

Speech Path earns eight-year accreditation

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The Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology at the University of Nevada School of Medicine is the first in the nation to receive an eight-year accreditation for its master's degree program. The accreditation was awarded by the Educational Standards Board of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

According to Chairman Stephen McFarlane, Ph.D., the department is very excited about the accreditation. "This takes us into the year 2001."

The department also has received approval from the university's Board of Regents for its doctoral program and is already accepting students. "We're receiving many applications," Dr. McFarlane says. How many they accept will depend on available funds. He explains that this is one of only a couple of doctoral programs in speech pathology and audiology in the west. Oregon has a small program, but there are none in California, Idaho, Wyoming or Montana.

"This makes us a national leader in graduate education in speech pathology and audiology," Dr. McFarlane says. "Our graduates will be instrumental in shaping programs all over the country because they will be taking jobs as faculty members at other universities and training students."