

## Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology Strategic Plan

*Updated: 2017*

The Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology in the College of Health Sciences at Marquette University has identified the following strategic goals to be addressed. These goals are consistent with the mission of the College and the speech-language pathology program that is “to prepare speech-language pathologists who have the research-based knowledge and analytical skills to competently evaluate and treat individuals with a wide range of communication and swallowing disorders. We seek to promote excellence in education, research, and service to the community within the value-oriented, Jesuit, Catholic, Christian perspective of the University.” These goals also embrace the mission of the college and goal themes of University Strategic Plan Beyond Boundaries (1) Pursuit of Academic Excellence; (2) Research in Action; (3) Culture of Inclusion; (4) Social Responsibility through Community Engagement; (5) Formation of Minds and Hearts; and (6) Sustainability of Valuable Resources.

### **Focus Area 1: High Impact Educational Experiences**

Goal 1: Provide quality student learning experiences and training in the classroom and clinic.

Strategies:

- Increase use of technology in the classroom and clinic and maintain/update current equipment
- Develop alternative course delivery methods for select courses
- Explore opportunities for Alternative Clinical Experiences for low incidence disorders

Goal 2: Support professional development activities for students, faculty, staff and community partners.

Strategies:

- Identify additional sources of travel funding for students
- Increase grant support for student-faculty co-presentations at conferences
- Accommodate student attendance at off-campus professional activities

### **Focus Area 2: Research and Scholarly Activities**

Goal 1: Promote student and faculty research.

Strategies:

- Increase undergraduate student participation in research (e.g., Summer research Program)
- Increase faculty mentoring of graduate theses
- Offer student orientations to explain the thesis option and viability of thesis completion
- Explore with Graduate School administration options for defraying the cost of exercising a thesis option at the Masters degree level
- Increase participating and full faculty research collaborations

Goal 2: Promote faculty grant writing to support research endeavors.

Strategies:

- Increase research active faculty grant submissions to at least one individual grant application annually

- Increase participating faculty grant submissions to at least one collective grant application annually

### **Focus Area 3: Diversity and Inclusion**

Goal 1: Recruit students from under-represented populations in the profession.

Strategies:

- Allow additional consideration for demographic characteristics in the admission process (i.e., ethnicity, cultural background, representation in the profession)
- Give preference to at least one eligible minority student for GA selection
- Give preference to at least one eligible minority student for BIES program
- Increase faculty participation in recruitment activities, specifically encouraging under-represented populations to consider a speech pathology or audiology major
- Assist potential student recruits in locating and applying for funding specific to under-represented populations

Goal 2: Provide support for recruited students from under-represented populations in the profession

Strategies:

- Increase faculty mentoring of under-represented populations once recruited to the program
- Identify peer-mentors to tutor students in the program who are from under-represented populations

### **Focus Area 4: Community Partnerships**

Goal 1: Establish relationships with community agencies for placements and clinical experiences.

Strategies:

- Identify professional development needs of community partners to offer partnership incentives via workshops and/or continuing education activities by department faculty
- Identify sources and secure funding to offset costs of off-campus practicum experiences

Goal 2: Expand Interprofessional Education (IPE) opportunities for students

Strategies:

- Increase community placements for student IPE experiences
- Increase faculty participation in recruitment activities, specifically encouraging under-represented populations to consider a speech pathology or audiology major

### **Focus Area 5: Service to Others**

Goal: Participate in Community Outreach

Strategies:

- Explore additional faculty service opportunities in the community
- Increase student and faculty participation in service activities

## **Focus Area 6: Sustain and Promote Resource**

Goal: Develop sustainable relationships with partners of interest

Strategies:

- Engage with alumni to promote the program
- Identify alumni (whether for awards or to University Advancement for philanthropy) related to professional achievement, recognition, service