

## UH COMD Strategic Plan, Executive Summary (February 2021)

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.

We have identified seven strategic principles for UH COMD, which are listed below. Based on these strategic principles, program goals, also listed below, have been developed, designed to support these principles. These program goals and the strategic principles, on which they are based, constitute the strategic plan for the department.

### Strategic Plan

#### **University of Houston Mission:**

The mission of the University of Houston is to discover and disseminate knowledge through the education of a diverse population of traditional and non-traditional students, and through research, artistic and scholarly endeavors, as it becomes the nation's premier public university in an urban setting. In this role, the University of Houston applies its expertise to the challenges facing the local, state, national and international communities, and it establishes and nurtures relationships with the community organizations, government agencies, public schools and the private sector to enhance the educational, economic and cultural vitality of Houston and Texas.

#### **UH College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences:**

The College's goal is to stimulate and expand students' cultural, mental and physical explorations through rich course offerings, study abroad programs, and campus events. We encourage students to delve into the questions of life while building critical and analytical skills that animate professions and launch successful careers.

#### **UH Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders (COMD) Mission:**

The mission of the Program in Communication Sciences and Disorders at the University of Houston is to advance the understanding of typical and disordered speech, language, swallowing, and hearing and increase access to efficient communication through excellence in teaching, scholarship and service to the community.

**Strategic Principles for UH COMD:** In accordance with the department mission, and the mission and the strategic principles established by the University of Houston and the UH System Board of Regents, the strategic plan for the University of Houston Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders (UH COMD) consists of the following strategic principles:

**Strategic Principle 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.

**Strategic Principle 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.

**Strategic Principle 3: Diversity**

The UH Dept. of COMD will continue to strive to be inclusive and welcoming in order to recruit, retain, and support a student body, faculty and staff that reflects the diversity of the city of Houston.

**Strategic Principle 4: Research**

The UH Dept. of COMD will continue to strive to create and disseminate new knowledge, train the next generation of scholars, and enrich the educational experience of students in all COMD programs.

**Strategic Principle 5: 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.

**Strategic Principle 6: Faculty and Staff Recruitment and Retention**

The UH Dept. of COMD will continue to strive to support faculty and staff by providing a supportive environment with autonomy, opportunities to use their strengths to benefit the department, access to resources and support for development of professional skills, and a base from which to reach national and international recognition.

**Strategic Principle 7: 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.