As a child growing up in Bombay (now Mumbai), India, Shilpi Banerjee got every Thursday off school, so she accompanied her mother to her job as a teacher in a school for the physically handicapped.

Thursdays also happened to be the one day of the week when a speech pathologist and audiologist would work at the school, Banerjee said, so she had an early first-hand view of what those occupations required.

Now, some 20 years later, Banerjee herself holds bachelor's, master's and doctorate degrees in audiology and is an associate professor and director of clinical education for Pacific University’s new School of Audiology.

She brings a wide variety of experiences and is working to establish Pacific’s first EarClinic, due to open in a few months.

Banerjee earned her bachelor’s degree in audiology and speech therapy in 1992 from T.N. Medical College, Bombay University, in a program she described as being “very intense and in depth.”

Unlike the United States, where an AuD (doctor of audiology degree) is required to practice audiology, students graduating with bachelor’s degrees in India were ready and able to serve as practitioners.

She worked for one year as an educational audiologist for the K.D. Shruti School for the Deaf in Bombay.

But she was looking at other options. “I was convinced I wanted to do something with hearing aids, as in manufacturing hearing aids.”

Graduate studies in audiology weren’t readily available in India then, so Banerjee applied to several schools in the United States. Northwestern University admitted her with a full fellowship. Much to her delight, her faculty mentor was Mead Killion, founder of Etymotic Research, which produces hearing aid products, earphones, headsets, hearing...
**BANERJEE:** Experience benefits new program, clinic

*Continued from Page 1*

protection earplugs and other products, many made for musicians.

“I couldn’t have planned it better,” Banerjee said. “It was meant to be.”

She earned a master’s degree in audiology and hearing sciences in 1994 and a doctorate in communication sciences and disorders in 2003, both from Northwestern.

Banerjee served as an instructor at Northwestern and Northern Illinois universities and also was a research associate at the National Acoustic Laboratories in Australia.

She also worked as a research assistant at Etymotic Research in the Chicago area and at Starkey Labs in Minnesota, where she became manager of algorithm research, then senior research audiologist, the last post she held until coming to Pacific last year.

Banerjee has also served as a technical expert for Frye Electronics, an audiological equipment manufacturer based in the Portland area.

While in Minnesota, she was actively involved with the Minnesota Academy of Audiology and was recently awarded Honors of the Academy in recognition of her outstanding contributions to that organization.

Banerjee also recently was elected to a three-year term on the American Academy of Audiology’s Board of Directors.

Now at Pacific, she said, “I jokingly tell people I have three full-time jobs. I teach classes, I coordinate all the clinical placements and I’m getting our clinic up and running.

“I’m very, very grateful for the support from the community and from my college in doing all of this,” Banerjee added.

“I’m very excited to be here,” she said.

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**Sabbaticals, Tenure and Promotion, Fall 2013**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>SABBATICALS</th>
<th>JENNIFER HARDACKER, Media Arts, “The Wind in Our Hair: An experimental documentary about women’s self-knowing and empowerment through cycling”</th>
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<td>DAVID CORDES, Chemistry, “Alchemy in America: An Interdisciplinary Exploration of the Practice of Alchemy in the New World”</td>
<td>SUSAN LI, Professional Psychology, “Taking the next steps: Enhancing the Pacific University MIKE Program Partnership”</td>
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<td>JEFF SEWARD, Politics &amp; Government, “Inequality and Actually Existing Democracy”</td>
<td>CHADD WILLIAMS, Mathematics &amp; Computer Science, “Developing Code Reading and Software Testing in an Introductory Computer Science Course”</td>
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<tr>
<td>TIM STEPHENS, Music, “Ransom!! (An almost comic opera in one act)”</td>
<td>LORNE YUDCOVITCH, Optometry, “Sutureless Eyelid Procedure Educational Development”</td>
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Faculty & staff highlights


PAT CAROLINE, Optometry, moderated a session, Managing the Top 10 Large-Diameter Lens Complications, at the annual Global Specialty Lens Symposium held in January in Las Vegas.

ISAAC GILMAN, Library, wrote a chapter, “Scholarly Communication for Credit (Integrating Publishing Education into Undergraduate Curriculum),” in the recently published book, Common Ground at the Nexus of Information Literacy & Scholarly Communication. The book was published by the Association of College and Research Libraries and is available in print and also in an Open Access edition that is lacking one of the chapters present in the original print.

CHRISTINE GUENTHER, Mathematics & Computer Science, has been awarded the Simons Foundation Collaboration Grant for Mathematicians. Grants are made to accomplished, active researchers who do not otherwise have access to substantial research funding and are used to support research travel and visitors coming to campus. The $35,000 five-year grant will support Guenther’s research collaborations in geometric evolution equations, with a recent focus on the second-order renormalization group flow.

