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I. Education & Certification

Ph.D., Speech & Hearing Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (2002)
M.A., Speech and Hearing Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (1996)
B.S., Speech and Hearing Science, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (1994)
Certificate of Clinical Competence, American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (1997-present)

II. Employment

- Founder & Consultant, Neurodiverse by Design LLC (August 2024-present)
- Interim Chair, School of Applied Health & Communicative Disorders, Northern Illinois University (July 2024-June 2025)
- Chair & Professor, Dept of Speech, Language & Hearing Sciences, Western Michigan University (2018-2024)
- Associate Professor, Speech & Hearing Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (May 2011-present)
- Assistant Professor, Speech & Hearing Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (August 2005-May 2011)
- Assistant Professor, Communication Sciences and Disorders, Pennsylvania State University (August 2002-May 2005)
- Speech-Language Pathologist & Clinical Supervisor, Bright Futures Program, Northwestern University (1997-1998)
- Speech-Language Pathologist (CFY), Kennedy Krieger Institute, (1996-1997)

III. University Teaching

- A. Northern Illinois University (2025)
 - Autism & Social Communication Disorders (COMD 618)
- B. Western Michigan University (2019-2021)
 - Research Methods in Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology (SPPA/SLHS 6150)
 - Communication Diversity & Healthcare (SLHS 5870)
 - Communication Diversity & Access (SLHS 2970)
 - Diagnostics & Appraisal (SLHS 6530)
- C. University of Illinois (2015-2018)
 - Communication Diversity & Access (SLHS 2970)

- Language Disorders in Preschool Children (SHS 531/431)
- Introduction to Phonological Disorders (SHS 330)
- Speech-Language Disabilities in the Educational Setting (SHS 390)
- Causal Influences in Communication Disabilities (SHS 593T)
- Development and Disorders in Phonology and Articulation (SHS 430)
- Children, Language, & Communication (SHS 120h/e)
- Project FOCAL Transdisciplinary Seminar (SHS 593Z)
- Introduction to Augmentative & Alternative Communication (SHS 473)
- Interdisciplinary Approaches to Life Science: Autism (GCL 199)
- Advanced Seminar: Social Model of Disability (SHS 586)
- Departmental Proseminar (SHS 592)
- Building Healthy Communities (GCL 220)
- Clinical Sociolinguistics (SHS 571)

III. Invited Presentations

DeThorne, L. (2024, November). *Stop your singing fingers: Language lessons from the neurodiversity paradigm*. Center for the Interdisciplinary Study of Language and Literacy, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL.

DeThorne, L. (2024, October). *Neurodiversity 101: Implications for Education*. DeKalb County Regional Office of Education, DeKalb, IL.

DeThorne, L. (2024, September). *My normal isn't your normal: Viewing workplace tensions through a neurodiversity lens*. PayTech Women, Atlanta, GA.

DeThorne, L. (2024, April). *My normal isn't your normal: Leaning into difficult conversations through a neurodiversity lens*. Payroc Lunch & Learn series, online.

DeThorne, L. (2024, April). *Providing Neurodiversity Affirming Support for Autistic Students within an Educational Context*. START Conference, East Lansing, MI.

DeThorne, L. (2024, April). *Providing Neurodiversity Affirming Support for Autistic Students within an Educational Context*. START Conference, East Lansing, MI.

DeThorne, L. (2024, April). *Lived Experience as Means to Ignite Change: My own Parental & Professional Journey*. Michigan Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Muskegon, MI.

DeThorne, L. (2023, October). *The Influence of the Neurodiversity Paradigm on my Parental & Professional Journey*. Comparative Autism Research Effectiveness (CARE) Conference sponsored by PCORI funding, online.

DeThorne, L. (2022, September) *Reframing social supports for school-age students*. Oakland Schools, online continuing education.

DeThorne, L. (2022, July). *Providing neurodiversity-affirming supports for autistic students within the confines of special education*. ASHA Schools Connect, Online Conference.

DeThorne, L. (2022, April). *Autism, neurodiversity, and the workplace*. Payroc lunch & learn, online.

