



University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

College of Professional Studies
School of Communicative Disorders
Center for Communicative Disorders

Stevens Point, WI 54481-3897 (715) 346-2328

(715) 346-3667

FAX (715) 346-3751

Communicative Disorders - Education - Health, Exercise
Science, & Athletics - Health Promotions & Human
Development - Interior Architecture & Retail Studies -
Medical Technology - Military Science

To: Joan North, Dean
College of Professional Studies
From: Dennis Nash, Associate Dean & Head,
School of Communicative Disorders
re: Annual Report 2000-01
Date: 24 July 2001

Program Accreditation

The audiology and speech-language pathology graduate programs in the School of Communicative Disorders (SCD) have been accredited by the Council of Academic Accreditation (CAA) from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) since the early 1970's. In 2000-01 the graduate programs reached the end of an eight-year accreditation cycle. An application for program re-accreditation was submitted in July 2000. The CAA reviewed our application, and a site visit team spent two days carefully examining records and interviewing individuals involved in all aspects of the programs.

The site visitors were highly complimentary of our programs in many areas including a well-equipped and organized alternative and augmentative (AAC) lab, a strong and committed faculty and staff who demonstrate "strong and innovative" teaching, an outstanding facility that creates an excellent learning environment, strong administrative support, strong community support, a positive relationship between students and faculty/staff, and many others. They indicated that the programs meet or exceed almost all accreditation standards. They did question whether we meet standards in only three areas. We have responded to their questions and concerns, and we should receive the CAA's decision regarding our program re-accreditation during the Fall Semester. We remain fully confident that the CAA will react positively to our responses and will re-accredit both of our programs.

Personnel Changes

The School of Communicative Disorders (SCD) experienced several changes in personnel during the 2000-01 academic year. Dr. Kirstin Beach resigned during Summer Session 2000, Dr. Rodney Gabel informed us that he had accepted a position at Bowling Green University and would be leaving at the end of Summer Session 2001, Dr. Paula Horner was on medical leave during Spring Semester 2000-01 and subsequently resigned at the end of the academic year, and Ms. Eleanor Brush announced her retirement to become effective at the end of Summer Session 2001. Those departures resulted in our conducting several searches during the academic year.

We initially conducted searches for two audiology faculty members. We received only one applicant for the positions. After interviewing him, we offered him a position; but he accepted an offer from another institution. We decided to convert one of the audiology positions to an academic staff position. This search was successful, and we hired Tami Gumz, M.S., CCC-A/SLP for the position. She has been working as a clinical audiologist in the cochlear implant team at Children's Hospital in Milwaukee. She will join us in September 2001. We also continued our search for another audiology faculty member. We interviewed Ms. Carolyn Tooley-Young, who is completing her PhD at the University of Washington, and have offered her the position. We are currently waiting for her final decision.

We also conducted a search for a speech-language pathology academic staff member to replace Ms. Eleanor Brush. We had a large pool of qualified candidates, and we were successful in hiring Charlie Osborne, M.A., CCC-SLP for that position. Mr. Osborne previously taught our graduate fluency course and supervised some of our graduate student clinicians when he was providing clinical services in extended care facilities. He is currently at the University of Wisconsin—Oshkosh and will join us in September 2001. We have conducted a search for a faculty member to replace Dr. Rod Gabel. Two individuals have applied, and we are currently arranging interviews. If we successfully complete this search, the individual will likely join us in January 2002.

While we were conducting searches for permanent faculty and academic staff, we once again hired adjunct and part-time personnel to cover academic and clinical assignments. Mr. Jim Lombardo taught two graduate audiology courses as he has on previous occasions, and Ms. Beth Krolkowski again taught our sign language course during both semesters. Ms. Becky Franz taught undergraduate courses in audiological diagnostics and aural rehabilitation and provided clinical supervision in our audiology clinic. Ms. Elizabeth Crump, who previously worked as a clinical audiologist and is currently pursuing a degree in computer information systems, taught our graduate course in aural rehabilitation.

In other personnel actions, Ms. Cynthia Forster was elected to serve as Director of Clinical Services upon the retirement of Ms. Eleanor Brush. In addition, Dr. Gary Cumley was appointed to serve as Associate Dean & Head following the retirement of Dr. Dennis Nash at the end of the 2001-02 academic year.

With great sadness we also acknowledge the loss of two former faculty members. Dr. LaRene Tufts passed away after a lingering illness in October 2000, and Dr. Gary Glascoe died relatively suddenly from brain tumors in June 2001. Both made significant contributions to the SCD during their many years of service and will be greatly missed.

