

DEPARTMENT STRATEGIC PLAN 2017--2018 Audiology & Speech Pathology, Bloomsburg University of PA

The Dept. of Audiology & Speech Pathology houses the following programs: Undergraduate (B.S.) in Audiology & Speech Pathology; the English as a Second Language (ESL) Certificate Program; the Intraoperative Neuromonitoring (IONM) post-baccalaureate certificate program; the graduate-level M.S. program in Speech-Language Pathology; and the graduate-level Clinical Doctorate in Audiology (Au.D.).

In addition to guiding students through necessary general education requirements, the mission of our undergraduate program in Audiology and Speech Pathology is to provide a foundation of necessary knowledge and skills requisite for success in entry-level graduate coursework in Audiology and/or Speech Pathology, as well as knowledge and skills pertinent to associated medical and educational professions.

The English as a Second Language (ESL) Certificate Program enables students to become eligible for the Program Specialist — ESL Certificate through the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE). Individuals who complete the necessary five courses (15 credits) are eligible to apply for this certification. The ESL Program Specialist certification is "added on" to a Level I or Level II teaching certificate issued by PDE.

The Intraoperative Neuromonitoring (IONM) post-baccalaureate certificate program prepares Bachelors-degree students with academic background in anatomy and physiology preparation to serve as an IONM technician capable of monitoring nervous system information in hospital settings

The goal of graduate programs in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology is to provide quality academic and clinical education, and prepare entry-level professionals to insure independent practice and competent delivery of clinical services to the public. The programs of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology are committed to the educational preparation of students in an inclusive environment, who through achievement of specific learning outcomes, demonstrate the essential knowledge and skills necessary for competent professional practice in a culturally diverse society.

Goal	Objectives	Outcomes for Students & the University	Measurement Methods/ Evaluation
<p>Ensure that American Speech & Hearing Assoc. (ASHA) accreditation issues re: the Au.D. program are addressed.</p> <p>1. Increase graduation rates to ASHA expected thresholds. 2. Increase AuD retention rates. 3. Increase AuD Praxis Examination pass rates to ASHA expected thresholds.</p>	<p>1. Increase graduation rates to $\geq 80\%$ for the expected length of the program (11 semesters). 2. Increase retention rates to 100% for students accepted in to the Au.D. program. 3. Increase Praxis Examination pass rate to $\geq 80\%$. 4. Continue initiation of Academic Track vs. Thesis Option Tracks for the AuD program.</p>	<p>1. Create positive and enriching learning environment for AuD students. 2. Provide options of these AuD students who have research aspirations (Thesis Option) vs. those who are focused on enhancing their academic foundation for clinical practice (Clinical Track) 3. Create and formalize pre-, peri, and post-course remediation plans for those students who may be challenged by certain areas of academic or clinical content. 4. Aid students via advisement and pre-test experience(s) in attaining ASHA certification by successfully passing the ASHA Praxis Examination.</p>	<p>1. Annual review of graduation rates. 2. Semester by semester review of Au.D. graduate student retention and progress. 3. Annual review of Praxis Examination pass rates. 4. Continued yearly accreditation renewal for the BU Au.D. program.</p>

<p>Complete a 5-year review of the Audiology & Speech Pathology undergraduate program.</p>	<p>Complete a necessary review of undergraduate coursework to insure that the necessary knowledge base re: typical speech, language, and hearing development; speech and hearing science; and speech and hearing anatomy and physiology are provided.</p>	<p>Potential revision and/or expansion of currently offered coursework.</p>	<p>Exit surveys to determine degree of undergraduate preparation for post-graduate educational opportunities in speech pathology, audiology, and/or associated medical and educational fields.</p>
<p>Seek national accreditation for our Intraoperative Neuromuscular Monitoring (IONM) Certificate program.</p>	<p>National accreditation will validate our current IONM program and aid in the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Expand current IONM course offerings to a wider potential student cohort. 2. Increase enrollments in current IONM courses. 3. Meet community/regional/state/ and national needs. 4. Pursue additional clinical practicum sites. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Expanding IONM coursework and practicum experiences via the Certificate program will potentially lead to increased enrollment at the post-baccalaureate level at Bloomsburg University 2. The IONM Certificate program will be nationally unique and will increase the number of highly qualified IONM practitioners in this in-demand area. 3. Expanded clinical practicum experiences. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase enrollment in currently offered and new IONM courses. 2. Increase number of highly-qualified individuals certified to work as IONM practitioners/technicians. 3. Increase number of Departmental graduates being employed. 4. Increased number of available clinical practicum sites.
<p>Initiate Telepractice/Teletherapy as one of the BU Speech & Hearing Clinic Services</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Initiate required telepractice hardware/software requirements via a previously obtained Margin of Excellence Grant. 2. Incorporate didactic information re: telepractice into clinical practicum coursework 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students will gain valuable knowledge and skills in Telepractice/Teletherapy 2. Students will gain practicum hours in Teletherapy used towards eventual ASHA certification. 3. Potential increase in BU Speech & Hearing Clinic revenues via telepractice/teletherapy. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase in number of telepractice therapy hours offered via BU Speech & Hearing Clinic 2. Increase in BU Speech & Hearing Clinic Services 3. Increased contribution of telepractice hours per student re: clinic hour requirements for ASHA certification.

<p>Increase potential speech & hearing services provided by the BU Speech & Hearing Clinic in the surrounding community.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Investigate and initiate community contacts that can increase the scope of clinical education for our graduate students in speech pathology and audiology. 2. Investigate and initiate community contacts that can increase clinic revenue used for the support of our academic and clinical programs. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. BU Speech & Hearing services will be expanded 2. Students will benefit from increased and expanded clinic service provision. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase in services provided. 2. Increase in BU Speech & Hearing Clinic revenue
<p>Complete approval request process for a permanent faculty position that will serve both Speech Pathology and Audiology programs; initiate search in Fall 2017.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Initiate immediate search for full-time permanent faculty member with expertise in Speech and Hearing Science. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Faculty who can provide undergraduate and graduate teaching in speech and hearing science, anatomy and physiology of the speech and hearing mechanisms, and research methods. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase course offerings by full-time permanent faculty who will be readily available for advising, student support, and potential student research.
<p>Request additional support services (as necessary) and also provide major equipment requests via Academic Enhancement Funds</p>	<p>Review additional support needs at the secretarial level. Review additional support needs at the clinical supervisory level. Review departmental needs re: equipment replacement or upgrade.</p>	<p>Improved program support. Improved and expanded clinical supervision services. Improved academic and clinical education via exposure to instrumentation used in the evaluation and treatment of speech and hearing disorders and in IONM settings.</p>	<p>Increase and improvement in services provided via the BU Speech & Hearing Clinic. Improved academic and clinical outcomes via use of necessary clinical instrumentation to guide and support evidence-based practice.</p>