



University of Toronto

OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT AND PROVOST

TO: Academic Policy and Programs

SPONSOR: Vivek Goel

CONTACT INFO: provost@utoronto.ca

DATE: March 24, 2004 for the meeting on May 12, 2004

AGENDA ITEM: 7

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

School of Graduate Studies: Proposal for the Department of Speech-Language Pathology to change the admission requirements to the Master of Science degree program.

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

The Committee has authority to approve minor changes to admission policies and practices of individual programs.

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

HIGHLIGHTS:

The proposed change results in eliminating the current distinction between candidates to the degree program entering either with or without a background in Speech-Language Pathology. This change would make all candidates for the M.Sc. degree (with thesis) equal so that all entrants will be required to complete a one-year residency.

FINANCIAL AND/OR PLANNING IMPLICATIONS:

There are no new/additional financial resources required to implement the program change. The changes to the programs are planned to be included into the SGS Calendar for 2004-2005.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs approve:

THAT the proposal for the Department of Speech-Language Pathology to change the admission requirements to the M.Sc. degree program, as specified in the attached letter from the School of Graduate Studies dated March 15, 2004.



School of Graduate Studies

University of Toronto

April 15, 2004

Professor Vivek Goel
Interim Vice-President and Provost
Room 225, Simcoe Hall
27 King's College Circle
University of Toronto

Dear Professor Goel:

With respect to my original letter of March 15, 2004, I am writing to confirm that SGS Council approved the following motion at its meeting of March 23, 2004:

THAT SGS Council approve the proposal of the Department of Speech-Language Pathology to change the admission requirements to the Master of Science degree program, as specified in the attachment, effective September 2005.

The motion and supporting documentation were attached with the letter of March 15, 2004.

Mr. Andrew Drummond, Secretary to the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs, has informed my office that the item will appear on the agenda of the May 12 meeting of AP&P, for approval.

Yours sincerely,

Jane Alderdice
Secretary to SGS Council
and Coordinator of Policy, Program and Liaison

/smr

c.c.	T. Chan	U. De Boni
	L. De Nil	A. Drummond
	C. Johnston	L. Yee
	S. Zaky	

H:Council/FollowUp/2003-2004/March 23/Speech-Language Pathology Admission Requirement



School of Graduate Studies

University of Toronto

March 15, 2004

Professor Vivek Goel
Interim Vice-President and Provost
Room 225, Simcoe Hall
27 King's College Circle
University of Toronto

Dear Professor Goel:

The following motion is on the agenda of the upcoming March 23, 2004 SGS Council meeting:

THAT SGS Council approve the proposal of the Department of Speech-Language Pathology to change the admission requirements to the Master of Science degree program, as specified in the attachment, effective September 2005.

The motion and supporting documentation are attached. Division IV Executive Committee approved the proposal at its meeting of March 2, 2004.

We will confirm this approval on March 24, after the SGS Council meeting. In the meantime, we hope you are able to place this item on the agenda of the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs meeting scheduled for March 31. Approval of the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs will permit inclusion of this new information into the SGS Calendar for 2004-2005. Please let me know if you require any further information.

On behalf of the Council of the School of Graduate Studies and pending SGS approval, I am presenting this item to Governing Council committees, for information or approval, as appropriate.

Yours sincerely,

per Jane Alderdice
Secretary to SGS Council
and Coordinator of Policy, Program and Liaison

Encl.
/smr

c.c.	T. Chan	U. De Boni
	L. De Nil	A. Drummond (with attachments)
	C. Johnston	L. Yee
	S. Zaky (with attachments)	

H:\Council\FollowUp\2003-2004\March 23\Speech-Language Pathology Admission Requirement

Motion

School of Graduate Studies Council Tuesday, March 23, 2004

Item 8.

8. Admission Requirement Changes:

8.2: Speech-Language Pathology

MOTION (/) THAT SGS Council approve the proposal of the Department of Speech-Language Pathology to change the admission requirements to the Master of Science degree program, as specified in the attachment, effective September 2005.

