

## NEW BNCD RESEARCHERS

The BNCD is happy to welcome three new investigators.

### Dr. Joseph Steinmetz



Joseph Steinmetz assumed the position of Dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Kansas in July. He

holds faculty appointments in the Department of Psychology and the Department of Molecular Bioscience. Prior to coming to KU, Dean Steinmetz spent 19 years at Indiana University where he was the Eleanor Cox Riggs Professor of Psychology. Dean Steinmetz's research interests are in the general area of behavioral neuroscience. He is interested in how the mammalian brain encodes simple associative learning and memory tasks. He has published over 160 papers and made over 150 presentations at conferences, research meetings, and institutions of higher education. His research program has received consistent external funding from federal agencies and private companies. Steinmetz was recognized in 1996 by the National Academy of Science for his contributions to behav-

ioral neuroscience when he was selected for the Troland Research Award. He has been elected to fellow status by the American Psychological Association and the American Psychological Society, and in 2005 was elected a member of the elite Society of Experimental Psychologists. He also received the 2000 Distinguished Faculty Award from the Indiana University College Alumni Association and was honored with the 2006 Distinguished Alumni Award from Central Michigan University. Dean Steinmetz received a B.S (1977) and M.A. (1979) in Experimental Psychology from Central Michigan University and a Ph.D. (1983) in Experimental Psychology from Ohio University.

*(Researchers, Continued on page 2)*

## SILENCE ISN'T ALWAYS GOLDEN

Infants and young children with hearing problems can have difficulty developing speech and language. You can help your child's doctor to decide if your child's hearing needs to be tested. The following list is provided by the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communications Disorders (NIDCD). It gives some guidelines to help you understand how to learn more about your child's hearing, and how to talk to your doctor about your child's hearing.

Review the shortened checklist and ask how your child compares to these guidelines. For more information, and the full checklist, please visit the NIDCD at <http://www.nidcd.nih.gov/health/hearing/silence.htm> or talk to your child's doctor.

### **Birth to 3 Months**

- ◆ Is soothed by your voice
- ◆ Turns head to you when you speak
- ◆ Is awakened by loud voices and sounds
- ◆ Smiles when spoken to
- ◆ Seems to know your voice and quiets down if crying

### **3 to 6 Months**

- ◆ Looks upward or turns toward a new sound
- ◆ Imitates his/her own voice
- ◆ Enjoys rattles and other toys that make sounds
- ◆ Begins to repeat sounds (such as ooh, aah, and ba-ba)
- ◆ Becomes scared by a loud voice

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## NEW RESEARCHERS...

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### Dr. Kathryn Saunders



Kate Saunders is a Senior Scientist for the Life Span Institute. She is also a Courtesy Associate Professor of Applied Behavioral Science at the University of Kansas. Dr. Saunders' research interests include stimulus control, basic cognitive skills related to language and academics, conditional discrimination and stimulus classes, early reading skills, and mental retardation. Dr. Saunders is on the Board of Directors for the Society for the Experimental Analysis of Behavior. She is also an Associate Editor and on the Board of Editors for the *Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior*. Dr. Saunders' current research focuses on addressing the most neglected area of reading skills for individuals with mental retardation: the critical early reading skills of phonological awareness and the related concept that written language maps the sounds that comprise syllables. Preliminary studies strongly suggest that these skills can be taught largely via computer. Dr. Saunders' long-term goal is to develop computerized instructional programming to help teach individuals with mental retardation foundational reading skills.

### Dr. Marc Fey



Marc Fey is Professor of Hearing and Speech at the University of Kansas Medical Center. His major areas of research interest include early speech and language intervention, the prediction and prevention of early written language problems, and the development of children's narrative abilities. Dr. Fey was Associate Editor of *Language, Speech, and Hearing Services in Schools* from 1987-1992, Associate Editor of *American Journal of Speech-Language Pathology* from 1994-1996, and Editor of *American Journal of Speech-Language Pathology* from 1996-1998. Along with his many publications of articles, chapters, and software programs, he has published three books on language intervention: *Language Intervention with Young Children* (1986), *Language Intervention: Preschool Through the Elementary Years* (1995) (edited with Jennifer Windsor and Steven F. Warren), and *Treatment of Language Disorders in Children* (2006) (edited with Rebecca McCauley). He has won the Editor's Award for the Article of Highest Merit for the *Journal of Speech and Hearing Research* (1993) and twice for *Language, Speech, and Hearing Services in Schools* (1992, 2001). He served as the Chair of the Publications Board for the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association from 2003-2005.



