Communication sciences and disorders

A list of resources

by Edward L. F. González, Judith M. Kuster, and Laura Steinbach

To compile a definitive list of Internet resources for speech, language, and hearing sciences and communication disorders would be a daunting task for two primary reasons. This is an interdisciplinary field, which includes several broad areas—among them linguistics, phonetics, neurology, rehabilitation counseling, psychology, special education, physical and occupational therapy, and nutrition.

Secondly, any Webliography encompassing a field as broad as communication sciences and disorders with an information resource as deep as the Internet would merely scratch the surface of what is already available, let alone what will be available in the future.

This article highlights several Internet sources based on their authoritative nature, scope, and relevance to librarians, students, faculty, researchers, clinicians, and individuals possessing firsthand experience with communication disorders. Additionally, several of the following Internet sites are sponsored by professional organizations like the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (http://www.asha.org) or originate from leading academic institutions.

Other sources mentioned, such as Internet forums, are managed by healthcare professionals or highly dedicated individuals who demonstrate a long-term commitment and continuous development for their content.

Disclaimer: No guarantees are made with respect to accuracy or timeliness of the following material. The information provided below should not be used as a basis for treatment decisions, and is not a substitute for professional consultation and peer-reviewed medical literature.

Megasites

- Judith Kuster's "Net Connections for Communication Disorders and Sciences." A guide to communication disorders and science sources on the Internet, this site offers links to discussion forums and electronic newsletters. It is directed at speech-language pathology, audiology, and speech science professionals and students. The site also pertains to persons with communication disabilities or differences and their caregivers. Access: http://www.communicationdisorders.com.

- The SLP Start Page For Speech-Language Pathology: Internet Searches and Resources. Caroline Bowen's Web site is the

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**Combined speech-language-hearing**

- **Hardin Meta Directory of Internet Health Sources.** This site is maintained by the University of Iowa’s Hardin Health Science Library. Some sample entries are Neurology/Neurosciences, Otolaryngology, and Speech Pathology and Audiology. Arranged by large, medium, and small lists. Access: http://www.lib.uiowa.edu/hardin/md/index.html.

- **Health A to Z.** This is a consumer-oriented directory of rated sites in the area of health and medicine. Select topics like hearing loss from “health topics a to z” or search their subject categories using the site index. Access: http://www.healthatoz.com.

- **National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD).** This is the National Institutes of Health’s division for biomedical and behavioral research in human communication, which supports and conducts research on the normal and disordered processes of hearing, balance, smell, taste, voice, speech, and language. Access: http://www.nidcd.nih.gov.

- **University Programs in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology.** Scott Bradley’s site provides access to 272 university programs in speech language pathology and audiology and is arranged by state and country. Professional certification indicated. Access: http://facstaff.uww.edu/bradleys/cdprograms.html.

- **Special Education Resources on the Internet (SERI).** SERI is a collection of Internet-accessible information resources of interest to those involved in the fields related to special education. Access: http://www.hood.edu/seri/serihome.htm.

- **Ontario Association for Families of Children with Communication Disorders.** A Canadian informational site intended to support the families and caregivers of persons who have communication disorders. Provides links to community services, support networks, and general information about communication disabilities. Access: http://www.cyberus.ca/oafccd/main.htm.

**Hearing**

- **American Academy of Audiology.** This site has professional, consumer, student and university resources, and news from the American Academy of Audiology. Audiologist locator search function and convention information are available. Access: http://www.audiology.com/.

- **Galaxy.** This site provides information on education, journals, healthcare specialists, and extensive “see also” references. Access: http://www.galaxy.com/galaxy/Medicine/Diseases-and-Disorders/Otorhinolaryngologic-Diseases/Ear-Diseases.html.

- **Guide to Otolaryngology in the Internet.** This Web site includes academic programs, audiology links, discussion groups, educational links, organizations, outcomes, research publications and links, software, and useful medical and nonmedical sites. Access: http://www.bcm.tmc.edu/oto/others.html.

- **MedMark-Medical Bookmarks.** One of the most comprehensive directory resources for medical and hearing health professionals. Thirty-two medical specialty areas are listed and links to 24 other related medical directory resources. Begin with the otorhinolaryngology specialty bookmark. Access: http://www.medmark.org.


