

# Master of Clinical Audiology



Dr Mridula Sharma

Senior Lecturer

Program Convener of Audiology Section

# The history of Audiology

- Audiology developed in Australia in the 1940s - it is a small profession with only 1700 audiologists in Australia
- Macquarie University is one of only 5 universities in Australia that offers a professionally-accredited Master of Clinical Audiology program (2 years full-time)

# What does an Audiologist do?



- Prevention, diagnosis and management of **hearing loss**, associated communication difficulties and psychosocial impacts
- Evaluation of suitability for **hearing aids** and **implantable devices** (eg cochlear implants), their fitting and management
- Assessment and management of complex disorders such as **tinnitus** and **auditory processing disorders**
- Evaluation and rehabilitation of **balance disorders**.

# Professional body: Audiology Australia



- Current membership approximately 1700 members
- Student members available
- [www.audiology.asn.au](http://www.audiology.asn.au)



# Reasons to study Audiology

- Our professionally-accredited degree program qualifies graduates to **work in Australia & overseas**
- The profession is highly suited to individuals with any **undergraduate degree**
  - all training needed for entry into the profession is provided
- The program offers **practical experience** in a diverse range of clinical placements
- The profession incorporates a **social view** of hearing health care with **cutting edge technology**, such as hearing aids, cochlear implants and other implantable devices.



# The future of the profession (job prospects)



- With an aging population and rapid advances in hearing device technology, the profession is rapidly growing.
- Currently, 1 in 6 Australians are affected by hearing loss and this is expected to increase to 1 in 4 by 2050.
- There is a **world-wide shortage** of audiologists making this an attractive career path.

# Reasons to study with us



Macquarie University is positioned to be the **focal point** of hearing, speech & language research & teaching.

We are:

- Core members of the **HEARing CRC** (largest translational hearing research program in Australia)
- The first university in Australia to have a **private hospital on campus** with ENT services
- The new location for **Cochlear™** global headquarters
- Grant recipients of a \$40million federal government award to set up a **Hearing Hub**



# The Audiology teaching staff

- **Dr Catherine McMahon** - Head of the Section, Sn Lecturer
  - **Dr Mridula Sharma** - Program Convener, Sn Lecturer
  - **Ms Yee-Foong Stone** - Clinical Coordinator
  - **Ms Rebecca Kim** - Associate Lecturer
  - **John Newall** - Lecturer
  - **Michelle Lampert** - Sn Clinical Educator
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- **Ms Lynne Blackford, Ms Alisa Gourlie, Ms Brooke Rose  
Ms Batoul Khalife, Megan O'Donnell**  
- Clinical Educators

*We also have numerous guest lecturers from a wide variety of backgrounds such as ENTs, Doctors, Speech Pathologists, Audiologists, Linguists, prominent researchers, parents, psychologists, hearing aid manufacturers etc.*

# Example of program structure

		YEAR 1				
Week	Date	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
8	20-Feb-12	Introductory Workshop				
9	27-Feb-12	Lectures and Pracs				
10	05-Mar-12					
11	12-Mar-12					
12	19-Mar-12					
13	26-Mar-12					
14	02-Apr-12					
15	09-Apr-12	Clinical Preparation				
16	16-Apr-12	Year 1 Clinic Block Placements				
17	23-Apr-12					
18	30-Apr-12					
19	07-May-12					
20	14-May-12					
21	21-May-12					
22	28-May-12	Review for exams				
23	04-Jun-12	Written & Clinical Examinations				
24	11-Jun-12					
25	18-Jun-12					
26	25-Jun-12					

## Year 1, semester 1

# Clinical Placements

“formal, intensive, relationship-based education and training that is case-focused which supports, directs and guides students’ clinical development” Audiology Australia

- All placements are allocated by the Clinical Coordinator in a variety of clinical settings

e.g.

MQ Audiology Clinic

Liverpool Hospital

Sydney Children’s Hospital

Connect Hearing

JPAC – RIDBC

Gosford Hospital

Kids Cottage, Shellharbour

National Hearing Care

AudioClinic

Australian Hearing

Children’s Hospital at Westmead

Sydney Cochlear Implant Centre

Port Kembla Hospital

and ... private clinics

# Clinical Placements

- Placements are structured in one-week blocks
  - Students will attend a *minimum* of 2 one-week placements each semester
  - Where available, students may also attend placements in semester breaks
  - All students will be allocated placements outside Sydney metropolitan area.
- All placement costs are the responsibility of the student
  - Budget accommodation recommendations available.
  - Clinical placement scholarships are available through a variety of organisations
    - e.g. Audiology Australia, NSW Health, Services for Australian Rural and Remote Allied Health (SARRAH), Indigenous Community Volunteers (ICV)

# Clinical observations

**The Macquarie University Audiology Clinic has clinical observation sessions on Wednesdays and Thursdays in October 2011. For further information contact:**

**Yee-Foong Stone (Clinical Coordinator)**

Until 28<sup>th</sup> September

[yee-foong.stone@mq.edu.au](mailto:yee-foong.stone@mq.edu.au)

**OR**

**Michelle Lampert (Senior Clinical Educator, Audiology)**

Following 28<sup>th</sup> September

[michelle.lampert@mq.edu.au](mailto:michelle.lampert@mq.edu.au)

# Some important dates...

- **31<sup>st</sup> October** Applications close - personal statement required
- **14<sup>th</sup> November** Offers begin
- **by 12<sup>th</sup> December** Acceptance of initial offers
- **23<sup>rd</sup> December** 2<sup>nd</sup> round of offers (if available)
- **20<sup>th</sup> February** Introductory Workshop – program commences



# Application details

Applications are via the Coursework Studies Section.  
The direct application form is available at the following link:

[http://www.postgrad.mq.edu.au/pdfs/CWK\\_APPnSCHED.pdf](http://www.postgrad.mq.edu.au/pdfs/CWK_APPnSCHED.pdf)

Applications must include a personal statement (max. 2 pages)

There are 35 positions available for domestic students for 2011.

# Application details

Dr Mridula Sharma (Program Convener)

Email: [mridula.sharma@mq.edu.au](mailto:mridula.sharma@mq.edu.au)

Tel: 02 9850 4863

Location: C5A 518

**Closing date: 31<sup>st</sup> October 2011**

See details on the Postgraduate Studies website:

<http://www.ling.mq.edu.au/postgraduate/apply.htm>

