

CURRICULUM VITAE

MELISSA NASCONE RUSCETTA, PhD, AuD

EDUCATION

AuD	Salus University Elkins Park, PA	2010
PhD	University of Pittsburgh Pittsburgh, PA	2005
MA	University of Pittsburgh Pittsburgh, PA	1996
BA	University of Pittsburgh Pittsburgh, PA	1994

LICENSURE

Licensing Board/State:

Audiology/ West Virginia	2010 - 2013
Audiology/ Pennsylvania (AT-000986-L)	1997 – Present
Audiology/ Massachusetts	1996-1997

CERTIFICATION

American Board of Audiology Certified (ABAC)	2021 – Present
American Speech-Language Hearing Association Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC-A)	2022 - Present

APPOINTMENTS AND POSITIONS

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR AuD EXTERNSHIP COORDINATOR	University of Pittsburgh Department of CSD Pittsburgh, PA	8/2021- Present
AUDIOLOGY TRAINING MANAGER	WSAudiology (Rexton) Minneapolis, MN	6/2015 - 8/2021
COURSE DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANT & INSTRUCTOR	Rutgers University – Linguistics New Brunswick, NJ	1/2014 - 6/2015
SENIOR AUDIOLOGIST & HEARING AID CENTER MANAGER	Costco Wholesale Pittsburgh, PA	12/2013 - 6/2015
ADJUNCT INSTRUCTOR	West Virginia University Morgantown, WV	8/2012 - 4/2013
ASSOCIATE AUDIOLOGIST	HearBest Inc. Pittsburgh, PA & Wheeling, WV	11/2009 - 6/2013
STAFF AUDIOLOGIST	UPMC - St. Margaret's Pittsburgh, PA	12/2007 - 11/2009
ADJUNCT FACULTY & ONLINE INSTRUCTOR	Salus University, Elkins Park, PA Elkins Park, PA	1/2006 - 12/2010
INSTRUCTOR	University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA	
CLINICAL & RESEARCH COORDINATOR	Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh (Hearing Center)	1/2001 - 10/2007
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE	University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA	3/1997 - 12/2000
CLINICAL FELLOW	Mass. Eye and Ear Infirmary	1996 - 1997

DIDACTIC TEACHING

University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

<u>Graduate</u> Amplification 2	2022 - Present
Advanced Clinical Seminar	2021- Present
Audiological Assessment	2021 - Present
Clinic Practice	2009 1999 - 2000
Clinical Procedures Lab	2005 - 2008
Audiological Assessment Lab	2008
Aural Rehabilitation	1998

Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ

Intro. to Audiology (Undergraduate)	2014
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West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV

Aural Rehabilitation (Undergraduate)	2013
Advanced Audiological Assessment (Graduate)	2012
Advanced Audiological Assessment Laboratory (Graduate)	2012

Salus University, George S. Osborne College of Audiology, Elkins Park, PA

<u>Graduate Distance Education</u> Hearing Aid Evaluation & Real Ear Measurements Three sections per term	2006 - 2010
Hearing Aid Technologies Three sections per term	2007 - 2010
Evaluation of the Adult/Geriatric Patient	2008 - 2010
Aural Rehabilitation Two sections per term	2008 - 2009

PRACTICAL TEACHING AND CEU EVENTS

WSAudiology (Rexton brand)

2015 – Present

Over 350 annual hours of real-world small group practical instruction for staff of over fifty hearing aid centers with varying degrees of hearing healthcare experience. Material is presented both in person and remotely with simulations and many are offered for continuing education credits.

General Audiometry
Practice Management
Apprentice Training Support
Product Training
Hearing Aid Sales and Fitting
Hearing Aid Programming Software
Hearing Instrument Test Box Training
Real Ear Measurement
Patient Case Management and Troubleshooting
Counseling
Telecare