**Speech-language**

- **Autism Society of America.** The mission of the Autism Society of America is to promote lifelong access and opportunities for persons within the autism spectrum and their families, and to be fully included, participating members of their communities through advocacy, public awareness, education, and re-

- **Hattie B. Monroe, Barkley Augmentative and Alternative Communication Centers.** An area of clinical practice that attempts to compensate either temporarily or permanently for the impairment and disability patterns of individuals with severe and expressive communication disorders. Access: http://aac.unl.edu/.

- **Judith Kuster's Stuttering Home Page.** This consumer support site offers many Web links related to stuttering. General information about stuttering, personal rights, chatrooms, a bookstore, and research and conference information are available at this site. Access: http://www.stutteringhomepage.com/.

- **National Aphasia Association.** This is a nonprofit organization that promotes public education, research, rehabilitation, and support services to assist people with aphasia and their families. Access: http://www.aphasia.org/.

- **Dysphagia Resource Center.** Phyllis Palmer's resources for swallowing and swallowing disorders. Resources regarding swallowing and swallowing disorders include a vendors list, anatomy and physiology, case studies, a medical search engine, and links to Internet journals, reference lists, reading list, and reviews. Access: http://www.dysphagia.com/.

- **Wake Forest's Center for Voice Disorders.** The Center for Voice Disorders of Wake Forest University provides medical services for people with voice problems and other disorders of the larynx (voice box). At present, the voice center receives about 5,000 patient visits each year. Specialized clinical services are available for people with vocal misuse and overuse syndromes, recurrent laryngitis, spasmodic dysphonia, vocal cord paralysis, the aging voice, cancer of the vocal cord, scarred vocal cords, and benign vocal cord growths, such as nodules, cysts, granulomas, webs, papillomas, and polyps. Access: http://www.bgsm.edu/voice/.

- **Speechweb.** A meeting place and source of information for speech, language and speech-language pathology professionals. The site includes a "Find a Speech Pathologist" search function and a special section for children. Access: http://www.speedline.ca/johnv/home.html.

- **Open Forums.** Designed for scholarly communication and patients or their families. "Discussion Forums and E-Publications," at http://www.mankato.msus.edu/dept/comdis/kuster2/discussion/discussion.html, provides many more alternative discussion lists.

- **ACOLUG@LISTSERV.TEMPLE.EDU.** This Augmentative Communication On-Line Users' Group was created to exchange ideas, information, and experiences on augmentative communication. To join, send the following message: subscribe acolug firstname lastname to listserv@listserv.temple.edu. To communicate with the augmentative members send e-mail to acolug@listserv.temple.edu.

- **Alzheimer.** A forum for patients, professionals and family caregivers, researchers, public policymakers, students, and anyone with an interest in Alzheimer's or related dementia disorders in older adults. Subscribe to the list by sending e-mail to majordomo@wubios.wustl.edu with the message: subscribe alzheimer firstname lastname. To communicate with the list, send e-mail to alzheimer@wubios.wustl.edu.

- **ANI-L.** Autism and autistic-like abnormalities are discussed at the Autism Network International's list. To subscribe, send the message: subscribe ani-l firstname lastname to listserv@listserv.syr.edu. To post your message to the entire list, send e-mail to ani-l@listserv.syr.edu.

- **CDMAJOR.** This communication disorder discussion list is student oriented. To subscribe, send e-mail to listserv@listserv.kent.edu with the message: subscribe firstname lastname. To contribute to the list, send e-mail to cdmajor@listserv.kent.edu.

- **DEAF-L.** A list for the discussion of questions, topics, and concerns related to deafness. To subscribe, send e-mail to listserv@siu.edu with the message: subscribe deaf-l firstname lastname. To communicate to the entire list, send the message to deaf-l@siu.edu.

- **DOWN-SYN.** To subscribe to this list for Down Syndrome, send e-mail to listserv@listserv.nodak.edu with the message: subscribe down-syn firstname lastname. Send messages to all subscribers to down-syn@listserv.nodak.edu.

- **DYSPHAGIA@MEDONLINE.COM.** This mailing list provides a forum for various
medical professionals to discuss clinical or research issues and clinical cases, share ideas and news items, ask questions, or ask for resources related to swallowing and its disorders. To subscribe, send e-mail to majordomo.medonline.com with the message: subscribe dysphagia@medonline.com firstname lastname. Contributions to this discussion list should be addressed to dysphagia@medonline.com.

