
A use study of speech pathology and audiology periodicals at Illinois State University

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No core list of periodicals exists for speech pathology and audiology. Faced with the prospect of having to cancel periodicals for all subjects, the science librarians at Illinois State University decided to determine which science periodicals were used most heavily. A one-year study of science periodical reshelving and interlibrary loan requests yielded ranked lists of periodicals important to speech pathology and audiology faculty and students at Illinois State University. The three most heavily used journals were the *Journal of Speech and Hearing Research*, *ASHA*, and *Topics in Language Disorders*. Most of the periodicals on the lists were indexed by either MEDLINE or UnCover, or by both. While the lists of journals developed in the study are not sufficient to serve as true core lists, they should be useful to libraries supporting comparable programs in speech pathology and audiology.

INTRODUCTION

At a time when libraries are faced with stagnant budgets and rapidly escalating periodical costs, determining which periodicals to hold locally to support teaching and research can be problematic. Core lists can be a great help in selecting library materials, whether they are books or periodicals. A review of the literature revealed the lack of a core list of journals for speech pathology and audiology. Anderson [1] determined that the only collection development list for this discipline is found in the "Selected List of Books and Journals in Allied Health" by Brandon and Hill [2]. This list contained four speech pathology and audiology periodicals, one of which is a trade journal. This is not an adequate core collection for a library supporting teaching and research in the subject. Murphy and Buchinger [3] surveyed the use of the Brandon/

Hill list for book selection in academic health sciences libraries, but they did not report on the use of the list for journal selection. Because there was no core list of journals and monographs, the science librarians at Illinois State University were interested in discovering which journals were being heavily used by students and faculty members. The study presented here attempted to develop a bibliography of the most frequently needed journals in the areas of speech pathology and audiology at Illinois State University.

Milner Library at Illinois State University comprises four subject divisions, one of which is Science and Technology. There are three science librarians, one of whom serves as the subject specialist for the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology. As the only campus library, Milner Library provides a selection of about 1.1 million monograph titles and about 5,000 periodical titles to support all university programs. Most speech

Table 1
Use and indexing of Milner Library speech pathology and audiology periodicals

Title	Reshelve	Straighten	B/H*	IM†	UnC‡
<i>Journal of Speech and Hearing Research</i>	496	desk		x	x
ASHA and ASHA supplement	121	101		x	x
<i>Topics in Language Disorders</i>	107	53			x
<i>Journal of Communication Disorders</i>	86	75		x	x
<i>Ear and Hearing</i>	74	29		x	x
<i>Brain and Language</i>	51	49		x	x
<i>American Journal of Speech-Language Pathology</i>	50	82	x		x
<i>Augmentative and Alternative Communication</i>	46	57			x
<i>Laryngoscope</i>	46	39		x	x
<i>Journal of Fluency Disorders</i>	42	50			x
<i>Journal of Childhood Communication Disorders</i>	41	47			x
<i>Seminars in Speech and Language</i>	35	48		x	x
<i>Otolaryngology—Head and Neck Surgery</i>	32	33		x	x
<i>British Journal of Audiology</i>	28	82		x	x
<i>Journal of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology</i>	27	29			x
<i>Annals of Otolaryngology, Rhinology and Laryngology</i>	27	28		x	
<i>European Journal of Disorders of Communication</i>	26	44		x	x
<i>Journal of the American Academy of Audiology</i>	25	33	x	x	x
<i>Acta Oto-Laryngologica</i> (and supplement)	24	54		x	x
<i>Seminars in Hearing</i>	23	83			x
<i>Archives of Otolaryngology—Head and Neck Surgery</i>	21	32		x	x
<i>Audiology</i>	21	30		x	x
<i>Journal of Laryngology and Otolaryngology</i>	17	53		x	x
<i>American Journal of Otolaryngology</i>	16	25		x	x
<i>Journal of the Academy of Rehabilitative Audiology</i>	15	51			x
<i>Ear, Nose and Throat Journal</i>	12	68		x	x
<i>NSSLHA Journal</i>	12				
<i>Folia Phoniatrica et Logopedica</i>	11	24		x	x
<i>Journal of Otolaryngology</i> (and supplement)	8	41		x	x
<i>American Journal of Audiology</i>	6	26	x		x
<i>Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery</i>	5	28		x	x
<i>Cleft Palate—Craniofacial Journal</i>	4	62		x	x
<i>Dysphagia</i> §	2			x	x

* Brandon/Hill list.

