professional school programs in business, education, engineering, law and medicine, as well as programs in the sciences, social sciences and humanities. Within the health disciplines, rankings are based on data collected from assessment surveys of deans, administrators and/or faculty at accredited degree programs or schools in each discipline.

The UTD/Callier Center’s masters and doctoral programs in both audiology and speech-language pathology have made regular appearances in these prestigious rankings for the past several years.

The Sandy Friel-Patti Research Award Winner Is...

Dr. Mandy Maguire won the “Sandy Friel-Patti Research in Child Language International Travel Award.” The award is given to a pre-tenured faculty member or graduate student to pay for all travel costs involved in presenting at an international conference.

Dr. Maguire’s winning paper was entitled Less is more in verb learning: Fewer exemplars facilitate novel verb extension, which will be presented at the International Society for Infancy Studies Conference in Kyoto, Japan in June.
Dr. Clark Recognized With Prestigious Humanitarian Award

For the past seven years, Calier Center faculty member and audiologist Dr. Jackie Clark has made an annual trek to the African nation of Mozambique to provide care for hearing-impaired children — many of whom are orphans — and to train local healthcare professionals in ways to improve hearing healthcare in their underdeveloped nation.

In April, the American Academy of Audiology (AAA) recognized Dr. Clark’s outstanding humanitarian efforts by naming her the recipient of its prestigious 2006 Humanitarian Award at the AAA’s Honors Reception, AudiologyNOW!, in Minneapolis, MN. The award recognizes an individual who has demonstrated direct and outstanding service to society in the areas of hearing, hearing disability or deafness.

Since 1998, Dr. Clark has been planning, overseeing and leading a team of volunteers in her annual mission to improve the audiological care of the children of Mozambique. Throughout the year, she works to secure the necessary donations of equipment and funds for the effort. Once there, Dr. Clark and her team have provided hearing diagnostic services, as well as free hearing aids and hearing aid support for the Mozambican children. Along with the immediate assistance to the children, Dr. Clark also has emphasized the need to train local physicians, nurses, medical technicians and social workers in the areas of hearing disorders, otoscopy and hearing testing. Each year, Dr. Clark brings more hearing aids, supplies and audiologic test equipment to the children and medical professionals in Mozambique, empowering those communities to become self-sufficient in the area of hearing healthcare. Dr. Clark’s humanitarian work demonstrates how audiology can and should be a vital part of any team approach to a worldwide healthcare effort.

One Of Calier’s Successful Students

Graduate Of The AuD Program Wins Four Awards

If winning multiple awards as a graduate student is any indicator of budding career success, Julie Martinez Verhoff may look ahead to a bright future. In just one semester, she received more awards than many students might receive during their entire college years and beyond.

Julie, a bright, 28-year-old UTD/Calier student graduated in May with a clinical doctorate of audiology, won the following awards for her extreme dedication, determination, experience and intelligence.

Low Aschman Research Award for 2006 – Established by the Texas Speech Language-Hearing Foundation, this $1,000 gift is awarded to graduate students and less experienced researchers seeking answers to relevant questions in speech and hearing sciences, speech-language pathology and audiology.

Donna Fox scholarship – An $850 scholarship also awarded by the Texas Speech Language-Hearing Foundation. The scholarship supports a Texas student pursuing a doctoral degree in speech-language pathology or audiology at a U.S. university.

Charles Holland Student Scholarships to the XXVIII International Congress of Audiology – The International Society of Audiology offers students studying audiology a $1,000 scholarship to help pay for the Congress of Audiology, which this year will be held Sept. 3-7 in Innsbruck, Austria. Recipients were judged on a three-page description of original research, either clinical or basic science, and the research will be presented in poster format at the Congress.

LULAC National Scholarship Fund (NSF) Award – The League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) National Scholarship Fund recognizes scholastic accomplishments and promise of achievement. Julie was awarded a NSF award of $1,000.

Julie attributes her achievements to the support of her mentor Dr. Emily Tobey, the Nelle C. Johnston Chair in Communication Disorders in the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences at UTD. “I have been fortunate to have Dr. Tobey as a great mentor and role model. She has allowed me to aid her in her research endeavors and pursue my own, and she has supported and backed me no matter what the situation,” Julie said.

After graduation Julie moved to Washington, D.C. with her husband, Chris.

SIARC Offered A Cooperative Learning Experience

May 2006 - The Summer Intensive Aural Rehabilitation Conference (SIARC) offered hearing-impaired adults and their communication partners a unique opportunity to learn about effective techniques and technological advances that could positively impact their communication skills.

The SIARC is designed as a cooperative learning partnership in a social environment because hearing impairments not only impact the persons affected, but also those around them. A partner might be a spouse, family member, friend or co-worker.

Each day, the program featured group classes on coping with hearing loss, facilitating communication and technological advances in the hearing industry. Complete audiological assessments, hearing aid checks and trials with new technology allowed attendees to evaluate their current hearing instruments compared to new technology. Digital, programmable, disposable and other types of hearing aids were available for trial.

SIARC’s personnel presented the latest innovations in hearing technology, along with opportunities for research involvement. Geoff Plant, Ph.D., a renowned expert in adult aural rehabilitation, was the special guest speaker.

Dr. Geoff Plant serves on the board of the Hearing Rehabilitation Foundation, a Maine-based, non-profit organization providing and promoting speech communication training for children and adults with hearing loss. The foundation has been an important provider of services and resources for people with hearing loss and related professionals since its formation in 1996.

Communicating throughout the life span  UTD/Calier Center
Crossword puzzle

Across
2. This wine goes great with Red Meats
4. Have your say here
5. A deck of these is great for passing time
7. Cheesy chips
8. Button alternative
10. Animal Skin
11. Company bought by Kmart
13. Outdoor meal
15. Sudden fear
16. Showed sorrow
18. Full of calcium for strong bones
20. Many a sci-fi character
22. These roses will never die
23. Wishing ______
1. Advice giving cookie
3. Take away
5. Tell your story here
6. Salsa chunk
8. Muscular jerk
9. Grand _____ (auto race)
11. Period of the year
12. Layered haircut
14. Toasty
17. Danger
19. Hide in the shadows
20. Atmosphere
21. Spiced ______ Pie

Giving
Contributions are gratefully accepted to help fund the vital work of the Callier Center. We hope you will think of Callier when considering your:

Donations in honor or memory of loved ones
Estate planning
Year-end contributions

For additional information, call 214-905-3149, or mail contributions to the Development Office, Callier Center, 1966 Inwood Road, Dallas, Texas 75235.

Thank you for your support

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