

**DEAF EDUCATION DIVISION  
TACTICAL PLAN,  
(2006-2011)**

**GOAL 1: ACCESS** – Attract and retain qualified students in division programs for professional preparation.

*Objective 1:* Promote interest in the Deaf Education (DE) Graduate Program, and Sign Language Studies/Educational Interpreting (SLS/EI) undergraduate programs as a career choice.

*Strategies:*

- a) Visit sign language classes in area high schools/distribute brochures.
- b) Prepare and distribute brochures on the ISU campus such as the College of Education, Career Fairs, and SLP undergraduate programs (to target those interested in pursuing the oral/auditory approach as a career choice in Deaf Education)
- c) Distribute brochures to colleges and universities having sign language studies programs/Colleges of Education throughout the West.
- d) Development/maintain relationship with transfer advisors at colleges/universities in the West.
- e) Focus particularly on BSU students in ASL courses as “feeder” source to ISU-Boise Center program.

*Objective 2:* Maintain a responsive process for students expressing interest in the Deaf Education Graduate Program, and Sign Language Studies/Educational Interpreting undergraduate programs.

*Strategies:*

- a) Prepare and mail informational materials to those expressing interest in these programs.
- b) Follow up with telephone calls and e-mails to prospective students.
- c) Maintain the web-site with current, user friendly and up-to-date information.
- d) Arrange for individualized site visits/conferences for prospective students.
- e) Facilitate the application and financial aid process.
- f) Fully utilize the Credit by Challenge Examination policy in the Sign Language Studies/Educational Interpreting programs to facilitate students transferring from lower division ITPs.
- g) Maximize use of Stafford Loan cancellation/Western Regional Graduate Program (WRGP) for graduate students and Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) for undergraduate students.

*Objective 3:* Investigate, and if appropriate, implement initiation of the Educational Interpreting and Deaf Education programs to the ISU Boise Center by Fall 2009.

*Strategies:*

- a) In 2006, conduct a thorough review of the advantages and disadvantages of such a move.

- b) By Fall 2008, re-start the B.S. degree in interpreting at the ISU Boise Center with a junior class, and by fall 2009, a junior and senior class.
- c) If determined appropriate, start the first 14 month Deaf Education class at the ISU Boise Center in June 2008.

**GOAL 2: LEARNING** – Provide effective and efficient learning for pre-service and in-service (Continuing Education) students.

*Objective 1:* Develop/maintain standardized course syllabi that provide comprehensive guidelines for students and faculty within the Deaf Education Division.

*Strategies:*

- a) Program directors will prepare standardized syllabi and make available to program faculty.
- b) Each instructor is responsible for making sure their current syllabi are on file in the CSED office.

*Objective 2:* Develop/maintain clear and consistent written policies for students and faculty within the Deaf Education Division.

*Strategies:*

- a) Distribute current program policy manual each fall to all students.
- b) Program directors will update written policies every fall.
- c) Update web-site as necessary with current program policy manual.

*Objective 3:* Provide an opportunity for Deaf Education Division students to experience regional deaf events and national presenters at ISSI, IRID and at Regional RID meetings.

*Strategies:*

- a) Instructors will inform students about ISSI, IRID and Regional events.
- b) Inform students, involve SLIC, in the February 2007 Deaf Olympics in SLC, UT
- c) The Division will develop innovative ways of funding student participation.

*Objective 4:* Evaluate division curriculum and update as necessary.

*Strategies:*

- a) Division directors will conduct research related to curriculum issues and report back to faculty concerning updates/revisions.
- b) Division directors will work with the KCHP College Curriculum Council to update changes.

*Objective 5:* Improve advising, teaching and learning in the division.

*Strategies:*

- a) Instructors will participate in professional development and mentoring.
- b) Instructors will utilize tools such as WebCT, Center for Teaching and Learning, KCHP workshops to improve.

**GOAL 3: COMMUNITY SERVICE** – Participate in community service in the area of speech, language, hearing, education, and sign language interpreting.

*Objective 1:* Cooperate with community service agencies to promote awareness of deafness, education of students who are deaf and hard of hearing, and sign language interpreting.