### BNCD Notables

- BNCD Researcher and director of the Participant and Recruitment core at the BNCD, John Colombo, has a new book coming out. *Infant pathways to language: Methods, models, and research directions*, edited by Colombo, Peggy McCardle, and Lisa Freund, will be released in June.
- BNCD Researcher, Hugh Catts, was elected president of the Society for the Scientific Study of Reading.
- Research conducted by BNCD Investigator and director of the Digital and Electrical Engineering core, Steven Barlow, has led to the launch of a new company, KC BioMediX, Inc. The company will bring to market two devices, the N-Trainer and the Actifier, Barlow co-developed as a result of his research at KU. The devices are used to assess and improve a newborns sucking, swallowing, and breathing behaviors.
- Austin Howell, one of the first participants in a project on the communication of children with deaf-blindness directed by BNCD Researcher, Nancy Brady, with Susan Bashinski, is the subject of *Reaching Austin* in the November 2006 *Good Housekeeping*. Austin and his family were previously featured on the front page of the July 7, 2005 *Kansas City Star*. (Previously published in the *LSI Lifeline Newsletter*.)

## Upcoming Events for Parents and Kids!



### Developmental Testing:

In Feb. and March, Lawrence Early Childhood Special Services will be screening children ages 3 to 5 for developmental delays -- such as walking, talking, hearing, seeing, thinking or playing. Screenings are by appointment only and will be Feb. 28, March 14, and March 28 at East Heights Early Childhood Family Center, 1430 Haskell Ave.

Call: Rusty Shelton at (785) 330-4476  
or Edie Boehle at (785) 330-1643

(Taken from: [http://www2.ljworld.com/news/2007/jan/15/developmental\\_testing\\_children\\_offered/](http://www2.ljworld.com/news/2007/jan/15/developmental_testing_children_offered/))

### Under the Sea Adventure:

The adventure takes you to a sunken pirate ship to discover a buried treasure. In a submarine to look through a periscope. Ride a dolphin and a seahorse. Paddle your way to the mermaid's house, and later, get tangled up with an octopus. Step inside a whale's mouth and discover what's inside. Going on now through April 29th. Near Crown Center. Admission is free.

Call: (816) 274-8444 or

See: [www.crowncenter.com](http://www.crowncenter.com)

### Art Appreciation Classes:

Spencer Museum of Art is hosting a number of different art appreciation classes Feb. - May. Classes include: Words into Pictures, What are you Wearing?, Saint in the City, and Go Outside. Dates, ages, and admissions vary between classes. For more information:

See: [www.spencerart.ku.edu](http://www.spencerart.ku.edu)

### Li'l Legends Kids' Club:

On the first Thursday of every month, head over to the Legends at Village West (near the Speedway), and enjoy a kids' club designed to provide fun, interactive programs featuring arts, crafts, music or theater.

The kids' club is targeted for ages 2 to 6 and their families, and admission is free! Hours are 10 a.m. - 11 a.m.

For more information:

Call: (913) 788-3700 or

See: [www.legendsshopping.com](http://www.legendsshopping.com)



### St. Patrick's Day Parade:

On March 17th in downtown Lawrence is the annual parade featuring floats, bands, and the St. Patrick's Day Queen and her court. The parade begins at 1:00, at 11th and Massachusetts and travels north across the Kansas River bridge. Free admission!

Call: (785) 749-6677



### The Frog Bride:

The recently nominated Russian fairy tale by David Gonzalez is a magical and enchanting story and will show at the LIED Center April 21st at 4:00 p.m. Fun for parents and children. Admission is \$23-\$28.

