

Department of Speech & Hearing Sciences
Strategic Five Year (2007-2012) Plan
March 1, 2007

The department advanced all of its goals in 2001-2006. Building on that progress, we have adopted several new goals for the next five-year period that capitalize on the strengths of new faculty and collaborative opportunities across campuses, as well as respond to opportunities. I enumerate out goals for 2007-2012 following an update on our progress toward achieving the goals elaborated in our 2001-2006 strategic plan.

2001-2006 Goals

In 2006, the Department enjoyed significant progress toward actualizing its 2001-2006 five-year goals. We now offer a **school-age and adolescent language science and disorders track infused with multicultural perspectives**. A new course in *Language and Literacy* and another in *Multicultural Perspectives* are in development. The **Oral Language Enrichment Program (OLE!)** launched in January 2006 is a model program serving children with hearing impairment, including Native American children. OLE! has garnered over \$9,000 in private funding and is tied to an Office of Undergraduate Education Teaching and Learning Improvement Award of \$8,400 to improve student outcomes by linking critical thinking to program development and evaluation. Synergies between the school-age and adolescent language track and OLE! are considerable. The interdisciplinary **disability studies minor** continued to grow enrollments in 2006. A cross-college committee led by Marshall Mitchell is exploring next steps in developing this minor. Two new courses are being developed—one tentatively titled *Literature of Disability* and a second a graduate seminar in Counseling Psychology. With a positive response from DDP to our preliminary proposal, we are seeking a new position to develop an **on-line undergraduate major** (as well as post-baccalaureate course sequence) in Speech and Hearing Sciences. Our proposal to launch a **co-locate our undergraduate program** in Spokane in cooperation with EWU has received a positive recommendation from the Academic Affairs Committee and will soon be voted upon in the Faculty Senate. Finally, we are continuing to pursue funding for an **endowed clinical chair in assistive technology** as part of the University's health sciences initiative, as discussed below under Goal 2.

2007-2012 Goals

1. Develop an on-line undergraduate major (post-baccalaureate sequence) in speech-language pathology and audiology to serve aspiring graduate students, including Plateau Native American students
** Relates to University goal to offer the best undergraduate experience in a research university and two University Learning Goals of the Baccalaureate – *Information Literacy* and *Specialty*
2. Establish a center for multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary education and research, involving speech-language pathology undergraduate and graduate students, with participation by students of education and other health professions, to develop expertise in clinical service delivery to children with hearing impairment, inclusive of cultural perspectives, and employing electrophysiologic as well as behavioral outcome measures

As part of this goal, we have prepared a development proposal to secure funding to endow a clinical chair in assistive technology. This endowed chair will play a critical role in the development of an Assistive Technology Resource and Research Center (ATRRC),

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to be co-located in Pullman and Spokane. The endowed chair will assume primary responsibility for overseeing research and clinical functions such as evaluation, therapy, and ongoing training for users of assistive technology, their families, the professionals serving them, and other community stakeholders in the Inland Northwest. Service delivery will be implemented through two existing clinics (the WSU Speech and Hearing Clinic in Pullman and WSU/EWU Hearing and Speech Clinic in Spokane). A cornerstone of the program will be ongoing research to examine the behavioral and electrophysiologic outcomes of specific assessment and intervention approaches, with a special focus on the role of cultural variables and on factors underlying long-term use versus abandonment. The ATRRC will build on the department's existing and developing collaborative relationships, including Easter Seals Washington, the WSU Plateau Center for American Indian Studies, the Pullman-based Oral Language Enrichment (OLE!) program and our Spokane-based HOPE School (Hearing Oral Program of Excellence). This proposal was developed in conjunction with the College's Public Academy campaign initiative and the WSU Spokane Community Health initiative.

** Relates to two University Goals: offer the best undergraduate experience in a research university and nurture a world class environment for research, scholarship, graduate education, the arts, and engagement that benefits economic development and outreach. Supports College goals to enhance the societal impact of the work of scholars in implementation of human health initiatives and to improve opportunities for graduate study. Also supports University Learning Goals of the Baccalaureate – *Creative and Critical Thinking, Self in Society, and Specialty*

3. Develop a center of excellence in the area of motor speech disorders, maximizing synergies resulting from faculty expertise in the areas of apraxia, language disorders, autism, and electrophysiologic outcome measurement, as well as special clinical populations served across our two campuses (e.g., phonologic preschool)

** Relates to two University Goals: offer the best undergraduate experience in a research university and nurture a world class environment for research, scholarship, graduate education, the arts, and engagement that benefits economic development and outreach. Supports College goals to enhance the societal impact of the work of scholars in implementation of human health initiatives and to improve opportunities for graduate study.
4. Explore the market demand for and resources needed to develop a clinical doctorate in speech-language pathology

** Relates to University goal to nurture a world class environment for research, scholarship, graduate education, the arts, and engagement that benefits economic development and outreach. Supports College goal to improve opportunities for graduate study.

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5. Develop an on-line master's degree program in speech-language pathology to serve aspiring graduate students across the nation
** Relates to University goal to nurture a world class environment for research, scholarship, graduate education, the arts, and engagement that benefits economic development and outreach.
Supports College goal to improve opportunities for graduate study.

Additional contributions of the Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences to the University's and the College of Liberal Arts' strategic goals are detailed in the **Productivity Assessment Narrative**.

c: Strategic Plan 2007-2012