



OCTOBER

# Diversity Series

October 5, 2022 - 12-1 PM | MCE Room 8318  
PhD Student Journal Club Discussion on Diversity

October 12, 2022 - 12-1 PM | MCE Room 8318  
Research Colloquium PhD Student Talk on Diversity

OCTOBER 19, 2022 - 12-1 PM | ROOM 8318

## 2022 Rising Star Awardee Presentation

*Answering Epidemiological Questions in Voice Research: Efforts Toward Health Equity*



**Mariah Morton, MS**, is a speech-language pathologist, specializing in the assessment and treatment of voice and upper airway disorders, and she currently works part time at the UAB Voice Center. She is a third year PhD candidate in the School of

Kinesiology at Auburn University being co-advised by the Department of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences. Her research interests include the intersection between exercise physiology and vocal function as well as healthcare disparities for racially, ethnically, and linguistically diverse people as well as rural-living individuals in need for SLP-specific voice care. Ms. Morton's research has been published in *The Laryngoscope*.

OCTOBER 26, 2022 - 12-1 PM | ROOM 8318

## Special Guest Lecture in Diversity

*What is the Intersection between Cognitive and Communication Disorders and the School-to-Confinement Pipeline?*



**Shameka Stanford, PhD**, is an Associate Professor of Communication Sciences and Disorders at Howard University and the first and only Juvenile Forensic Speech-Language Pathologist. Dr.

Stanford is also a special education advocate trained by the Wrightslaw Training Center. Dr. Stanford's clinical and scholarly work specializes in Juvenile Forensics, Law Enforcement Interaction with youth with CD, child language disorders and augmentative and alternative communication (AAC). Her primary research focuses on the Confluence and Impact of cognitive and communication disorders on the school-to-confinement pipeline, status offenses, involvement with the criminal justice system, law enforcement interaction, and criminal recidivism in youth placed at-risk for delinquency and crime (especially Black and Brown youth from under-resourced areas). Dr. Stanford is also a clinically certified and licensed speech-language pathologist and is licensed to practice in Maryland, Washington, D.C., and multiple other states. Through her work, Dr. Stanford has created cutting edge social justice and juvenile justice specialty courses for graduate CSD students, nationally known training programs for law enforcement and legal counsel, and national and international CE workshops and training for licensed SLP clinicians, students, and families of children with special needs. Dr. Stanford writes frequently on this topic and has been published in a number of ASHA journals as well as *The Journal of Gender, Social Policy, and Law*.

## Rising Star Honorable Mention Awardees



**Aryn Byrd** is a PhD candidate in the Hearing and Speech Sciences Program at the University of Maryland-College Park (UMD-CP). Her research interests include African American English, sentence processing, and the educational outcomes of students who speak non-

mainstream dialects. Byrd currently serves as an ASHA S.T.E.P mentor and the Early Career Professional on the ASHA Government and Public Policy Board. She has published in the *Journal of Language, Speech, and Hearing Services in Schools*.



**Diana Lucía Abarca** is a doctoral student in Communication Science and Disorders at Florida State University and practicing early intervention speech language pathologist in Tallahassee, Florida. She received her Bachelor's and Master's degrees at the University of Central

Florida. Diana uses funds of knowledge, family-centered, and culturally sustaining frameworks to understand the knowledge, skills, values, priorities, and beliefs that minoritized families bring with them when involved in early intervention. She aims to develop and evaluate equitable early intervention practices that pre-service and practicing early interventionists can use to sustain the culture of minoritized families with children with disabilities. Ms. Abarca has been published in several journals including the *International Public Health Journal*.