

Report of Findings 2005 Survey of University Programs in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

**Canadian Association of
Speech-Language Pathologists
and Audiologists**

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2005 University Survey

1.0 Introduction

The Canadian Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists (CASLPA) recently distributed a survey to the nine universities across the country that offer Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology programs. This survey is an update from the 2003 Survey. The purpose was to gain insight into the similarities and differences between the programs offered, to monitor any important trends that may be affecting the profession now or in the future and to provide a resource for potential students seeking information on the education programs in Canada.

There are nine university programs in Canada that offer programs in communication sciences and disorders. Nine universities offer Speech-Language Pathology programs and five universities offer Audiology programs.

1.1 Methodology

The survey included a series of 41 questions divided into four sections. Respondents who completed the survey represented Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology programs at all nine university programs:

1. Dalhousie University (Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology - English)
2. Université Laval (Speech-Language Pathology – French)
3. Université de Montréal (Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology - French)
4. McGill University (Speech-Language Pathology - English)
5. University of Ottawa (Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology - French)
6. University of Toronto (Speech-Language Pathology - English)
7. University of Western Ontario (Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology-English)
8. University of Alberta (Speech-Language Pathology- English)
9. University of British Columbia (Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology - English)

2.0 Summary of Findings

Program Profile – Clinical Masters

Some programs in Canada have both a Research and Clinical Master's program and/or PhD programs. Section 2.0 deals with the Clinical Masters programs and Section 4.0 deals with the Research programs.

2.1 What is the average length of your Masters program?

As illustrated in the table below, most Clinical Masters programs in Canada offer a 2 year program, with the exception of Dalhousie University and the Université de Montréal.

University	Length of Program
Dalhousie University	3 yrs
Université Laval	2.2 yrs
Université de Montréal	1.5 yrs
McGill University	2 yrs
University of Ottawa	2 yrs
University of Toronto	2 yrs
University of Western Ontario	2 yrs
University of Alberta	2 yrs ¹
University of British Columbia	2 yrs

¹ Students in the optional thesis track may need additional time to complete the program.

2.2 What are your mandatory entry-level requirements for the Masters program?

Across the board, respondents require a Bachelor's degree to enter their program. Many programs also require mandatory courses (information outlined below) and letters of reference. None of the respondents restrict admission to applicants with specific undergraduate degrees with the exception of the University of Montreal, which requires a major in Speech-Language Pathology or Audiology.

M = Mandatory courses V = Volunteer experience
D = Previously obtained degree L = Letters of reference

University	Masters
Dalhousie University	D, L
Université Laval	D, M
Université de Montréal	D
McGill University	D, M, L
University of Ottawa	D, M, L, V
University of Toronto	D, M, L, V ²
University of Western Ontario	D, M, V, L
University of Alberta	D, L, M
University of British Columbia	D, M, L

Mandatory Pre-requisite Course requirements:

Dalhousie University – no prerequisites

University of Laval -no pre-requisites

University of Montreal -no pre-requisites

McGill University -all students

- Linguistics, Psychology and Statistics (6 credits each)

University of Ottawa -all students

- statistiques de niveau intermédiaire ou en méthodes quantitatives(3 crédits), physiologie ou en anatomie humaine (3 crédits), des principes fondamentaux de la physique ou de l'analyse du son

Speech-Language Pathology:

- sciences linguistiques(9 crédits) :
 - phonétique générale ou en phonétique-phonologie (3 crédits),
 - syntaxe ou en morphologie ou en morphosyntaxe(3 crédits)
 - niveau 3000 ou plus en linguistique, de préférence en sémantique, acquisition du langage, bilinguisme, neurolinguistique ou psycholinguistique. (3 crédits)
- psychologie (12 crédits)

² Minimum 14 hours

Audiology

- sciences linguistiques, de préférence en phonétique générale ou en phonétique-phonologie(3 crédits);
- psychologie dans un domaine pertinent (par exemple : développement de l'enfant, vieillissement, perception(3 crédits)

University of Toronto –all students

- General Linguistics, Phonetics, Child Development (half-courses), Physiology and Statistics (full courses).

University of Western Ontario – all students

- Statistical science (full course); developmental psychology (half course)

University of Alberta – all students

- Introduction to statistical methods, Child Development or Developmental Psychology, Theories of Learning, Neuroanatomy or Neuropsychology, Introductory Linguistics, Articulatory Phonetics, Child Language Development or Child Language Acquisition, and one additional linguistics course (all half-courses).

