

Vision

The Department of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences (SLHS) at Indiana University is a multi-faceted program with a focus on research, clinical and undergraduate education, and service to the professional community. We conduct research in basic and applied science, while training students in the liberal arts and clinical professions. In summary, the vision of SLHS covers the following areas:

1. Enhance research
2. Provide a diverse educational view to our students
3. Collaborate within and outside the department
4. Increase departmental inclusion and belonging

Mission

The mission of SLHS is to serve the community by advancing innovative basic and applied research in communication sciences and disorders for the purpose of knowledge acquisition, student education, professional training, and clinical practice.

Program Goals

The goals of our programs are multi-fold:

To advance basic, clinical, and translational research

To educate students about the speech, language, and auditory systems, the disorders associated with these systems, and the clinical tools used to treat these disorders.

To educate students to apply critical thinking, evidence-based practice, and foundational knowledge in their clinical or scientific practice.

To educate students about Deaf culture and teach American Sign Language.

To serve the community through the provision of clinical services, expertise, and outreach.

Focus area 1: Research

Goal: All academic faculty within SLHS will have highly active research programs that result in impactful scientific discoveries and training for the next generation of researchers. This goal aligns with the Transformative Research and Creativity pillar (Goals 1 and 3) in the IUB 2030 plan.

Objective A: Increase the number of publications, grant submissions to intra- and extra-mural sources, and number of faculty holding federal grants as PI or co-PI.

Objective B: Reduce barriers to participant recruitment with young adults and with individuals with communication disorders to facilitate success in student and faculty research.

Focus area 2: Education

Goal: SLHS will provide an exceptional academic experience for undergraduates and graduates who engage with our department. This goal aligns with the Student Success and Opportunity Pillar (Goals 1 and 2) and the Service to our State and Beyond (Goal 3) in the IUB 2030 plan.

Objective A: Develop new courses and degree options to better serve student’s career needs.

Objective B: Increase clarity and transparency of degree requirements, expectations, and timelines.

Objective C: Increase the number of high-quality students applying to and matriculating into our graduate programs, with a focus on the AuD and PhD program.

Objective D: Secure a training grant from the NIH to support training for PhD students and our research mission.

Focus area 3: Collaboration and outreach

Goal: SLHS will collaborate with communities in Indiana and with other units on campus to improve health outcomes for members of our community. This goal aligns with the Service to our State and Beyond pillar (Goal 2) in the IUB 2030 plan.

Objective A: Outreach efforts to the community will be coordinated within the department with the goal of promoting our clinical services and increasing pools of research participants.

Objective B: Expand collaboration with other academic units and community partners.

Objective C: Develop structures that ensure SLHS students gain experience in ASL and knowledge of Deaf culture.

Focus area 4: Inclusion and belonging

Goal: SLHS will foster an inclusive student community that stimulates a strong sense of belonging and well-being. This goal aligns with the Student Success and Opportunity Pillar (Goal 3) in the IUB 2030 plan.

Objective A: Establish a presence on the main campus where students and faculty can conduct research, attend colloquia and other research presentations, and informally meet with one another and with SLHS faculty.

Objective B: Build student resilience and involvement in the program/community to increase student sense of wellbeing and ability to face adversity.

Objective C: Create an inclusive culture in which students, faculty, and staff have opportunities to interact socially and there are venues to recognize and celebrate achievements.