

CDIS Newsletter

Fall 2011

ENMU CDIS Program Welcomes New Faculty and Staff

This year our program is happy to announce the addition of two new members to the CDIS Program—Ms. Kim Villar and Ms. Linda Valenti.

Mrs. Kim Villar is an instructor in the CDIS Program and a clinical supervisor for the ENMU Speech and Hearing Rehabilitation Outreach Center. She earned her B.A. and M.S. from our own program and has spent the last 10 years of her clinical career in the public schools. The majority of her clinical experience has been in pediatrics, working with all levels of disability.

Ms. Linda Valeni, the new Director of ENMU's Speech and Hearing Rehabilitation Outreach Center and clinical supervisor, received her B.A. in Communications from Hofstra University and her M.A. in Speech-Language Pathology at St. John's University, Queens, NY. Ms. Valenti has experience in a number of clinical settings, including early intervention, school-aged children, and hospitals and home health. Ms. Valenti relocated from Orange County, CA to join us here in Portales.

full-time faculty and staff, the CDIS faculty includes several resource instructors, some of which are new to the program this semester as well.



Mrs. Kim Villar



Ms. Linda Valenti

Introducing BackChat, the CDIS Program Blog

BackChat is an online publication published by the Eastern New Mexico University CDIS Program. BackChat is designed to showcase student *Research* in communicative disorders and to feature selected student *Projects*. It is home to the CDIS blog, a place for sharing the diverse *Reflections* and ramblings of CDIS students, faculty, and alumni. You can even *Talk-back* to us and learn a little bit more *About CDIS* in the process.

You can find BackChat at www.enmu.edu/blog/cdis/



Looking Back and Looking Forward

Of all of the things that happened during the fall semester, new students and classes, new faculty and staff, the ASHA re-accreditation site visit, and graduation, there was one very important event that was overlooked.

It wasn't until I was doing some research into the history of the CDIS Program that I found out that 52 years ago in the Fall of 1959 the CDIS undergraduate program was started as an emphasis area in Drama Department.

In those days, the requirements for a major in "Speech

Science" included 30 hours in speech and drama and an additional 19 hours in psychology, biology, and your choice of modern dance or elementary swimming. While it was interesting looking back to see where we came from, the CDIS Program is looking forward to a bright future that will hold new changes and new challenges.

So here is a belated Happy 52nd Anniversary to the ENMU CDIS Program; after more than half a century, still growing and still going strong.

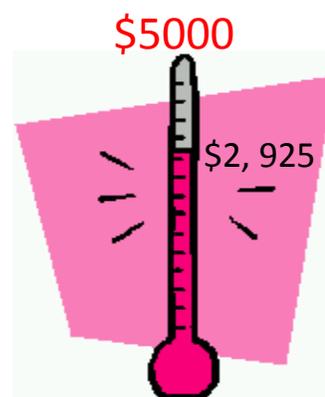
During this holiday season Give the gift that keeps on giving

By contributing to the
Gail Ferguson Scholarship for Graduate Studies

The CDIS Program is in the process of raising \$5000 to endow a scholarship to honor the legacy of Mrs. Gail Ferguson, longtime professor, mentor, and friend to many students over the years. If you would like to contribute to this scholarship fund, you may donate online at www.enmu.edu/friends/foundation or

send your tax deductible donations to:
ENMU Foundation
ENMU Station 8
1500 South Avenue K
Portales, NM 88130

Help Us Reach Our Goal



ENMU CDIS ONLINE: Distance Education

Distance education has become an integral part of the ENMU CDIS Program by offering a variety of online learning options. Students now have the option of taking all of their CDIS undergraduate courses and some graduate courses online.

One of the fastest growing programs at ENMU is the online undergraduate degree in Communicative Disorders. Through distance education courses taught via Blackboard and Mediasite, undergraduate distance students can complete their Bachelor's degree in Communicative Disorders without ever coming to campus. Currently the CDIS program has students from California to Maine taking CDIS classes each semester.

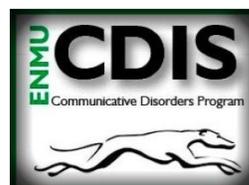
Beginning this semester in the graduate program, off-campus students in Albuquerque, Rio Rancho, Tucumcari, Roswell, and even as far away as New York took graduate level coursework via Mediasite.

Mediasite is distance learning system for online live webcasting and lecture capture. Using Mediasite, lectures can be viewed in real time, giving distance education students the ability to participate in class and interact with the professor and their fellow students.

Also, each lecture is recorded and archived, which allows students the ability to access the lectures outside of class.

In addition to Mediasite, the CDIS Program piloted the use of Skype to enhance classroom participation for distance learners. Skype is a program that supports video conference calls and instant messaging, Skype allows distance education students to ask and answer questions, participate in classroom discussions, and do multimedia presentations.

While a wide array of classes are now being offered online, not *all* graduate courses can be taken this way. Two semesters at the campus clinic are required before the students are allowed to begin off-campus practicum. After these requirements are met, graduate students can request to participate in the online classes being offered by the program.



**SPEECH AND HEARING
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