Communication Sciences and Disorders Program
Strategic Plan 2017-2018

CSD Mission Statement
UWG Communication Sciences aspires to be the best comprehensive graduate Speech-Pathology Program in America – sought after as the best place to work, learn, and succeed!

COE Vision Statement
The College of Education at the University of West Georgia will be recognized for Leading a New World of Learning, with relevant and innovative programs that change lives and contribute to the betterment of society.

Key Descriptors
Key Descriptors of Programs – Relevant, Distinctive, Robust
Key Descriptors of Graduates - Effective, Innovative, Globally Aware

Strategic Imperative #1: STUDENT SUCCESS – Student Progression

Goal 1: Enhance CSD enrollment, progression, and graduation:
  • Refine and streamline equitable processes for admission, at both the undergraduate and graduate levels;
    o Seek to admit strong candidates within UWG since the change in undergraduate GPA requirement to 3.25 (increase from 2.7 prior to 2017;
    o Seek more diversity in admissions at both the undergraduate and graduate levels through outreach efforts;
    o Provide pre-major orientation.
  • Identify and reduce any curricular bottlenecks to facilitate student progression & graduation;
    o Revised undergraduate admissions to not require “Teacher Education” qualification;
    o Coordinate curricular/scheduling revisions with the COE Advisement Center;
    o More closely align “core” undergraduate requirements with ASHA/CAA academic standards;
    o Balance graduate course sequencing.
  • Make CSD programs engaging and relevant for students by ensuring that all undergraduate and graduate students participate in at least one high-impact experiences (e.g., study abroad, immersive environments, and/or service learning)
    o Broaden both first and second year graduate opportunities for clinical experiences through both external sites and Comprehensive Community Clinic service offerings;
    o Enhance “study abroad” opportunities for graduate students.

Strategic Imperative #2: ACADEMIC SUCCESS - Academic Programming and Faculty Support

Goal 2: Enhance Academic Programs:
  • Using COE Program Vitality Data and other sources of information, expand and continue to modernize thriving programs; consolidate or eliminate under-performing programs
    o Annual “Closing the Loop” data analysis and goal setting initiative.
  • Ensure compliance with BOR, PSC, SACSCOC, CAEP, ASHA, and CACREP
Continued refinement of an internal “compliance and curriculum work group” within the CSD Program.

Continually examine technological support within the COE for faculty and students

- Continued enhancement of an internal “compliance and curriculum work group” within the CSD Program.
- Recruited audiology faculty member, effective 8/1/2018, which will enhance the learning opportunities for students, and more effectively utilizing current audiology technology.

- Expand use of innovative technology to support learning outcomes
  - Ongoing review of technology enhancements within the CCC and the classroom;
  - Frequent student referral to the newly established Innovations Lab in the College of Education

Goal 3: Promote faculty productivity related to teaching, scholarly activity, and service:

- Provide support and incentives for writing external grants
  - Development of a “research working group”;
- Revision of the faculty performance evaluation system (Tk20);
  - Revisions to the “Faculty Qualifications” section of Tk20 will provide more relevant information through a simpler process.
- Set College expectations for Promotion and Tenure
  - Enforce criteria set forth by the Faculty Governance Committee in the COE;
- Recognize faculty initiatives and achievements
  - Ongoing program based in the Dean’s Office to acknowledge the achievements of faculty.

Strategic Imperative #3: SUCCESSFUL PARTNERSHIPS – Professional Collaborations and Service

Goal 4: Enhance Regional Community Partnerships

- Expand our academic presence in Newnan
  - Assigned a clinical and academic faculty member to coordinate services/supervision at the Newnan Campus;
- Enhance Comprehensive Community Clinic services in the region
  - Continually review opportunities to provide services and clinician training in the region.

Strategic Imperative #4: OPERATIONAL SUCCESS – Operational Effectiveness and Sustainability

Goal 5: Improve Work-life Balance:

- Move COE tenure-track faculty to a 3/3 load
  - Implemented since Fall 2017;
- Move CSD/CCC to a new scheduling model
  - Developing new clinical/class scheduling model which will support student and faculty planning and transitions.

Goal 6: Improve Communication and Diverse Points of View:

- Continue to highlight diversity in the COE and connect the work of the COE Diversity Advisory Committee to campus-wide efforts.
  - Diversity Symposium
  - Formal and informal opportunities for faculty and administration to interact at the college, department and program level;
  - Department Chair’s “open door” policy