DOYLE WALLS, English, delivered a paper, A Curvaceous Blonde and a Gideon Bible Complete with a Gloss in the Gospel of John: The Sacred Nude Image and Word as Sacrilege in a Hotel Room Photo Shoot, at the 26th Annual National Conference on Liberal Arts and the Education of Artists in New York City this past fall. In addition, Walls had the pleasure of dining with former students from the 1970s, ’80s and ’90s while attending the conference.

Clarification: Erin Jobst, Physical Therapy, is the series editor of a newly published book series titled Physical Therapy Case Files. Each book is a collection of case studies with evidence-based ratings for physical therapy examination and treatment strategies. Currently, two books have been released: Acute Care and Orthopaedics. Jason Brumitt, Physical Therapy, is the editor of Orthopaedics. They are available now through most online book retailers.

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May Birthdays

1 Keith Neal 9 Steve Park 17 Harold Roark 25 Ashley Blanchard
1 Caitlyn Nelson 10 Paula Thatcher 18 Joel Gohdes 26 Alma Mattocks
2 Becca Fischer 10 Shesna Calkins 18 Karlen Suga 26 Pamela
2 JoeNeill 10 Stephen Shores 18 Marshall Knoderbane Michalowski
2 Donna Phillips 11 Valerie King 19 Gail Needham 28 Janine Vuylsteke
2 Brendan Stamper 13 Lynda Irons 19 Kaitlyn Varuska 28 Nancy Cicirello
3 Dennis Simonsen 13 Edna Gehring 19 Judy Cook 28 Doyle Walls
4 Heather Block 13 Lindsey Olson 19 Patrick LaSalle 28 Peter Morgan
4 Steve Mason 13 Aurora Beidler 19 Kimber Johns 28 Susan Li
5 Pam Kawasaki 14 Shelley Jorgensen 19 Tiffany Boggis 29 Adam LaMotte
6 Kay Irish 15 John White Jr 20 Nancy Neudauer 30 Vicki Simmons
6 Landon Poppleton 15 Susan Dale 20 Lisa Goren 30 John Gross
6 Christine 15 Nada Lingel 21 Jose Reyna 30 Kieran Bennett
Young-Gerber 15 Ludean 21 Jaime Sanchez-Gutierrez 30 Brandon
7 Jim Flory 16 John Suroviak 21 Steve Klein Browning
7 Joselyne Perry 15 Brian Jackson 22 Charles Pickett 30 Anne Reed
7 Blake Timm 15 Alicia Gonzalez 23 Thomas Andrews 31 Meghan Dion
7 David Widen 16 John Suroviak 23 Jeff Seward 31 Joyce Gabriel
7 Grant Widen 16 Jim Fleming 25 Stacey Halpern 31 Marc Moody
7 Rusty Tennant 16 Philip Thias 25 Laurie 31 George
8 Robin Shobe 16 Gary Gods 25 Lundy-Ekman Harshbarger
8 Amber Buhler 17 Melissa Vieira
8 Marisha Auerbach

COMMENCEMENT PROGRAM SEEKS VOLUNTEERS FOR TWO CEREMONIES
All Pacific employees are invited to celebrate the achievements of graduating students by volunteering at commencement ceremonies Saturday, May 18. Needed are people to help with handing out programs, special seating, cart driving and other tasks.

Two ceremonies are slated at the Lincoln Park Stadium in Forest Grove. The first, for undergraduates of the College of Arts & Sciences and the School of Education, is at 9:30 a.m. The second ceremony, for graduate students in occupational therapy, physical therapy, pharmacy, optometry and education, takes place at 1:30 p.m.

Interested employees can contact Melodye MacAlpine at mmacalpine@pacificu.edu. Please indicate whether you are available for the morning (9:30), afternoon (1:30) or both ceremonies.

PARTICIPANTS INVITED TO MATCH TRIVIA KNOWLEDGE WITH EXPERT
Known for his infamous trivia skill, retired Professor Emeritus Byron Steiger will be quizzing participants at the May 10 Pacific University Boxers lecture series hosted by the Office of Alumni Relations.

The Trivia PUB Night event is set at Lucky Lab Beer Hall, 1945 NW Quimby St., Portland, at 6 p.m. for local alumni, friends and members of the university community. Advance registration is required at $25 per person. Questions or requests for assistance can be directed to Alumni Relations, 503-352-2057 or alumni@pacificu.edu.