

**Strategic Plan: Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences: 09/27/2018**

**MISSION STATEMENT: Working to improve the lives of people affected by communication and related disorders through excellence and innovation in clinical training, service, and research.**

THEMES	<p><b>1. Provide for our students the strong scientific knowledge base and critical thinking skills they will need to sustain their careers through changing times.</b></p>	<p><b>2. Integrate clinical practice instruction, research, and teaching to provide optimal clinical training for our students.</b></p>	<p><b>3. Conduct state-of-the-art research into basic functions, and clinical research to develop new intervention methods.</b></p>	<p><b>4. Advocate for better treatment of people with communication and related disorders, as well as acceptance of individuals with these disorders.</b></p>
GOALS	<p>1.1.a. Make PhD training a center piece of departmental operations, training future leaders in research.</p> <p>1.1.b. Provide students in all programs with a strong scientific basis for their learning.</p> <p>1.1.c. Facilitate the development of critical thinking skills in all our students.</p>	<p>2.1.a. Build clinical training instruction to focus on skills required to provide services effectively across disorders.</p> <p>2.1.b. Build collaborative networks among our research and clinical faculty to inform clinical training with a scientific base.</p> <p>2.1.c. Ensure evidence-based practices are being taught to our students and others with whom we interact within the professional community.</p>	<p>3.1.a. Conduct investigations into normal functioning of speech, language, swallowing, and hearing mechanisms, as well as disordered conditions.</p> <p>3.1.b. Conduct investigations of clinically relevant interventions designed to improve functioning of disordered speech, language, swallowing, and hearing.</p>	<p>4.1.a. Enhance the availability of screening, diagnostic, and intervention services for people with communication and related disorders.</p> <p>4.1.b. Increase participation in community activities by individuals with communication and related disorders.</p>
STRATEGIES	<p>1.2.a. Examine our existing PhD program and restructure as needed to ensure optimal PhD education.</p> <p>1.2.b. Organize department-wide seminars presenting current research being conducted by faculty and students.</p> <p>1.2.c. Design curricula and instructional methods in all classes to ensure that students acquire fundamental knowledge and critical thinking skills to effectively apply newly learned information.</p>	<p>2.2.a. Re-focus clinical training around core prevention, assessment, and treatment principles.</p> <p>2.2.b. Implement a “first-look” clinic for students designed to emphasize core skills, where close supervision can be provided until these core skills are acquired.</p> <p>2.2.c. Develop certificate programs around specific skill sets clinicians need, to provide specialist training.</p>	<p>3.2.a. Recruit and hire faculty with strong research backgrounds.</p> <p>3.2.b. Re-arrange teaching assignments among faculty so that all faculty can participate in research efforts.</p> <p>3.2.c. Organize grant-writing groups around specific areas of research.</p>	<p>4.2.a. Provide outreach in the form of screenings and in-service training for professionals across the state.</p> <p>4.2.b. Continue mission trips to the Yucatan, providing diagnostic, rudimentary health services, and in-service training.</p> <p>4.2.c. Increase the number of local, state, and national presentations made by faculty.</p>