

### **UH COMD Strategic Plan Executive Summary**

The strategic plan for the University of Houston Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders (UH COMD) is based on periodic self-study by the department, and alignment with the strategic initiatives of the University of Houston and in keeping with current needs of the discipline.

UH COMD has identified seven strategic principles that align with the strategic initiatives of the University of Houston:

**1: Institutional Excellence:** The UH Dept. of ComD will continue to strive for academic excellence in all undergraduate, post-baccalaureate and graduate programs, as well as in research and public service.

**2: Student Access:** The UH Dept. of ComD will continue to provide broad access to educational opportunities for qualified prospective regional, national and international students.

**3: Research:** The UH Dept. of ComD will continue to strive to create and disseminate new knowledge, enriching the educational experience of students in all ComD programs.

**4: External Partnerships:** The UH Dept. of ComD will continue to maintain existing community partnerships, and develop new partnerships to help meet the communication needs of the community while providing students with a wide range of excellent educational, professional, and research experiences.

**5: Faculty and Staff Recruitment and Retention:** The UH Dept. of ComD will continue to strive to support faculty and staff by providing them with support for their work and access to career opportunities that are competitive with those at other universities.

**6: Accountability and Administrative Efficiency:** The UH Dept. of ComD will continue to strive to be accountable for student learning and for the effective use of resources.

Based on these strategic principles, the following program goals for UH COMD have been developed. Each of these program goals has a number of sub goals with action steps and a timeline, designed to contribute toward achieving these program goals. These strategic principles, program goals and sub goals with action constitute the full strategic plan for the program.

**Program Goals for ComD:**

1. Undergraduate Program: To provide excellent preparation for advanced education yielding undergraduate students who are competitive and successful
2. Graduate Program: To provide the highest quality instruction, laboratory experiences and clinical practica to prepare students to function competently as speech-language pathologists in all professional settings and to pursue a terminal degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders or related fields
3. Doctoral Program: To provide the highest quality instruction, research experience, and relevant clinical mentoring to prepare students for research, academic, and advanced clinical positions.
4. Research and Scholarship: To contribute to the discipline with new knowledge and promote excellence within the context of basic and applied research and scholarship
5. Clinical Services/Community Engagement: To provide high quality speech, language and hearing services on the University of Houston campus and at community outreach centers to individuals of all cultures, ages, and abilities and be a resource for the community
6. Facilities and Resources: UH ComD will have the highest possible quality resources and facilities to satisfy the mission and goals of the department and meet the standards established by our accrediting agencies (SACS and CAA)