- **EC-GROUP.** To subscribe to the Esophageal Cancers discussion list, send e-mail to listserv@listserv.acor.org with the message: subscribe ec-group firstname lastname. To participate in the discussion, send message to ec-group@listserv.acor.org.

- **EDUDEAF.** A practical discussion list regarding deaf education. To subscribe, send mail to listserv@ukcc.uky.edu with the message: subscribe edudeaf firstname lastname. To contribute to discussion send e-mail to edudeaf@lsv.uky.edu.

- **GRNDRNDS.** A mailing list for all aspects of the clinical process for the evaluation and treatment of communication disorders. To subscribe, address e-mail to listserv@wvnvm.wvnet.edu and include the message: subscribe grndrnds firstname lastname to contribute to the forum discussion, send e-mail to grndrnds@wvnvm.wvnet.edu.

- **PARENTS-W@EGROUPS.COM.** A list for parents concerned about stuttering behaviors in children. Professionals, students, and others interested are also welcome to join. Subscribe at the following Web site: http://www.egroups.com/group/Parents-W.

- **SID1.** A discussion of language learning and education of infants, children, and youth from diverse cultures. Membership to the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association is required. To subscribe, send e-mail to listproc@lists.wvu.edu with the message: content subscribe lang-learn-ed firstname lastname. Address your e-mail for the list to lang-learn-ed@lists.wvu.edu.

- **SID3VOICE.** A forum on voice and voice disorders for American Speech-Language-Hearing Association members. To subscribe, send e-mail to lyris@list.medicine.uiowa.edu with the message: subscribe sid3voice firstname lastname. To come into the discussion, send comments to sid3voice@list.medicine.uiowa.edu.

- **STROKE-L.** To subscribe to this stroke discussion list, send e-mail to listserv@lsv.uky.edu with the message: subscribe stroke-l firstname lastname. To contribute to the list, send a message to stroke-l@lsv.uky.edu.

- **STUTT-L.** To subscribe to this discussion list on stuttering research and clinical practice, send e-mail to listserv@listserv.temple.edu with the message: subscribe stutt-l firstname lastname. To contribute to the list, send message to stutt-l@vm.temple.edu.

- **STUTT-X.** To subscribe to this stuttering-communication disorders list, send e-mail to listserv@asu.edu with the message: subscribe stutt-x firstname lastname. To contribute to the list send message to stutt-x@asuvm.inre.asu.edu.

- **Thinking Publications.** This site is a free bulletin board service to give professionals and families a place to post questions that can be answered by their peers. Access: http://www.thinkingpublications.com/bullbrd.html.

**Reference sources**

- **James Madison University's Library.** This site provides an excellent reference guide to begin research in communication sciences and disorders. Access: http://library.jmu.edu/communication/index.html.

- **American Sign Language (ASL).** This is Michigan State University's ASL Browser Web site. It provides a source for ASL signs and information about them. The signs are presented as embedded QuickTime movies demonstrating the usage of each sign. Usage of the site requires a browser that supports frames and has the QuickTime plug in. Access: http://Commtechlab.msu.edu/sites/aslweb/browser.htm.

- **Deafness/Hard of Hearing.** Presented by About.com (people-oriented group), this portal offers a catchall site for the hearing impaired. Wide ranging subject headings, a search engine, news, forums, and a glossary make this site scalable for the novice or the expert researcher. Access: http://deafness.miningco.com/health/disabilities/deafness/msubdict.htm.
• **The On-Line Medical Dictionary.** Provided by British Telecommunications, a worldwide communications group, this site has a searchable database of medical terms, and access via alphabetical links and by category. Cancer Web offers information on treatment, investigation, and different aspects of cancer. *Access: http://www.graylab.ac.uk/omd/index.html.*

• **Genetic and Rare Conditions Site.** Managed by Debra Collins and sponsored by the University of Kansas Medical Center, Medical Genetics, this Web site is a clearinghouse for several categories and subjects and is updated regularly with clinical, research, and educational resources for genetic counselors, clinical geneticists, and medical geneticists. *Access: http://www.kumc.edu/gec/support/.*

