

University of Central Arkansas Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders Diversity Statement

The Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at the University of Central Arkansas is dedicated to diversity, belonging, inclusion, and equity, as an integral part of our departmental culture.

- We **value** the opportunity to work and learn in a community that embraces the diversity of individuals and ideas, including those from underrepresented populations, and to affirm and include the voices of historically minoritized and marginalized individuals.
- We **embrace** diversity in all areas of our educational mission: recruitment of students and faculty, research endeavors, teaching pedagogy, and clinical practice.
- We **believe** that a focus on diversity is a critical element in the education of future professionals in the field, as diverse perspectives move us toward the common goal of improving communication outcomes for all.
- We **commit** to eliminating barriers and inequity, while also facilitating access to the discipline for under-represented populations. Our goal is that our culture and the diversity of our department, including faculty, staff, and students, will reflect the diversity of the populations we serve.
- We **cultivate** a department where everyone feels seen, respected, and valued.