



Council of Academic Programs
in Communication Sciences
and Disorders

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January 13, 2021

Open Letter to the CAPCSD Board, Committee Members, Volunteers and Members

It's just a few weeks into 2021, the year that we all hope will be better than the one before. And yet, for many of us, it is still a time of uncertainty and challenges. Many of us, myself included, make a daily effort to remain optimistic by acknowledging the things we are grateful for. That has led me to this brief but heartfelt letter.

I wish to offer my sincere appreciation to each of the CAPCSD board members – Ann, Michael, Jayne, Vikram, Mark, Tricia, Elaine, Jenny, Jenn, and Kathy– for hours spent on Zoom meetings, countless emails, and their efforts to move forward the mission and vision of CAPCSD. I miss board meetings sitting across a table from one another. Those times together revitalized us.

Thank you to the committee members and chairs, reviewers, and all of the volunteers, past and present, who offer their time and expertise for the singular reason of wanting to make things better. We are honored that you have chosen to donate your time and talents to this organization.

Thank you to our management company staff, Deborah, Ned, Megan, Michelle, and Saba. My hope is that you know how much you are relied on and appreciated by us all.

And finally, a word of appreciation to all of our members. During these challenging times for university programs across the nation, you continue to reach out and support each other. Whether you have volunteered on a committee, led a webinar, provided feedback and new ideas to the CAPCSD leadership, or reached out and supported your fellow colleagues, I am grateful to see how this community has come together to face our challenges and move us all forward. As a volunteer organization we are only as strong as our member community.

On behalf of the CAPCSD leadership, I thank each of you for your continued commitment to support the mission of promoting quality, accessibility and innovation in Communication Sciences and Disorders in higher education. CAPCSD remains vigilant in our efforts to advance diversity, inclusion, and equality in all of our member programs and we thank you for your continued commitment to these efforts.

In peace and appreciation,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carol Dudding".

Carol Dudding, Ph.D., SLP-CCC
President