



SPECIAL EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION DISORDERS MONTHLY EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

*Kristina Peterkin, M.S., CCC-SLP
Director of Clinical Education*

Kristina (Tina) Peterkin is the director of clinical education for UNO's Speech Language Clinic. Tina coordinates all clinical experiences with our community partners for the graduate speech-language program including pre-externships, medical externships, and educational externships.

What led you to choose a career in Speech Language Pathology?

I was accepted into and ready to attend law school, but I realized that I did not like conflict. I decided to take the Meyers Briggs test and speech language pathology (SLP) was off of the charts for a match. Also, my grandmother was an SLP in 1937. I graduated from UNO with my master's degree in speech language pathology in 1995. I served as a pediatric SLP and assistant professor at Creighton University.

What type of specialty work have you done within speech language pathology?

I have contributed three articles to ASHA Leader with one, A Dizzying Condition, being about my own personal journey with vestibular crisis and rehabilitation. I was then asked to be the guest speaker for the New Jersey Speech and Hearing Webinar series in December 2018. I presented on the role of speech language pathologists in vestibular rehabilitation.

Do you have any hobbies?

I grew up sailing in Minnesota. I had the opportunity to sail off of the coast in Wales, UK while I was studying there as an undergraduate. It was an amazing experience.

What is something that you cannot get enough of?

While attending an airshow at Offutt Air Force Base, I

watched an F-22 Raptor take off. It was the most amazing thing I have seen and have been obsessed with them ever since.

What is a memorable experience you had?

In 2015, my family traveled to Alaska to celebrate my parent's 50th wedding anniversary.

Who are some of the community partners you are working with?

We currently have students completing their medical field experiences at UNMC Munroe-Meyer Institute, CHI Health, QLI, Methodist, and Madonna Rehabilitation. Also, we have students completing their school field experiences at Millard Public Schools, Omaha Public Schools, Papillion La Vista Public Schools, and Westside Community School.

