

Contact: Diana Gonzalez

FACULTY PRESENTATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
“THE IMPACT OF HEARING SCIENCE ON EDUCATION AND SERVICE TO IOWANS”

Action Requested: Receive the presentation.

Executive Summary: Dr. Kate Gfeller will describe multidisciplinary research regarding hearing loss; the role of research in the educational process, and how faculty, students, and alumni enhance the lives of Iowans.

Dr. Gfeller, an Iowa native, received her Ph.D. from Michigan State University. She joined the faculty at the University of Iowa in 1985. She is director of the Music Therapy Program in the School of Music and holds a secondary appointment in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders. Dr. Gfeller is a member of the Iowa Cochlear Implant Team at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, Department of Otolaryngology. She holds an F. Wendell Miller endowed professorship. In 2001, she received a Board of Regents Faculty Excellence Award for extraordinary excellence in teaching, research and service.

As Principal Investigator for the Music Perception Project, which was funded by the National Institutes of Health, she investigates musical perception and enjoyment by adults who are deaf and who use a cochlear implant. Dr. Gfeller has also been involved in applied research and clinical protocols for aural rehabilitation of children and adults who are deaf or hard of hearing; her work has been funded by the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation. Her research focuses on perception of and affective response to music, especially by persons with disabilities, including those who are deaf or hard of hearing. She is currently funded by the U. S. Administration on Aging to investigate music therapy practices for adults suffering from Alzheimer's disease.