Dear Students,

We are looking forward to welcoming you to the Speech & Language Therapy course in the School of Rehabilitation Sciences (RSC), Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences (FMH) at the University of East Anglia. This letter is to give you some basic information and guidance before starting the course in September.

**Placements**
The Placement Office will be sending you some information concerning the Conversation Partners scheme in the next few weeks, and also information about Student Membership of the Royal College of Speech & Language Therapists. All students are required to take out membership for the duration of the course. This provides you with access to professional documents & resources as well as professional indemnity insurance. We do recommend that you start to apply for membership before you come to University as you will need your membership details in the first few weeks of the course and it can take RCSLT a while to process applications. Cost of student membership is £33 if you pay by direct debit and £43 if you pay by cheque or credit card (confirmed with RCSLT by phone in July 2013).

During the course you will be required to take video footage of yourself on placement. You will be loaned a Panasonic SDR SD Video Camera, which records to an SDHC (Secure Digital High Capacity) memory card. You will need to purchase a suitable memory card and details of this are shown on the website and will also be sent to you as part of the placement information.

**Immunisations**
We strongly recommend that you have all the required immunisations from your home GP or clinic before starting the course. This avoids delay and it can be more costly using the UEA medical centre.

**Reading**
Some people like to prepare for their arrival on the course and often ask for some recommended reading so we suggest the following:

- McAllister, J. & Miller, J. (2013). *Introductory Linguistics for Speech and Language Therapy Practice*. Chichester, West Sussex, UK: Wiley-Blackwell. **Chapters 1 and 5**; please ignore the sections marked ‘Exercises using clinical resources’ – you will be able to complete these when you have access to the course’s Resource Collection.
The above suggestions are not essential but may well prove useful! In order to develop your awareness of the different client groups that Speech & Language Therapists work with it is also a good idea to look at some websites related to SLT and communication disorders. We recommend the following:

- http://www.rcslt.org/
- http://www.stroke.org.uk/
- http://www.ukconnect.org/
- http://www.afasicengland.org.uk/
- http://www.thecommunicationtrust.org.uk/
- http://www.ican.org.uk/
- http://stammering.org/
- http://www.ace-centre.org.uk
- http://callcentre.education.ed.ac.uk/Home/

We hope that this information is useful to you and look forward to meeting you in September.

Best wishes to you all on behalf of the SLT teaching team

Jennie Vitkovitch
Course Director BSc SLT.