

**Long-Term Strategic Plan  
Stephen F. Austin State University  
Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Program  
2018-2022**

**Stephen F. Austin State University**

**SFASU Mission Statement**

Stephen F. Austin State University is a comprehensive institution dedicated to excellence in teaching, research, scholarship, creative work and services. Through the personal attention of our faculty and staff, we engage our students in a learner-centered environment and offer opportunities to prepare for the challenges of living in the global community.

**SFASU Strategic Plan**

- Initiative #1: Enhance excellence in teaching and learning, research, scholarship, creative work and service.
- Initiative #2: Improve faculty and staff compensation, recognition and support.
- Initiative #3: Increase undergraduate and graduate enrollment.
- Initiative #4: Develop a learner-centered environment.
- Initiative #5: Create new learning opportunities through additional interdisciplinary, international, service learning and civic engagement experiences.
- Initiative #6: Increase the visibility of the university through marketing initiatives.
  - <http://www.sfasu.edu/strategicplan/pdf/STRATEGIC%20PLAN%20final.pdf>

**James I. Perkins College of Education (COE)**

**COE Vision**

The Perkins College of Education at Stephen F. Austin State University will be the college of choice for students striving to achieve professional excellence through exemplary programs that are recognized at state, national and international levels.

## **COE Mission**

The mission of the Perkins College of Education is to prepare competent, successful, caring and enthusiastic professionals dedicated to responsible service, leadership and continued professional and intellectual development.

## **COE Goals and Objectives**

- Provide programs at both undergraduate and graduate levels based upon sound pedagogical and clinical practice
- Prepare teachers, support personnel and educational leaders for Texas
- Employ and support faculty members who are committed to excellence in teaching, scholarship and service
- Provide a variety of teaching venues incorporating the latest technologies to a range of diverse student interests, backgrounds and aspirations
- Maintain resources and facilities that allow each program to meet their expected outcomes
- Collaborate with external partners to enhance students' knowledge, skills, and dispositions and to influence the ongoing exchange of ideas for mutual benefit
- Engage in outreach services
  - To address specific needs in the broader community,
  - To enhance student learning,
  - To instill commitment to service, and
  - To promote the reputation of the University, and to
- Conduct research to advance knowledge and to contribute to the common good.

## **COE Core Values**

In the Perkins College of Education at Stephen F. Austin State University, we value and are committed to:

- Academic excellence through critical, reflective and creative thinking
- Life-long learning
- Collaboration and shared decision-making
- Openness to new ideas, to culturally diverse people and to innovation and change
- Integrity, responsibility, diligence and ethical behavior, and
- Service that enriches the community.

## **Department of Human Services (DHS)**

### **Department Mission**

The Department of Human Services prepares undergraduates and graduate students for leadership and service roles in work with diverse populations within the USA and the global community. The department is committed to the incorporation of community-based, service-learning experiences within its educational programs to maximize the advancement of students' personal and professional development.

### **DHS Objectives**

Objectives of the department include the preparation of professionals for career areas related to human services, which include: special education teachers in elementary and secondary schools; counseling in school, community mental health and rehabilitation settings; rehabilitation services; deaf and hard of hearing; orientation and mobility; vision impairment; communication disorders; speech language pathology; and school psychology.

### **Mission of the Department Chair**

The mission of the Department Chair is to: a) monitor and facilitate the enhancement of the training environment for all students; b) monitor and facilitate the professional development of faculty; c) provide oversight of the departmental budget to maintain solvency and operations of all academic programs; d) organize curriculum to meet accreditation standards and professional best practices; e) engage in leadership activities associated with recruitment; f) maintain accreditation status across all programs; and, g) monitor academic programs' and departmental clinics' and laboratories' compliance with College and University policies and practices, state, professional administrative rules and relevant national standards.

## **Speech-Language Pathology Program**

### **Program Mission**

The mission of the Speech-Language Pathology Program is to prepare knowledgeable caring professionals committed to educating the public, properly diagnosing and effectively treating persons with communication and swallowing disorders across the lifespan, thereby improving their quality of life. To meet this mission, the program embraces cultural and linguistic diversity, emphasizes the importance of evidence based practice, critical thinking skills, interdisciplinary collaboration, ethical principles and continued professional development throughout one's career.

