

# DARYN CUSHNIE-SPARROW

dcushni@uwo.ca

Speech-language pathologist with a Master's of Clinical Science and PhD in Speech & Language Science assessing and managing dysphagia in an acute care setting, and researching motor speech disorders at Western University using acoustic, perceptual and behavioural measures.

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Parkinson's disease	Speech intelligibility and loudness
Acoustic analysis of speech and voice	Motor speech disorders

## EDUCATION

### Western University

<b>Combined MCISc/PhD:</b> Speech-Language Pathology/Speech & Language Science	2016 - 2021
<b>BA, Honours:</b> Double Major in Linguistics and Psychology	2013 - 2016

## HONOURS AND AWARDS

Ontario Graduate Scholarship	Value: \$15,000	2019 - 2020
Parkinson Society of Southwestern Ontario Graduate Student Award	Value: \$20,000	2018 - 2019
Dr. Malcolm Peat Memorial Award		2017
<i>Awarded to the best oral presentation at the PhD level at the Rehabilitation Research Colloquium at Queen's University</i>		
Ontario Graduate Scholarship	Value: \$15,000	2016 - 2017
Graduation with Distinction (BA, Hons.)		2016

## OTHER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

<b>Head and Neck Cancer MBS Study (UWO): Summer Clinical Research Internship</b>	2017
<i>Dr. Julie Theurer. Analyzing modified barium swallow videos to evaluate degree of airway compromise and residue following salvage neck surgery</i>	
<b>Speech Movement Disorders Lab (UWO): Research Assistant</b>	2015-2016
<i>Dr. Scott Adams. Assisting in research activities studying the nature and treatment of hypophonia and intelligibility deficits of individuals with Parkinson's disease.</i>	

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

<b>Graduate Teaching Assistant: Counseling for SLP (CSD 9635)</b>	2021
<i>Dr. Allyson Page. Marking student evaluations and providing effective feedback.</i>	
<b>Lecturer: Clinical Applications of Speech Science (CSD 9625)</b>	2020
<i>Designing content for online delivery, including effective evaluation of student performance. Facilitating weekly virtual synchronous skill development lab sessions. Meeting with students to provide additional instruction in office hours.</i>	
<b>Graduate Teaching Assistant: Voice Disorders (CSD 9631/CSD 9641)</b>	2019, 2020
<i>Dr. Philip Doyle. Marking &amp; proctoring student evaluations, providing effective feedback. Lori Holmes. Creating lecture content &amp; learning activities for 2 weeks of course material. Supporting teaching activities through learning management system. Marking student evaluations and providing effective feedback.</i>	
<b>Graduate Teaching Assistant: Speech Science (CSD 9615)</b>	2018, 2019
<i>Dr. Scott Adams. Lecturing and instructing in weekly labs (30 hours). Marking and proctoring student evaluations. Providing additional instruction as requested.</i>	

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## CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

### **William Osler Health System** (Brampton Civic Hospital, Etobicoke General Hospital)

Speech-Language Pathologist

2021 -

*Assessing and managing dysphagia of adults in an acute care setting via clinical swallowing assessment and instrumental assessment (videofluoroscopy). Supporting effective, compassionate, patient-centered care by collaborating with interdisciplinary team. Providing education to family and colleagues.*

### **Oak Valley Health** (Markham-Stouffville Hospital, Reactivation Care Centre)

Speech-Language Pathologist

2021 - 2022

*Assessing and managing dysphagia of adult inpatients in acute and subacute settings.*

### **Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital**

Speech-Language Pathologist

2021 - 2022

*Assessing and treating speech disorders related to cleft lip/palate in children. Providing individualized therapy for compensatory speech articulation errors and resonance.*

### **London Health Sciences Centre**

Student Clinician: Acute Adult Dysphagia

2021

*Assessing and managing dysphagia of adults in an acute care setting via clinical swallowing assessment and instrumental assessment (videofluoroscopy, endoscopy). Assessing and managing dysphagia of adult outpatients via telehealth.*

### **Thames Valley Children's Centre**

Student Clinician: Cleft Lip/Palate and Velopharyngeal Dysfunction

2020

*Assessing and treating velopharyngeal dysfunction and speech disorders related to cleft lip and palate in children and adults in a specialized clinic. Assessing velopharyngeal and cleft concerns as part of multidisciplinary team clinics. Assisting in management of feeding needs of infants with cleft lip and palate and Pierre Robin Sequence.*

### **H.A. Leeper Speech and Hearing Clinic**

Student Clinician: tykeTalk

2018

*Providing individualized speech treatment to improve communication in preschoolers with motor speech or articulation/phonology concerns. Re-assessing speech and language development of toddlers and preschoolers.*