DeThorne, L. & Sears Smith, K. (2022, March). *Autism & Neurodiversity: Reimagining the strengths of the human spectrum*. Michigan Speech-Language-Hearing Association, East Lansing, MI.

DeThorne, L. (2022, November). *Supporting Neurodivergent Youth in the Boy Scouts*. Boy Scouts of America, Kalamazoo, MI.

DeThorne, L. (2021, November). *A neurodiversity perspective on autism: Implications for clinical and research practice*. Congreso de Fonoaudiólogos Investigadores, Universidad de los Andes, Santiago, Chile.

DeThorne, L. (2021, November). *¿Qué es la neurodiversidad y por qué debería importarme?* Pre-Congreso de Fonoaudiólogos Investigadores, Universidad de los Andes, Santiago, Chile.

DeThorne, L. (2020, September). *Reframing social supports for school-age students on the autism spectrum*, ASHA Practical Solutions for Elementary Assessment, Treatment, & Collaboration, Online Conference.

DeThorne, L. (2020, March). *Neurodiversity 101*. Invited keynote speaker, The Arc Community Advocates, Inclusion Conference, Kalamazoo, MI.

DeThorne, L. & Sears Smith, K. (2019, November). *Autism and Neurodiversity: Reimagining the strengths of the human spectrum*. Invited speaker for the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Annual Convention, Orlando, FL.

DeThorne, L. (2019, October). *Autism, Apraxia, and Social Interaction: Can't v. won't*. Invited speaker for the Will Grundy Speech-Language-Hearing Association Annual Convention, Joliet, IL.

DeThorne, L. (2019, January). *Autism, Apraxia, and Supporting Social Interaction*. Invited speaker for the Illinois Speech-Language-Hearing Association Annual Convention, Rosemont, IL.

DeThorne, L. & Sears Smith, K. (2019, January). *Autism and the Neurodiversity Movement*. Invited speaker for the Illinois Speech-Language-Hearing Association Annual Convention, Rosemont, IL.

DeThorne, L. & VanRyswyk, K.J. (2019, November). Neurodiversity 101: Building a more colorful world. Kalamazoo Valley Museum, Kalamazoo, MI.

DeThorne, L.S. (2017, September). *Can't or won't: The role of motor impairment in the communication profiles of individuals on the autism spectrum*. Invited research seminar for the Divisions of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology at Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden.

DeThorne, L.S. (2015, March). *Communicative competence in children who use AAC: Will I know it when I see it?* Invited seminar for the Center for Disability Studies, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA.

DeThorne, L.S. (2015, February). *Communicative competence in children who use AAC: Will I know it when I see it?* Invited seminar for the Department of Disability and Human Development, University of Illinois, Chicago.

DeThorne, L.S. (2014, September). *Supporting Communicative Competence: Autism & AAC*. Invited seminar for the Centre for Disability Studies, University of Sydney, Australia.

DeThorne, L.S. (2014, September). *Supporting communicative competence*. Invited research seminar for the Divisions of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology at Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden supported by an award from the Illinois-Sweden Program and Research Exchange (INSPIRE).

DeThorne, L.S. (2014, April). *More than words: Multimodality and communicative success*. Invited Speaker, Sigma Chi Annual Banquet, Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL.

DeThorne, L. (2010, April). Give me feedback: *Alternatives for facilitating early speech-language development*. Invited research presentation at the Pennsylvania Speech-Language-Hearing Association Annual Convention, Pittsburgh, PA.

IV. Mentored Student Research (Select from >30 total)

Shadha Al Kalbani (2023-2024), Honors student, Department of Speech, Language & Hearing Sciences, Western Michigan University. *Neurodivergent Experiences in CSD Professional Programs as Reflected on Reddit*. Lee Honors College Undergraduate Honors Thesis, Research Mentor (in conjunction with Kelli Pierce)

Anna Davidson (2022-2023), Honors student, Department of Speech, Language & Hearing Sciences, Western Michigan University. *College Students Perspectives of their Autism*. Lee Honors College Undergraduate Honors Thesis, Chair.

