

PURDUE APHASIA GROUP NEWSLETTER FALL 2021



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- New NIH funding
- New studies
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- Aphasia Support Group

For aphasia therapy services, contact Purdue's M.D. Steer Speech and Language Clinic for more information.

(765) 494-4229



Happy Fall 2021!

Thank you to everyone who supports our lab. We appreciate your referrals and participation!

The Purdue Aphasia Lab has been working hard since our last published newsletter. Despite COVID restrictions and social distancing, we have been conducting new studies and obtaining new grants. We are thrilled to share this exciting information!

Our mission

We aim to understand how language production and comprehension is affected in people with aphasia and to find ways to facilitate their language recovery.

WEBSITE:

[www.purdue.edu/hhs/
slhs/aphasia/](http://www.purdue.edu/hhs/slhs/aphasia/)



E-MAIL:

aphasia@purdue.edu



FACEBOOK:

[@PurdueAphasiaGroup](https://www.facebook.com/PurdueAphasiaGroup)



PHONE:

765-496-0216



Purdue Aphasia Lab received a 5-year NIH grant to develop a novel aphasia treatment.



Dr. Jiyeon Lee, the director of the Purdue Aphasia Lab, recently received a \$3.1 million grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Her collaborators are Drs. Nadine Martin at Temple University, Victor Ferreira at University of California San Diego, and Sharon Christ at Purdue University. In this 5-year project, Dr. Lee and her research

team will enroll participants with aphasia in a series of language training studies. The researchers hope to establish an evidence-based novel treatment for persons with aphasia who struggle to produce and comprehend sentences. Recruitment will begin in January 2022. Studies will be conducted at both Purdue and Temple Universities.

We are actively recruiting people with aphasia!

Who is eligible?

- √ Persons diagnosed with aphasia following a stroke (left hemisphere).
- √ Native speakers of English
- √ Have no history of other neurological conditions prior to stroke (dementia, Parkinson's disease, etc.)

For questions or to participate, contact us at **(765) 496-0216** or email us at **aphasia@purdue.edu**

Studies will take place on Purdue's campus; Indy Lab location and remote opportunities may exist for eligible cases.

Aphasia Research Lab News



In addition to the training study, our graduate students are leading several new studies. We invite you to participate in these studies.

Read below to see how you can help!

Grace's EEG Study:

Using electroencephalography (EEG), a non-invasive method that records brain waves, Grace examines how the brain changes as people with aphasia comprehend sentences under easy and difficulty contexts. Participants will read sentences presented on the computer screen, while their brain activity is recorded.

Austin's Production-Comprehension Study:

Austin has created a study that can be done in person or online. Austin will look into how healthy adults and people with aphasia describe pictures and interpret sentences. The expected findings will help us to better understand the link between speech production and comprehension.

Jyotsna's Attention Study:

Jyotsna's study explores the link between general alertness and language production in healthy individuals and people with aphasia. The implication of the results could shape how language learning is reintroduced in individuals with aphasia.

Please email aphasia@purdue.edu or call 765-496-0216 if you would be interested in participating in any of these studies.

Grace Man



Austin Keen



Jyotsna Krishnakumar



Introducing our newest Aphasia Lab members!



We had several new members join our lab this summer/fall. Please welcome:

Post-Doctoral Fellow: Josh Weirick, PhD

Josh joined the lab as a post-doctoral fellow in August, 2021. He completed a PhD in linguistics at Purdue in May 2021, during which he researched sentence comprehension by monolingual and bilingual English speakers. Josh is interested in identifying why certain sentence types are easier to process for people with aphasia. He also enjoys hiking, and tending to his collection of Staghorn Ferns (a pandemic hobby that continues!).

PhD Student: Jyotsna Krishnakumar, M.S.

Jyotsna joined the lab in the Spring of 2021. She graduated with a Master's degree in Speech Language Pathology from the All India Institute of Speech & Hearing, India. Her research interests are in the areas of language organization and cognitive mechanisms in persons with aphasia. Outside of work, you may find her on the tennis courts, playing the uke or baking!

Undergraduate Student: Emily Clark

Emily joined the lab in the Fall of 2021 and is a 2nd year honors college student. Emily is double majoring in Speech, Language & Hearing Sciences and Psychological Sciences while also pursuing a minor in ASL. She enjoys reading and is an avid animal lover!

Undergraduate Student: Elle Plucinsky

Elle joined the Aphasia Research Laboratory in the Summer of 2021. She is 2nd year honors college student and is majoring in Speech, Language & Hearing Sciences while pursuing a minor in Spanish. When she is not in the lab, she volunteers at a local elementary school, writes poetry and plays tennis.



Josh Weirick



Jyotsna
Krishnakumar



Emily Clark



Elle Plucinsky



Important Dates:

The support group meets virtually on the first **TUESDAY** of the month during the fall semester of 2021.

Fall 2021 Support Group dates:

- ◆ October 5th
- ◆ November 2nd
- ◆ December 7th

Each meeting is held online from 6:30-8:00 pm. Meetings are **FREE** but you must register in order to attend.

Aphasia Support Group Meetings

The Purdue Aphasia Support Group meets once a month to provide education and opportunities to connect with others. Persons with aphasia, caregivers and their loved ones are all invited to attend.

JOIN US FOR:
**APHASIA
SUPPORT GROUP**



In this time of COVID-19, we all need to connect more than ever!

Adults and their loved ones are invited to a **FREE** virtual (online) monthly meetings for:

- Connecting with others
- Guided conversation practice
- Other activities

For updates and announcements: refer to our Facebook page, @PurdueAphasiaGroup

WHEN:
1st TUESDAY
of the month

FALL 2021 DATES:

Oct. 5th
Nov. 2nd
Dec. 7th
6:30-8:00pm

WHERE:

Online via WebEx
Link will be sent after you register
You do not need to have WebEx to participate

To REGISTER or if you have QUESTIONS please contact:

Michelle Gutmann
mgutmann@purdue.edu
765-494-3809

To register, or for more information, please contact Michelle Gutmann at 765-494-3809 or mgutmann@purdue.edu