University of British Columbia – all students

Audiology

- Introduction to Physics, Developmental Psychology, Sensation/Perception, Research Methods, Introduction to Linguistics, Neuroanatomy

Speech-Language Pathology

- Phonology, Syntax, Speech Science, Language acquisition, Phonetics, Developmental psychology, cognitive psychology or psycholinguistics, research methods, Neuroanatomy, Neurolinguistics

Other requirements:

University	Personal Statement	GRE	Language Requirement	Other
Dalhousie University	x		For international students	
Université Laval	x			
Université de Montréal				Major in S-LP or Audiology
McGill University	x		For international students	
University of Ottawa			x	
University of Toronto	x			
University of Western Ontario				14 hours of clinical experience with communication disorders
University of Alberta	x	x	x	
University of British Columbia	x		x	

2.3 What are the basic graduation requirements for your clinical programs?

All respondents require mandatory courses and a clinical practicum. Graduation requirements are outlined in the table below.

M = Mandatory courses C = Clinical practicum
P = Comprehensive Paper R = Research Paper T = Thesis

University	BSc ³	MSc	MHSc	MCISc	MPO	MPA
Dalhousie University		M,C,R/T ⁴				
Université Laval		M, C, P or R				
Université de Montréal	M, C				M, C, R, P	M, C, R, P
McGill University		M, C				
University of Ottawa			M, C, P			
University of Toronto			M,C			
University of Western Ontario		C, M, T		C, M		
University of Alberta		M, C, R/T ⁵				
University of British Columbia		M, C, R/T				

³ This Bachelors' degree is preparatory for the Master's degree.

⁴ Students complete either a research project or a thesis.

⁵ Students complete either a research project or a thesis.

2.4 How many available positions do you currently have in your programs (Year 1)?

As outlined in Table 2.4, the number of positions available in each Clinical Masters program varies across the country.

University	BSc	MSc	MHSc	MCISc	MPO	MPA
Dalhousie University		32				
Université Laval		28				
Université de Montréal	75	-			50	25
McGill University		27				
University of Ottawa			23			
University of Toronto			40			
University of Western Ontario ⁶		10		45		
University of Alberta		40				
University of British Columbia		27				
TOTAL SEATS	75	174	63	40	50	25

2.5 How many students applied to enter your program for the 2005-2006 year?

University	MSc	MHSc	MCISc	MPO	MPA
Dalhousie University	242				
Université Laval	135				
Université de Montréal	357 SLP 135 Aud			49	17
McGill University	216				
University of Ottawa		81			
University of Toronto		204			
University of Western Ontario	8		310 Aud & SLP		
University of Alberta	159				
University of British Columbia	130				
TOTAL APPLICATIONS	1382	285	310	49	17

For most programs, a significant gap is apparent between the number of available positions and number of applicants. In many programs, less than 20% of applicants are accepted. This could be due to not meeting entrance requirements or limitations on the

⁶ UWO has a preparatory year into which 10 AUD and 20 SLP students are admitted into. This is an undergraduate year. Preparatory students move from the preparatory year to year 1. Each year, 6 AUD to year 1 and 10 SLP students are admitted to year 1 making a class size of SLP = 30 AUD = 15

number of positions available. It should also be noted that a number of students apply to more than one program.

2.6 What was the attrition number for your program in the 2004-2005 year?

Student attrition rates for most Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology programs are low.

University	BSc	MSc	MHSc	MCISc	MPO	MPA
Dalhousie University		3				
Université Laval		3				
Université de Montréal	3				0	0
McGill University		2				
University of Ottawa			0			
University of Toronto			0			
University of Western Ontario		2		0		
University of Alberta		0				
University of British Columbia		0				
TOTAL	3	10	0	0	0	0

2.7 What are the numbers of recent and projected graduates from your clinical/professional programs?

The total figures for speech-language pathology indicate a small increase in the number of graduates in the year 2006-7 and again in 2007-8.

With regard to audiology programs, a more level enrolment and is evident.

