CSDI Mission statement

The mission of the department of communication sciences and disorders is to educate students toward the improvement of the quality of human communication. We will accomplish our mission through leadership, excellence, and innovation in;

1) delivering baccalaureate, master's, doctoral and continuing education;
2) providing and participating in professional and clinical service;
3) conducting basic, clinical and applied research in communication sciences and disorders.
4) Entrepreneurship and economic development.

ECU’s Strategic Action Plan 2010-2014

Strategic Direction I  Education for a New Century
ECU will prepare our students to compete and succeed in a global economy.

Strategic Direction II  The Leadership University
ECU will distinguish itself by the ability to train and prepare leaders.

Strategic Direction III Health, Health Care, and Medical Innovation
ECU will serve as a national model for public service and regional transformation by saving lives, curing diseases, and positively transforming health and health care.

Strategic Direction IV Economic Prosperity in the East
ECU will serve as a national model for public service and regional transformation by creating a strong, sustainable future for Eastern North Carolina through education, research, innovation, investment, and outreach.

Strategic Direction V The Arts, Culture, and Quality of Life
ECU will provide world-class entertainment and powerful inspiration as we work together to sustain and improve the community’s quality of life.

ECU’s Strategic Action Plan 2010-2014, Approved 07.13.2010

Strategic Direction I  Education for a New Century

ECU will prepare our students to compete and succeed in a global economy.

Showcase the global competitiveness of our students and our institution by meeting head on the challenges of an increasingly global, culturally diverse, and rapidly changing society.

- Advance global awareness through the internationalization of premier curriculum, programs, students, staff, and faculty.
  
  **CSDI will encourage participation/provide opportunities for students/faculty to attend national and international conferences in the field (e.g., the ASHA Convention, the International Child Phonology Conference, etc.).**

- Leverage our global profile to extend partnerships with international universities.
  
  **CSDI will establish international academic collaboration.**
  **CSDI will establish international research collaboration.**

- Empower our future leaders to succeed by offering experiences that enlighten and nurture an understanding of diverse cultures.
  
  **CSDI will foster an understanding of diversity through the Multicultural Issues course & an integration of diversity issues throughout the curriculum.**

  **CSDI will explore opportunities for international clinical placements.**

- Excel in the development and implementation of holistic approaches to learning that advance the cultural competence of our students.

- Incorporate global awareness into the Foundations curriculum and encourage integration into all majors.

- Graduate students who are proficient in information technology appropriate for their discipline.

Prepare students to define and achieve successful civic, professional, and personal lives.
• Prepare students with an understanding of the variety of disciplinary perspectives that form the core knowledge base upon which all other scholarship is grounded.
• Equip students with a strong foundation in the liberal arts as essential for intellectual growth and lifelong learning.
  CSDI will increase science, math and writing requirements at the undergraduate level.
• Develop each student’s ability to locate, evaluate and communicate knowledge; to make informed decisions; and to recognize the ethical dimensions of decisions.

Advance the frontiers of knowledge through investment in basic, applied, and pedagogical research and scholarship.
• Increase research, scholarship, and funding opportunities available to undergraduate and graduate students.
  CSDI will increase the number of research grant submissions.
  CSDI will increase funds obtained from external research granting agencies.
  CSDI will increase multidisciplinary research.
  CSDI will increase mentoring of scholarly activity with junior faculty.
• Substantially increase support for research and graduate programs that are tied to UNC-GA’s and ECU’s highest priorities, among them STEM.
  CSDI will explore interdisciplinary opportunities with the STEM disciplines
• Increase external funding to support research that addresses North Carolina’s PK-16 challenges.
• Accelerate our efforts to create an environment that is conducive to conducting research.
  CSDI will cooperatively establish a core group of multidisciplinary scientists to plan/organize a structure for developing a Health Sciences Research Institute to be supported with both internal and external research funds.
  CSDI will increase undergraduate research experiences w/in CSDI.
  CSDI will maintain clinical scholars program.

• Cultivate a vibrant campus that ensures student access and success in undergraduate and graduate education.
• Enhance the transition for high school, transfer, non-traditional and community college transfer students.
• Pursue a more aggressive and integrated approach to increasing the number of students who persist through key academic thresholds.
• Lead the State in efforts to define, enhance and expand the delivery of distance education programs in focused areas.
  
  **CSDI will with resource support expand opportunities to access online education.**
• Maintain access to high-quality, affordable education by increasing the number and expanding the types of financial aid/scholarship opportunities.
• Increase the number of students who enter and succeed in the science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM), and health science disciplines.
• Sustain our commitment to attracting and retaining excellent faculty, staff, administrators, and students.
  
  **CSDI will offer departmental section of University 1000**

**CSDI will increase involvement with the Honors and University Scholars programs.**

• Promote student excellence through the integration of academic, co-curricular and extra-curricular student living and learning experiences.
• Continue to support and promote our graduate programs.

**Lead the development of a national model for attracting and preparing quality teachers to address PK-12 challenges.**

• Increase the number of outstanding teachers who are prepared to teach in North Carolina schools.
• Work collaboratively to develop and implement strategies to increase the number of teaching graduates concentrating in the STEM disciplines.
• Support graduate education and professional development opportunities for PK-16 personnel.
  
  **CSDI will develop internal and external collaborative partnerships w/ educational constituents.**

**Strategic Direction II  The Leadership University**

  **ECU will distinguish itself by the ability to train and prepare leaders.**

**Unify and intensify our pre-eminence in student leadership development.**
• Define and develop opportunities to enhance the discovery and practice of leadership.

  CSDI will collaborate with the National Student Speech-Language & Hearing Association chapter and CAHS initiatives to develop student leadership.

• Transform leadership training by preparing opportunities that align to the values of our university.
• Build upon ECU’s engagement mission to develop student leaders who serve their communities.