Costco Earfest	2021 Virtual
Annual Senior Dispenser CEU Meetings Chicago, IL and Newport Beach, CA	2016-2019
American Academy of Audiology 2021 Virtual Conference	2021 Virtual
Annual Conference of the American Academy of Audiology Sponsoring Exhibitor	
The Best of Audiology	2019
Annual Conference of the American Academy of Audiology CEU Exhibitor	Columbus, OH
Audiology Today	2018
Annual Conference of the American Academy of Audiology CEU Exhibitor	Nashville, TN
AudiologyNow!	2017
Annual Conference of the American Academy of Audiology CEU Exhibitor	Indianapolis, IN
Rexton Regional CEU Events	2016 - 2017
King of Prussia, PA, Columbus, OH, St. Louis, MO, Detroit, MI, Atlanta, GA, Mobile, AL, & Cleveland, OH	
Costco Earmold Certification Event	2016
Lancaster, PA	
Costco Real Ear Certification Events	2016
Orlando, FL, Atlanta, GA, Charlotte, NC, Jersey City, NJ, & Sterling, VA	

OTHER INVITED LECTURES AND SEMINARS

- “Unilateral Hearing Loss in Children”** 2007
Audiology meeting of the University of Pittsburgh, Eye and Ear Institute, and Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh. Pittsburgh, PA
- “The Impact of Listening with Directional Microphone Technology on Self-Perceived Localization Disabilities and Handicaps”** 2005
Audiology meeting of the University of Pittsburgh, Eye and Ear Institute, and Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh. Pittsburgh, PA
- “Diagnostic Audiology”** 1999 - 2002
Noise Assessment and Reduction class, University of Pittsburgh Pittsburgh, PA
- “Overview of the Children’s Hearing Center at Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh”** 2001
Monthly Meeting of the Children’s Hearing Center Community Advisory Board - Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh. Pittsburgh, PA
- “Hearing Disorders”** 2001
Neuromuscular/Skeletal Disorders, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA
- “Rehabilitation Audiology”** 2000
Noise Assessment and Reduction class, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA
- “Review of book ‘Statistics as Principled Argument’ by Robert Ableson”** 1999
Pro-seminar lecture series, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA
- “Issues in Troubleshooting Hearing Aids”**
Amplification II class, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 1999
Advanced Seminar, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 1998
- “Understanding and Using the Articulation Index”** 1998
Audiology meeting of the University of Pittsburgh, Eye and Ear Institute, and Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh. Pittsburgh, PA
- “Assistive Listening Devices”** 1997
Self-Help for the Hard of Hearing, Pittsburgh, PA

PUBLICATIONS (PEER-REVIEWED)

Sharma, A., **Ruscetta, M.**, and Chi, D.H. (2009). Ophthalmologic findings in children with sensorineural hearing loss. Archives of Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery, *135*, 119-123.

Simons, J., **Ruscetta, M.**, and Chi, D.H. (2008). Sensorineural hearing impairment in children with Chiari I malformation. Annals of Otolaryngology, Rhinology, and Laryngology, *117*, 443-447.

Ruscetta, M., Palmer, C., Durrant, J., Grayhack, J., and Ryan, C. (2007). The impact of listening with directional microphone technology on self-perceived localization disabilities and handicaps. Journal of the American Academy of Audiology, *18*, 794-808.

Ruscetta, M., Palmer, C., Durrant, J., Grayhack, J., and Ryan, C. (2005). Validity, Internal Consistency, and Test/Retest Reliability of a Localization Disabilities and Handicaps Questionnaire. Journal of the American Academy of Audiology, *16*, 585-595.

Ruscetta, M., Arjmand, E., and Pratt, S. (2005). Speech Recognition Abilities in Noise for Children with Severe-to-Profound Unilateral Sensorineural Hearing Impairment. International Journal of Pediatric Otorhinolaryngology, *69*, 771-779.

Ruscetta, M., and Arjmand, E. (2003). Unilateral Hearing Impairment in Children: Age of Diagnosis. Audiology Online (online internet journal), June 9, 2003. http://www.audiologyonline.com/audiology/newroot.../pf_arc_disp.asp?id=440&catid=232.

Ruscetta, M., and Arjmand, E. (2003). Unilateral Hearing Impairment in Children: Age of Diagnosis. Healthy Hearing (online internet journal), May 12, 2003. http://www.healthyhearing.com/healthyhearing/newroot/articles/arc_disp.asp?article_id=195&catid=1053

Ruscetta, M., and Palmer, C. (2000). The effect of interstimulus interval on subjective categorical loudness judgments. Journal of the American Academy of Audiology, *11*, 570-574.

