Students in SLP Graduate Programs: Meeting Audiology Knowledge and Skills
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Purpose:
• Various community-based audiology experiences are provided in order for students to meet audiology knowledge and skills requirements in speech pathology only graduate program.
• A survey was conducted to determine students’ opinions of their experiences while obtaining audiology clinical hours.

Challenges:
• Deciding what constitutes an adequate number of audiology clinical hours
• Ensuring audiology clinical hours are within the scope of practice for an SLP
• Difficulty finding audiology experiences in an SLP only program
• Limited amount of clock hours that are obtained while completing hearing screenings

Expanded Hearing Screening Protocol:
• Case History
• Hearing Handicap Inventory
• Screening Otoscopy
• Pure Tone Screening
• Tympanometry Screening
• Otoacoustic Emission Screenings
• Counseling/Education

Experiences:
• Community Health Fairs
• Research Projects
• School Screenings
• On-Campus Groups
• University Events
• Offsite Clinical Placements
• Class Projects
**Student Feedback:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Screening Site</th>
<th>Would you recommend?</th>
<th>How helpful? (1-5)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St. Thomas Aquinas High School</td>
<td>100% Yes</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLU Rock-n-Roar</td>
<td>100% Yes</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dept. of Health &amp; Hospitals Community Health Fairs</td>
<td>100% Yes</td>
<td>4.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklinton Fair</td>
<td>100% Yes</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Options (experience with adults with cognitive impairments)</td>
<td>100% Yes</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amite Jr. Auxiliary Health Fair</td>
<td>100% Yes</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amite Migrant Headstart (experience with culturally and linguistically diverse populations)</td>
<td>100% Yes</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homecoming</td>
<td>100% Yes</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Students’ Comments about Experiences:**

- “It was a great learning experience. I’d do it again in a heartbeat.”
- Provided hands-on experience with hearing screenings
- Now feel comfortable screening children’s hearing
- Significantly increased my self-confidence when screening clients
- Helped prepare me for a future work setting
- Gave me experience with providing hearing education for clients and significant others

**References:**