2010 Researcher-Academic Town Meeting

ASHA Convention
November 17, 2010
The projected number of PhD faculty openings for 2008–2009 was 102

Source: 2008-2009 CAPCSD Salary Survey Data
In academic year 2007-2008:
• 365 PhD applications were received
• 207 PhD students were newly enrolled
• 147 PhD degrees were granted

Source: 2007-2008 CAPCSD Demographic Survey
Only 45% of PhD graduates took faculty positions in CSD programs (2007-2008)

If there were 147 new PhDs each year & only 66 PhD graduates would be likely to take a faculty position, 1/3 of the openings would go unfilled.

PhD Graduates-Employment
Source: 2007-2008 CAPCSD Demographic Survey

- Faculty Positions: 45%
- Post Doc Positions: 22%
- Clinical Position: 12%
- Research Positions-Non Academic: 10%
- Unknown: 10%
Median capacity for PhD admissions is 5 students

PhD programs across all areas of study reported less than 50% capacity for new enrollments

Source: ASHA HES State-by-State Data on Graduate Education in Communication Sciences and Disorders academic year 2008–2009
Top 2 factors that restrict PhD student enrollment:

- Insufficient number of qualified applicants
- Insufficient student funding

Top 3 reasons students decide to get a PhD:

- Ability to work with a particular mentor/advisor
- Availability of financial support
- Program quality

Source: 2009 CAPCSD Survey of Research Doctoral Students
Students report primary source of funding:

- 54% university or department funds
- 24% faculty member’s grant
- 9% external grant or loan

Source: 2009 CAPCSD Survey of Research Doctoral Students
Majority of PhD students who plan to drop out, do so early in the program

17 of the 22 students (77%) expressing intent not to complete the PhD, did so when all 3 of the following remained outstanding:

- academic course work
- comprehensive exams
- dissertation

Only 47% of first year PhD students reported knowing the requirements for successful completion of the program

Source: 2009 CAPCSD Survey of Research Doctoral Students
Only 42% of students considered their PhD department or program to operate as an “intellectual and social community”

Source: 2009 CAPCSD Survey of Research Doctoral Students
Students report top 3 factors that impact PhD completion:

- Financial support
- Program quality
- Access to a particular advisor

Source: 2009 CAPCSD Survey of Research Doctoral Students
International students made up 27% of applications to PhD programs

18% of newly enrolled PhD students are identified as a racial ethnic minority

Source: ASHA HES State-by-State Data on Graduate Education in Communication Sciences and Disorders academic year 2008–2009
Top 6 states granting 7 or more PhD degrees in academic year 2007-2008 and 2008-2009:

- Ohio = 16
- Florida = 11
- Iowa = 11
- Kansas = 9
- Texas = 7
- Arizona = 7

The majority of CSD students complete their PhD in 4 to 6 years

91% of PhD programs do not offer courses through distance education

More than 1/3 of CSD PhD students completed a thesis prior to enrolling in their PhD program

3,054 ASHA constituents reported their primary employment function as a college/university educator

The vast majority of which are 50 years old or more
Median age of faculty is 54.

Source: ASHA Counts for Year End 2009
Predictive Model of Age Distribution of Professors 2009
Source: ASHA Member Counts 2009

Median age = 54