

# UNIVERSITY OF MARY SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY DEPARTMENT STRATEGIC PLAN

2014-2019

## **University of Mary Mission**

The University of Mary exists to serve the religious, academic and cultural needs of the people in this region and beyond. It takes its tone from the commitment of the Sisters of Annunciation Monastery. These Sisters founded the University in 1959 and continue to sponsor it today. It is Christian, it is Catholic, and it is Benedictine.

## **School of Health Science Mission**

The mission of the School of Health Sciences is to prepare competent, caring, and ethical health care professionals who will be servant leaders to their constituents and in their professions.

## **University of Mary Graduate Outcomes**

The University of Mary graduate programs offer its students preparation in the following four areas of competence:

1. **Communication** - Graduates demonstrate excellence in all facets of communication including the publication and presentation of scholarship
2. **Scholarship** - Graduates access, analyze, evaluate, and process information from a variety of sources to generate new ideals which guide decision-making to influence meaningful changes
3. **Professional Distinction** - Graduates are values-based and evidence-driven professionals who are servant leaders committed to excellence in their professions and communities.
4. **Moral Courage** - Grounded in faith and reason, graduates clarify and defend personal and social values to uphold the pathway for justice in multiple contexts.

## **Speech-Language Pathology Department Mission**

The mission of the Speech Pathology Program is to foster the development of highly qualified, ethical and skilled speech-language professionals to be servant leaders with strong academic ability and character that will support their individual growth and a passion for contributing to society and improving the lives of others.

## **The role of the program(s) and relationship to the university mission:**

Preparing students to achieve a Master's degree in SLP fits the mission of the university to provide the needs of our region and beyond. The field of speech-pathology currently has a shortage of SLPs thus our programs helps to meet the need of our rural and urban areas surrounding Bismarck but in other regions as well.

## **Speech-Language Pathology Department Vision**

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The vision of the Speech Language Department is to be a leader in Speech Pathology programs for providing outstanding undergraduate and graduate academic and clinical training. The University of Mary Speech Pathology program will positively impact the number of qualified speech language pathologists to increase service to the community, the state and beyond.

**Speech Language Pathology Graduate Program Outcomes**

1. University of Mary SLP graduates will demonstrate the knowledge and skills necessary to conduct comprehensive speech, language, and swallowing evaluation and provide evidence-based treatment for individuals with communication disorders across the lifespan, exhibiting professional oral and written communication skills.
2. University of Mary SLP graduates will develop and apply critical thinking skills necessary to participate in interdisciplinary collaboration and problem-solving by participating in interprofessional, problem-based learning experiences involving educational and clinical settings.
3. University of Mary SLP graduates will conduct clinical practice under the principles of servant leadership upholding the highest ethical standards to provide service to individuals from a variety of cultures throughout the lifespan.
4. University of Mary SLP graduates will develop knowledge in the areas of quantitative and qualitative research procedures in the field of communication sciences and disorders. Our graduates will have the opportunity to participate in beginning research. They will demonstrate the ability to analyze and interpret data as well as determine the implications and applications to the field of speech-language pathology.

**Focus Areas:**

1. Accreditation of Master's SLP Program
2. Faculty Recruitment
3. Program Resources
4. Research
5. Student Recruitment

**Focus One: Accreditation of Master's SLP Program**

**Outcome 1.1:** The master's program in SLP will achieve full accreditation.

**Indicators of Success:**

1. Candidacy Site Visit will be achieved by Fall of 2017.
2. Approval of Candidacy by Spring of 2018

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3. Enter first master's level cohort fall of 2018
4. Full accreditation achieved no later than fall of 2023.

**Strategies to achieve outcomes:**

2015: Program Chair developing Master's curriculum, holding advisory board meetings

2015-2016: Hiring of clinical coordinator, advisory board meetings, approval of M.S. SLP curriculum

2016-2017: Application for candidacy submitted fall of 2016, site visit offered by the CAA

2017-2018: Site Visit September 11 and 12, 2017

**Focus Two: Faculty Recruitment**

**Outcome 2.1:** The number of full and part time faculty will be sufficient to meet the clinical and academic demands of the undergraduate CSD program and graduate SLP program.

**Indicators of Success:**

1. Graduate faculty will hold terminal degrees or expertise in the area of instruction.
2. Institutional support for faculty hiring.
3. Travel allowance for faculty to attend a National conference yearly for networking and ongoing participating with governing bodies ASHA, CAA, and CAPCSD.
4. Adequate time to complete scholarship, teaching, and service to the university and community.

**Strategies to achieve outcomes:**

2015: Program director advertising on UMARY and CAPCSD websites for faculty openings.

2015-2016: Faculty was funded for travel to the national conference. Program director advertising on UMARY and CAPCSD websites for faculty openings.

2016-2017: Faculty was funded for travel to the national conference. Program director advertising on UMARY and CAPCSD websites for faculty openings.

2017-2018: Zeltinger, Blay, and Smith attending ASHA in November 2017 and Blay is presenting. Grant money is available for a sign on bonus for a fourth faculty member for the summer of 2018, and the position is fully funded. Two clinical supervisors and one administrative assistant will be included in the budgetary process for hire for summer of 2018.

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Faculty who attend ASHA and CAPCSD will attend higher education and clinical sessions and disseminate pertinent information.

**Focus Three: Program Resources**

**Outcome 3.1:** The SLP department will establish space and adequate resources to meet academic and clinical experiences.

**Indicators of Success:**

1. SLP Department office, clinic, classroom and student work space by Fall of 2018.
2. SLP on-campus clinic by summer/fall of 2018.
3. Sufficient (20) off-site clinical sites.
4. Sufficient clinical materials and equipment for learning and clinical application.

**Strategies to achieve outcomes:**

2016-2017: Met with architects to draft a floor plan for SLP space with offices, research lab, faculty and clinical supervisor's offices, conference space, clinic reception area, student work room and material storage.

2017-2018: SLP department faculty offices moved to the main floor of Boniface July 2017. Currently the only faculty is in this space, and other areas will be constructed over the next year to be ready for fall of 2018.

**Focus Four: Research**

**Outcome 4.1:** Faculty and students will participate in ongoing research and dissemination.

**Indicators of Success:**

1. Master's SLP students will participate in the School of Health Sciences colloquium to present research project.
2. Faculty presentation or publication at least every two years.

**Strategies to achieve outcomes:**

2017-2018: Students will participate in all research courses and complete a research project. Faculty are allowed scholarship time to complete research projects and a research lab space is

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provided on campus. One faculty member has a poster presentation at the national convention November 2017.

**Focus Five: Student Recruitment**

**Outcome 5.1A:** The department will track and recruit potential graduate students for the M.S. SLP program.

**Indicators of Success:**

**5.1A** A full cohort for the fall of 2018.

**Strategies to achieve outcomes:**

2015-2017: Student interest in the M.S. SLP program is tracked by current faculty and the School of Health Sciences graduate recruiter. This information will be used to contact students with application information when the program is allowed to enter students.

2017-2018: Continued tracking of SLP students. SHS graduate recruiter will email list of interested students' application information.