† *Index Medicus*.

‡ UnCover.

§ Milner Library began subscription during reshelving study.

pathology and audiology periodicals are located with other science and technology materials, with the exception of those titles not classed in Library of Congress classes Q, R, S, or T, which are housed in another location. The library's collecting intensity for speech pathology and audiology is at the research level.

The Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology at Illinois State University offers both bachelor's and master's degrees in the areas of speech and hearing sciences, speech-language pathology, and audiology. The department currently offers graduate education in the following areas: augmentative communication, research methodology, aphasia, dysphagia, neuropathologies, orofacial anomalies, communicative disorders associated with head and neck cancer, and phonological, language, voice, and fluency disorders. Audiological education includes the following areas: advanced auditory tests, amplification for the hearing impaired, auditory functions and disorders, hearing disorders in children, and audiological habilitation and rehabilitation.

There are eleven tenure-track teaching professors and eight administrative professionals in the depart-

ment. The enrollment for the fall of 1996 included 160 undergraduate and 72 graduate students (8 in audiology and 64 in speech-language pathology). The graduate program offered by the department is accredited by both the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) and the Council on Academic Accreditation.

PERIODICAL USE SURVEY

The purpose of the year-long reshelving study (May 1995 to May 1996) of all science and technology periodicals was to identify titles with high and low levels of use to assist periodical cancellation projects. Because Milner Library periodicals do not circulate, in-library use should equal total use. Unbound current issues as well as bound and microfilm volumes were counted prior to reshelving. Data were entered daily on weekdays by call number, and titles were added at a later date. These results are indicated in Table 1 under the term "Reshelve." No signs were posted to indicate that a reshelving study was in progress. The study therefore probably underestimated levels of use,

Table 2
Indexing of periodicals not included in the use study

Title	B/H*	IM†	UnC‡
<i>American Annals of the Deaf</i>		x	x
<i>Hearing Journal</i>	x		x
<i>Hearing Research</i>		x	x
<i>Journal of Voice</i>			x
<i>Language and Speech</i>		x	x
<i>Language Learning</i>			x
<i>Language Problems and Language Planning</i>			x
<i>Language Speech and Hearing Services in Schools</i>			x
<i>Language Teaching</i>			x
<i>Otolaryngologic Clinics of North America</i>		x	x
<i>Perspectives in Education and Deafness</i>			x
<i>Phonetica</i>		x	x
<i>Scandinavian Audiology</i> §		x	x
<i>Transactions—American Otological Society</i>			
<i>Volta Review</i>			x

* Brandon/Hill list.
† Index Medicus.
‡ UnCover.
§ Milner Library does not own this title.

because it did not take into account patron reshelving. In order to estimate browsing use more accurately, the clerk in charge of science and technology periodicals recorded disturbances to each periodical title in the current periodicals area on weekdays from July 1995 until May 1996. Each title could therefore have been straightened a maximum of five times per week. These results are indicated in Table 1 under the term "Straighten." Current issues of some periodicals, including the *Journal of Speech and Hearing Research*, are kept behind the information desk on Floor 5. No straightening data were collected for these titles because exact use counts were available.

Speech pathology and audiology periodicals were selected from a combination of those listed in the 1996 *List of Journals Indexed in Index Medicus (LJI)* [4], those in the Brandon/Hill list, and those purchased by the subject specialist's funds for the department. They are ranked in Table 1 on the basis of reshelving data. These data indicate that the *Journal of Speech and Hearing Research (JSHR)* was the most heavily used speech-pathology and audiology periodical. The next most heavily used titles were *ASHA* and *Topics in Language Disorders*, which received only about a quarter of the amount of use received by *JSHR*. These were followed by another group of titles: *Journal of Communication Disorders*, and *Ear and Hearing*. Beyond this point, other titles received steadily decreasing use. Presence on the Brandon/Hill list of journals in allied health and coverage in major indexing and abstracting services are also indicated in Table 1. Periodicals for which there are no use data are listed in Table 2.

