



Speech-Language Pathology

MSLP Annual Strategic Plan

Report of Progress: Academic Year 2022-2023

MSLP MISSION

The mission of the Austin Peay State University Master of Speech-Language Pathology program is to lead in improving the lives of persons with communication disorders residing in Tennessee and surrounding regions through preparing professionals who are highly competent with the provision of evidence-based clinical services and who can provide these services while observing the highest standards of ethics, integrity and compassionate care; and by teaching and learning in a culture that cultivates excellence and collegiality, supports diversity, inclusion, critical thinking and engages with the community in meaningful ways.

PROGRAM GOALS

1. Provide a graduate education culminating in the Master of Speech-Language Pathology that prepares students to meet the current professional standards for clinical certification and state licensure.
2. Offer graduate student clinicians' exposure to diverse clinical populations, assessment procedures, treatment methodologies and work settings.
3. Prepare graduates of the program for complex work environments, interprofessional practice, evidence-based practice and an ability to adapt to changes in the profession.
4. Develop leaders that will impact the Clarksville community, region and state by expanding clinical services provided to the community through compassionate care, outreach, education and service activities.

Faculty members, Dr. Kleinhans, Dr. Bancroft, Ms. Brandon, Ms. Whittle and Ms. Bogard reviewed progress on the strategic plan at the end of the year program meeting on May 4, 2023. The team collaborated on the review and writing of this MSLP Annual Strategic Plan Report of Progress. The four program goals were reviewed in the context of five strategic priorities. A summary of progress for each strategy is provided below.

Progress Strategy 1: Recruit, develop and retain faculty, staff, and community partners that will support program success and sustainability

Faculty have made significant progress toward achieving the Master of Speech-Language Pathology (MSLP) mission and meeting the program goals. The program benefits through the support of Dr. Leszczak, the Health and Human Performance Department Chair, Dr. Maurer, the Interim Dean of the College of Behavioral and Health Sciences, and Dr. Cronley, the Provost and Senior VP of Academic

Affairs. Strategy 1 and objectives that follow all focus on the power of people and partnerships to develop and sustain the MSLP program. The MSLP program faculty composition for the AY 2022-2023 included two doctorally prepared faculty and three master's prepared faculty. Dr. Cronley approved a fifth faculty line for the MSLP program, a three-year master's prepared clinical assistant professor, to start in August 2024. The part-time administrative position was also approved as a permanent staff position. The number of clinical affiliation agreements has increased from 18 to 24. Efforts to develop faculty scholars has been successful as evidenced by faculty publications, submissions, presentations and grants awarded.

Progress Strategy 2: Deliver exceptional and effective academic and clinical programs

Significant progress with objectives of Strategy 2 were made during the AY. Additional clinical materials and equipment were acquired to enhance clinical education. Additional collaborative partnerships, formal and informal were made with campus and community partners to develop and offer competency based clinical experiences that include interprofessional practice opportunities as well as bilingual experiences. Competency examinations have been created to assess student acquisition across the curriculum.

Progress Strategy 3: Develop logistics that support and strengthen program development, implementation, delivery, and evaluation

The first Annual Report was submitted to the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CAA) in March 2023. The APSU Speech-Language & Swallowing Community Clinic, located at 255 Marion St. opened in the fall of 2022. The facility is a 2100 square foot building with 9 treatment areas and additional clinical spaces. The MSLP program also assumed apartment 8 above the clinic for office space and conference room for clinical education. The MSLP program published the official MSLP Student Handbook which was reviewed at all the required administrative levels for approval. The MSLP Clinical Education Coordinator and Program Director implemented and trained students and faculty on CALIPSO for tracking acquisition of knowledge and skills and ClinicNote for EMR. Use of the VALT system for clinic and research was launched.

Progress Strategy 4: Lead in service and collaborative activities within the APSU, local, state, and national communities to improve the lives of those with communication disorders

Work on this strategy was initiated with a focus on using service delivery data associated with the APSU Speech-Language & Swallowing Community Clinic via the newly adopted CALIPSO.

Progress Strategy 5: Engage in activities designed to improve the quality of the program

The process and rubric to evaluate alignment and progress of the MSLP mission, strategic plan and program goals was developed in collaboration with Dr. Amanda Wornhoff, Director of Institutional Effectiveness and Assessment. They were first used during the current year to align with the revised university and departmental mission. Faculty will use Qualtrics, Austin Peay's online survey tool, to distribute and analyze surveys to students, graduates and employers. The MSLP program must comply with the Survey Policy and Oversight Committee Survey Administration Policy (2:062).