Palmer, C., Nelson, C., Myers, S., & **Nascone, M.** (May 1999). Quantifying auditory perceptual learning post-hearing aid fitting. Rehabilitation Research and Development. Veterans' Health Administration. A6.

POSTER AND PODIUM PRESENTATIONS (PEER-REVIEWED)

- Dhanisetty, S., **Ruscetta, M.**, and Chi, D. “Unilateral Pediatric Sensorineural Hearing loss” - American Academy of Otolaryngology Annual Meeting. Washington, DC (September 2007).
- Simons, J., **Ruscetta, M.**, and Chi, D. “Sensorineural Hearing Impairment in Children with Chiari I Malformation” – podium presentation. Society for Ear Nose & Throat Advancements in Children Annual Meeting. Baltimore, Maryland (December 2005).
- Chi, D., Horn, J., **Ruscetta, M.**, and Arjmand, E. “Incidence of GJB2 heterozygosity in children with sensorineural hearing impairment” – podium presentation. American Society of Pediatric Otolaryngology Annual Convention, Las Vegas, Nevada (May 2005).
- Chi, D., **Ruscetta, M.**, and Arjmand, E. “GJB2 mutations and inner ear anomalies in children with risk factors for acquired sensorineural hearing impairment” – poster presentation. American Society of Pediatric Otolaryngology Annual Convention, Las Vegas, Nevada (May 2005). **Winner – Third Prize.**
- **Ruscetta, M.**, Arjmand, E., and Pratt, S. “Speech Recognition Abilities in Noise for Children with Severe-to-Profound Unilateral Sensorineural Hearing Impairment” – poster presentation. A Sound Foundation Through Early Amplification Conference, Chicago, IL (November 2004).
- Arjmand, E., **Ruscetta, M.**, and Sabo, D. The effect of varying stimulus intensity level to reduce initial newborn hearing screening referral rates using automated ABR. The International Conference Newborn Hearing Screening, Diagnosis and Intervention. Lake Como, Italy, (May 2004).
- Arjmand, E., **Ruscetta, M.**, and Sabo, D. The effect of automated ABR stimulus intensity level on newborn hearing screening referral rates – podium presentation. American Society of Pediatric Otolaryngology Annual Convention, Phoenix, Arizona, (May 2004).
- Arjmand, E., Horn, J., and **Ruscetta, M.** Audiometric findings in children with Connexin 26 35delG Mutations. The International Conference Newborn Hearing Screening, Diagnosis and Intervention. Lake Como, Italy, (May 2004).
- Arjmand, E., **Ruscetta, M.**, and Pratt, S. “Speech Recognition Abilities in Noise for Children with Unilateral Sensorineural Hearing Impairment” – poster presentation. American Society of Pediatric Otolaryngology Annual Convention, Nashville, TN (May 2003). **Winner – First Prize, Best Poster.**
- Arjmand, E., Ford, A., **Ruscetta, M.**, and Webber, A. Large vestibular aqueduct (LVA) in children: clinical characteristics and radiographic findings – podium presentation. American Society of Pediatric Otolaryngology Annual Convention, Nashville, TN (May 2003).
- **Ruscetta, M.**, and Palmer, C. “Validity and Reliability of a Localization Questionnaire” – poster presentation. American Academy of Audiology Annual Convention and Exposition, San Antonio, TX (April 2003).
- **Ruscetta, M.**, and Arjmand, E. “Unilateral Hearing Impairment in Children: Age of Diagnosis” – poster presentation. American Academy of Audiology Annual Convention and Exposition, San Antonio, TX (April 2003).
- **Ruscetta, M.**, and Palmer, C. “Effects of inter-stimulus-interval on absolute loudness judgments” – poster presentation. American Academy of Audiology Annual Convention and Exposition, Chicago, Illinois (March 2000).
- Palmer, C., Valente, M., Powers, T., Mueller, H.G., **Nascone, M.**, & Potts, L. “The impact of restoring normal loudness growth on speech understanding as a function of signal-to-noise ratio and input level” – poster presentation. National Institute for Deafness and other Communication Disorders Biennial Hearing Aid Conference, Bethesda, Maryland (September 1997).