Student Clinician: Individual and Group Neuro Placements

2017

*Providing individualized treatment to improve communication and life participation for individuals with neurogenic conditions such as aphasia, dysarthria and apraxia of speech*

Student Clinician: Individual Fluency Placement

2017

*Providing individualized treatment to facilitate fluency based on the Essential Pause program, including designing a home program to further support fluency*

Student Clinician: Individual Voice Disorders Placement

2017

*Providing LSVT LOUD to improve vocal intensity and clarity*

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**PAPERS IN PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS**

- Gaballah, A., Parsa, V., **Cushnie-Sparrow, D.**, Adams, S. Improved estimation of Parkinsonian vowel quality through acoustic feature assimilation. *The Scientific World Journal*, Article ID 6076828. 2021
- Knowles, T., Adams, S.G., Page, A., **Cushnie-Sparrow, D.**, Jog, M. A comparison of speech amplification and personal communication devices for hypophonia. *Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research*, 63(8), 2695-2712. 2020
- Cushnie-Sparrow, D.**, Adams, S.G., Abeyesekera, A., Pieterman, M., Gilmore, G., Jog, M. Voice quality severity and responsiveness to levodopa in Parkinson's disease. *Journal of Communication Disorders*, 76, 1-10. 2018
- Cushnie-Sparrow, D.**, Adams, S. G., Knowles, T., Leszcz, T., Jog, M. (2016). Effects of multi-talker noise on the acoustics of voiceless consonants in Parkinson's disease. *Western Papers in Linguistics* 3(1). 2016

**CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS**

- Cushnie-Sparrow, D.**, Adams, S.G., Parsa, V., Jog, M. Acoustic and perceptual correlates of loudness in hypophonia associated with Parkinson's disease. Virtual presentation for the international Conference on Motor Speech, February 17-20, Charleston, SC. *Presented virtually due to barriers to travel related to COVID-19 pandemic.* 2022
- Cushnie-Sparrow, D.** Hypophonia in Parkinson's disease: Measurement considerations. Invited presentation at the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Movement Disorders Research Retreat, June 22-23, London, ON. 2019
- Cushnie-Sparrow, D.** Transitioning from SPSS to R. Invited presentation for R-Ladies: London Chapter, November 29, London, ON. 2018
- Knowles, T., Adams, S.G., Page, A., **Cushnie-Sparrow, D.**, Jog, M. Comparison of speech amplification devices in individuals with Parkinson's disease. National poster presentation at Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Canada. 2018
- Cushnie-Sparrow, D.**, Adams, S.G., Abeyesekera, A., Pieterman, M., Gilmore, G., Jog, M. Effects of levodopa on voice quality in Parkinson's disease. International poster presentation at the Conference on Motor Speech, February 22-25, Savannah, GA. 2018
- Cushnie-Sparrow, D.** Transitioning from SPSS to R. Invited presentation for R-Ladies: London Chapter, July 7, London, ON. 2017
- Cushnie-Sparrow, D.**, Adams, S.G., Abeyesekera, A., Pieterman, M., Gilmore, G., Jog, M. Dopamine medication and voice quality in Parkinson's disease. Invited presentation at the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Movement Disorders Research Retreat, June 10-11, London, ON. 2017
- Cushnie-Sparrow, D.**, Adams, S.G., Abeyesekera, A., Pieterman, M., Gilmore, G., Jog, M. Dopamine medication and voice quality in Parkinson's disease. Provincial oral presentation at the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Rehabilitation Research Colloquium, May 26, Queen's University. 2017
- Cushnie-Sparrow, D.**, Adams, S.G., Abeyesekera, A., Pieterman, M., Gilmore, G., Jog, M. Effects of dopamine therapy on voice quality in Parkinson's disease. Institutional poster presentation at the Health and Rehabilitation Sciences Graduate Research Conference, January 31 - February 1, Western University. 2017
- Cushnie-Sparrow, D.**, Adams, S. G., Knowles, T., Leszcz, T., Jog, M. Effects of multi-talker noise on the acoustics of voiceless consonants in Parkinson's disease. Institutional oral presentation at the Western Interdisciplinary Student Symposium on Language Research, March 4-5, Western University. 2016

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## CERTIFICATIONS

Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA)	2020
Lee Silverman Voice Treatment (LSVT LOUD)	2021
Modified Barium Swallow Impairment Profile (MBSImP)	2021
Basic Cardiac Life Support (BLS/BCLS)	2021

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Speech-Language and Audiology Canada: Member, Provisional Certification

## TECHNICAL STRENGTHS

Computer Languages: R, Praat, MATLAB

## VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

<b>R-Ladies London</b>	2017 - 2020
<i>Member, presenter and organizer (beginning in 2019) in a group intended to improve access and opportunity to women and gender minorities in the R User community.</i>	