

Department of Communication Disorders

Graduate Faculty Status

Edited October 27, 2014

Communication Disorders faculty may be eligible for appointment to the Graduate Faculty in either of the following categories: Regular Member or Temporary Member. Each appointment category is governed by departmentally approved qualification standards, appointment policies/procedures, and privileges/responsibilities, which are specified below.

A. Regular Member

1. **Qualifications** – Communication Disorders faculty members may earn Regular Member graduate faculty status by possessing a terminal degree (which is defined by the College of Nursing and Health Professions as a graduate degree beyond the entry level professional practice credential) in Speech-Language Pathology, Communication Disorders, Audiology or any discipline judged by the Communication Disorders faculty to be closely related to these disciplines. Examples of related disciplines might include but are not limited to the following: reading/literacy, head/neck cancer diagnosis and treatment, human anatomy and physiology, physics of sound, and neural anatomy and physiology. **Examples of the types of terminal degrees that can meet the Department's standards for Regular Member Graduate status include the following: PhD, EdD, AuD (Doctorate in Audiology), SLPD (Doctorate in Speech-Language Pathology).**

Regular members of the graduate faculty must demonstrate evidence of appropriate scholarly activity in the discipline and continued participation in graduate education in the classroom and clinic within the Department of Communication Disorders. Appropriate scholarly activity is operationally defined in the Department of Communication Disorders engaging in research that leads to 1) peer reviewed publications in scholarly journals, 2) books or book chapters in scholarly texts, 3) the submission of competitive grant applications to fund research, clinical service delivery activities, or Communication Disorders student financial support, 4) scholarly presentations (platform or poster format) at international, national, regional, or state learned forums, 5) the development and entrepreneurial dissemination of electronic media/devices (such as apps) that benefit professional healthcare service providers, patients, or family members of patients, and 6) serving as chair of thesis or dissertation committees. Any combination of four accomplishments from the above listed scholarly activities in a six year period is deemed sufficient for regular graduate faculty status in the Department of Communication Disorders.

In exceptional cases, CD faculty members without terminal degrees who possess a graduate degree and appropriate state licensure and national certification (i.e., Certificate of Clinical Competence issued by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association) may earn Regular Member status based on specialized training within areas of service delivery related to the discipline, **OR** unique research experiences within the discipline, **OR** unique experiences in patient care.

2. Appointment Policies/Procedures – the application for Regular Member status must include evidence of professional activity related to graduate education such as research and accepted methods of dissemination of research (i.e., peer reviewed or invited publications, presentations, poster sessions, etc.), membership to professional organizations, service to professional organizations, and quality teaching (both didactic and clinical supervision).

The faculty member's application for appointment is submitted to the Communication Disorders Department Chair and is reviewed by graduate faculty members within the Department. If the application is supported by the graduate faculty and the Department Chair, a letter of recommendation from the Department Chair is forwarded with the application to the Dean of the Graduate School for Graduate Council approval.

3. Privileges/Responsibilities - A Regular Member may teach graduate courses (both didactic and clinical supervision), evaluate graduate student performance on comprehensive final examinations, serve on thesis and dissertation committees, chair thesis and dissertation committees, advise graduate students in Communication Disorders, and serve on the Graduate Council.

B. Temporary Member

1. Qualifications – CD faculty members may earn Temporary Member graduate faculty status by 1) possessing a Master's Degree in Speech-Language Pathology, Communication Disorders, Audiology or any discipline judged by the Communication Disorders faculty to be closely related to these disciplines, **AND** by 2) possessing a Certificate of Clinical Competence issued by the American Speech, Language, Hearing Association, and an Audiology or Speech-Language Pathology License to Practice in Arkansas, **AND** by 3) possessing a minimum of three years of professional experience as a service provider to persons with communication disorders and their families. These degrees, licenses, certifications, and years of experience would be considered adequate documentation of knowledge and skills within the discipline to be considered for Temporary Member graduate faculty status.
2. Appointment Policies/Procedures – The faculty member initiates a request for Temporary Member status by completing an application, which is submitted to the Department Chair. The Department Chair then attaches a letter of support that specifies the applicant's qualifications necessary to meet the demands of 1) teaching graduate courses in the discipline, 2) supervising graduate practicum experiences, or 3) serving on graduate level committees including curriculum committees, thesis committees, and accreditation committees. If the appointment is approved by the Graduate Council, the term of the appointment will be specified and shall not be less than one calendar year. These faculty members may reapply when the appointment expires.
3. Privileges/Responsibilities – The Temporary Member may 1) teach graduate courses (both didactic and clinical) in Communication Disorders as specified on the approved application, 2) serve on CD graduate student thesis committees, and 3) serve as a graduate student advisor in Communication Disorders.