Reshelving data do not appear to be correlated with straightening data. Low reshelving counts were associated with high straightening counts for some titles, such as *Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Journal* and *Ear, Nose and*

Throat Journal. Straightening may only indicate browsing use without photocopying, patron reshelving, or accidental disturbance. Further study is warranted. It should be noted that the straightening data include only those issues from the most current year, whereas the reshelving data include both current issues and older bound volumes.

INTERLIBRARY LOAN RECORDS

Each request to obtain a periodical article through interlibrary loan is placed by filling out a form on an index card. The cards are kept by the Inter-Library Loan Office, filed by month. Undergraduate students do not indicate their department on the cards, but graduate students and faculty are required to do so. The cards were examined individually for the months May 1995 through May 1996 to match the dates of the periodicals survey. Any article ordered by a graduate student or faculty member from the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology was noted. The title of the journal was recorded and a total noted for the number of articles ordered from each journal (Table 3). Because undergraduate students do not indicate their department, results regarding their requests could not be reported. However, no title ordered by an undergraduate was clearly related to speech pathology or audiology. Titles that Milner Library owns may be ordered when the library copy is at the bindery or is outside the range of the library's holdings. For example, in Table 3, six articles from *Dysphagia* are shown to have been requested. This journal is also listed in Table 1, as Milner Library began subscribing to it in 1996.

Only five journals had more than three requests. The most requested title was *Scandinavian Audiology*, which appears on the *LJI*. There were two journals with six requests: *American Journal of Otology* and *Dysphagia*. *Dysphagia* was already on order. The other two journals, *Electroencephalography and Clinical Neurophysiology* and *Journal of Computer Users in Speech and Hearing*, had four requests each. Six of the orders for both *Scandinavian Audiology* and *Dysphagia* were graduate student requests. The other heavily requested journal titles were all ordered by faculty members. Since some graduate students are research assistants, they may have ordered some journal articles for their professors.

DISCUSSION

Milner Library subscribes to MEDLINE on OCLC FirstSearch, which is available for faculty and students to use in the library and in computer labs throughout the campus. Faculty members are also able to access the database from their offices. Since this is the major database used by faculty and students of the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology, journal use

Table 3
Periodicals requested by Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology faculty and graduate students from interlibrary loan

