
Speech-Language Pathology Strategic Plan 2020-2023

Vision Statement:

Our vision is to become the premier graduate educational institution for speech-language pathology in the state of Kentucky.

Mission Statement:

The mission of the speech-language pathology section is to provide the highest quality academic education, facilitate student access to a variety of clinical populations and settings, expand the scientific base of speech-language pathology through basic and applied research, and maintain student diversity and community partnerships.

The mission statement for the speech-language pathology section incorporates the general missions of the University and the School of Medicine and focuses them within the discipline of speech-language pathology. As an educational program accredited in speech-language pathology, by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, we strive to provide the academic background and clinical experience which will enable our graduates to meet the diverse communicative needs of the citizens within a multicultural and metropolitan society. The preparatory phase portion of the program supports students as they earn prerequisites to enter the degree program. The core phase of the program provides didactic and clinical applications across the discipline. It is also designed to prepare future speech-language pathologists who are ethical in the provision of services, as well as issues of cultural diversity (e.g., dialectal differences among speakers, deaf culture) and ethnicity. Our goal is to provide comprehensive, state-of-the-art practices in speech-language pathology in collaboration with other disciplines and community resources in the Louisville metropolitan region. Finally, we see as our mission, contribution to the scientific knowledge base in communication sciences and disorders through basic and applied research on the part of each of our faculty.

In order to achieve our vision and mission, the program's strategic plan will comprise three primary focus areas central to making the University of Louisville's speech-language pathology program a: great place to learn, a great place to work, and a great place to invest.

A Great Place to LEARN

Strategic Goal: The University of Louisville is a great place to LEARN because it prepares students for success now, next, and beyond. We accomplish this by supporting the whole student through transformative purpose-driven and engaged learning.

Strategy L1	Improve the diversity of the graduate students admitted to the core/preparatory phases of the graduate program
	L1.A1: Partner with UofL's Office of Diversity and International Affairs as well as the Woodford Porter Scholars program and other campus organizations
	L1.A2: Expand recruitment efforts to general education courses, career fairs, undergraduate advisors, and prospective student visits to campus (f2f, virtual)
Strategy L2	Develop an undergraduate degree in communication sciences and disorders
	L2.A1: Track the number of undergraduate students enrolled in courses (as electives) in the preparatory phase and who then go on to apply to graduate school
	L2.A2: Facilitate buy-in from university stakeholders including financial support and at least three new faculty lines
	L2.A3: Consider the addition of an SLPA option/track
Strategy L3	Develop a service-learning clinic to assist with the clinical education needs of the graduate program
	L3.A1: Identify space on the HSC campus
	L3.A2: Secure funding for operations and the salary for at least one clinical supervisor (M.S. or M.A. level)

A Great Place to WORK

Strategic Goal: The University of Louisville is a great place to WORK because it is a workplace dedicated to personal growth and professional development. We accomplish this by fostering a culture where faculty, staff, and administration live our institutional values.

Strategy W1	Provide faculty and staff opportunities to pursue professional growth in academic and clinical practice as well as job duties/functions
	W1.A1: Create an online database where professional education listings are posted relating to academic or clinical matters (faculty) as well as job duties/functions (staff)
	W1.A2: Provide regularly scheduled in-services on select/requested topics related to faculty and staff development
	W1.A3: Increase financial support for faculty/staff trainings, registrations, and travel for professional development

Strategy W2	Improve communication between faculty/staff to support operations, reduce redundancy of workload, and improve collegiality
	W2.A1: Secure a location where the department's individual programs (e.g., audiology, speech-language pathology, and otolaryngology) are housed under one roof
	W2.A2: Add one additional administrative support staff member to assist with day-to-day operations of the CMDS/ <u>AuD</u> programs

A Great Place to INVEST

Strategic Goal: The University of Louisville is a great place to INVEST because of its demonstrated and potential impact on individual and community health and the economic, social, and cultural health and well-being of others.

Strategy I1	Expand the visibility of the program to the public and the university at large
	I1.A1: Redesign the program's website to improve the user experience, introduce the faculty/students to the community, and help publicize relevant/updated information
	I1.A2: Initiate and maintain a social media presence as well as an annual alumni newsletter
	I1.A3: Create a program advisory committee comprised of alumni, preceptors, and other stakeholders
	I1.A4: Expand CEU offerings for supervisors to include varied journal group topics, research-in-progress seminars, and invited guest speakers
Strategy I2	Foster an intra- and transdisciplinary culture of research, innovation, and productivity across students and faculty
	I2.A1: Increase research collaborations with other institutions and local professionals
	I2.A2: Increase the overall number of external grant applications from program faculty
	I2.A3: Increase faculty publications in peer-reviewed journals as well as presentations at the state and national levels
	I2.A4: Increase student theses per cohort and the overall number of students involved in research activities
	I2.1A5: Increase funding for undergraduate and graduate students to work in research labs