Dear Mr. Devis,

I am submitting the Dr. Sapienza’s CV, biography, research interest and photo for your consideration for the *Journal of Phonetics & Audiology* Editorial Board. Please let me know if you have any questions and/or need any additional information.

Thank you!

**Research Interest:**

Motor speech, speech production adult

**Biography:**

Academician:

Dr. Christine Sapienza is an academician, a strong female leader and mentor to 1000’s of students, with a professional career spanning more than two decades in college education. Raised in Buffalo, New York, Dr. Sapienza was the youngest of four children and a first generation college graduate.  Dr. Sapienza holds a Bachelor of Science, Master of Science and PhD - all from the University of Buffalo. Today, Dr. Christine Sapienza is highly regarded throughout the country for her sustaining and innovative work in speech-language pathology.  Today Sapienza’s expertise is relied upon by academic colleagues and clinicians worldwide.

Jacksonville University Brooks Rehabilitation College of Healthcare Sciences:

When she came to Jacksonville University, Sapienza was responsible for the creation and successful accreditation of the new Master of Science degree in Speech Language Pathology. In the first year of the program, 2014, over 130 qualified applicants to this new program, Sapienza and the SLP faculty selected the first cohort of 30 students.  They are the most special group to Sapienza as these students believed in our purpose and our curriculum; we care for them and educate them in the most considerate way. The following year, 294 students applied for the same program demonstrating its competitive nature and solidifying Sapienza’s reputation and the strength of the academic faculty she hired to lead the program.

Under her recent leadership at Jacksonville University, Sapienza has worked closely with President Tim Cost, the faculty in her college and the incredible staff to create a new building space to house the innovative health sciences programs and to meet the demands for more student training in the healthcare sciences.

Dr. Sapienza has worked tirelessly with her faculty and staff, maintaining a focused intensity on curriculum development and refinement, valuing the need for research in the new college model, as well as creating new delivery formats that serve all student needs. She is very focused on hiring the best trained faculty; those with caring hearts that can join her current faculty team to train a competent healthcare workforce. These students must know the theory of science, and most importantly, have the essential knowledge and skills for caring and communication with a diverse patient population. The College has created dedicated, reconfigurable and multipurpose learning environments; a state-of-the-art Simulation Training and Applied Research (STAR) Center with 14 beds of newborn to adult patient mannequins; and an Advanced Speech Pathology Lab and Biomechanics Lab.

Under her leadership, Jacksonville University has launched enhanced health sciences program offerings to address market demand, all merged seamlessly under the Brooks Rehabilitation College of Healthcare Sciences, raising the standing and reputation of the University and the Brooks Rehabilitation College of Healthcare Sciences in the region. Through her vision, the college is now organized into the School of Nursing, the School of Applied Health Sciences and the School of Orthodontics.

It has been a passionate and busy time, and Sapienza has found her stride at Jacksonville University. It is our primary purpose to lead, educate and influence our students to become the finest health care graduates

University of Florida:

Prior to becoming Dean of the JU Brooks Rehabilitation College of Healthcare Sciences in 2014, Dr. Sapienza served as Associate Dean, and before that was chair for eight years of the University of Florida’s highly ranked department of Communication Sciences and Disorders helping it become a top 10 department within the UF Health Science Center. Literally, in the 20 plus years leading education programs Sapienza believes she has in some way influenced well over 3,000 students and likely twice as many practicing clinicians.

Mentorship:

She has mentored and graduated nearly 20 doctoral students, almost all of whom are women, who have now become recognized academics and high-level clinical leaders in institutions and clinics all over the country.  Her educational pathway was developed by a strong female mentor who recognized Sapienza’s robust intellectual curiosity and caring demeanor. Following her dissertation defense in 1993, Sapienza focused her research and work in respiratory strength training which has been ongoing for more than 15 years.

Scientific Contributions:

She has made significant scientific contributions in the area of voice and respiratory function for people with diseases. Most of the clinicians and patients she works with refer to her as the voice and swallow person - she is very well known for this therapy. The commercial device she created with a colleague at University of Florida is provided to patients all over the world to help them with breathing, coughing and swallowing, which are some of the most vital functions that deteriorate with disease such as Parkinson’s, Multiple Sclerosis and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis  (ALS).

She serves as a peer reviewer for multiple high impact journals in her field and as an ad hoc reviewer for NIH grant reviews. Most recently, she was asked to re-join the National Spasmodic Dysphonia Association board as a research member of the committee. Sapienza also serves as a reviewer/analyzer of voices disorders associated with spasmodic dysphonia for a funded National Spasmodic Dysphonia Association (NSDA) grant.

She is also author of the best-selling graduate textbook for students who wish to become speech pathologists. It is a book called “Voice Disorders” (Plural Publishing), and it is now in its 3rd edition soon, producing multiple multimedia tools for voice therapy. She has also published a “How to” book on respiratory muscle strength training.  She has published more than 110 peer-reviewed papers, as well as numerous book chapters. She is a certified and licensed speech-language pathologist, member of the national organization ASHA and member of the special interest divisions for voice disorders.