*Strategies:*

- a) Work cooperatively with local school districts in promoting sign language instruction classes and in serving students who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- b) Work cooperatively with local health and welfare agencies to train personnel regarding deafness, early intervention with preschool children who are deaf or hard of hearing, and sign language interpreting.
- c) Assist in promoting sign language classes and general awareness in communities in Idaho.
- d) Work cooperatively with agencies to promote all available options/methods of communication

*Objective 2:* Promote membership in professional organizations related to education of the deaf or hard of hearing, sign language studies and interpreting.

*Strategies:*

- a) Encourage student and faculty participation in professional organizations starting with the ISU Sign Language Interpreting Club (SLIC); other organizations including IRID, RID, CIT, ASLTA, CAID and CEC/CED.
- b) Work cooperatively with department chair to secure funding to provide compensation for professional development activities for faculty.

*Objective 3:* Promote division faculty involvement in departmental, KCHP, and ISU committees.

*Strategies:*

- a) Distribute committee assignments appropriately among division faculty.
- b) Represent division interests and report back to division.

*Objective 4:* Provide high quality continuing education to professionals in the intermountain region through the Intermountain Special Study Institute (ISSI) on Deafness.

*Strategies:*

- a) Assign faculty topics for workshop presentations at ISSI.
- b) Contact professionals in the areas of interpreting, deaf education, and American Sign Language for possible presenters at ISSI.
- c) Involve students at all levels in ISSI.

**GOAL 4: INTERPROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY** – Collaborate with departments or professional disciplines related to the education of the deaf and hard of hearing and SLS/EI programs on projects related to teaching, interpreting, and research.

*Objective 1:* Collaborate with ISU's ADA and Disabilities Resource Center for SLS/EI student observations and internships with qualified interpreting staff members.

*Strategies:*

- a) Maintain positive relationships with ISU's ADA Director and Interpreting Staff.
- b) Provide reciprocal training and interpreting services with ISU's ADA and Disabilities Resource Center, and Interpreting Staff.

*Objective 2:* Collaborate with ISU department of Foreign Language to have American Sign Language accepted to fulfill ISU's Goal 10B for GE requirements.

*Strategies:*

- a) Maintain positive relationship and involvement with ISU's Department of Foreign Language concerning decisions made regarding ASL as a fulfillment of Goal 10B.
- b) Seek additional materials and supplies funding, classroom space, and 1.5 FTE faculty to teach additional ASL I-III sections and Labs (two additional ASL I, two additional ASL II and one additional ASL III).

*Objective 3:* Collaborate with the Boise State University (BSU) Modern Language and Literatures Department in providing ASL I – IV classes as well as Gen Ed courses and required CSED course work that will satisfy requirements for an Associate of Science Degree in Sign Language Studies for students on the BSU campus.

*Strategies:*

- a) Visit BSU ASL courses to share career options with students (distribute brochures).
- b) Maintain positive relationship with the Chair of BSU Department of Modern Languages and Literatures and BSU advising office.
- c) Provide CSED 126, 205, 250 and 256 in Boise through WebCT supplemented distance learning (DL) to provide access to an ISU Sign Language Studies degree for BSU students.

**GOAL 5: SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY** - Facilitate and improve faculty and student research and scholarly activity addressing and promoting Deaf Education and Educational Interpreting.

*Objective 1:* Conduct policy research and surveys to support program and grant development.

*Strategies:*

- a) Maintain a continuing program of research to keep abreast of public policy trends in education of students who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- b) Conduct regular surveys and needs assessments in the intermountain region with regard of education of students who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- c) Conduct regular surveys of graduated students from the EI and Deaf Ed Programs to provide feedback on current interpreting/teaching situations and feedback on program assessment.
- d) Solicit feedback from ISSI/Deaf Education Advisory Board.

*Objective 2:* Develop grant proposals/financial aid to fund students in division programs.

*Strategies:*

- a) Develop a grant proposal to fund educational interpreting students.
- b) Develop a grant proposal to fund deaf education students.
- c) Make optimal use of Kasiska scholarships and loan forgiveness programs (Stafford Loan cancellation).

*Objective 3:* Conduct applied research to provide a foundation for better teaching and interpreting services for deaf or hard of hearing students.

*Strategies:*

- a) Develop/maintain a line of applied research related to providing educational interpreting for K-12 students who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- b) Develop/maintain a line of applied research related to teaching speech, language and academic subjects to K-12 students who are deaf or hard of hearing.

