

Resolution for Approval of a new MA degree in Speech-Language Pathology

WHEREAS, the Delaware Governor's office commissioned task forces in 2008 and 2011 that documented an acute need for additional speech-language pathologists in the state, performed a cost-benefit analysis, and recommended that a master's program in speech-language pathology (required for licensure in all states) should be developed in the College of Health Sciences at the University of Delaware, and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that employment of speech-language pathologists is expected to grow by 23 percent between 2010 and 2020, and

WHEREAS, the Governor's office specifically wishes to know that the University has approved a curriculum for this program before committing the resources necessary to launch it, and

WHEREAS, the College of Health Sciences has brought in several consultants who have gone through the process of establishing master's programs in speech-language pathology to provide expert advice for the development of the proposed curriculum and related budget, and

WHEREAS, the College of Health Sciences will not launch the program in the absence of a commitment of full financial support from the state of Delaware necessary to support the first several years of operation until the program can reasonably become self-sustaining in accordance with budget projections, and

WHEREAS, the proposed program will contribute to the University's "Path to Prominence": to become a premier research and graduate university; be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate recommends provisionally, for five years, the establishment of a new MA program in Speech-Language Pathology, effective September 1, 2016; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this new program shall be launched provided only that full financial support for five years is received from the State of Delaware by June 30, 2014.