

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, HAYWARD

DESIGNATION CODE: 98-99 CAPR 9

DATE SUBMITTED: May 13, 1999

TO: The Academic Senate

FROM: The Committee on Academic Planning and Resources

SUBJECT: Five-year Program Review for the Department of Communicative Sciences and Disorders (Speech Pathology and Audiology Program)

ACTION

REQUESTED: That the Academic Senate approve the CAPR Program Review of the Department of Communicative Sciences and Disorders

BACKGROUND: On April 1, 1999, CAPR met with Professor Jan Avent, Chair of the Department, to discuss the Program Review. As is the option for departments undergoing program reviews, a department may elect to respond to an accreditation report rather than an outside reviewer. In 1996, the department completed an extensive reaccreditation application through the Council on Academic Accreditation for the American Speech-Learning-Hearing Association (ASHA). In May of 1997, a site visit team, composed of Dr. Barbara Bain and Dr. Rosalind Scudder from ASHA and Marlowe Fischer from the Commission of Teacher Credentialing, evaluated the department. Their report, along with a required annual report and the department's response, comprised the five year program review submitted to CAPR.

PROGRAM REVIEW: The site accreditation team suggested that the curriculum be revised so that undergraduate electives were either required by the graduate program or required by the bachelor program. They were referring to SPPA 4853 (Vocal Pathology and Rehabilitation, SPPA 4862 (Orofacial Anomalies), SPPA 4864 (Fluency Dysfunction) and SPPA 4866 (Aphasia in Adults). All four of these courses are required for certification and state licensure, but are currently not required for obtaining an undergraduate or graduate degree in Speech Pathology and Audiology. To do so would increase the number of units for a graduate degree from 45 to 61 units and change these classes to graduate level courses. As it would not be advantageous to require these courses in the undergraduate curriculum (ASHA, the national accreditation organization, has a cap on the number of "disorder" courses that can be taken as an undergraduate and still receive certification), the department has chosen to keep these courses as electives. By keeping these courses as electives, it has allowed flexibility in graduating a few students, both undergraduate and graduate, who want the degree but no certification or license.

A recommendation to make current graduate "electives" part of the graduate curriculum (courses for augmentative and alternative communication, right hemisphere disorders and dysphasia) was whole-heartedly accepted by the department, since augmentative and alternative communication (ACC) competency is now required for a school credential. A more likely challenge for the department will be to obtain the sufficient faculty allocations to offer electives: those classes that are not required for certification, licensure or school credential, and serve to enhance the quality of the program. This summer (1999), the plan is to offer ACC in SPPA 6040. The department

sought and received a \$5100 award from ALSS and the Provost to build an AAC lab to establish student competencies in this content area. In addition, a new tenure track hire in the area of audiology will allow Pediatric Audiology to be added to the curriculum.

Faculty staffing is receiving strong support with two recent hires, one replacing the recently retired Dr. Rob Veder. However, the site team did feel that the limited space is a severe problem. Clinical space is well utilized but current facilities provide the program with no room to expand clinic services such as the Aphasiology program. Faculty offices were assessed as small. Though some progress has been made, thanks to collegial efforts with William Wohlmacher, Chair of Music, the problems remain acute. (1) Most of the faculty offices are converted music practice rooms and they are very small. (2) Encroachment for access to MB 1592 from other schools and departments for classroom space has occurred every quarter this year. (3) The department has been unable to locate office space for its newest faculty. (4) Students rightly claim that they have no space to prepare for their clinical practicums, store their materials, view confidential client videotapes, and write their private and confidential treatment notes following a session. And lastly, (5) the department secretary's office is located in the clinic, resulting in constant interruptions to take care of clinic business.

In summation, CAPR feels the Department of communicative Sciences and Disorders (Speech Pathology and Audiology Program) is a very healthy, growing program and should be continued without modification.