Sabrina Schaffer (2020-2021), Honors student, Department of Speech, Language & Hearing Sciences, Western Michigan University. *Development of a questionnaire focusing on varying perspectives about autism*. Lee Honors College Undergraduate Honors Thesis, Chair.

Henry Giovanni Angulo Jiménez, MA. (2019-2020). Department of Speech & Hearing Science, University of Illinois. *"I was like 'Oh my God, los dos'": Code-switching in conversations with a bilingual adult on the autism spectrum*. Dissertation Chair.

Verónica Vidal, MS. (2017-2018). Department of Speech & Hearing Science, University of Illinois. *Getting in sync: Exploring and supporting peer interaction in an autistic child with inconsistent access to speech*. Dissertation Chair.

Mariana Aparicio Betancourt MA. (2017). Neuroscience Program, University of Illinois. *Environmental influences on communication development: Implications for children with neurodevelopmental communication impairments*. Dissertation Chair.

Megan-Brette Hamilton, MA. (2015-2016). Department of Speech & Hearing Science, University of Illinois. *Teachers' perceptions of school-age children's communication*. Dissertation Chair.

Stephanie Russell & Hillary Valentino (2011-2013), James Scholar, Department of Speech and Hearing Science, University of Illinois. *Classroom Communicative practices involving one preschool-aged child with complex communication needs*. James Scholar Undergraduate Senior Honors Thesis, Research Mentor (in conjunction with Julie Hengst).

Jamie Mahurin Smith, MA. (2009-2010). Department of Speech and Hearing Science, University of Illinois. *The impact of prematurity on discourse-level language skills at school age*. Dissertation Chair.

Ellen Bogue (2009-2011), James Scholar, Department of Speech and Hearing Science at the University of Illinois. *A psychometric analysis of childhood vocabulary tests*. Honors thesis Chair.

Lisa Mellman (2008-2010), James Scholar, Department of Speech and Hearing Science at The University of Illinois. *Augmentative and alternative communication use in schools*. Honors thesis Chair.

V. Publications (Select from over 70 total publications)

1. O'Donoghue, M., Murphy, A, Vidal, V., Martinez, C., Ferris, F., & **DeThorne, L.S.** (in press). Using the double empathy problem to reframe supports for peer interaction. In: Damian Milton (Ed.), *Double Empathy Reader*.
2. Angulo-Jiménez, H. & **DeThorne, L.** (2024). Discourse-Related Code-Switching in Conversations with a Bilingual Autistic Adult. *Journal of Interactional Research in Communication Disorders*, 15(2).
3. **DeThorne, L.** & Coburn, K. (2024). Autism through an Intersectional Neurodiversity Lens.