See attached.

NOTE:

Division IV Executive Committee approved the proposal at its meeting of March 2, 2004.

With SGS Council approval, this item will go to Governing Council committees for information or approval as appropriate.

Department of Speech-Language Pathology



**UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF MEDICINE**

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Memorandum

Date: February 26, 2004

Re: Calendar Change: Deletion of requirements for candidates without a background in Speech-Language Pathology

To: Division IV Executive

From: Luigi Girolametto, Coordinator of Graduate Studies, Speech-Language Pathology

The Graduate Department of Speech-Language Pathology is proposing a change to admission requirements to the Masters of Science (with thesis) degree.

When we set up our Master's of Science Degree Program (with thesis) it was anticipated that candidates without a background in Speech-Language Pathology should be required to complete a two-year residency. Those with a background complete a one-year residency.

Their course work includes prerequisites from Year 1 of the professional master's degree program (decided by supervisory committee). In the second year of residency, students complete the full requirements of the Master's of Science Program (i.e., two full courses, attendance at research work groups, thesis).

The department is proposing that we drop the distinction between candidates with and without a background in Speech-Language Pathology because (a) it is unattractive to potential applicants, (b) the extra course work makes it a very intensive master's degree program, (c) the current faculty do not believe it's necessary to require applicants without a background in Speech-Language Pathology to take professional degree courses because they are not able to practice as professionals anyway.

This change would make all candidates for the Master's of Science degree (with thesis) equal.

Graduate Faculty

I Members

1. M. Al-J, BSc, MA, PhD
2. Bressmann, MA, PhD
3. De Nil, MSc, PhD
4. Diament, MDCM, FRCPC (Coordinator of Graduate Studies)
5. Girolametto, BA, MSc, PhD
6. Hyde, BSc, PhD
7. Johnson, BS, MS, MA, PhD
8. O'Keefe, BS, MS, PhD
9. Fochort, BA, MSc, PhD
10. Smyth, BA, MSc, PhD
11. Square, BSc, MA, PhD
12. Stewart, BSc, MSc, PhD
13. H. van Liesthout, PhD

Associate Members

1. Estabrooke, BA, MEd, Dipl Ed Deal
2. Etkin-Brophy, PhD
3. Jacobson, BA, PhD
4. Lagan, PhD
5. Voll, BSc, MSc, PhD
6. Leonard, BA, MSc, PhD
7. Parnes, BSc, DSWA
8. Thomas-Stonel, BSc
9. Wagner, BSc, MSc
10. Elitzman, BA, MEd

Staff

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8. E-mail: speech.path@utoronto.ca
9. www.slp.utoronto.ca

Speech-language pathology is concerned with communication and its disorders. The program offers professional and research programs for careers in the discipline.

Master of Health Sciences (M.H.Sc.)

The speech-language pathology program is a professional graduate program that may be completed in a full-time or part-time basis. The aim of the program is the development of analytical and evaluative approach to the study of speech-language pathology.

Graduates are prepared to assume varied professional responsibilities including the assessment, treatment, and management of speech, voice, language, and swallowing disorders. Course work and clinical internships are integrated and sequenced. There is a strong research to practice focus, and students complete a comprehensive portfolio requirement in their final year.

Admission Requirements

Candidates for admission must have completed a four-year University of Toronto bachelor's degree, with at least a mid-B standing in the final year, or its equivalent from another recognized university. Additional requirements include prerequisite courses in child development, linguistics, phonetics, elementary statistics, and human physiology. See the departmental Web site for a full listing of admission requirements.

Facility in oral and written English is required for both the academic and applied aspects of the program. Applicants who were educated outside Canada, whose primary language is not English, and who graduated from a university where the language of instruction was not English, must demonstrate facility in the English language through the successful completion of one of the English proficiency tests listed in this calendar. To satisfy the requirement, the Department strongly prefers the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) with a minimum score of 600 (250 on the computer-based test), (TWE) with a minimum score of 5, and the Test of Spoken English (TSE) with a minimum score of 50.

