BACKGROUND AND PHILOSOPHY REGARDING THE EVALUATION OF STUDENTS

Our students are given letter grades for their practicum and externship experiences. It is our belief that using a letter grading system enables us to more accurately reflect a student’s performance in both campus and external practicum sites. ASHA’s current emphasis is on acquisition of knowledge and skills. We are using a clinical evaluation form, adapted from one developed at the University of South Carolina, that better reflects the knowledge and skills that master’s level speech pathologists must acquire prior to completing their degree. In the following pages, this evaluation form is included with an explanation of the grading scale used. The grading scale takes into consideration the student’s level in the training program with higher expectations in the final semesters. We hope that you will find this form to be useful.

We ask that you evaluate each student at midterm. This is particularly helpful if there are any problems that need to be addressed with your students. This will allow us to develop an action plan for remediation of any problems. A final evaluation is also needed. Please review these evaluations with the students. Please submit copies of each student’s evaluation forms to the Director of Clinical Education. These may be hand-delivered by the student, faxed to (352)846-2189, or mailed to Judy Wingate at P.O. Box 117420, Gainesville, FL 32611-7420.

The faculty expects our students to perform and behave in a professional, competent manner at all times. Consequently, our expectations are very high because we believe that students will aspire to the highest level of expectation. In keeping with these expectations, very high clinical competency scores can be negated by low scores on professionalism.

As with every policy and procedure related to our clinical education program, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any feedback regarding our evaluation system. I welcome your feedback!