- Topics in Language Disorders*, 44(1), 2-4.
4. **DeThorne, L.**, Pierce, K., Rang, M., Schafer, S. & VanRyswyk, K. (2024). "I have a different perspective as I am working through this:" Speech language pathologist reflections on autism. *Topics in Language Disorders*, 44(1), 25-43.
 5. **DeThorne, L.**, & Gerlach, H. (2023). Resisting ableism in school-based speech-language pathology: An invitation to change. *Language, Speech, & Hearing Services in Schools*, 1-7.
 6. Vidal, V.G., Wachholtz, D.P., Mattie, L.J., & **DeThorne, L.S.** (2023). It takes a community: How environmental systems construct (In)Competence in Autistic peer interactions. *Language, Speech, and Hearing Services in Schools*, 37, 257-267.
 7. **DeThorne, L.S.**, Hengst, J.A., Hamilton, M.-B., & Pierce, K.J. (2023). Communication Disorders. In: Howard S. Friedman (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of Mental Health* (3rd ed., vol. 1), Waltham, MA: Academic Press, 448-456.
 8. Vidal, V., & **DeThorne, L.** (2021). Effectiveness of a supports-based approach to peer interactions of an autistic student in the classroom: A mixed-methods study. *Perspectives of the ASHA Special Interest Groups*, 6, 327-343.
 9. Mahurin-Smith, J., **DeThorne, L.**, & Petrill, S. (2021). Children born prematurely may demonstrate catch-up growth in pre-adolescence. *Language, Speech, & Hearing Services in Schools*, 52(2), 1-11.
 10. Hamilton, M-B., & **DeThorne, L.** (2021). Volume and verve: understanding correction/behavioral warnings in teacher-child classroom interactions involving an African American kindergarten student. *Language, Speech, & Hearing Services in Schools*, 52 (1), 64-83.
 11. **DeThorne, L.S.** & Searsmith, K. (2020). Autism and neurodiversity: Addressing concerns and offering implications for the school-based speech-language pathologist. *Perspectives of the ASHA Special Interest Groups*, 1-7.
 12. Vidal, V., McCallister, A. & **DeThorne, L.** (2020). Communication profile of a minimally verbal school-age autistic child: A case study. *Language, Speech, & Hearing Services in Schools*, 1-16.
 13. Angulo, H., Chan, M., & **DeThorne, L.** (2019). Life is a stage: Autistic perspectives on neurotypicality. *Autism in Adulthood*, 1(4), 276-285.
 14. Angulo-Jiménez, H. & **DeThorne, L.** (2019). Narratives about autism: An analysis of YouTube videos by individuals who self-identify as autistic. *American Journal of Speech-Language Pathology*, 28, 569-590.
 15. **DeThorne, L.S.** & Ceman, S. (2018). Genetic testing and autism: Tutorial for communication sciences & Disorders. *Journal of Communication Disorders*, 74, 61-73.
 16. Vidal, V., Ernat, C., & **DeThorne L.** (2018). I think he wants you to play the guitar: Use of behavioral interpretation as a strategy for facilitating peer interaction across autistic and non-autistic peers. *Perspectives of the ASHA Special Interest Groups*, 3, 68-83.
 17. Vidal, V., Robertson, S., & **DeThorne, L.** (2018). Illustrating a supports-based approach toward friendship with autistic students. *American Journal of Speech-Language Pathology*, 27, 592-601.
 18. Hamilton, M-B., Angulo, H., Taylo, C., & **DeThorne, L.S.** (2018). Clinical implications for working with nonmainstream dialect speakers: A focus on two Filipino kindergartners. *Language, Speech, & Hearing Services in Schools*, 49, 497-508.

19. Mahurin-Smith, **DeThorne, L.**, & Petrill, S.A. (2017). Longitudinal associations across prematurity, attention, and language in school-age children. *Journal of Speech, Language, & Hearing Research*, *60*, 3601-3608.
20. Aparicio Betancourt, M., **DeThorne, L.**, Karahalios, K., & Kim, J. (2017). Skin Conductance as an In Situ Marker for Emotional Arousal in Children with Neurodevelopmental Communication Impairments: Methodological Considerations and Clinical Implications. *ACM Transactions on Accessible Computing (TACCESS)*, *9*(3), 8:2-8:9.
21. **DeThorne, L.S.**, Hengst, J.A., Valentino, J.A., & Russell, S.A. (2015). More than words: Examining communicative competence through a preschool-aged child with autism." *Inclusion*. *3*(3), 176-196.
22. **DeThorne, L.S.**, Hengst, J., Fisher, K., & King, A. (2014). Keep your eye on the prize: Implementing AAC within the broader context of communicative competence. *Young Exceptional Children*, *14*, 39-50.
23. Kraft, Shelly Jo, & **DeThorne, L.S.** (2014). The brand new world of epigenetics: Embracing complexity in the study of speech and language disorders. *Current Developmental Disorders Reports*, *1*(3), 207-214.
24. Bogue, E., **DeThorne, L.**, & Schaefer, B. (2014). A psychometric analysis of childhood vocabulary tests. *Contemporary Issues in Communication Science and Disorders*, *41*, 55-69.
25. King, A.M., Hengst, J.A., **DeThorne, L.S.** (2013). Severe speech sound disorders: An integrated multimodal intervention. *Language Speech and Hearing Services in Schools*, *44*, 195-210.

