

# Communication Sciences and Disorders Program Strategic Plan 2017-2018

#### **CSD Mission Statement**

UWG Communication Sciences aspires to be the best comprehensive graduate Speech-Pathology Program in America – sought after as the best place to work, learn, and succeed!

#### **COE Vision Statement**

The College of Education at the University of West Georgia will be recognized for *Leading a New World of Learning*, with relevant and innovative programs that change lives and contribute to the betterment of society.

#### Key Descriptors

Key Descriptors of Programs – *Relevant, Distinctive, Robust* Key Descriptors of Graduates - *Effective, Innovative, Globally Aware* 

#### **<u>Strategic Imperative #1: STUDENT SUCCESS</u> – Student Progression**

Goal 1: Enhance CSD enrollment, progression, and graduation:

- Refine and streamline equitable processes for admission, at both the undergraduate and graduate levels;
  - Seek to admit strong candidates within UWG since the change in undergraduate GPA requirement to 3.25 (increase from 2.7 prior to 2017;
  - Seek more diversity in admissions at both the undergraduate and graduate levels through outreach efforts;
  - Provide pre-major orientation.
- Identify and reduce any curricular bottlenecks to facilitate student progression & graduation;
  - Revised undergraduate admissions to not require "Teacher Education" qualification;
  - Coordinate curricular/scheduling revisions with the COE Advisement Center;
  - More closely align "core" undergraduate requirements with ASHA/CAA academic standards;
  - Balance graduate course sequencing.
- Make CSD programs engaging and relevant for students by ensuring that all undergraduate and graduate students participate in at least one high-impact experiences (e.g., study abroad, immersive environments, and/or service learning)
  - Broaden both first and second year graduate opportunities for clinical experiences through both external sites and Comprehensive Community Clinic service offerings;
  - Enhance "study abroad" opportunities for graduate students.

#### Strategic Imperative #2: ACADEMIC SUCCESS - Academic Programming and Faculty Support

Goal 2: Enhance Academic Programs:

- Using COE Program Vitality Data and other sources of information, expand and continue to modernize thriving programs; consolidate or eliminate under-performing programs
   Annual "Closing the Loop" data analysis and goal setting initiative.
- Ensure compliance with BOR, PSC, SACSCOC, CAEP, ASHA, and CACREP

- Continued refinement of an internal "compliance and curriculum work group" within the CSD Program.
- Continually examine technological support within the COE for faculty and students
  - Continued enhancement of an internal "compliance and curriculum work group" within the CSD Program.
  - Recruited audiology faculty member, effective 8/1/2018, which will enhance the learning opportunities for students, and more effectively utilizing current audiology technology.
  - Expand use of innovative technology to support learning outcomes
    - Ongoing review of technology enhancements within the CCC and the classroom;
    - Frequent student referral to the newly established Innovations Lab in the College of Education

Goal 3: Promote faculty productivity related to teaching, scholarly activity, and service:

- Provide support and incentives for writing external grants
  Development of a "research working group";
- Revision of the faculty performance evaluation system (Tk20);
  - Revisions to the "Faculty Qualifications" section of Tk20 will provide more relevant information through a simpler process.
- Set College expectations for Promotion and Tenure
  *Enforce criteria set forth by the Faculty Governance Committee in the COE;*
- Recognize faculty initiatives and achievements
  - Ongoing program based in the Dean's Office to acknowledge the achievements of faculty.

## <u>Strategic Imperative #3: SUCCESSFUL PARTNERSHIPS</u> – Professional Collaborations and Service

Goal 4: Enhance Regional Community Partnerships

- Expand our academic presence in Newnan
  - Assigned a clinical and academic? faculty member to coordinate services/supervision at the Newnan Campus;
- Enhance Comprehensive Community Clinic services in the region
  - Continually review opportunities to provide services and clinician training in the region.

### Strategic Imperative #4: OPERATIONAL SUCCESS – Operational Effectiveness and Sustainability

Goal 5: Improve Work-life Balance:

- Move COE tenure-track faculty to a 3/3 load
  Implemented since Fall 2017;
- Move CSD/CCC to a new scheduling model
  - Developing new clinical/class scheduling model which will support student and faculty planning and transitions.

Goal 6: Improve Communication and Diverse Points of View:

- Continue to highlight diversity in the COE and connect the work of the COE Diversity Advisory Committee to campus-wide efforts.
  - Diversity Symposium
  - Formal and informal opportunities for faculty and administration to interact at the college, department and program level;
  - Department Chair's "open door" policy