

# **Brescia University**

## **Graduate Program in Speech-Language Pathology**

### **Strategic Plan Report**

### **Three Year Summary**

#### **Executive Summary**

Academic Years: 2021-2022, 2022-2023, 2023-2024

Date of Report: Fall 2024

#### **Preamble:**

The Fall 2021 semester was the launch of the graduate program in Speech-Language Pathology at Brescia University. During the first year, there was a full-time graduate Program Director, a contracted Clinical Practicum Coordinator, and adjunct faculty.

During year two of the program (2022-2023), staffing of the program included the full-time Program Director, and the full-time Clinical Practicum Coordinator, along with adjuncts.

During year three of the program (2023-2024), staffing of the program included a full-time Program Director, a full-time Clinical Practicum Coordinator, three half-time faculty members, and adjuncts. Another full-time faculty member joined the faculty in January of 2024. Student enrollment grew in the 2023-2024 academic year resulting in two sections of courses for year one students.

During year four of the program (2024-2025), strong student enrollment continued. Two sections of courses were offered. Staffing included the full-time Program Director, full-time Practicum Coordinator, a full-time Assistant Practicum Coordinator, two half-time teaching faculty members, and one full-time teaching faculty member. Another full-time faculty hire is planned for the 2024-2025 academic year.

Eighteen students in cohort one graduated in May of 2023.

Six students in cohort two graduated in May of 2024.

An estimated 32 students will graduate in May of 2025.

#### **Three Strategic Initiatives:**

- I. Establishing and building academic excellence within the faculty and curriculum.
- II. Establishing and building moral excellence within the program's community and culture, and emanating those traits to the community at-large.

- III. Identifying and embracing opportunities, experiences, and ideas that will help the program improve and grow.

Strategic Initiative I. Academic Excellence: Specific Measurable Objectives:

1. Program faculty will complete at least three pedagogy enrichment activities per academic year including: a formal, focused faculty group pedagogy discussion session at least once per academic year, a pedagogy training offered through the University, and a pedagogy Participation in pedagogy trainings occurs based on employee contract requirements and faculty attendance/participation in external trainings. Faculty pedagogy discussions can be strengthened in the future by incorporating SLP faculty-led training and discussions during virtual SLP faculty retreat time once per year.
2. Program faculty will complete at least one training per year in an ASHA big nine content area to strengthen their knowledge and skills within a course they teach or plan to teach.
3. Program faculty will meet monthly as a committee and have standing items on the agenda for collecting data on progress related to the strategic plan, input on the strategic plan itself, and input on the curriculum.
4. Administrators, faculty, and students will engage in communication that is open, transparent, and preventative within courses and within the Program itself in order to maximize success within the program as a whole.

***Three Year Summary/Conclusion:*** There is strong evidence of faculty follow through on trainings and course development. There is strong evidence of faculty communication regarding the strategic plan, the curriculum, and communication regarding student success and program success. Faculty have been active with in-person and virtual trainings hosted through Brescia, CAPCSD, the CAPCSD convention, the ASHA national convention, the KSHA state convention, and other external sources.

Strategic Initiative II. Moral Excellence: Specific Measurable Objectives:

1. Program faculty will schedule and complete an annual faculty retreat (data day) to build a sense of community and to allow for reflection among program faculty.

***Three Year Summary/Conclusions:*** Due to program growth and changes in staffing over the years, data was shared via faculty meetings. A virtual faculty retreat is planned for January of 2025.

Strategic Initiative III. Growth: Specific Measurable Objectives:

1. Program faculty will identify and utilize resources within Brescia to maximize academic and moral excellence within the Program.
2. Program faculty will identify and utilize resources external to Brescia to maximize academic and moral excellence within the Program.
3. Program faculty will identify needs beyond available resources that are desired/needed for faculty and student growth and advocate for those resources in order to achieve academic and moral excellence.

***Three Year Summary/Conclusions:***

Noted growth in program resources included substantial hiring of faculty and staff. This included the hiring of a full-time administrative assistant for the program, hiring of half-time and full-time remote faculty, and planned future hiring for the 2024-2025 academic year.

Growth in excellence was completed via guest lectures in courses, guest lectures for the program and University at large (hosted by the SLP Program), panel presentations given by recent graduates, Caritas trainings, and student travel to state and national conferences.