Title	Graduate	Faculty
<i>Acta Paediatrica</i>	3	
<i>American Journal of Gastroenterology</i>	1	
<i>American Journal of Otolaryngology</i>	1	5
<i>Annals of Neurology</i>		2
<i>Applied Research in Mental Retardation</i>	1	
<i>Archives of Neurology</i>	1	
<i>Archives of Oral Biology</i>	1	
<i>Australian New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry</i>		1
<i>Austrian Paediatrics</i>	1	
<i>Brain and Cognition</i>	3	
<i>Brain Research</i>		3
<i>Canadian Journal of Neurological Sciences</i>		1
<i>Canadian Psychiatric Association Journal</i>	1	
<i>Cancer Research, Therapy and Control</i>	1	
<i>Chest</i>	1	
<i>Clinical Nutrition</i>	1	
<i>Clinical Otolaryngology and Allied Sciences</i>	1	
<i>Clinical Otolaryngology</i>	1	
<i>Clinics in Communication Disorders</i>	1	
<i>Current Problems in Pediatrics</i>	1	
<i>Dissociation: Progress in Dissociation Diseases</i>		1
<i>Dysphagia</i>	6	
<i>Electroencephalography and Clinical Neurophysiology</i>		4
<i>ESCOL '91 Proceedings</i>		1
<i>Gallaudet Today</i>	1	
<i>Gastrointestinal Radiology</i>	1	
<i>Geriatrics</i>	2	
<i>Health Education Research</i>	1	
<i>Hearing and Research News</i>	1	
<i>Hearing Instruments</i>	1	
<i>Hearing Rehabilitation Quarterly</i>	1	
<i>Infant-Toddler Interventions</i>	1	
<i>International Journal of Pediatric Otorhinolaryngology</i>	1	
<i>Issues in Comprehensive Pediatric Nursing</i>	1	
<i>Journal of Behavioral Education</i>		1
<i>Journal of Cognitive Neurosciences</i>		1
<i>Journal of Computer Users in Speech and Hearing</i>	1	3
<i>Journal of Laryngology and Otolaryngology</i>	1	
<i>Journal of Neurology, Neurosurgery and Psychiatry</i>		1
<i>Journal of Neurological Rehabilitation</i>	1	
<i>Journal of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition</i>	1	
<i>Journal of Pediatric Surgery</i>	1	
<i>Journal of Psychology and Theology</i>		3
<i>Journal of the Academy of Rehabilitative Audiology</i>	1	
<i>Language Acquisition</i>		1
<i>Neuropsychologia</i>	2	
<i>Neuroscience Letter</i>		1
<i>North Carolina Medical Journal</i>	1	
<i>Nursing Research</i>	1	
<i>Occupational Therapy Journal of Research</i>	1	
<i>Otolaryngologic Clinics North America</i>	1	
<i>Papers & Reports on Child Language Development</i>		1
<i>Pediatric Clinics of North America</i>	1	
<i>Pediatric Pulmonology</i>	1	
<i>Pediatrics Review</i>	1	
<i>Physical & Occupational Therapy in Pediatrics</i>	1	
<i>Scandinavian Audiology</i>	6	1
<i>Shhh</i>	1	
<i>South Dakota Journal of Medicine</i>	1	
<i>Speech Research Quarterly Progress and Status Report</i>		1
<i>Surgical Clinics of North America</i>	1	
<i>Topics in Clinical Nutrition</i>	1	

should depend partly on indexing in that database. In addition to the speech pathology and audiology journals listed in Table 1, most of the titles indexed in *Abridged Index Medicus* are held by the library. These

general medical titles are used by several other campus departments so they are not included in this report.

Of the titles listed for speech pathology in the subject listing of the *LJI*, Milner Library subscribes to all but the *South African Journal of Communication Disorders*, *Die Suid-Afrikaanse Tydskrif vir Kommunikasieafwykings*. This journal is also listed for audiology in the *LJI*, along with *Scandinavian Audiology and Supplement* and *Hearing Research*. Only *Scandinavian Audiology* was requested from interlibrary loan of these four journals.

The 1996 Brandon/Hill list includes four titles under "Speech Pathology/Audiology" [5]. Only one of those titles, *Journal of the American Academy of Audiology*, is indexed in MEDLINE; the others are indexed in UnCover. Because many libraries rely on MEDLINE, the Brandon/Hill list is not as useful a guide to journal selection as the subject listings in the *LJI*, which gives seventeen titles for the two subjects.

Tables 1 and 2 compare indexing coverage by *Index Medicus* and UnCover. The *NSSLHA Journal* is not listed in either of the indexes. All of the other journals were indexed in *Index Medicus* or UnCover or both. The *Journal of Medical Speech-Language Pathology* is indexed only in UnCover. It is not owned by Milner Library, nor was it requested through interlibrary loan. It was not anticipated that major speech pathology and audiology periodicals, such as *Topics in Language Disorders*, would be indexed by UnCover, but not by MEDLINE. Researchers and librarians should be aware that UnCover provides indexing beginning in 1989 to some periodicals not indexed by MEDLINE.

CONCLUSIONS

The study presented here attempted to develop a list of heavily used periodicals in the areas of speech-language pathology and audiology at Illinois State University. The results indicate that most of the speech pathology and audiology journals are indexed by *Index Medicus*, UnCover, or both. The three journals found to be used most frequently were the *Journal of Speech and Hearing Research (JSHR)*, *ASHA*, and *Topics in Language Disorders*.

These journals have been used extensively by both the students and faculty members at Illinois State University, which has a speech pathology and audiology master's program that is accredited by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA). The study results presented here may be useful to other institutions supporting comparable programs in speech pathology and audiology, depending on possible differences in curriculum and faculty research interests.

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