



Department of Audiology, Speech Language Pathology &  
Deaf Studies  
**Strategic Plan and Department Goals**  
2010-2011

The Department of Audiology, Speech Language Pathology & Deaf Studies will continue to achieve its mission by focusing on the following goals:

**Goal 1- Quality Teaching:** The department's faculty members will excel at teaching pedagogy that provides students with exemplary training in their respective disciplines.

**Strategies**

- Guest presentations on teaching pedagogy once per semester at department meetings.
- Faculty teaching round tables once per semester for sharing ideas and resources.
- Assign senior faculty as teaching mentors for new junior faculty.
- Dissemination of teaching strategies and information through email, web site links, and files on the department SPPA drive.
- Once per semester at department meetings, discuss and review strategies for teaching writing within the curriculum, structuring writing assignments, and grading writing assignments.
- Gather student feedback about the undergraduate SPPA Majors Handbook and revise materials accordingly.
- Improve student performance in premajor science and math classes by referring them to appropriate academic resources (tutoring, help sessions, etc.). Include resource information in the new SPPA Majors Handbook.

**Goal 2 – Quality Curricula:** The department will improve undergraduate and graduate curricula across all degree programs.

**Strategies**

- Analyze undergraduate assessment data collected in 2009-2010 and use the information to plan curriculum changes or modifications.
- Develop a flexible process of standardizing syllabi for courses taught by more than one faculty member: SPPA 101, 416, 417.
- Develop curricula and begin the approval process for a Towson University Interpreter Training Degree within the Deaf Studies program.

- Continue to review all graduate courses in Audiology and Speech Language Pathology for alignment with ASHA KASA guidelines.

**Goal 3- Faculty and Student Diversity:** The department is committed to increasing the diversity of our faculty and students and improving interactions among persons from diverse backgrounds.

**Strategies**

- Offer bi-monthly American Sign Language lessons to faculty and staff who are interested in learning ASL.
- Allow and encourage department faculty and staff to audit ASL classes at Towson University.
- Require administrative staff in the department's Main Office to audit ASL I, or continue training in ASL.
- Explore external funding to encourage students from nearby historically black colleges to attend Towson University graduate programs in speech language pathology and/or audiology.
- Continue community outreach/career awareness day participation in Baltimore City Schools and After School Programs to recruit a diverse body of students into the profession.
- Promote awareness of the SPPA major among all CHP undergraduates through targeted recruitment emails.

**Goal 4- Recognized and Respected Faculty and Student Scholarship:** The department's faculty will engage in scholarship endeavors that provide new insights and answers for all three disciplines and are disseminated nationally and internationally.

**Strategies**

- Assign research mentors for new faculty members.
- Explore grants to increase the number of research assistants assigned to faculty.
- Include undergraduate and graduate students in faculty research through independent study, thesis, and other mechanisms.
- Develop a web site with faculty research initiatives to recruit subjects.
- Develop new research labs for faculty across all disciplines.

**Goal 5 – Outreach to the Community, Region, and State:** The department will expand outreach efforts to the community.

**Strategies**

- Continue professional outreach through sponsored conferences, events, and continuing education opportunities.

- Continue providing services to the community in the Speech, Language Hearing Center.
- Student groups will engage with the community through service learning activities.
- Provide faculty and student outreach programs to Baltimore's Cherry Hill Community .
- Develop service learning and community-based projects within existing undergraduate and/or graduate courses.