

Kazlin Mason, MS CCC-SLP, and SUNY Fredonia Alumna ('11, B.S. Communication Disorders & Sciences; '13, M.S. Speech-Language Pathology), contributed to the Los Cabos, Mexico volunteer mission trip with Smiles International Foundation in October, 2016.

Together with a team of craniofacial professionals, Kazlin was able to donate her time and skills to hundreds of children in Mexico. Kazlin specialized in pre-surgical screenings and speech therapy sessions with the patients and their parents. As the Craniofacial Speech Pathology Team Lead, she gave a detailed presentation to local craniofacial professionals, which highlighted her clinical knowledge obtained from SUNY Fredonia and from her fellowship experience at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta.

Kazlin is currently a doctoral candidate at East Carolina University specializing in the differential diagnosis and the anatomical underpinnings for successful surgical and speech outcomes for individuals with craniofacial anomalies and cleft palate. Her research is aimed at improving surgical management for children with cleft palate through the use of advanced magnetic resonance imaging protocols.

Smiles International Foundation is a national and international organization which organizes and provides charitable surgical care for underprivileged children with cleft and craniofacial anomalies internationally and in the U.S.A. through a team approach for longitudinal care. Mission trips are held each year in April and October. For more information about Smiles International Foundation, please visit: www.smilesinternationalfoundation.org.

For information about SUNY Fredonia's graduate program in Speech-Language Pathology, please visit: <http://home.fredonia.edu/commdisorders>



Image 1: Speech therapy session teaching strategies to eliminate compensatory speech errors associated with cleft palate.



Images 2 & 3: Screening clinic where SLPs, surgeons, and a multidisciplinary team of professionals work together to develop a plan of care and recommendations for patients.

