ACCREDITATION ACTION REPORT

Candidacy Application

The Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology took the following accreditation action at its February 19-22, 2020 meeting, as indicated below.

Name of Program: Stony Brook University

File #: 335

Professional Area:

- [ ] Audiology
- [x] Speech-Language Pathology

Modality:

- [x] Residential
- [ ] Distance Education
- [ ] Satellite Campus
- [ ] Contractual Arrangement

Degree Designator(s): M.S.

Action Taken: Award Candidacy

Effective Date: February 22, 2020

Candidacy Accreditation Cycle: February 1, 2020 – January 31, 2025

Next Review: Annual Progress Report due February 1, 2021

Notices: The program is advised to adhere to the following notices that are appended to this report.

- PROGRAM COMPLIANCE EXPECTATIONS
- PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF DECISION AND ACCREDITATION STATUS
The CAA conducted its comprehensive review in the context of the institutional and program mission statements and in consideration of the credentials for which the program is preparing students, and determined that the program demonstrated sufficient compliance with the Standards for Accreditation of Graduate Education Programs in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology, except as noted below.

**Standard 2.3** All faculty members (full-time, part-time, adjuncts), including all individuals providing clinical education, are qualified and competent by virtue of their education, experience, and professional credentials to provide academic and clinical education as assigned by the program leadership.

**Requirement(s) of the Standard to be met:**
- The program must demonstrate that the faculty possess appropriate qualifications and expertise to provide the depth and breadth of instruction for the curriculum as specified in Standard 3.
- The program must demonstrate that the majority of academic content is taught by doctoral faculty who hold the appropriate terminal academic degree (PhD, EdD)

**Compliance Expectation Determined:** Initiated
**Compliance Expectation for Award of Candidacy Status:** Initiated

**Concern:** Site visitors reported that the program director was “confident that once the faculty complement is complete, the faculty will have sufficient qualifications and expertise to cover the breadth and depth of the curriculum.” The program has three searches currently in progress, including two academic positions and the Clinical Educator position, but, at the time of the site visit, none of the other full-time hires had been completed.

**Steps to be taken** At the time of the first annual progress report, please provide an update on the status of the faculty hiring to provide sufficient qualified faculty to teach courses during the first year of the curriculum and the program’s plan for providing qualified instructors should one or more of the searches not be successful.

**Standard 6.4** The program’s equipment and educational and clinical materials are appropriate and sufficient to achieve the program’s mission and goals.

**Requirement(s) of the Standard to be met:**
- The program must demonstrate that the quantity, quality, currency, and accessibility of materials and equipment are sufficient to meet the mission and goals of the program.
- The program must demonstrate that it has a process for reviewing and updating materials and equipment to determine whether the quantity, quality, and currency are sufficient to meet the mission and goals of the program.

**Compliance Expectation Determined:** Planned
**Compliance Expectation for Award of Candidacy Status:** Initiated

**Concern:** The program does not plan to begin acquisition of materials and equipment until
Summer 2020, when it is admitting its first cohort. In its response to the Site Visit Report, the program indicated it had a complete list of anticipated purchases and a phase-in schedule for making the purchases.

**Steps to be taken**: In its first annual progress report, the program should confirm that these purchases have been completed and that the items are in place.

### Standard 6.4 The program's equipment and educational and clinical materials are appropriate and sufficient to achieve the program's mission and goals.

**Requirement(s) of the Standard to be met:**
- The program must demonstrate that the equipment is maintained in good working order.
- The program must demonstrate that any equipment for which there are ANSI or other standards-setting body requirements meets the expectations of the standard(s).

**Compliance Expectation Determined**: Planned  
**Compliance Expectation for Award of Candidacy Status**: Initiated

**Concern**: Currently there are only plans in place to address ongoing maintenance and calibration of equipment.

**Steps to be taken**: In its first progress report, the program should document maintenance and calibration of equipment purchased.

### Standard 6.6 The program has access to clerical and technical staff that is appropriate and sufficient to support the work of the students, faculty, and staff. The access is appropriate and sufficient for the program to meet its mission and goals.

**Requirement(s) of the Standard to be met:**
- The program must demonstrate adequate access to clerical and technical staff to support the work of the students, faculty, and staff.
- The program must demonstrate how access to the clerical and technical staff helps the program meet its mission and goals.

**Compliance Expectation Determined**: Initiated  
**Compliance Expectation for Award of Candidacy Status**: Initiated

**Concern**: The program’s current clerical support is provided by an administrative assistant in the dean’s office, but the program anticipates hiring its own full-time staff assistant during Spring 2020.

**Steps to be taken**: In its first annual progress report, the program should update the status of its clerical staff support and describe how access to that staff support is sufficient to enable the program to meet its mission and goals.
PERFORMANCE WITH RESPECT TO STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

The CAA evaluated this program regarding its performance with respect to student achievement and provides the following report, required as an accrediting agency recognized by the US Secretary of Education [34 CFR 602.17(f)(2)].

Upon award of candidacy status, no students are enrolled in the program; thus student achievement data has not been collected. However, the CAA assessed the program's process for collecting and reporting student achievement data and found the program to meet or exceed the established CAA expectations as described in the Standards Compliance Continuum for Accreditation Standard 5.0 – Assessment.

PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF THIS DECISION AND ACCREDITATION STATUS

The CAA publishes a notice of final accreditation actions on its website after comprehensive reviews are completed in accordance with its published policies. In the event an adverse action is taken and becomes final (i.e., withdrawal or withholding of an accreditation status), the CAA is required to publish a brief statement summarizing the reasons for withholding or withdrawing the accreditation status of a program, together with the comments, if any, that the affected program may wish to make.

The Criteria for Recognition by the U.S. Secretary of Education requires all recognized accrediting agencies to provide for the public correction of incorrect or misleading information an accredited or preaccredited program releases about accreditation or preaccreditation status, contents of site visit reports, and accrediting or preaccrediting actions with respect to the program. [34 CFR 602.23(d) and 602.23(e)] The program must make accurate public disclosure of the accreditation or preaccreditation status awarded to the program, using the language provided in the Accreditation Handbook (see Chapter XII Informing the Public) on the academic accreditation website. If the program chooses to disclose any additional information within the scope of the ED rule, such disclosure also must be accurate. Any public disclosure of information within the scope of the rule must include the CAA’s name, address, and telephone number as described in the Accreditation Handbook. If an institution or program misrepresents or distorts any action by the CAA with respect to any aspect of the accreditation process, its accreditation status, the contents of the site visit report, or final CAA accreditation actions or decisions, the CAA will inform the chief executive officer of the institution and the program director that corrective action must be taken. If corrective action is not taken, the CAA will release a public statement that provides correct information and may invoke other sanctions as may be appropriate.