

**Strategies for Enhancing Collaboration in Research in
Communication Sciences and Disorders in Ohio
Ohio Speech-Language-Hearing Association Convention
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Introductions

Updates about the University System of Ohio (USO)

- During the Summer of 2007, Chancellor Eric Fingerhut announced the intent to begin forming a more coordinated system of higher education in Ohio through the formal establishment of the University System of Ohio (USO).
- The University System of Ohio (USO) (comprised of “the state’s 14 public universities, 24 branch campuses, 23 community colleges, and more than 200 adult workforce education centers and training programs” (<http://www.uso.edu/>) is an entity that promises to bring forth new opportunities for funding and inter-institutional collaboration.
- “Stop competing and start collaborating” (<http://www.uso.edu/multimedia/videoPlay.php?videoId=1>)

Additional compelling reasons for enhanced statewide collaboration

- Budget challenges
- Critical needs for enhanced statewide research capacity:
 - the dire need for an enhanced evidence base in our field;
 - the shortage of researchers and PhD-holding academic faculty to support research and education in the field;
 - complexity of clinical research, requiring extensive interdisciplinary expertise; and
 - the importance of academic-community partnerships and clinical referral bases to the facilitation of research.

Information Sharing and Brainstorming on Strengths in Communication Sciences and Disorders in Ohio

- What are our complementary areas of expertise across institutions?
- To what extent is there competition researchers that may be better addressed through collaboration?
- What are the best strategies to enhance researchers’ knowledge of complementary expertise across institutions, and to encourage inter-institutional collaboration?
- How may we best collaborate in PhD student recruitment and mentoring?
- To what extent is there competition amongst PhD programs that may be better addressed through collaboration?
- How can we collectively best tap clinical resources and expertise throughout the state for research collaboration and clinical participant referrals?

Action Planning for Enhancing Collaboration in Research in Communication Sciences and Disorders throughout Ohio