  CSDI will develop departmental mechanism for regular recognition of excellence.

Empower students to lead in the 21st Century as modeled in ECU’s Integrated Leadership Framework.

• Offer effective leadership training through the implementation of ECU’s leadership framework.
• Infuse all aspects of the student experience with opportunities for leadership development.

Enhance collaboration in Eastern NC by facilitating, inspiring, and influencing positive change.

• Extend leadership development activities to support rural communities and underserved populations.
• Launch mentorship programs aligned to our established leadership development outcomes.

  CSDI will develop a clinical mentorship program between undergraduate majors and master’s students.

• Develop programs to promote the well-being of self and others.

  CSDI will collaborate with the National Student Speech-Language & Hearing Association chapter and CAHS initiatives to develop student leadership.

Gain national recognition for a distinctive and unprecedented approach to leadership development.

• Leverage our Carnegie classification to raise awareness of ECU’s innovative model for leadership and engagement.
• Enhance recognition of those who excel in leadership within their respective area of study, profession, institution, and/or contribution to the community.
CSDI will encourage students to present at conferences and apply for awards, such as ASHA’s student travel award.

Strategic Direction III. Health, Health Care, and Medical Innovation
To serve as a national model for public service and regional transformation by saving lives, curing diseases, and positively transforming health and health care.

- Explore and implement innovative approaches to health and health care research.
- Increase external funding for health related research.  
  CSDI will develop research programs in tele-health.
- Create an approach that integrates basic, clinical, translational, and community based health research. 
  CSDI will develop interdisciplinary (specialized) clinical community based programs that support research outcomes.
- Address health issues that face the region by increasing translational research projects that address established priorities.

Create more effective and equitable systems of delivery to address campus, local, regional, and state health needs.
- Develop a culture of evidence-based strategies that promote healthy environments.  
  CSDI Clinical Leadership will invite departmental faculty to share evidence-based strategies for use in the ECU Speech-Language & Hearing Clinic.

- Maximize collaborative efforts to integrate health promotion and health care.
- Expand access to health services for North Carolinians through innovative service models that address major health disparities.  
  CSDI will develop tele-health services in Speech Language Pathology & Audiology.
  CSDI will improve recruitment of PhD students.

Strengthen academic programs that support health and health sciences.
- Remain responsive to a changing health environment by providing an innovative educational experience for future health providers.
- Expand graduate and post graduate educational programs in health and health care. 
  CSDI will develop an AuD program
  CSDI will develop post doctoral training mechanism.
Maximize the impact of the Academic Health Center in public and private partnerships.

- Ensure quality oral health through innovative dental medicine education.
- Create sustainable partnerships and financial models for medical care services of ECU Physicians.
- Launch a model for inter-professional education in selected health sciences areas.

  **CSDI will develop transdisciplinary academic and clinical opportunities with other disciplines with the Health Sciences Division.**

- Intensify the focus on workforce capacity in Primary care and rural health.

Strategic Direction IV. **Economic Prosperity in the East**

  ECU will serve as a national model for public service and regional transformation by creating a strong, sustainable future for Eastern North Carolina through education, research, innovation, investment, and outreach.

Maximize global opportunities to create a knowledgeable, skilled and adaptable labor force and population.

- Continue to strengthen the foundations curriculum to provide the knowledge and skills needed in the global workplace.
- Enhance the delivery of academic, non-degree and continuing educational opportunities.
- Prioritize and invest in programs that address pressing regional issues.

Lead and foster partnerships that fuel innovation, entrepreneurship, and knowledge transfer throughout the region.

- Enhance support to faculty, staff, and students seeking to discover, develop, transfer and commercialize knowledge.
- Capitalize upon a collaborative culture to identify, recruit, and nurture creative talent and innovators within the region.
- Enhance inter-disciplinary and multi-disciplinary collaborations and partnerships with industry, education, government, and communities.
- Engage in public-private partnerships that are responsive to job creation.
- Strengthen research and creative productivity, the engine for innovation, entrepreneurship, and economic development for the region.
CSDI will continue to develop technology transfer efforts.

Position the region as a magnet for talent, creativity, and investment.
- Foster an environment to attract talent, partners, and investment via the implementation of an East Carolina University Millennial Campus concept.
- Expand our leadership in the development of effective regional marketing.
- Contribute to the celebration of regional creativity, culture, and quality of life.
- Enhance social, environmental and economic vitality by leveraging our core engagement, research, education and outreach enterprises.
- Build upon our longstanding commitment to facilitate and inform productive public discussion on regional issues.
- Recognize and promote the economic impact of athletics in the region.

Strategic Direction V. The Arts, Culture, and Quality of Life

ECU will provide world-class entertainment and powerful inspiration as we work together to sustain and improve the community’s quality of life.

Advance the arts and humanities in supporting a rich and vibrant culture.
- Strengthen regional access to learning opportunities in the arts.
- Present the finest opportunities for students to experience nationally and internationally renowned arts and humanities programs.
- Partner to improve the preparation of PK-12 teachers and support the arts and humanities education in the public schools.

Extend our leadership role in broadening, expanding, and increasing the variety of cultural interests and experiences within the campus and local community.
- Cultivate opportunities for student participation in curricular and extracurricular activities that foster an appreciation for the arts and humanities.
- Enhance the capacity of departments and programs to promote faculty and student creative activity and research.

Transform the lives of individuals and communities by serving as a catalyst for improving quality of life.
- Nurture lifelong partnerships to stimulate the local creative economy.
- Heighten awareness of Greenville’s reputation as a destination for visual and performing arts.
- Increase student involvement in curricular, co-curricular and extra-curricular experiences that highlight the region’s cultural diversity and heritage in the arts.