

**Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders  
Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania  
Strategic Plan 2022-2027**

**Mission**

The mission of the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD) is to offer high-quality programs at the undergraduate and graduate level that prepare students for some of the most sought-after career paths in a growing, highly competitive global job market: audiology, speech-language pathology, and intraoperative neurophysiological monitoring. This mission of excellence is supported by evidence-based educational and clinical practices, interprofessional collaboration, innovative research, and community outreach.

**Vision**

We aspire to provide students with the knowledge and skills to meet the need in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, as well as beyond Pennsylvania, for high quality, independent audiologists, speech-language pathologists (SLPs), and intraoperative neurophysiological monitoring (IONM) technicians. Through this work, we hope to make a positive impact on our community and on the world.

**Values**

We value:

- Diversity, equity, and inclusion in all aspects of education and service delivery
- Curiosity and critical thinking
- Respect, honesty, and professionalism
- Evidence-based, culturally sensitive practice
- Active engagement in scholarly research
- Service to the community

**Programs Offered**

Our department is proud to offer the following programs:

- Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Audiology/Speech-Language Pathology
- Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology (M.S.-SLP)
- Doctor of Audiology (Au.D.)
- Certificate in Intraoperative Neurophysiological Monitoring (IONM)

GOAL	OBJECTIVES	OUTCOMES FOR STUDENTS AND THE UNIVERSITY	MEASUREMENT METHODS/ EVALUATION CRITERIA
<p>1. Provide high-quality education and training while reducing the costs and timeline for program completion.</p>	<p>A. Implement two accelerated programs: a 3-2 M.S.-SLP and a 3-4 Au.D.</p> <p>Note: these are not to replace the existing programs. They will be alternative options. Both accelerated programs will share the same 3-year undergraduate course sequence.</p> <p>B. Develop and distribute marketing materials to attract highly qualified applicants to the accelerated programs.</p> <p>C. Explore options for free and discounted course materials (e.g., textbooks, software).</p>	<p>A. Students enrolled in the accelerated program will complete the requirements for the B.S. in Audiology/Speech-Language Pathology in 3 years if they maintain criteria set by our department<sup>1</sup>.</p> <p>B. Students enrolled in the accelerated program will meet the qualifications to for entry level into the workforce one year earlier.</p> <p>C. Students enrolled in the accelerated program will have a reduced educational expense.</p> <p>D. Given the increasing number of speech-language pathology programs in the region, the accelerated program will provide BU a competitive edge for students interested in pursuing speech-language pathology.</p>	<p>A. Obtain administrative approval for the 3-year undergrad. sequence.</p> <p>B. Enroll up to 3 students in the 3-4 Au.D. program and 7 students in the 3-2 M.S.-SLP each year.</p>
<p>2. Attract and graduate highly qualified students from diverse populations.</p>	<p>A. Develop and distribute marketing materials to attract highly qualified applicants from locations with underrepresented groups.</p> <p>B. Explore options for in-person and virtual recruitment events at high schools and universities with large portions of the student body from underrepresented groups.</p>	<p>A. Information about our programs<sup>2</sup> will reach prospective students from underrepresented groups who may not have otherwise known of us.</p> <p>B. Prospective students from underrepresented groups will be more likely to apply to our programs.</p> <p>C. The university will have a more diverse student body.</p>	<p>A. Increase by 5% the number of applicants from underrepresented groups who apply to each of our programs.</p>

<sup>1</sup> The phrase “our department” is used for brevity to refer to the Department of CSD at Bloomsburg University.

<sup>2</sup> The phrase “our programs” is used for brevity to refer to all undergraduate, graduate, and certificate programs offered by the Department of CSD.

GOAL	OBJECTIVES	OUTCOMES FOR STUDENTS AND THE UNIVERSITY	MEASUREMENT METHODS/ EVALUATION CRITERIA
<p>3. Prepare students to provide high-quality speech, language, and hearing services to diverse populations.</p>	<p>A. Explore options to increase the number of clinical experiences with diverse populations available to our students.</p> <p>B. Develop and distribute clinic marketing materials to locations with diverse populations.</p> <p>C. Expand the use of telepractice in the BU's Speech &amp; Language Clinic and Center for Hearing &amp; Balance to facilities that provide services to diverse populations.</p>	<p>A. Students will be prepared to work with clients from many backgrounds, using culturally sensitive language and practices.</p> <p>B. BU's Speech &amp; Language Clinic and Center for Hearing &amp; Balance will increase services to individuals from diverse populations</p>	<p>A. Increase by 5% the number of clients from diverse populations receiving our services.</p>
<p>4. Regularly review our programs' adherence to accreditation requirements and our ability to produce high-quality, independent audiologists, SLPs, and IONM technicians.</p>	<p>A. Develop and administer Au.D. program evaluation materials.</p> <p>B. Develop and administer M.S.-SLP program evaluation materials.</p> <p>C. Develop and administer Certificate in IONM program evaluation materials.</p> <p>D. Develop and administer employer program evaluation materials.</p>	<p>A. Verify that the M.S.-SLP, Au.D., and Certificate in IONM programs meet accreditation standards.</p> <p>B. Verify that our M.S.-SLP, Au.D., and Certificate in IONM programs are providing the knowledge and skills necessary for students to become competent, independent professionals.</p> <p>C. Verify that M.S.-SLP, Au.D., and Certificate in IONM programs are providing training to our students that employers seek, increasing the number of audiologists, SLPs, and IONM technicians recruited from our department.</p>	<p>A. The Au.D., M.S.-SLP, and Certificate in IONM programs will maintain accreditation by their respective accrediting bodies.</p>