

Strategic Plan 2013-2014

Department of Communication Disorders

I. Department Mission Statement:

The mission of this department is to prepare students to become successful speech-language pathologists, employable in a variety of settings. Toward this end, we work in conjunction with the university to instill the values of integrity, civility, and responsibility and with the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, to instill the values and practice patterns of the association for all students. We do this by focusing on four main goals: student achievement, program excellence, discipline-specific mastery, and professional service to clients and others. In living our mission, we are committed to...

- Recruiting and retaining a talented, diverse, and highly motivated student and faculty base;
- Offering undergraduate and graduate academic instruction in the specialized area of communication disorders;
- Building character and careers for our successful graduates, instilling not just learning and service but the love of learning and service;
- Encouraging the intellectual and personal growth of the faculty and students through a process of life-wide and lifelong learning;
- Providing high-quality clinical practice opportunities through a variety of in-facility client services, including a preschool practice environment, an outpatient clinic, various diagnostic clinics, and others;
- Providing clinical field practice opportunities through contractual agreement with many, diverse regional facilities in which high-quality speech-language diagnostic and therapeutic services are provided, including hospitals, clinics, homecare agencies, long term care facilities, schools, and physical rehabilitation centers;
- Acknowledging that prevention is an important element of clinical service (i.e., prevention-evaluation-therapy), and working tirelessly to prevent communication disorders both directly and through students and others;
- Applauding diversity in work, intellectual pursuits, students, faculty, clients and others;
- Participating as academic leaders in the field to further the information base of the profession through research and collaboration;
- Helping to meet academic, clinical and consultative needs of the region;
- Maintaining a department which houses state-of-the-art equipment and technology for both teaching and clinical service;
- And assuring the continuance of the profession through planning and continuous improvement orchestrated within a thorough outcome assessment process.

II. Academic Year Objectives 2013-2014.

| Objective #: | OBJECTIVES: | |
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| 1 | To successfully pass the CAA re-accreditation site visit scheduled for Fall 2014. | |
| 2 | To gain approval for, and hire 1.0 FTE tenure track faculty member. | |
| 3 | To increase physical facilities by acquiring the former Day Care space in Morgan. | |
| 4 | To increase the graduate cohort size to 30 for cohort starting in 2015. | |
| 5 | To support Administration's new focus on student research, embedding a research activity into every appropriate didactic course. | |
| 6 | To replace outdated therapy observation technology with new system. | |
| 7 | To develop a system of "marking" undergraduate achievement by requiring the triggering event of a pinning ceremony as admission to the department (through the COEHS) at the beginning of the junior year. | |
| 8 | To problem-solve the possibility and legality of adding other variables (for example, engagement, professional behavior, etc.) to be evaluated during the graduate student candidacy process and the graduate admission process. | |
| 9 | To improve monitoring of the PDE courses and PRAXIS tests throughout the undergraduate program for CALU students and within 3 months post-entry for all students admitted programs including those coming from other universities into our graduate program. | |
| 0 | To develop budget adequate for successful passing of the ASHA/CAA site visit scheduled for Fall 2014. | |
| 11 | To paint/renovate the sound-proffed audiological booth and replace the cloudy/scarred observation window so that visibility of the client by the tester meets minimal standards. | |
| 12 | To set up a parent viewing room in the clinic. | |
| 13 | To update the standardized tests and portable audiometers prior to the CAA accreditation visit. | |

III. Progress on Goals 2012 – 2013.

| Obj. # | OBJECTIVES | |
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| 1 | To begin serious preparation toward our next ASHA accreditation site visit scheduled for Fall 2014. | In process. |
| 2 | To gain UCC approval by revising every undergraduate syllabus and the undergraduate advisement sheet to meet new state standards. | Goal met. |
| 3 | To gain UCC approval by revising every graduate syllabus and the graduate advisement sheet to meet new state standards. | Goal met. |
| 4 | Gain re-approval to have 8 courses on the new 2013 general education menu. | Successful for 7 or 8 courses. Will pursue the 8 th one next fiscal/academic year. |
| 5 | Completely restructure the Candidacy Assessment in | Goal met. |

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| | the graduate program, taking it from an oral exam to a written exam. | |
| 6 | Expand our physical facilities by acquiring the former DAY CARE space in Morgan contiguous with our current department. | In process. Administration informed the department that a final decision has not been made but that this department is still a contender. |
| 7 | Hire a full-time tenure track faculty. | Delayed by state wide hiring freeze. However, the Dean of Educ and the Provost have informed the department that our requested position is on hold, but still in the plans. |
| 8 | Re-evaluate our process for accepting graduate students with exceptions through provisional admission when appropriate and draft the new policy. | In discussion by department faculty. |
| 9 | Re-evaluate all externship sites and establish new contractual agreements as appropriate. | Goal met. We have added 7 new facilities this year. |
| 10 | Provide a 2 day, 16 hour review workshop for the Praxis 0330 over term break in January, staffed entirely by volunteer faculty, resulting in a passing rate of 90% or more. | Goal met. All students passed the Praxis 0330 by graduation day. |