VI. Grants Awarded

Stephen A. Petrill (PI), **Laura S. DeThorne**, Kirby Deater-Deckard, Lee A. Thompson, Christopher Schatschneider, David J. Vandenberg, & George P. Vogler (co-investigators). *Environmental Influences on Early Reading: A Twin Study*. NICHD # R01 HD38076-03, Awarded for April 2002-March 2006. \$1,757,409.

Laura S. DeThorne (PI). *Examining the Influence of Child Language Ability on Adult-Child Interactions within a Twin Study*. American Speech-Language-Hearing Foundation. Awarded for November 2004-November 2005. \$15,000.

Stephen A. Petrill (PI), **Laura S. DeThorne**, Kirby Deater-Deckard, Lee A. Thompson, Christopher Schatschneider, David J. Vandenberg, Laurie E. Cutting, & George P. Vogler (co-investigators). *Environmental Influences on Early Reading: A Twin Study*. NICHD #5 R01 HD38076-03, Awarded for April 2006-March 2011. \$3,550,442.

Cynthia J. Johnson (PI), **Laura S. DeThorne**, Ruth V. Watkins, Jim Halle, Michaelene Ostrosky, & David Richman (co-investigators). *Project FOCAL: Focusing on Causality and Assessment to Train Leaders in Children's Communication Disabilities*. U.S. Department of Education. H325D070061, Awarded for August 2007-August 2011. \$783,198.

Laura S. DeThorne (PI). Stephen A. Petrill (co-investigator). *Child Spontaneous Language Use: Gene-Environment Effects*. NICHD # 1 R01 HD50307-01A2, Awarded for September 2007-June 2011. \$244,197.

Laura S. DeThorne (PI). Karrie Karahalios & Jim Halle (co-investigators). *Making Words Meet: Using Computerized Feedback to Facilitate Word Combinations in Children with ASD*. Autism Speaks Treatment Research Grant. June 2010-November 2012. \$178,650.

Jim Shriner (**PI**), **DeThorne, L.** (Content Expert). *Implementing the Common Core State Standards for Students with Disabilities: Research and Development of Web-based Supports for IEP Team Decisions*. U.S Department of Education, Institute of Educational Sciences Project Dates: 07/01/2011 – 06/30/2014. \$1,478,443.

VII. Select Service

- **Grant reviewer**, American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Wellcome Trust, National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, & Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (varied from 2007-2024)
- **Program Director**, Audiology & Speech-Language Pathology programs at Western Michigan University (2018-2024)
- **Editor Role**, *American Journal of Speech-Language Pathology*, *Journal of Communication Disorders*, *Journal of Speech, Language, & Hearing Research*, and *Perspectives of the American Speech-Language Hearing Association Special Interest Groups* (varied from 2008- present)
- **Board Member**, Arc Community Advocates (2022-2023)
- **International Host**, Coordinated a visit of ~25 faculty and PhD students from the Karolinska Institute to the University of Illinois to cultivate shared research interests (2018)
- **Symposium Co-organizer**, Symposium on Activity-Based Approaches to Communication, together with Dr. Julie Hengst (2012 & 2013)
- **Organizing Parent Collective Member**, The Summit Afterschool Program at Stratton Elementary (2011-2014)

VIII. Awards

American Speech-Language Hearing Association Advancing Academic-Research Careers Award (2005)

Arnold O. Beckman Research Award, UIUC's Campus Research Board (May 2009)

Distinguished Promotion Award, UIUC Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor (Spring 2011)

Academic Sabbatical to focus on social-cultural models of disability (May 2014-Aug 2015)

UIUC's List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent (multiple semesters 2006-2016)

UIUC Applied Health Sciences Award for Excellence in Graduate and Professional Teaching (2013)

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Pathways Program, Mentor (2017)



UIUC Applied Health Sciences Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching (2017)
UIUC Campus Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching (2017)
American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Research Mentoring-Pair Travel Award (2017)
ASHA AARC Faculty Mentor (Santhanam, 2020 & Gerlach, 2021)
WMU Broncos Excellence in Diversity Award (Awarded to the Dept of SLHS, 2023)