

Master of Speech Language Pathology Program Strategic Plan July 2019 – July 2020

The strategic plan is aligned with the mission of the Master of Speech-Language Pathology (MSLP) Program and Francis Marion University's goal to make available excellent educational programs for the Pee Dee region, the State of South Carolina, other states, and foreign countries.

Vision Statement: FMU's MSLP Program will be known for its excellence in educating speech-language pathologists who provide evidence-based assessment, intervention and consultation for individuals with communication, cognitive, and feeding/swallowing disorders and are excellent clinical researchers.

Mission Statement: The MSLP Program provides a comprehensive course of study combined with diverse clinical experiences that will prepare outstanding allied healthcare professionals capable of providing high quality assessment and treatment for individuals with communication and swallowing disorders in the Pee Dee, South Carolina area and beyond.

Yearly Objectives:

In pursuit of achieving our FMU MSLP Program Mission, and to enhance the quality and growth of the program, the program developed goals in the following areas: Education; Clinical Training; Research; and Community Engagement that are critical foci for the program, School of Health Sciences, and the FMU Executive Team to address.

Education

The Program will:

- ❖ Provide and utilize existing education opportunities to prepare students for inter-professional collaboration and practice;
- ❖ Sponsor continuing education programs for clinical educators who provide graduate student training;
- ❖ Continue to foster diversity and inclusion in communication sciences and disorders practices through multicultural curriculum transformation.

Clinical Training

The Program will:

- ❖ Broaden the clinical population/activities available through the program clinic;
- ❖ Provide a rich diversity of clinical experiences across the lifespan;
- ❖ Develop new strategies to reinforce awareness and application of approaches to assessment and treatment of culturally and linguistically diverse populations.

Research

The Program will:

- ❖ Prepare clinician-researchers to apply clinical research skills to promote evidence-based practice;
- ❖ Involve students and faculty in critically needed evidence-based research (EBR) focused on the South Carolina Pee Dee area, a USA Health Disparities Region.

Community Engagement

The Program will:

- ❖ Provide two screening clinics at community sites each semester to promote prevention, early referrals for communication, cognitive and feeding/swallowing disorders.
- ❖ Develop resources and relationships that support student involvement in community-based outreach opportunities.
- ❖ Provide continuing education for practicing clinicians in the Pee Dee, South Carolina area.