Compose Part 2 yourself and return by January 20, 2017 via e-mail to: William Hula at william.hula@va.gov

Please include your name, the title of your abstract, and your e-mail address in the text of Part 2. Please send a brief statement (no more than 2 pages) that comments on any or all of the following. Complete sentences not required where lists would suffice.

Research interests; research experience and products; how research fits in your career goals; why you want a student fellowship; what you would offer as a student fellow; anything else relevant to your application.

Name: [Redacted]
Title: Acquisition and generalization responses in aphasia naming treatment: a meta-analysis of Semantic Feature Analysis outcomes
Email: [Redacted]

I aim to develop novel knowledge that lays the theoretical foundations for more efficacious language treatments for stroke survivors. For that purpose, I want to continue to amplify my knowledge of aphasia treatment research, as well as my knowledge regarding how musical information may be helpful in the treatment of acquired language disorders such as aphasia. My training both as a speech-language pathologist and as a music therapist has provided me with a theoretical and clinical background that has inspired me to examine how music could potentially benefit the recovery of language.

My current research interests include investigating whether linguistic and musical information share overlapping cognitive representations, focusing on the syntactic level. Specifically, I am examining whether concurrent musical information can facilitate language processing, or whether concurrent musical information will always interfere with the processing of linguistic information (as is predicted by current models of musical and linguistic processing). Knowing the answer to this question will help us understand how closely connected music and language are, and it will shed light on the mechanisms that may underlie effective music-based language therapies. In addition, I am interested in investigating factors that promote positive response to language treatment in aphasia. The meta-analysis presented in my CAC submission is related to this research interest.

I am convinced that attending the CAC conference will offer me a vital educational opportunity, by providing an exposure to an expert panel of speakers within the area of acquired neurologic language disorders. Also, I would be in a position to create networking opportunities with scientists and clinicians within the field. Additionally, I would have the opportunity to discuss ideas with CAC mentors, which would enriches my perspective and help in the development of new ideas.

Awards
- Fulbright scholar. Awarded in 2015
- Academy of Neurologic Communication Disorders and Sciences (ANCDS) Conference Student Fellowship. 2016
Papers and presentations

Research experiences
- Research assistant in the Language and the Brain Laboratory at the University of Pittsburgh – Dr. Michael Walsh Dickey (2015-present).

Educational history
University of Pittsburgh, United States
Department of Communication Science and Disorders
PhD Student
August 2015 – present

National University of Colombia, Colombia
MSc in Music Therapy
February 2010- August 2012

National University of Colombia, Colombia.
Honor degree – BA Speech and Language Pathologist
February 2002- March 2006