• **Internet Directory of Publications.** PubList.com is the most comprehensive directory of information about more than 150,000 publications and more than 8,000 newspapers around the world. It is free and easy to use. PubList.com information comes from definitive sources such as *Ulrich's International Periodicals Directory.* And it adds the timeliness and linking capabilities of the Web. *Access: http://www.publist.com.*

• **Martindale's Health Science Guide.** This is an online multilingual sign language and braille service. *Access: http://www.sci.lib.uci.edu/HSG/Language.html#SIGNLAN.*

• **MEDLINE Plus Health Information.** This is a service available from National Library of Medicine at the National Institutes of Health, which provides a gold mine of up-to-date quality healthcare information for both healthcare professionals and consumers. *Access: http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/.*


• **National Library of Medicine (NLM) Locatorplus.** This site contains the NLM catalog of books, journals, audiovisuals, and access points to other medical research tools. The “Search Locatorplus” searches the NLM catalog records for a publication’s call number and availability status. Text and MARC item records are available to print, e-mail, or download. The “Search Other Resources” link at the bottom of each record connects to Web sites that offer more information about the topic. *Access: http://www.nlm.nih.gov/locatorplus/locatorplus.html.*

• **Web of On-Line Dictionaries.** Online Internet resource for quick definitions provided by yourdictionary.com, Inc. *Access: http://www.yourdictionary.com/*.

**Bibliographic indexes**

• **AskERIC.** The world’s largest source of education information is available at this site from the Department of Education. *Access: http://ericir.sunsite.syr.edu/*.

• **CHID online.** This bibliographic Combined Health Information Database (Department of Health and Human Services) is produced by health-related agencies of the federal government, which provides a wealth of health promotion and education materials and program descriptions not indexed elsewhere. *Access: http://chid.nih.gov/*.

• **Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature (CINAHL).** This is a bibliographic database indexing journal and book citations and other publications in nursing and related healthcare fields. *Access: http://www.cinahl.com/prodsvs/prodsvs.htm.*

• **Linguistic, Language, and Behavior Abstracts.** A primary journal index of articles in the field of linguistics and its various sub-disciplines, including child language acquisition, computational and mathematical linguistics, language therapy, dialectology, artificial intelligence, bilingualism, and more. Consult your local university librarian for access information.

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tomation at the University of Ghent in Belgium, delivered the closing plenary address on the Open Archives Metadata Harvesting (OAMH) protocol and implications for scholarly communication. His presentation can be found on the CNI Web site at www.cni.org.

Van de Sompel described the OAMH protocol as "a low-barrier interoperability specification for the recurrent exchange of metadata between systems." The OAMH protocol allows for federated services such as SDI, alerting, and linking services; database synchronization; and harvesting the deep Web. The OAPM protocol advances the interoperability of electronic preprints as a means to promote their global acceptance as a "decomposed" scholarly communication system.

Van de Sompel posited that in the current scholarly communication system, it is increasingly difficult for libraries to fulfill their fundamental role of safeguarding equality of access to scholarly information. He encouraged libraries to rethink themselves and to become proactive in exploring alternatives for scholarly communications, like the OAI (see http://www.openarchives.org/).

Concluding that there are new opportunities for shaping a sustainable scholarly communication system, van de Sompel outlined the advantages libraries bring to the mix. Libraries are close to authors; are in a good position to archive institutional materials; are quick to embrace new technologies; have very knowledgable people; provide a level of redundancy in services that is no longer required in a digital environment; and safeguard equity of access through global representation.

Van de Sompel warned that libraries as organizations are slow moving, hosted by slowly moving institutions; that libraries are slow to recognize that a new technology may allow for new modes of operating; and that the information world runs on Internet time.—Betsy Wilson


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- MedLine. This is the premier biomedical database from the National Institutes of Health, which comprises the Index Medicus, Dental Literature Index, and the International Nursing Index. It provides the most comprehensive coverage from more than 3,500 journals in all areas of medicine. Access: http://www.nlm.nih.gov/databases/freemedl.html.

- UnCover. Table of Content and fee-based fax document delivery service to more than 18,000 journal titles from 1988 to the present. Use the UnCover "C"omplete service for older material. UnCover also offers articles from more than 2,500 journals via UnCover Desktop Image Delivery. Access: http://uncweb.carl.org/.

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Understanding our potential future users’ results in better programs and services. Partnerships often save money and labor and attract increased funding.

Final recommendations