Projects Initiated, Ongoing, and/or Completed

We continue to establish and strengthen collaborative clinical programs in the community. Speech-language pathology graduate students, along with members of our staff, continue to provide services at St. Michael's Hospital, at the adult day-care program at Lincoln Center, at Community Industries, at various schools in the area, and at other sites. Audiology and speech-language pathology students and clinical supervisors also regularly participate in hearing-screening programs in a variety of sites including public schools, Head Start centers, Migrant service centers, senior citizen centers, nursing homes, and wellness fairs.

Ms. Eleanor Brush continued to develop the *Critical Issues* component of CD 791-794 *Graduate Practicum*. This component provides us with the opportunity to deal with current professional topics which are of importance for professional preparation in both audiology and speech-language pathology but which do not conveniently fit into existing courses. Feedback from the graduate students has been very positive.

Beginning in 2112 the entry-level degree in audiology will be a professional doctorate. We are continuing to explore options to meet those new standards. We have continued discussions about a possible collaborative program with UW-Milwaukee and UW-Madison. We have also initiated discussions with an out-of-state university regarding a possible program. These discussions will continue during the 2001-02 academic year, and we hope to arrive at some conclusions during that period of time.

Measures of Success

When students complete their Master's Degrees in audiology or speech-language pathology, they are qualified to seek employment in either medical or educational settings. All of those who wish to work in a medical setting will ultimately be required to meet the standards for the Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC) from the ASHA, and the majority of students who wish to work in school settings also seek to receive the CCC

as well. To be awarded the CCC, they not only are required to complete a Master's Degree but they must pass a national certifying examination. How they perform on that national exam provides us with an effective measure of the breadth and depth of their professional preparation.

For the past few years we have compared the results of graduates from our audiology and speech-language pathology graduate programs to national averages. The results for the past six years are shown in Table 1 below. As can be seen, during the 1999-2000 period, 100% of the UWSP graduates whose data are available to us passed it. Although national data were not available for comparison, during previous years the national pass rate was at 80% or below. From 1994-1999, the pass rate for UWSP graduates was higher than the national averages in every year except for the 1995-96 and 1996-97 years for audiology students. However, audiology students have passed the exam at a 100% rate each year since then. The results suggest that our students are demonstrating solid academic background preparation and the ability to interpret that academic knowledge in response to questions regarding clinical application.

Table 1: National Certifying Examination Score Results--UWSP Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology Graduates

Academic Year	Number Scores Reported	UWSP Number passed	UWSP Percent passed	National Percent Passed	UWSP Mean Score	National Mean Score
Speech-Language Pathology						
1999-2000	22	22	100%	N.A.	688	N.A.
1998-99	27	24	88.9%	78.8%	663	651
1997-98	21	19	90.5%	79.9%	671	654
1996-97	23	21	91.3%	82.6%	676	660
1995-96	20	20	100%	81.4%	678	660
1994-95	16	15	93.8%	76.5%	663	641
Audiology						
1999-2000	5	5	100%	N.A.	640	N.A.
1998-99	5	5	100%	79.2%	636	628
1997-98	3	3	100%	79.0%	633	629
1996-97	7	4	57.1%	75.9%	613	626
1995-96	4	2	50%	78.9%	585	631
1994-95	7	6	85.7%	69.6%	633	622

N.A. = Data not available

It should also be noted that our graduates continue to have 100% success rate in employment in both audiology and speech-language pathology.

The 2000-01 academic year also saw a significant increase in the amount of graduate student research being conducted in the SCD. In some instances the students were involved in research activities being conducted by SCD members, and in other cases the students were engaged in independent studies which were being supervised by members of the faculty and academic staff. As will be noted in reports of individual faculty members below, several of the students' efforts have culminated in conference presentations and/or publications. In addition to the research efforts, an essay on stuttering written by graduate student Nicole Kapellen for a class taught by Dr. Rodney Gabel was published in *Letting Go*, the newsletter of the National Stuttering Association.

Scholarships and Awards

Students and members were the recipients of numerous awards during the 1999-2000 academic year. Nine undergraduate and graduate students--Beth Bradley, Gina Giordana, Holly Kruit, Roberta Kruse, Stephanie McCann, Jessica Mennen, Kim Schneeberg, Tracy Staffeld, and Jamie Watson--were inducted into Phi Kappa Phi. Jennifer Bergevin, Jamie Watson, and Carrie Boeldt were selected to receive University Leadership Awards; and Akbar Razvi and Jessica VanHammond received the Chancellor's Leadership Award.