University/Degree	Masters		
	2005-6	2006-7	2007-8
Speech-Language Pathology			
Dalhousie University	24	23	24
Université Laval	25	25	28
Université de Montréal	50	50	50
McGill University	21	26	26
University of Ottawa	14	17	17
University of Toronto	39	39	40
University of Western Ontario	30	29	30
University of Alberta	41	42	41
University of British Columbia	18	16	17
TOTAL (S-LP)	262	267	273
Audiology			
Dalhousie University	9	7	7
Université de Montréal	17	19	19
University of Ottawa	7	6	8
University of Western Ontario	15	7	19
University of British Columbia	7	10	10
TOTAL (AUDIOLOGY)	55	49	55
TOTAL COMBINED (S-LP/AUD)	317	316	328

2.8 At what time of year do your students normally graduate?

Of the 7 respondent universities, 6 pointed to the fall as the most common time of year for graduation.

University	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer
Dalhousie University			x	
Université Laval				x
Université de Montréal				x
McGill University	x			
University of Ottawa	x			
University of Toronto	x			
University of Western Ontario	x			
University of Alberta	x			
University of British Columbia	x			

2.9 Do you require a thesis or research paper/project for clinical Masters students?

Just over half of respondents (5/9) stated that they do not require a thesis or research paper for clinical Masters students.

Y= Yes N= No

University	Thesis/Research Paper
Dalhousie University	Y
Université Laval	N
Université de Montréal	N
McGill University	N
University of Ottawa	Y
University of Toronto	N
University of Western Ontario	N
University of Alberta	Y
University of British Columbia	Y

Section 3

Clinical Placements

3.1 What is the average number of weeks (full-time equivalent) of clinical placements in your program: in year 1; in year 2; in year 3.

University	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3 ⁷
Dalhousie University	0	14	12
Université Laval	2.5	16	
Université de Montréal	0	1	4.5*
McGill University	9	17	
University of Ottawa	4	29	
University of Toronto	12	18	
University of Western Ontario	12	12-14	
University of Alberta	7	25-33	
University of British Columbia	15	12	

- plus 5.5 weeks in year 4 (Masters)

The number of weeks of clinical placements varied among respondents to this question. However, as illustrated in the above table, the average number ranges from a low of 11 weeks to a high of 40 weeks.

3.2 Do you have a final clinical placement after the student has completed all course work?

All respondent programs require a final clinical placement after the student has completed all course work. All the placements are full-time.

⁷ Dalhousie University is the only university with a 3-year Master's program.

3.3 What is the total number of weeks in the final placement?

The total number of weeks in the final placement range from 6 to 32 weeks. At the University of Western Ontario, the final placement length varies from 6 to 12 weeks depending on where the student would like to work after completion.

University	Final Clinical placement
Dalhousie University	12 weeks
Université Laval	
Université de Montréal	10 weeks
McGill University	12 weeks
University of Ottawa	12 weeks
University of Toronto	10 weeks
University of Western Ontario	6-12 weeks
University of Alberta	24-32 weeks ⁸
University of British Columbia	6 weeks

3.4 What time of the year does the final placement take place?

McGill, Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal and Western hold their final placement in the spring and summer. Alberta holds its final placements in the spring, summer and winter and Dalhousie holds its final placement in the winter. British Columbia holds its final clinical placement in the spring.

3.5 Do you have any plans to increase or decrease the number of weeks of your clinical placements for your program?

Université Laval is the only respondent who indicated that they have plans to increase the number of weeks of clinical placements, most likely in the context of a university clinic.

3.6 What problems, if any, are you experiencing in finding clinical placements?

University programs identified a number of factors that contributed to the difficulties in finding clinical placements. These factors included difficulties in finding placements in "fluency, voice, dysphagia"; a shortage of sites with primarily adult caseloads (e.g., aphasia); not able to place students in the cities from which they originate; challenging to find enough clinical placements to give students the breadth of experience they require; clinical administrators do not always support their SLP's taking students for supervision; students have difficulties taking placements in areas far from their home base due to living costs associated with securing additional accommodations and this

⁸ At the University of Alberta, the majority of clinical placements are intended to take place after all other coursework.

causes burnout at locally based sites. It was also noted that there is difficulty in providing meaningful give-backs to community supervisors.

University of Ottawa identified challenges related to finding their French students placements in French in the Ottawa area. Université de Montréal noted that having undergraduate and graduate students' together means that the requirements for practicum are quite heavy for the clinicians in the Montreal area (75 students altogether).

Section 4

This section of the survey deals with Research degree programs.

4.1 Do you offer a Masters Research degree?

As indicated in the table below, there are five programs in Canada that offer a Masters Research degree.

