The mission of the Department of Speech-Language Pathology is to build community through communication in a responsive and supportive way. We are grounded in providing an innovative curriculum which promotes reflections of one’s own diversity, actions, and empathy to create a climate of shared values and respect with the culturally and linguistically diverse populations that we serve. We actively engage students in highly interactive and safe learning environments to build academic knowledge and develop critical thinking skills to apply to real-world decision making.

Please reinforce the department’s core values in academic and clinical settings.

Faculty Corner

Thank you to Professor Nortz for leading our first Faculty Corner!

The CSUSM Teaching Academy is a year-long series of teaching workshops that aid faculty in redesigning or developing new courses. Faculty must apply and be selected to participate in this process. During our monthly meetings, we examine a variety of topics from teaching philosophy, course design, innovative techniques, and various modes of assessment. Throughout this process we read a variety of articles and then discuss them.

In our latest meeting, we focused on the impact of student fear in the classroom. We discussed the data on how many students are fearful of performing in the classroom due to the fear of failure, judgment from others, competition, being singled out, and being laughed at. A study by Yale University's William F. Buckley Jr. Program found that, "essentially half of college students say they are afraid to speak up when their peers disagree with them" (Carter, 2015). I found this rather alarming, especially teaching a class on cultural issues in schooling. There is a culture of fear, that I didn't know existed to such an extent.

Then as a group we discussed the six ways suggested by Bledsoe & Baskin (2015) to better address student fear in our classrooms:

1. Educate yourself about fear and its impact on students.
2. Recognize that some students fears may be associated with factors outside the classroom.
3. Help students become aware of their feelings of anxiety when they occur.
4. Create a nurturing environment for your students.
5. Be proactive in communicating with students outside the classroom.
6. Be aware of campus resources to help students.

This semester I plan to center a class discussion around fears our students may have and what we can do to make the learning environment a safe place to share, while focusing on growth mindset, "Success is not final, failure is not fatal. It is the courage to continue that counts." –Winston Churchill

It is my hope that the result will be richer in-class discussions, where some of the more "quiet" students begin to open up.
Events

Tue Mar 17th 6:00p.m. – 7:30p.m.
Communicate Less Verbally and More Visually

Bruce Heimbach was in the prime of his professional career as an architect/project manager for a large local construction firm when he unexpectedly suffered a massive stroke. After the stroke, he developed aphasia and was not able to communicate his basic needs and wants. Over time, Heimbach made a remarkable recovery and developed a new outlook on life: “Experience the world more visually and less verbally.”

To Find out more information and to purchase tickets, Click Here or visit https://www.eventbrite.com/e/communicate-less-verbally-and-more-visually-tickets-88950008871

Department of SLP Public Meeting of Accreditation

The Speech-Language Pathology Master of Science program at California State University San Marcos is undergoing its 5-year re-accreditation review by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology of American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (CAA). Please join us and the site visitors for a public meeting Thursday, February 20th, from 4:00-5:00 p.m. in the new Extended Learning Building, Room 470 on the university campus. A copy of the Standards for Accreditation and/or the CAA's Policy on Public Comment may be obtained by contacting the Accreditation Office at ASHA, 220 Research Boulevard, #310, Rockville, Maryland 20850, calling ASHA's Action Center at 1-800-498-2071, or accessing the documents online at http://caa.asha.org/

Photos From Our Alumni Event

On January 22, our alumni received tours of the clinic and simulation theater. It was great to catch-up with alumni and learn how their lives have changed since graduation!