

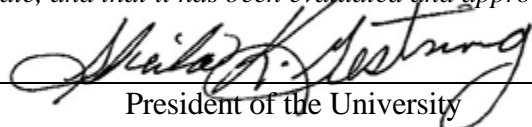


SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS
Institutional Program Review
Report to the Board of Regents

UNIVERSITY:	USD
DEPARTMENT OR SCHOOL:	Communication Sciences and Disorders- SLP and Audiology
PROGRAM REVIEWED:	September 18-19, 2017
DATE OF REVIEW:	2/24/2018
TYPE OF REVIEW:	Specialized Program Accreditation Review

University Approval

To the Board of Regents and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this report, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.



 President of the University

 5/7/2019
 Date

1. Identify the program reviewers and any external accrediting body:

External accrediting body: Council on Academic Accreditation (CAA), Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology

The members of the program review committee were: Robert F. Orlikoff, Tammy Fredrickson, Judith Blaine, Gretchen Alece Magee, Mary Sue Fino-Szumski

2. Items A & B should address the following issues: mission centrality, program quality, cost, program productivity, plans for the future, and assessment of progress.

2(A). Describe the strengths and weaknesses identified by the reviewers

Strengths:

- 1) The audiology and speech-language-pathology programs' long-term strategic plan is congruent with the mission and goals of the program and the sponsoring institution, is supported by the administration, and reflects the role of the program within its community.
- 2) All individuals providing didactic and clinical education, both on-site and off-site, have appropriate experience and qualifications for the professional area in which education is provided. The faculty possess appropriate qualifications and expertise to provide the depth and breadth of instruction for the curriculum as specified in Standard 3 for audiology and speech-language pathology.
- 3) The program is offered in high-quality learning environments that are learner centered, knowledge and skill centered, and assessment centered. Opportunities are offered to qualify for state and national credentials that are required for entry into independent professional practice that are consistent with the program mission and goals.

Weaknesses:

- 1) An initial concern raised by the CAA was that “the programs indicate that faculty and staff do not evaluate the program director/chair of the program at this time; however, the programs report to change this in the future,” requesting that the site visit team “provide an update on progress made to ensure faculty and staff evaluate the program director.” Based on interviews with the department chair and university administrators, the site visitors were able to verify that a procedure for faculty evaluation of the program director was being developed, but no timeline for implementation was provided. It was also unclear how the results of the faculty/staff evaluations would be used in administrative decision making.
- 2) The programs’ facilities have been evaluated and the program includes access, but may not provide accommodations for the needs of individuals with disabilities, in accordance with federal regulations. Noteboom Hall, which houses the Vermillion clinic, has two accessible restrooms, one for men and one for women. However, it was unclear to the site visitors whether these restrooms comply with the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design. In particular, there were concerns about adequate wheelchair turning space in the vicinity of the commode, the height of the sink and commode, the lack of protection from exposed sink drain pipes, and faucet handles that require twisting.

2(B). Briefly summarize the review recommendations

- 1) No areas of non-compliance were noted in the accreditation review process.
- 2) Recommendations from the accreditation review process were continuation of the programs (speech-language pathology and audiology).

2(C). Indicate the present and continuous actions to be taken by the college or department to address the issues raised by the review. What outcomes are anticipated as a result of these actions?

- 1) Subsequent to the program review as part of the CAA’s accreditation review, a procedure for faculty evaluation of the program director has been developed and implemented. An evaluation of the program director by program faculty was conducted during the 2017-2018 academic year.
- 2) The department will continue to offer an outstanding program of study and clinical experience to the students in the department’s academic programs.