If an applicant finds it impossible to take the TOEFL, TWE, and TSE, the Department will accept one of the following:

1. the Michigan English Language Assessment Battery (MELAB) with a minimum score of 85;
2. the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) with a minimum score of 8.0.

In addition to the proficiency test, applicants may be requested to attend a personal meeting with members of the Graduate Department of Speech-Language Pathology where their mastery of oral English for meeting clinical requirements will be assessed.

Candidates for the full-time and the part-time programs must submit applications by mid-January. Check the departmental Web site for the exact application deadline. All applications for the M.H.Sc. program must be obtained directly from the Ontario Universities Application Centre in Guelph, Ontario (www.ouac.on.ca/ouac).

Program Requirements

The professional M.H.Sc. program is divided into 5 academic and 4 clinical units. Each academic unit is made up of topic-related courses. Teaching within and across units emphasizes integrated learning experiences.

Academic units are followed by full-time clinical placements. Each placement lasts between 4 and 10 weeks for a total of 31 weeks of clinical experience throughout the 2-year M.H.Sc. program. Students must accept placements offered to them and are responsible for all travel and accommodation costs. Candidates enrolled in the full-time program must complete all requirements within two consecutive years.

Part-time students must choose one of three options for program completion: four-year, five-year, or six-year. Each option includes a prescribed sequence of academic and clinical units that must be followed. Part-time students must complete clinical units on a full-time basis (five days per week).

The M.H.Sc. program does not have a thesis requirement; however, all M.H.Sc. students will be required to complete a portfolio that demonstrates proficiency in key areas of professional practice, including application of research principles, prior to graduation.

Degree of Master of Science

The Master of Science (M.Sc.) degree is a full-time program that prepares students to engage in the scientific study of normal and disordered speech and language processes in children and adults.

The M.Sc. degree in speech-language pathology is a research-oriented program and does not prepare students for clinical practice. Although the primary objective of the M.Sc. program is to prepare students for doctoral studies in speech and language sciences, successful completion of the program does not guarantee entrance into the Ph.D. program.

Admission Requirements

Students with a four-year degree, or its equivalent, in speech-language pathology or a related discipline, are considered for admission according to the general admission criteria of the School of Graduate Studies. Prior to admission, an applicant must identify a faculty member who has agreed to serve as research supervisor. The research supervisor may want to examine a completed thesis and/or manuscripts and university transcripts. Application deadlines are January 15 for September registration and September 15 for January registration. Students applying to the M.Sc. program should

use the SGS application form online at www.sgs.utoronto.ca.

Applicants who were educated outside Canada, whose primary language is not English, and who graduated from a university where the language of instruction was not English, must demonstrate facility in the English language through the successful completion of one of the English proficiency tests listed in this calendar. See General Regulations, English Language Facility.

Reclassification Examination

Master of Science candidates who demonstrate outstanding potential for advanced research in the discipline may be recommended by their supervisory committee for a reclassification examination which, when passed, allows them direct advancement to the Doctor of Philosophy program. This examination normally is undertaken following the completion of at least one session and within 18 months of registration in the M.Sc. program.

Program Requirements

1. Candidates with a background in speech-language pathology

The program requires a one-year residency period which typically is sufficient for completion of the course work. Course requirements are determined by the student's supervisory committee. Normally, the candidate is required to complete satisfactorily a minimum of two full courses, consisting of at least one full course in research design and methodology, and at least one full course in the area of research interest. In addition, students are required to participate in student and faculty research seminars. Students also are required to engage in a research project, present the results in a written thesis, and complete a successful oral defence of the thesis.

2. Candidates without a background in speech-language pathology

The program requires a two-year residency period which typically is sufficient for completion of the course work. Course requirements are determined by the student's supervisory committee. During the first year of study, students take courses in the M.H.Sc. program that provide the requisite knowledge for the area of research interest, and attend student and faculty research seminars. Following successful completion of the courses in the first year, students complete the requirements for the M.Sc. degree as outlined for candidates with a background in speech-language pathology (see 1 above).

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