Funded Research:

She has been funded by the National Institutes of Health, the Veterans Affairs Rehabilitation Research and Development (VA RR&D) Service, the Michael J. Fox Foundation and the non-profit CurePSP. Dr. Sapienza held the funded title of research career scientist title with the VA RR &D, Malcom Randall VA Brain Rehabilitation Research Center in Gainesville, where she led the largest randomized clinical trial on a behavioral treatment of respiratory muscle strength training (RMST) for Parkinson’s disease. Lastly, Sapienza serves as a research consultant for a NIH-funded clinical trial examining the first ever application of expiratory muscle strength training for ALS.

ASHA’s highest honor:

In 2005, she was recognized by the national organization, American Speech Language and Hearing Association for her key professional contributions to the field as an educator and clinician. This is one of the highest honors in Sapienza’s professions.

Social Media:

Dr. Sapienza also makes her impact known by using social media, the airwaves and print publications. She is a frequent guest on radio and TV talk shows, and is also former Editor of the Special Interest Division 3 newsletter “Voice and Voice Disorders” and past Associate Editor for the *Journal of Speech Language and Hearing Research*.

Research and Industry Partnership and Business Development:

With her drive and insight, hundreds of thousands of dollars in research grants have been awarded, and numerous relationships with major health partners have been strengthened or established. For example, the School of Nursing Advisory Board now includes representatives from Baptist Health, Brooks Rehabilitation Hospital, the Duval County Health Department, Flagler Hospital, Gateway Community Services, Haven Hospice, Mayo Clinic, Memorial Hospital, Naval Hospital Jacksonville, Northeast Florida State Hospital, Orange Park Medical Center, River Garden Hebrew Home, St. Vincent’s Medical Center Riverside and Southside, Specialty Hospital Memorial, UF Health Jacksonville, VA Outpatient Clinic, Wekiva Springs Center, and Wolfson Children’s Hospital. The School of Applied Health Sciences has numerous clinical affiliation agreements with many healthcare industries and public and private school systems, including Atlantic Speech Therapy, Baptist Health System, Inc., Brooks Rehabilitation, Clarke School for the Deaf, DBA Clarke Schools for Hearing & Speech, Clay County School Board, Coastal Therapy and Learning Center, Duval County Public Schools, Flagler Hospital, Jacksonville Speech and Hearing Center, Keystone Behavioral Pediatrics, Life Care Center of Orange Park, Nemours Children's Clinic, and UF Health The School of Applied Health Sciences’ Kinesiology program also has clinical affiliation agreements with many partners as well, including Brooks Rehabilitation, Definition Fitness, High Intensity Training Center (The HIT Center), Hope Therapy, Jacksonville Athletic Club, Jacksonville Sharks, Marshall Family Chiropractic, and Sanders Elite Training Performance. These relationships extend well beyond the region, including partnerships with 3D Lacrosse in Denver, Colo.; Candler County Hospital in Metter, Ga.; the Halifax County United Soccer Club in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada; and Rehab Etc. in Bartlett, Tenn.

Putting Patients First:

Sapienza speaks to hundreds through a variety of forums, with the intent to train clinicians, to help them use this therapy protocol and ultimately make patients learn how to improve their function. From the UK, to India, Brazil and Ireland – Sapienza treats each question as the best question, working hard to never turn away an interaction that could potentially aid in patient care. Locally, she is an invited lecturer at the regional and state levels, using SKYPE or some form of telemedicine to help clinicians and patients with their disease symptoms on a weekly basis. She knows diseases are not picky; they potentially affect everyone, the individual with the disease and the caregiver.  Dr. Sapienza is proud to help patients learn to manage and live with complicated diseases.

Community Health:

She does not shy away from the challenging issues that must be addressed to improve community health. An example of her passion for using ground-breaking techniques to reach the widest audience is her participation with Dr. Bari Hoffman Ruddy of the University of Central Florida in leading discussion in August 2014 at TEDxJacksonville’s salon on community health. As part of the event, she took part in a video Q&A and helped publish an online article discussing adolescent sexual behavior and the risk of Human papillomavirus (HPV). HPV is now one of the leading causes of oropharyngeal head and neck cancer. With Dr. Ruddy, her former doctoral student, their new book entitled “Cases in Head and Neck Cancer” (Plural Publishing) is due out in the next few months. HPV etiology will be featured among other cases of head and neck cancer. When it comes to promoting good health, her efforts go beyond the health sciences field. She delivers critical information to the young about tobacco use, educates professional performers on strategies for good vocal health, and will find whatever time she needs to contribute to advisory boards for the cause of helping women, those in need or those delivering services to the disabled.

Work-Life Balance:

She truly wishes she had all the time in the world to create the full scope of mentorship to all young women who seek her advice on education and life in general. Balance of home, family and work has created quite the pressures for those seeking college today and Sapienza gets it. She raised two young children while obtaining her Masters and PhD degrees, and strives to help those working at school understand the balance between family responsibility, education and work goals.

In closing, Dr. Sapienza is an accomplished academic, world-renowned and compassionate clinician, a strong female mentor, a community health advocate and a dedicated mother.  She helps patients relearn and/or learn to breathe and swallow and helps her business colleagues build successful healthcare programs that provide enriching educational experiences for students at all levels, and provide the community with urgently needed healthcare providers and access to services.

More About Dr. Sapienza:

Dr. Sapienza currently resides in Neptune Beach, is a mom to two grown children who are University of Florida graduates.  She is an avid biker and loves the ocean.  She is currently co-mom to 5 rescue animals (3 cats and 2 dogs).

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