We held our annual awards banquet on 16 April 2001. Over \$11,000.00 in scholarships and awards was presented to 18 undergraduate and graduate students to recognize their academic achievements, leadership, and contributions to the profession. Prior to her death, Dr. La Rene Tufts added funds to the endowment for the award that bears her name, so we can be confident that there will be sufficient funds to provide awards that will have a positive impact on the graduate externships of recipients of the Tufts Graduate Student Scholarship. We are also undertaking efforts to increase the number of scholarships and awards and the value of the scholarships and awards to a level that will help to reduce the financial burden of the students being recognized for their accomplishments and professional potential.

Individual Faculty & Staff Activities During 2000-01

Ms. Eleanor Brush, with Ms. Vivian Weber-Pagel and Dr. Dennis Nash, presented a poster session entitled "School Services in a University Clinic: A 20-year Partnership" at the annual WSHA convention in Madison in April. At that convention, she received a *WSHA Lifetime Achievement Award*. She continued to serve on the UWSP Assistance, Accessibility, Accommodations Committee, which assists students with disabilities on campus, and she also served on the UWSP Curriculum Committee. She continued to demonstrate outstanding innovative leadership as the Director of Clinical Services of the SCD. As indicated previously, she will be retiring at the end of the Summer Session 2001.

Ms. Donna Christensen attended a conference on rehabilitation of patients with brain injuries in Madison, and she has attended the first two modules of a four-session seminar on pediatric swallowing disorders. Together with Ms. Mary Day, she successfully prepared a UPDC grant to fund their participation in this seminar. She gave several guest lectures in various communicative disorders courses, and she presented on "Taking Care of your Singing Voice" at the UWSP Music Department Summer Institute on Vocal Pedagogy. She continued to serve as the Secretary of the UWSP chapter of Phi Kappa Phi and the Chair of the SCD Evaluation Committee. She also served on the SCD Clinical Affairs Committee.

Dr. Gary Cumley co-authored an article entitled "A framework for managing controversial practices" in the July 2001 issue of *Language, Speech, & Hearing Services in Schools*. Together with Dr. Leslie Plonsker, he presented a paper entitled "AAC and oral-motor stimulation: Effects on vocalizations and language development" at the annual ASHA Convention in Washington, D.C. and a second paper entitled "The effects of oral motor stimulation and AAC on sound production and language development" at the annual WSHA Convention in Madison. Dr. Cumley also presented "Communication Competence: A continuum approach for individuals with mental retardation" at the United States Society of AAC in St. Paul, MN in August 2001. He received the ISAAC/AAC Editor's Student Award for the most significant journal article with clinical implications in AAC. Along with Dr. Maggie Watson, he successfully prepared an Intra-college Technology Grant to purchase software and develop a student lab for language sampling. Dr. Cumley served as the Vice President of Governmental Affairs for WSHA and on the Board of Directors of the United States Society of AAC. He also served as Chair of the UWSP University Planning Committee. In the SCD he served on the Evaluation Committee and the Clinical Affairs Committee.

Ms. Mary Day attended a conference on rehabilitation of brain-injured individuals in Madison. She also attended two of a four-session educational program on pediatric swallowing disorders, for which she and Ms. Donna Christensen successfully submitted a UPDC grant. She served on the Planning Committee for the 2000-01 Teaching/Learning Workshop, the UW—System Academic Leadership Planning Committee, the selection committee for Who's Who Among Students in American Universities, and she co-chaired the UWSP Forum for Category B Teaching Academic Staff Summit. She also served on the UWSP Faculty Senate and the Academic Affairs Committee. She coordinated student volunteers for the annual WSHA Convention. She chaired the SCD Scholarship Committee and continued to serve as the advisor to the Student Speech & Hearing Association. She was awarded her fourth Award for Continuing Education (ACE) from ASHA.

Ms. Cynthia Forster, together with graduate students Teneil Borchardt and Kim Glisczinski, published an article entitled "Developing supervisory skills: A journey into a learning community" in the *Communication Connection*, the WSHA Newsletter. She also serves as the editor for the "Hotnews" section of that newsletter. She is also the SCD website curator. She served on the UWSP Faculty Senate and on the planning committee for the UWSP Teaching Summit. She also continued to serve as the Treasurer for the UWSP chapter of Phi Kappa Phi. In the SCD she served on the Personnel Committee, the Scholarship Committee, and the Academic Programs Committee.

Ms. Becky Franz attended the WSHA Fall Audiology Update and the annual WSHA Convention in Madison in April. She also participated in the Disabilities Awareness Day in Nekoosa in November 2000. She served on the SCD Evaluation Committee and the SCD Special Events Committee.