**GOAL 6: SUPPORT**– Secure adequate physical, financial, and staffing resources in order to provide appropriate learning environments for visual learners.

*Objective 1:* Obtain three different designated classrooms in Pocatello that will support the unique visual needs of students learning American Sign Language and Interpreting skills.

*Strategies:*

- a) Request more physical space from the KCHP Dean.
- b) Continue to investigate converting the basement of Garrison Hall into classroom/office space for the SLS/EI programs.

*Objective 2:* Obtain two different designated classrooms in the ISU Boise Center that will support the unique visual needs of students learning American Sign Language and Interpreting skills.

*Objective 3:* Add 2 FTE instructor positions in order to add more ASL classes and provide necessary release time for program director (Goal 5, objectives 1-3).

*Strategies:*

- a) Work with the KCHP Dean to secure funding for 1.5 FTE instructor for ASL courses to satisfy Goal 10B.
- b) Request .5 FTE instructor who will take some of the program director's teaching load in order to provide more release time for administration.

*Objective 4:* Add 2 FTE faculty positions for the Boise regular year program (one for fall 2008 and a second for fall 2009 to accommodate first a junior class, then add a senior class).

*Strategies:*

- a) Advise and recruit students from BSU ASL classes. These students would make up the bulk of each class of 10-12 admitted juniors per year.

**GOAL 7: TEACHING** - Support faculty development, faculty recruitment and retention, and improvement of instructional capabilities.

*Objective 1:* Continue our eclectic view of approaches to education of deaf and hard of hearing students and communication modes.

*Strategies:*

- a) Foster and encourage a child and family focus in our programs which encourage family choices.
- b) Maintain a balance in admissions, coursework, and practicum settings.
- c) Maintain a balance in ISSI participants and presentations.

*Objective 2:* Respect each faculty members' and students' views and opinions in regard to approaches and modes.

*Strategies:*

- a) Educate faculty/students on various approaches/modes.
- b) Avoid "disability" feuds and antagonisms, and recognize parameters.

*Objective 3:* Promote membership in professional organizations related to education of the deaf or hard of hearing students, sign language studies and interpreting.

*Strategies:*

- a) Encourage faculty participation in professional organizations such as IRID, RID, CIT, ASLTA, CAID and CEC/CED.
- b) Work cooperatively with department chair to secure funding to provide compensation for membership fees, professional development events, and obtaining advanced degrees.

*Objective 4:* Improve curriculum to include other options of employment for educational interpreters.

*Strategies:*

- a) Investigate Video Relay, technological aid, Cued Speech, Visual Phonics
- b) Expand training to include medical and general freelance interpreting.

**GOAL 8: TECHNOLOGY** – Learn and utilize appropriate technology to be more successful in achieving all Deaf Education Division goals.

*Objective 1:* Upgrade the technology in Pocatello and Boise ASL Laboratories.

*Strategies:*

- a) Investigate options of providing enough equipment to set up 10-15 different "study carrels" for student use, and one "control" station for instructor use.
- b) Secure/increase/use course and student fees to purchase necessary equipment.
- c) Request more physical space from the KCHP Dean.
- d) Take regular inventory of videotape supplies as well as textbook, computer software, etc., and upgrade or change as needed.
- e) Maintain laboratory environment to be ASL-user friendly as well as facilitate equipment care management.

*Objective 2:* Obtain proper space and establish a Lab in the ISU Boise Center facility.

*Objective 3:* Use appropriate technology to improve communication among faculty and students in the division.

*Strategies:*

- a) Use WebCT in class, email/discussion for communication for field observation (470), internship (474) and student teaching (609/610).
- b) Post curricula, policies, procedures, schedules on the CSED website.
- c) Post SLIC news, minutes on Website.
- d) Develop video-relay capability to communicate with Deaf students/faculty.

*Objective 4:* Use WebCT to improve web supplemented and fully online courses in the Deaf Education Division.

*Strategies:*

- a) Utilize ITRC workshops by faculty and students.
- b) Utilize synchronous and asynchronous discussion for online students.
- c) Utilize the “assignment tool” for submission of journals, reports, projects and papers.

*Objective 5:* Incorporate technology that is used in services for deaf or hard of hearing persons into our training programs.

*Objective 6:* Investigate securing a T2 line for better visual signing to distant sites

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