Y= Yes

N = No

University	Master's Research Degree
Dalhousie University	N
Université Laval	N
Université de Montréal	N
McGill University	Y
University of Ottawa	N
University of Toronto	Y
University of Western Ontario	Y
University of Alberta	Y ⁹
University of British Columbia	Y

⁹ MSc in Rehabilitation Sciences

4.2 Can students obtain a Ph.D. degree in the area of communication disorders at your university?

Students can obtain a Ph.D. degree in the area of communication disorders at all programs in Canada except Université Laval and University of Ottawa.

University	Faculty
Dalhousie University	Faculty of Graduate Studies; Interdisciplinary PhD
Université de Montréal	Faculty of Medicine (supervised by faculty members in the area of speech-language pathology or Audiology); Sciences Biomedicales
McGill University	Faculty of Medicine
University of Toronto	Faculty of Medicine; PhD in SLP
University of Western Ontario	Rehabilitation Sciences
University of Alberta	Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine; PhD degree in Rehabilitation Science
University of British Columbia	Faculty of Graduate Studies; Audiology and Speech Sciences

4.3 What is the average length of your Research Masters and/or Ph.D. program?

The average length of the Research Masters program in Canada is 2 years and the average length of a Ph.D. program in Canada is 4 years.

University	Length of M.Sc. Program	Length of Ph. D. Program
Dalhousie University	n/a	3-5 yrs
Université de Montréal	n/a	3-4 yrs
McGill University	2 yrs	4 yrs
University of Toronto	1-2 yrs	4-5 yrs
University of Western Ontario	2 yrs	4 yrs
University of Alberta	2- 2½yrs	4-6 yrs
University of British Columbia	2-3 yrs	4-6 yrs

4.4 What are your entry-level requirements for the Masters Research and/or Ph.D. program?

M = Mandatory courses V = Volunteer experience
 D = Previously obtained degree L = Letters of reference

University		
	Masters	Ph.D.
Dalhousie University		D,L
Université de Montréal		D, L
McGill University	M,D,L	D, L
University of Toronto	D, L	D, L
University of Western Ontario	D, M, L	D, L
University of Alberta	D, L	D, L
University of British Columbia	M,D, L	D, L

Entry requirements for the PhD program at the University of Alberta include a master's degree in a rehabilitation discipline or related field, proof of English proficiency, letters of reference, GRE, statement of research interests & goals and availability of a supervisor among the academic staff.

University of British Columbia – same as items listed in section 1.2 (for Masters Research).

Entry requirements for the Interdisciplinary PhD at Dalhousie University include a master's degree, proof of English proficiency, letters of reference, and the selection of committee members from a range of disciplines as required by the Faculty of Graduate Studies.

4.5 Do you restrict admission to students from specific undergraduate majors/degrees?

None of the respondents indicated that they restrict admission to students from specific undergraduate degrees.

4.6 What are the basic graduation requirements for your Research programs?

All the respondents who offer an MSc program require mandatory courses. In addition, all university respondents providing PhD programs require either a dissertation or a thesis in order to graduate.

D = Dissertation M = Mandatory courses C = Clinical practicum
P = Comprehensive Paper R = Research Paper T = Thesis

University	MSc	PhD
Dalhousie University		M, D
Université de Montréal		M, P, T
McGill University	M, T	M, P, D
University of Toronto	M, T	M, P, T
University of Western Ontario	C, M, T	M, P, D
University of Alberta	M, T	M, D
University of British Columbia	C, M, T	M, P, T

4.7 How many student spaces do you currently have in your Research programs?

Several programs noted no formal limit to the number of spaces, however, the availability of supervisors and/or funding may impose some practical limitations.

University	MSc students	MSc spaces	PhD spaces	PhD students
Dalhousie University			3	0
Université de Montréal		-	No limit	10
McGill University	2	no limit	No limit	15
University of Toronto	3			13
University of Western Ontario	20			16
University of Alberta	2 (1 in SLP)	No limit	No limit	31 (7 in SLP/Aud)
University of British Columbia	27	27	8	6

4.8 How many students applied to enter your Research program(s) for the 2005-2006 year?

University	MSc	PhD
Dalhousie University		0
Université de Montréal		2
McGill University	1	3
University of Toronto	1	4
University of Western Ontario	8	
University of Alberta	2	11 total, 1 in SLP
University of British Columbia	130	3

4.9 What was the attrition rate for your Research program(s) in the 2004-2005 year?

Attrition rates are low for all program respondents.

