

Speech and Hearing Science
College of Health Solutions

Strategic Plan 2019-2024

To meet the missions of Arizona State University and the College of Health Solutions (CHS), the programs within Speech and Hearing Science have developed strategic goals in the broad areas of academic and clinical program quality, translational health science, and community outreach. Our Speech and Hearing Programs share the vision and values of CHS.

Vision

Train, educate, and provide transformative experiences to students to become the next generation of clinical professionals and scientists who reimagine health and health solutions and create a better future for people of all backgrounds and communities on a local and global scale.

Values

Translational science: We are lifelong learners who team with community partners to research solutions for real-world problems and move evidence-based strategies into practice.

Collaboration and teamwork: We work together toward a common goal of improving health outcomes for all people.

Equity and inclusion: We maximize opportunities for people of diverse backgrounds, abilities, and perspectives.

Agility and accountability: We adapt to change efficiently, are reliable, and are willing to take risks.

Integrity and honesty: We lead by example with strong ethics.

Health and respect: We support the health and well-being of our communities, students, faculty, and staff.

Mission

The mission of the Speech and Hearing Science programs within the College of Health Solutions at Arizona State University is to educate students in the science of human communication development and disorders. Undergraduate programs provide students with foundational knowledge of the psychological, neurobiological, social, and cultural processes involved in hearing, cognition, speech, and spoken and written language. Graduate programs build on foundational knowledge to equip students for careers in clinical practice or scientific research. The clinical graduate programs prepare students to practice as speech-language pathologists or audiologists using evidence-based, person-centered care. The research graduate programs prepare students for scientific inquiry into the complex interconnected processes involved in speech, language, hearing, and cognition in transdisciplinary teams with other sciences.

Strategic Goals

There are three overarching strategic goals for the programs within Speech and Hearing Science:

1. Increase the quality and visibility of our programs
2. Excel in translational science
3. Enhance diversity, opportunity, and outreach for all people

Visibility and Quality of our programs

Complete a marketing plan under the direction of CHS marketing to highlight the innovative structure of the college, improve national visibility and ranking, and to inform other national programs of our focus on translational health.

Hire a minimum of five prominent research faculty who advance the boundaries of current research in Communication Science and Disorders and forge new paths to address burgeoning communication problems. Target individuals who can increase research expenditures by 40% within 5 years and who will create interdisciplinary, translational avenues to advance the science of hearing, communication and swallowing.

Have a least ten SHS faculty members serving on a committee central to the management of communication science and disorders (ASHA, CFCC, CAA, AAA, NIH, IES, NSF or CAPCSD) or serving as a journal editor in the field of communication disorders and related areas.

Increase the percentage of high quality students who accept the offer to attend our programs through improved advising and recruiting and by increasing funding for graduate students.

- *Work with the CHS analytics to develop metrics for tracking top applicants and implement a survey to investigate why students chose other universities.*

- *Enhance recruitment efforts at the Honors College and with high school seniors and incoming freshman through advising and outreach opportunities offered by academic success coordinators.*
- *Submit training grants in each graduate program area to increase student funding opportunities.*
- *Increase faculty research awards to support PhD and post-doc fellowships.*
- *Work with ASU Foundation or other outside sources to increase student scholarship opportunities.*

Implement the SHS Clinic strategic plan which includes structural improvements, state of the art equipment, and the expansion of programs.

Complete a curriculum revision of the MS in Communication Disorders degree to maximize students' ability to participate in specialty clinics while also acquiring knowledge, critical thinking and clinical competencies across the lifespan and disorders.

Complete a curriculum revision of the AuD program to best meet knowledge and skills standards through the combination of classroom and clinical learning while maximizing the emphasis of evidence-based practice and critical thinking.

Translational Science

Reach faculty consensus regarding research foci that are areas of strength for our faculty, that are excellent candidates for promoting translational science, and that have the potential to advance our national visibility, increase our research funding, and increase student engagement in research opportunities.

Faculty and students (honors, undergraduate, and graduate) will actively participate in a translational science teams that positively impact communication health.

Develop AuD and SLP specialty clinics that increase opportunities for students to engage in translational clinical research and expand funding opportunities for student training in translational research.

Diversity and Inclusion

To represent regional and national demographics, increase enrollment of minority and underrepresented students in our undergraduate and graduate programs to 30%

- *Utilize the CHS student success hub and other university resources to actively recruit qualified minority students from high schools and the freshman class.*
- *Increase unit-level mentoring and support for undergraduates from underrepresented groups*
- *Increase support and guidance for all online students but focusing on preparation for application to graduate school from minority and underrepresented groups*
- *Develop advising and career pathway choices for students in our undergraduate program who are not eligible for or interested in pursuing a graduate degree in communication disorders*

Expand undergraduate and graduate opportunities (course offerings, service/research experiences) that focus on multicultural and multilingual topics

- *Increase involvement of undergraduate students in a multicultural service or research project to 30%*
- *Ensure that each graduate student in a clinical program completes at least one community outreach activity involving culturally diverse experiences or interactions with underserved populations*
- *Increase enrollment of incoming Communication Disorders MS students in the 'Communication Disorders in Multilingual Multicultural Populations' Graduate Certificate program to 10 per class*
- *Increase the number of faculty who participate in meetings or committees related to multilingual/multicultural topics*
- *Include opportunities for multilingual/multicultural coursework in the undergraduate online program*

Strengthen clinical outreach services to families and communities in need

- *Increase telehealth services for families living in rural/remote areas*
- *Obtain funding to cover services for low-income families*
- *Develop international collaborations to establish sustainable services in low-income countries*

Increase outreach to professionals in our community

- *Expand our current CEU opportunities to include online offerings that are accessible to professionals outside the metro area*
- *Increase the number of workshops focusing on topics related to multilingual/multicultural concerns and interprofessional practice*
- *Invite community professionals to participate in research*