



January 13, 2004

COLLEGE OF
ARTS AND SCIENCES

Committee on Teacher Education
Indiana University School of Education
Office of Teacher Education
Wright School of Education 1000

Dear Members of the Committee:

Attached is a request from Professor Elizabeth McCrea in the Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences in regard to M550-Practicum in Speech and Hearing. Specifically, it requests a change in the length of the practicum experience from 8 to 10 weeks. This will bring the school-based practicum experience in line with the new licensing requirements of the Indiana Professional Standards Board (IPSB) for licensure of speech-language pathologists who will work in the public schools of the state. The training program in speech-language pathology is an Advanced Degree Program, awarding Master's degrees in speech-language pathology to students who complete it; however, since this request focuses specifically on an aspect of teacher education in regard to licensure, Associate Dean Shedd has advised that this committee is the appropriate one to review it.

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*Educational Program
Accredited by the
Council on Academic
Accreditation of
The American
Speech-Language-Hearing
Association*

As Chair of the Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences, I fully support this request. As the statement of rationale indicates, the extension of the length of school practicum in speech, language, and hearing is consistent with both the new IPSB licensure standards for school-based speech-language pathologists as well as the reality of the complexities of contemporary school-based practice. I encourage your support as well. If you have questions about the request as you make your decision, please do not hesitate to call on Professor McCrea or myself.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Phil Connell, Ph.D.
Professor and Chair
Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences

TO: Committee on Teacher Education
Indiana University School of Education

FROM: Elizabeth McCrea, Ph.D., Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences and
School of Education

Elizabeth McCrea

RE: Change in duration (number of weeks) of M550-Practicum in Speech-Language and Hearing

DATE: January 13, 2004

1-Description of change in Program

Currently the length of the school-based practicum (student teaching) in speech-language-hearing is 8 weeks as required by Rules 46/47; however, with the recent approval of the new licensing framework for school-based speech-language pathologists, a move to a 10 week experience is now necessary.

Even more pragmatically, the complexity of school-based service delivery and management of communicatively disordered children has significantly increased as well during the last decade. An experience of 8 weeks 20 years ago, or even 10 years ago, may have been appropriate and adequate. It no longer is.

2-Rationale

In addition to the requirements of the new licensure framework which require a longer practicum, anecdotal feedback from students over the last several years has indicated that a longer experience would be valuable to them. Many students report that about the 8 week mark, at which point they have achieved appropriate levels of competence and independence as indicated by their formal evaluations, they would appreciate extending the experience to consolidate their learning. A ten week placement would meet the timeline of the licensing requirements, permit students to consolidate their learning in a public school setting, while permitting them the balance of the semester to complete other training requirements required by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and therefore, the Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences.

3-Faculty Staffing

No additional faculty or external resources are necessary to effect a 10-week experience.

4-Principle/Standard Documentation

Since this request does not involve changes in curriculum nor the addition of a new course, the matrices for the integration of the Six Guiding Principles is not specifically attached to this request. However, the extension of the practicum experience will enhance the development of all 6 Principles. An extended experience will permit the students to gain the "practical wisdom" across all six Principles that will inform their practice in public schools with communicatively disordered children and increasingly, to collaborate with classroom-based teachers in the development of the language base for literacy in both disabled and typical children. An extended experience will permit students to have a stronger sense of themselves as a school-based speech-language pathologist.

5-Integration into Existing Programs

M550 is currently required and therefore, already integrated into the curriculum for students who will be licensed as speech-language pathologists by the Indiana Professional Standards Board. This request does not require a new course or change in credit hours

6-Implementation Time Line

This request will be effected in the Spring semester 2005, affecting all school practicum assignments beginning in January of that year, and thereafter.

7-Assessment Plan

The plan for assessment of the school practicum experience will continue via the Indiana University School of Education Practicum Final Evaluation, pages 1 and 2, which will be completed by the site supervisor. In addition, the Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences utilizes a Likert-like feedback tool that helps the department analyze the content of the practicum experience from the students' perspectives. This will also be continued and will help the department understand the impact of the extended timeline on the preparation and professional development of its students.

8-Document Department Chair Review and Approval

See attached letter from Phil Connell, Ph.D., Chair, Speech and Hearing Sciences