Dr. Rod Gabel coauthored an article entitled "An analysis of verbal response patterns of Charles Van Riper during stuttering modification therapy" in the *Journal of Fluency Disorders* and a second article entitled "A study of self-talk of individuals who stutter" in *Perceptual and Motor Skills*. A third article, which he also co-authored, entitled "Communication apprehension and self-perceived communication competence in adolescents who stutter," is currently in press in the *Journal of Fluency Disorders*. He co-delivered two presentations at the annual ASHA convention in Washington, D.C.: "The internet and stuttering: information for school speech-language pathologists," and "Attitudes toward occupational choices for people who stutter." He delivered four presentations, including one co-authored by graduate student Kim Boehning, at the annual WSHA convention in Madison in April and two presentations at the annual convention of the Ohio Speech-Language-Hearing Association convention in Cleveland in March. With Dr. Maggie Watson, he received a UPDC grant to pursue research on the knowledge of speech-language pathologists regarding phonological awareness. He also helped to direct two students' research projects, which were both funded by the UWSP Student Research Fund. He served on the UWSP Senate and in the SCD on the Evaluation Committee and the Special Events Committee.

Dr. David Henry published an article entitled "Significant weakness in caloric irrigations" in the Nov/Dec. issue of *Advance for Audiologists*. He presented a poster session entitled "Musical ability and perception of dichotic chords" at the National Conference of the American Academy of Audiology in San Diego in April 2001. He attended the Speech and Hearing Science Workshop on Mathematics and Physics for Speech and Hearing in Chicago in June. He provided professional expertise to the initiation and development of a universal infant hearing screening program at St. Michael's Hospital. He served as the Chair for the WSHA Fall Audiology Update. He also continues to serve on the Advisory Council of Speech Pathology and Audiology for the State of Wisconsin. He continued to serve on the UWSP University Personnel Development Committee (UPDC) and in the SCD he continued to serve as Chair of the Personnel Committee.

Dr. Paula Horner presented a poster session entitled "Service delivery models revisited: Enhancing the social-communicative engagement of toddlers at-risk and their families" at the International Early Childhood Conference on Children with Special Needs in Albuquerque in December 2000. She served as faculty advisor for Phi Omega Sorority. In the SCD, she served on the Special Events Committee, Personnel Committee, and the Evaluation Committee.

Dr. Dennis Nash co-presented a poster session with Ms. Eleanor Brush and Ms. Vivian Weber-Pagel entitled "School Services in a University Clinic: A 20-year Partnership" at the annual WSHA convention in Madison in April. He continues to serve as a Delegate representing the Mid-West Division to the National Assembly of the American Cancer Society. Along with his wife, he was given the *St. George Award*, the highest award given to volunteers by the National American Cancer Society. He was also presented with the *Award of Appreciation* by the Council of Academic Programs in Communication Sciences and Disorders.

Dr. Leslie Plonsker submitted an article entitled "Characteristics associated with children's word-final fricative deletion" to the journal *Perceptual and Motor Skills*. She co-presented two poster sessions with graduate students Heidi Krouth and Kim Dierks at the annual ASHA convention in Washington, D.C. The poster sessions were entitled "Foreign accent reduction: An opportunity to develop cultural diversity" and "Using literature to understand individuals with communicative disorders and differences." Those poster sessions were also presented at the annual WSHA convention in Madison in April along with two additional poster sessions: "The effects of oral motor stimulation and AAC on sound production and language," co-presented with Dr. Gary Cumley; and "Comparisons of speech produced by a hearing impaired and a normal hearing speaker," co-presented with graduate students Kim Folbrecht and Karen Dvorak. Dr. Plonsker also became the editor of *The Communication Connection*, the WSHA newsletter. She also assumed the position of Coordinator of Academic Programs for the SCD; and in that capacity she chaired the Academic Programs Committee and served on the Graduate Council. She also served as a member of the Editorial Board for the UWSP On-Line Journal for Undergraduate Student Scholarship and as an area representative to the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction PI 34 Implementation Program. She also served on the UWSP Institutional Review Board and the SCD Special Events Committee.

Dr. Maggie Watson joined our staff in September 2000. She submitted an article entitled "Service learning: A model for preparing future speech-language pathologists for literacy intervention" to *The Reading Teacher*. She presented a paper entitled "Improving literacy skills: Everyone benefits" at the annual ASHA Convention in Washington, D.C. In addition to attending the ASHA Convention, she attended a conference on *Word Finding* in Minneapolis and another on *Family Centered Early Intervention* in Duluth. Together with Dr. Rodney Gabel, she received a UPDC grant to study speech-language pathologists' involvement with assessing phonemic awareness. She serves on the UWSP Program Review Subcommittee.