University	MSc	PhD
Dalhousie University		n/a
Université de Montréal		0
McGill University	1	1
University of Toronto	0	0
University of Western Ontario	0	
University of Alberta	0	0
University of British Columbia	0	0
TOTAL	1	1

4.10 What are the numbers of recent and projected graduates from your Research programs?

The number of graduates from research programs is projected to be fairly level.

University/Degree	Masters			Ph.D.		
	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007
Speech-Language Pathology						
Université de Montréal				0	1	2
McGill University		2		1		
University of Toronto	2	2	2	1	3	3
University of Western Ontario	5	8		4	4	
University of Alberta	1	0	1	2	2	2
University of British Columbia ¹⁰	4	4	5	0	0	3
TOTAL (S-LP)	12	16	8	8	10	10
Audiology						
Université de Montréal						1
University of Western Ontario	3	5		4	4	
University of Alberta	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0	1
University of British Columbia ¹¹	5	3	2	0	1	0
TOTAL (AUDIOLOGY)	8	8	2	4	5	2
TOTAL COMBINED (S-LP/AUD)	20	24	10	12	15	12

¹⁰ Number of "Research Masters" graduates above includes only students completing Thesis.

¹¹ Number of "Research Masters" graduates above includes only students completing Thesis.

4.11 What is your closing date for applications for Research programs?

As the table below details, closing dates vary between programs with 4 programs having closing dates in February and one with a closing date in later June (University of Western Ontario).

University	Closing Date (s)	Acceptance Letters
Dalhousie University	1 Jun for Sept start/1 Nov for Jan start/1 Mar for May start	Varies depending on admission date
Université de Montréal	Feb. 1	May 31
McGill University – PhD	Feb. 22	Mid-Mar.
University of Toronto – MSc & PhD	Feb. 1 & Sept. 15 (however, late applications from qualified students are accepted)	May 1 & Nov. 1
University of Western Ontario- MCISc -MSc	January April - May	April Mid-June
University of Alberta – MSc & PhD	MSc/PhD in Rehab Sciences: No closing date for Canadian applicants. Foreign applicants to PhD program are advised to submit by March 1 for Sept. admission and July 1 for Jan. admission. This allows time for student to apply for study permits	No specific date; letters sent following decision to admit
University of British Columbia – MSc University of British Columbia - PhD	mid-Jan/Feb 28 Anytime*	March Anytime*

*Continuous intake throughout the year

4.12 At what time of year do your students normally graduate?

There was no common time reported among respondents for graduation.

University	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer
Université de Montréal	x			
McGill University	x	x	x	
University of Toronto	x		x	
University of Western Ontario	x			
University of Alberta	variable	variable	variable	variable
University of British Columbia	x		x	

Section 5

General Questions

5.1 Do you accept foreign applicants 5.1.1 in your clinical program?

Université Laval was the only program that does not accept foreign applicants in their clinical program.

5.1.2 in your research programs?

All programs accept foreign students in their research programs.

5.2 Do foreign students have to pass a French or English competency test?

Eight respondents (Dalhousie, McGill, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Western, Alberta and British Columbia) indicated that foreign students must pass a French or English Competency test for admission to their clinical and research programs. For the University of Toronto and the University of Alberta, students must pass an English language proficiency test if they did not receive instruction in English in their earlier degree programs.

5.3 If students (domestic or foreign) do not meet entry requirements, do you provide specific mechanisms to help them meet these requirements:

If students do not meet entry requirements, many respondents noted that universities provide courses to help them meet these requirements. Many programs also provide guidance and assistance by reviewing files, making recommendations regarding prerequisite courses, or provide other suggestions to help applicants meet the entry requirements. Université de Montréal offers special French courses for foreign students or Canadian students who are not fluent in French.

**5.4 How many full-time faculty do you have in your department with:
(1) Master's degree (2) Ph.D. degree?**

The total number of PhD staff among respondent universities varies from 4 to 17, with the majority of programs having 8 or 9 PhD faculty. There were six vacancies reported at the time of this survey.

University	Master's Level	PhD Level	Vacant
Dalhousie University	0	9	
Université Laval		4	
Université de Montréal	2	17	
McGill University	1	8	1
University of Ottawa	2	8	
University of Toronto	2	9	1
University of Western Ontario	3	17	3
University of Alberta	2	9	0
University of British Columbia	0	9	1
TOTAL	12	90	6

5.5 How many part-time faculty do you have in your department with: (1) Master's degree (2) Ph.D. degree?

The number of part-time faculty is much higher at the Master's level.