### **Program Vision**

The Speech-Language Pathology Program at Stephen F. Austin State University will be recognized regionally and nationally for the superior academic and clinical training. The academic training will be provided by accomplished instructors with regional and national recognition. The clinical training will insure experience with a wide and diverse clinical population with an emphasis in evidence based practice. The program will meet or exceed required guidelines for accreditation bodies, licensure requirements and certification standards.

## **Envisioned Future**

In the year 2024 the Stephen F. Austin State University Speech-Language Pathology Program expects the faculty to expand from six to ten fulltime positions in order to accommodate the rapid growth of the undergraduate and graduate program. We also plan to increase our externship contracts from 20 per year to 40 to accommodate the expected increase in enrollment from 40 to 60 graduate students per year. Our faculty will be proficient in research and will publish scholarly articles regularly. Faculty will motivate and encourage students in research throughout graduate school. The graduate students will graduate with the ability and knowledge to be successful Speech-Language Pathologists; SFASU Speech-Language Pathology Program will also prepare students to pursue terminal level degrees in Speech-Language Pathology with a variety of specializations. The SFASU Stanley Speech and Hearing Clinic will increase the number of clients seen per semester from 30 to 75. The program will gain positive recognition among professionals in the field of speech-language pathology and abroad.

## **Focus Areas**

- Administration and Governance
- Faculty
- Curriculum
- Students
- Assessment
- Program Resources

Focus Areas	Issues	Targeted Outcomes	Strategies to Achieve Outcomes	Indicator(s) of Success
<b>1.0 Administration &amp; Governance</b>	1.1 Accreditation	1.1a. Obtain reaccreditation through CAA	Meet all CAA Accreditation Standards.	Maintain accreditation annually.
	1.2 The program provides information about the program and institution to students and to the public that is current, accurate and readily available	1.2a. Continually update website to show most current information	Continually check website for any updates needed.	Program secretary will check all information and up-date website at the end of every academic semester.
<b>2.0 Faculty</b>	2.1 The number of full-time, doctoral-level faculty in speech-language pathology, audiology and speech language and hearing sciences and other full- and part-time faculty is sufficient to meet the teaching, research and service needs of the program and the expectations of the institution.	2.1a. Hire one undergraduate fulltime faculty member	Advertise for fulltime positions on the university website.	Employ qualified personnel as needed.
		2.1b. Hire adjunct faculty as necessary	Academic faculty will assess course load to determine the need for adjunct faculty.	Assessment will take place mid-semester for following academic semester.
<b>3.0 Curriculum</b>	3.2 Clinical education obtained in external placement is governed by the agreements between the program and the external facility and is monitored by the clinical director.	3.2a. Establish and update clinical practicum sites for future student placement in a variety of settings	Send externship contracts out for updates regularly.	All contracts kept current and checked by the program secretary prior to academic semester.

Focus Areas	Issues	Targeted Outcomes	Strategies to Achieve Outcomes	Indicator(s) of Success
<b>4.0 Students</b>	4.1 Students are informed about the program's policies and procedures, degree requirements, requirements for professional credentialing and ethical practices. Students are informed about documented complaint processes.	4.1a. Establish effective communication with students about progress and changes within the program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make announcements via announcement board in graduate work-room and via e-mail</li> <li>• Make regular announcements about updates and changes</li> <li>• Make digital, verbal and written public announcements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All graduate students are informed of policies during the clinical orientation.</li> <li>• Students are informed of all other changes/new policies as needed, through e-mail and/or direct contact.</li> </ul>
<b>5.0 Assessments</b>	5.1 The program conducts ongoing and systematic formative and summative assessments of the performance of the current students.	5.1a. Have formative assessments for each course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create formative assessments for each graduate course</li> <li>• Pre-test and post-test</li> <li>• Administrate a survey of understanding</li> </ul>	Formative and summative assessments are conducted and the performance tracked.