RESEARCH GRANTS

Speech Recognition Abilities in Noise for Children with Unilateral Sensorineural Hearing Impairment

Pennsylvania Lion's Hearing Research Foundation – CO-INVESTIGATOR
\$10,000 2003 – 2005

The Effects of Stimulus Intensity Level on Referral Rates Using Automated Auditory Brainstem Response Testing for Newborn Hearing Screening

General Clinical Research Center, Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh – CO-INVESTIGATOR
\$10,107 2002-2003

AABR Referral Rates by Stimulus Intensity in Newborns

Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, Research Advisory Committee – CO-INVESTIGATOR
\$9,537 2002 - 2003

The Impact of Hearing Aid Microphone Directionality on Localization Disabilities & Handicaps

Pennsylvania Lions Hearing Research Foundation, Inc. – PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR
\$17,105 2001 – 2005

Vestibular function in children with Enlarged Vestibular Aqueduct Syndrome

Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, Research Advisory Committee – CO-INVESTIGATOR
\$10,000 2001-2003

The Effects of Stimulus Intensity Level on Referral Rates Using Automated Auditory Brainstem Response Testing for Newborn Hearing Screening

General Clinical Research Center, Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh – CO-INVESTIGATOR
\$7,378 2001-2002

Internal Consistency Reliability of a Localization Disabilities & Handicaps Questionnaire

University of Pittsburgh, School of Health and Rehabilitation Science, Research Development Grant – PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR
\$495 2001

Quantifying auditory perceptual learning following hearing aid fitting

Department of Veteran's Affairs, Pittsburgh, PA - RESEARCH ASSOCIATE
\$307,800 1997-2000

Fitting strategies of "Prisma SP" digital, power hearing aid

Siemens, Inc. – RESEARCH ASSOCIATE
Research Associate
\$5,000 2000

Restoring normal loudness perception as a function of fitting protocol & technology

Siemens, Inc. – RESEARCH ASSOCIATE
\$25,000 1997

SERVICE

University of Pittsburgh Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, Pittsburgh, PA AuD ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE MEMBER	2021- Present
Student Academy of Audiology, Pittsburgh, PA CHAPTER FACULTY ADVISOR	2022 - Present
Center for Assistive Technology Pittsburgh, PA AUDIOLOGIST/CLINICAL INSTRUCTOR	2021 - Present
Audiology Clinical Education Network ACADEMIC PROGRAM CLINICAL LIAISON	2021 - Present
CVS Hearing Aid Center Community Education Events Cleveland, OH & Baltimore, MD CONSULTANT	2017 - 2019
Chamber of Commerce Community Education Event Hopkinsville Hearing Aid Center, Hopkinsville, KY CONSULTANT	2016
Rutgers University Linguistics Department, New Brunswick, NJ CONSULTANT	2014 - 2015
Salus University George S. Osborne College of Audiology, Elkins Park, PA CONSULTANT	2006-2010
Community Advisory Board Hearing Center at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh BOARD MEMBER	2001-2009
Annual Hearing Center Fall Fest Public Relations Event Hearing Center at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh COORDINATOR	2005 - 2007
Hearing for Children 101 Educational Event Hearing Center at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh CO-COORDINATOR	2007
Annual Fundraising Event Hearing Center at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh CO-COORDINATOR	2001 - 2003

SERVICE CONTINUED

Private Screening of the documentary “Sound and Fury” Sponsored by the Hearing Center at Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh CO-COORDINATOR	2001
UPMC Shadyside Health Screening Pittsburgh, PA AUDIOLOGIST	2000
University of Pittsburgh EMT Health Screening Seven Springs Mountain Resort, Donegal, PA AUDIOLOGIST	1999

HONORS

CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE Highest-Level Achievement Award WSAudiology (Rexton)	2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020
THIRD PLACE POSTER AWARD American Society of Pediatric Otolaryngology	2005
FIRST PLACE – BEST POSTER AWARD American Society of Pediatric Otolaryngology	2003
OUTSTANDING STUDENT AWARD University of Pittsburgh Honors Convocation	2002
OUTSTANDING STUDENT AWARD Pennsylvania Academy of Audiology	1999