University	Master's Level	PhD Level	Vacant
Dalhousie University	4		1
Université Laval	5		
Université de Montréal			
McGill University	1		
University of Ottawa			
University of Toronto	0	0	
University of Western Ontario	1		
University of Alberta	2	1	0
University of British Columbia	6	2	0
TOTAL	19	3	1

5.6 How many sessional/contract faculty do you have with: (1) Master's degree (2) Ph.D. degree?

University	Master's Level	PhD Level
Dalhousie University	4	1
Université Laval	34	
Université de Montréal	42*	
McGill University	10	2
University of Ottawa	17	2
University of Toronto	4	2
University of Western Ontario	7	
University of Alberta	4	1
University of British Columbia	3	1

* These are active professionals who come in to teach one class in a course in their specialty.

The number of sessional or contract staff varies significantly from 1 to 34. Variation probably reflects that some programs are listing individuals who teach a single class in a course while others are listing individuals who teach a full course.

5.7 Do you anticipate recruiting faculty in the next two years?

Université Laval plans on recruiting at least two faculty in the next few years in Remediation of Child Language Disorders and Motor Speech Disorders. McGill University plans on recruiting faculty in the area of Developmental Language Disorders and Communication Sciences & Disorders. University of Toronto will be recruiting faculty in the area of AAC and/or motor speech disorders and University of Western Ontario anticipates recruiting faculty in the next two years in areas not specified. University of Ottawa intends to recruit one faculty in the area of child language within the next two years. University of British Columbia will be recruiting a new director. The University of Alberta is recruiting a researcher in the area of fluency disorders. Dalhousie University will be recruiting in Audiology.

5.9 Does your University have plans to initiate an Au.D. program in the next 5 years?

The Au.D. is a clinical doctorate degree program in Audiology. Dalhousie is currently undertaking a feasibility study. Université de Montréal plans to introduce an Au.D. program within the next five years. The University of Western Ontario is exploring the need for an Au.D. program.

5.10 Does your university provide interprofessional education?

All respondents, with the exception of the University of Western Ontario, indicated that the programs provide interprofessional education. Some respondents provided details about interprofessional education in their programs. McGill University holds workshops and lectures with Medicine, P & OT, and Nursing. University of Toronto holds interprofessional education sessions with other health sciences (medicine, rehab, nursing) and social work. University of Alberta MSc students participate in 3 interdisciplinary modules with SLP, PT, and OT students (modules cover teamwork, neurology, and aging). Université de Montréal provides interprofessional lectures with medical doctors, OT, Physiotherapy, public health and anthropology.

5.11 When was the last curriculum review of the S-LP/Audiology program at your university?

University	Date of Last Curriculum Review
Dalhousie University	2004
Université Laval	2005
Université de Montréal	2002
McGill University	annual
University of Ottawa	annual
University of Toronto	2000
University of Western Ontario	2004
University of Alberta	2004
University of British Columbia	2004-2005

5.12 What changes may be occurring at your University that may impact on the discipline of speech-language pathology and/or audiology?

Five respondents indicated changes that may be occurring in their programs: Université Laval is increasing the number of student positions. At Dalhousie University, a discipline-specific PhD program is planned. University of Ottawa is planning an interprofessional Ph.D. program, a university clinic and a graduate certificate in Auditory-Verbal Therapy. The Université de Montréal reported a need to increase their student population by 25 per year. University of British Columbia is launching a new curriculum, hiring a new director, expanding space and increasing seats in 2006. In 2008 they plan to move to expanded space in a new building.

6.0 Conclusions

The responses contained in this report provide valuable insight into the environment within which Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology programs operate in Canada.

In Canada, there are currently nine graduate programs providing clinical training in speech-language pathology, five of which also offer clinical training in audiology. Clinical degrees are at a Masters level. Seven of the programs also offer a research Ph.D.

degree. As well, the University of Montreal is developing a clinical Audiology doctoral degree program.

Entry into graduate programs in speech-language pathology and audiology is competitive. Survey data indicates that universities have many more applicants to clinical programs than available positions. The reasons for this gap were not explored. However, current graduation rates do not meet the needs for vacant positions in Canada. There are more students admitted to speech-language pathology than audiology programs.

The majority of respondents reported concerns regarding finding clinical placements for their students, particularly for some content areas, clinical settings or languages. All students need to receive clinical training in community settings in order to meet the requirements for graduation.