Executive Summary: CDS Strategic Plan 2017-2022

Guided by the Mission and Vision of the Department of Communication Disorders and Sciences, the development of which was directly informed by the Mission and Vision Statements of Rush University Medical Center, Rush University, and the College of Health Sciences, the CDS Strategic Plan builds on our legacy to provide outstanding graduate education in audiology and speech-language pathology. A department-wide effort was used to create this Strategic Plan and will be required to achieve full implementation. Using a bottom-up approach, strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats were identified to guide us in developing goals that would allow us to achieve our Vision.

Successful implementation of the Strategic Plan requires the energy, creativity, and commitment of the CDS faculty. Through consistent oversight of the Plan and an unwavering commitment to the strategic goals outlined in this plan, CDS will achieve our Vision of being recognized as offering the programs of choice for graduate education in audiology and speech-language pathology. An executive summary of the Strategic Plan follows.

Rush University Medical Center (RUMC) Mission Statement: The mission of Rush is to improve the health of the individuals and diverse communities we serve through the integration of outstanding patient care, education, research and community partnerships.

Rush University Medical Center (RUMC) Vision Statement: Rush will be the leading academic health system in the region and nationally recognized for transforming health care.

Rush University (RU) Mission Statement: Rush University provides outstanding health sciences education and conducts impactful research in a culture of inclusion, focused on the promotion and preservation of the health and well-being of our diverse communities.

Rush University (RU) Vision Statement: The Rush learning community will be the leading health sciences university committed to transforming health care through innovative research and education.

College of Health Sciences (CHS) Mission Statement: The mission of the College of Health Sciences is to advance the quality and availability of health care through excellence in education, research and scholarship, service and patient care. The College promotes the values of diversity, access and inclusion in all of its endeavors.

College of Health Sciences (CHS) Vision Statement: The College of Health Sciences at Rush University will be a world class school of allied health sciences whose programs are recognized as among the best in the United States.

Department of Communication Disorders and Sciences Mission Statement: The Department of Communication Disorders and Sciences at Rush University Medical Center integrates outstanding graduate education, superior patient care, excellence in research and scholarship, and service to diverse communities.

Department of Communication Disorders and Sciences Vision Statement: The clinical and graduate education programs of the Department of Communication Disorders and Sciences will be recognized as among the best in the United States.

Core Values: Innovation, Collaboration, Accountability, Respect, Excellence (ICARE)

Updated November 2020
**Overarching Goal:** Advancing excellence and education through outreach.

**Strategic Goal 1:** To advance Excellence and Education, the department will enhance and increase clinical education opportunities for students.

**Objective 1:** To enhance relationships with the Rush SLP Clinic by increasing 50% of the academic appointment in CDS of Rush clinical supervisors by 2022.

**Objective 2:** To create a Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Student Community Outreach Program of Excellence (SCOPE) by 2021.

**Objective 3:** Build up an infrastructure for demonstrating evidence-based clinical practice through the Rush Teacher-Practitioner Model by 2021 in the renewed clinical environment.

**Strategic Goal 2:** To advance Excellence and Education, the department will increase educational reach to broader communities through multiple modalities.

**Objective 1:** To design online continuing education courses in audiology and speech-language pathology by 2022.

**Objective 2:** To become a major sponsor for a national or international novel conference in Audiology by 2022.

**Objective 3:** To establish two clinical instrumental training programs for practicing Speech-Language Pathologists by 2022.