

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Year-End Report 2006-2007 School of Communicative Disorders</b></p>
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### **Program Mission Statement**

Both the undergraduate and graduate programs in the School of Communicative Disorders are included in the select mission of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point (UWSP). The purpose of the undergraduate education is to provide students a liberal education while developing an academic base for future study in communicative disorders. High academic standards are required of our undergraduate students, with enrollment in communicative disorders upper division courses contingent on having a within major grade point average of 3.0 and an overall grade point average of 2.8.

*The mission of the graduate program in the School of Communicative Disorders is to provide a foundation of professional preparation for audiologists and for speech-language pathologists to competently serve persons with speech, language, hearing, and/or swallowing disorders in any clinical setting within the scope of their education and their expertise.*

The School of Communicative Disorders has national accreditation until May 2009 from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA).

The Higher Learning Commission, who is the national accrediting board for UWSP, on May 11, 2006 approved to extend UWSP's accreditation to include the Doctor of Audiology (AuD.) in conjunction with the University of Wisconsin-Madison. This is the first clinical doctorate to be given at UWSP or any of the other comprehensive universities within the UW System.

As of 2007, the entry-level degree for an audiologist will be a clinical doctorate degree (Au.D.). UWSP and the University of Wisconsin-Madison have been meeting for over two years developing a collaborative joint Au.D. degree program between both campuses. On March 11, 2005, the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System approved this program. As both campuses make this transition, into the AuD program, there are many "house keeping" details that need to be resolved as we formally transition into this collaborative AuD. program. With the approval from the Board of Regents along with both campuses a Candidacy Application has been submitted to the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. This joint AuD. program is unique within the UW-system because it is the first such collaborative clinical doctorate program.

The Wisconsin AuD. Consortium Program has been granted Candidacy status from the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology of the American-Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA). This is a 5 step process and we have received approval in 3 of the 5 steps.

### **Partnerships**

- Provides inpatient and outpatient speech-language and swallowing services for St. Michael's Hospital. This site provides students with an outstanding learning experience.

- Provides speech-language and hearing services for preschoolers and children from the Stevens Point Area Public Schools.
- Provides hearing diagnostics for the Early Intervention program.
- Provides speech-language services to Hospice of Portage County on an as needed basis.
- Provide hearing screening for the Migrant Farm Workers Program
- Julie King has partnered with Dr. Janelle Cooper, a Neurologist in Oshkosh in her research of Primary Progressive Aphasia.
- Maggie Watson is collaborating with a UW-Eau Claire faculty member and her students on two research projects.

### **Focus on Teaching/Active Learning**

- The Department continues to work with the Professional Development Network in the development of courses specific to the needs of practicing Speech-Language Pathologist
- Charlie Osborne was nominated by the Wisconsin Speech-Language and Audiology Profession to be Wisconsin's nominee for the ASHA Louis M. DiCarlo Award for Recent Clinical Achievement.
- Faculty continues to work with the College of Professional Studies Professional Development Network in the development of both traditional and on-line course for speech language pathologists.
- Declared majors in COMD have shown a steady increase over the past seven years with 125 declared majors as of 2006.

### **Student Centered Excellence**

- Graduate student in Speech-Language Pathology take the national PRAXIS exam and 92% of our students passed the exam. The national pass rate for SLP is 75%.
- Graduate students in Audiology take the national PRAXIS exam and 100% of our student passed the exam. The national pass rate for Audiologist is 70%
- The School of Communicative Disorders held their annual Student Awards Banquet on April 23, 2006 and awarded over \$17,700 in student scholarships.
- The Wisconsin-Speech-Language and Audiology Foundation gives ten state-wide Scholarships and three of our graduate students won the following (WSHA) Scholarships:  
 Sarah Skahan- Nancy McKinley Scholarship- \$1000.

- The UWSP National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association (NSSLHA) Chapter wrote and was awarded a matching Community Service Grant for \$1000 for the Wood County Birth-to-three program to assist in the purchase of assistive technology equipment for this program.
- The UWSP National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association (NSSLHA) Chapter has developed a scholarship for undergraduate COMD majors. This is the first such scholarship that the student organization has developed.
- 100% employment rate for our graduate students.
- Lindsay Bliemeister, who is an undergraduate in COMD received the Chancellor's Leadership Award.
- Sarah Skahan's article was accepted for publication by UWSP' on-line student journal.
- Sarah Skahan had two article accepted for publication in ASHA's professional journals.
- Six Junior students in COMD were inducted into Phi Beta Kappa Honorary Society.
- Six SLP graduate students were co-presenters with faculty members at the national ASHA convention in Miami Beach, FL.
- One AuD. Student made a presentation at the American Academy of Audiology in Denver, CO.

### **Diversity/International**

- Charlie Osborne received a \$2000 summer stipend from the Curriculum Infusion subcommittee of the Equity and Affirmative Action Committee to incorporate activities on cultural diversity into an existing course. Charlie will be adapting his COMD 723 Fluency Disorders to address cultural diversity.
- David Henry has developed a study abroad course titled: The International Business of Hearing Aids. This course will target AuD. Students from around the country. The class would be a interim summer course for 3 credits. David traveled this summer to visit the different hearing aid manufacturers in Denmark, Switzerland, and Germany.

### **Community Service**

- The UWSP National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association (NSSLHA) Chapter
  - Made and delivered two Christmas food baskets to 2 need families in the Stevens Point area.
  - Prepared and served dinner at the Salvation Army
  - Donated a digital camera to a classroom at McKinley School in Stevens Point
- Students in COMD 267- Normal Language Development Lab provide 40 hours a week of service to the UWSP Campus Daycare Center (UCLCC).

- The Center for communicative Disorders has served the following number of individuals in the community: SPL Service: 356 individuals; Audiology Services: 494.
- Donna Christensen is the community spokesperson for the North Central Wisconsin Laryngectomy Support Group.
- Donna Christensen and Mary Day made a presentation to the local Parkinson's support Group.
- During the fall semester Tami Gumz developed and implemented with students in her sign language class a Family Sign Class.
- Julie King has partnered with Portage County Health Care Center to provide group treatment service for the residents.
- Providing an AAC Equipment Lending Library for adults with degenerative diseases.
- In conjunction with the North Central Multiple Dystrophy Association of Green Bay have developed an ALS Support Group that meets in the COMD Department.

### **Life and Look of the Campus**

- COMD now has a building sign indicating the entrance to the Center of Communicative Disorders.
- COMD has launched the re-designed School of Communicative Disorders website