See: [www.lied.ku.edu](http://www.lied.ku.edu)

### The Ant & The Grasshopper:

Picnic Theatre - yes, Dinner Theatre for kids and families! From April 1st through April 29th at the Arts Center. Admission is \$7.50 for youth/seniors and \$10 for adults. Times have not been finalized. Call or go online for more information.

Call: (785) 843-2787 or

See: [www.lawrenceartscenter.org/](http://www.lawrenceartscenter.org/)

(Silence, Continued from page 1)

### **6 to 10 Months**

- ◆ Responds to his/her own name, telephone ringing, someone's voice, even when not loud
- ◆ Makes babbling sounds, even when alone
- ◆ Starts to respond to requests such as "come here"
- ◆ Looks at things or pictures when someone talks about them

### **10 to 15 Months**

- ◆ Points to or looks at familiar objects or

people when asked

- ◆ Imitates simple words and sounds; may use a few single words meaningfully
- ◆ Enjoys games like peek-a-boo and pat-a-cake

### **15 to 18 Months**

- ◆ Follows simple directions, such as "give me the ball"
- ◆ Uses words he/she has learned often
- ◆ Uses 2-3 word sentences to talk about and ask for things
- ◆ Knows 10 to 20 words

### **18 to 24 Months**

- ◆ Understands simple "yes-no" questions (Are you hungry?)
- ◆ Understands simple phrases ("in the cup," "on the table")
- ◆ Enjoys being read to
- ◆ Points to pictures when asked

### **24 to 36 Months**

- ◆ Understands "not now" and "no more"
- ◆ Chooses things by size (big, little)
- ◆ Follows simple directions such as "get your shoes" and "drink your milk"
- ◆ Understands many action words



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**About this Newsletter:**

The BNCD newsletter is designed to keep you informed about the ongoing research projects that are being conducted by BNCD researchers at the University of Kansas. Participants who have been part of recent research projects conducted by BNCD researchers, parents who have expressed interest in participating in future research, and individuals from organizations such as schools and daycare centers that have an interest in BNCD studies will receive this newsletter from time to time to keep them up-to-date about the research activities at the BNCD. If you do not wish to receive future newsletters, please call or e-mail the BNCD to have your name removed from our list. Research at the BNCD is supported in part by grant number 5 P30 DC05803 from the National Institute on Deafness and other Communication Disorders (NIDCD) at the University of Kansas.

**10 Years of Literary Awarded Recommendations**

**Newbery Medal Winners**

(Awarded for story)

- 2007 – *The Higher Power of Lucky* by Susan Patron
- 2006 – *Criss Cross* by Lynne Rae Perkins
- 2005 – *Kira-Kira* by Cynthia Kadohata
- 2004 – *The Tale of Despereaux: Being the Story of a Mouse, a Princess, Some Soup, and a Spool of Thread* by Kate DiCamillo
- 2003 – *Crispin: The Cross of Lead* by Avi
- 2002 – *A Single Shard* by Linda Sue Park
- 2001 – *A Year Down Yonder* by Richard Peck
- 2000 – *Bud, Not Buddy* by Christopher Paul Curtis
- 1999 – *Holes* by Louis Sachar
- 1998 – *Out of the Dust* by Karen Hesse

**Caldecott Medal Winners**

(Awarded for illustration)

- 2007 – *Flotsam* by David Wiesner
- 2006 – *The Hello, Goodbye Window* Illustrated by Chris Raschka, Written by Norton Juster
- 2005 – *Kitten's First Full Moon* by Kevin Henkes
- 2004 – *The Man Who Walked Between the Towers* by Mordicai Gerstein
- 2003 – *My Friend the Rabbit* by Eric Rohmann
- 2002 – *The Three Pigs* by David Wiesner
- 2001 – *So You Want to Be President* Illustrated by David Small, Written by Judith St. George
- 2000 – *Joseph Had a Little Overcoat* by Simms Taback
- 1999 – *Snowflake Bentley* Illustrated by Mary Azarian, Written by Jacqueline Briggs Martin
- 1998 – *Rapunzel* by Paul O. Zelinsky

For more information or reading lists visit the Association for Library Service to Children at [www.ala.org/ala/alsc/alsc.htm](http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/alsc.htm)