

Better Speech and Hearing

1194 Blue Ridge View Circle
Forest, VA 24551

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Randall Robey
Program Director
UVA's Speech Pathologist Master's Program
405 Emmet Street
Charlottesville, VA 22904

Dear Mr. Robey:

Subject: Speaking to incoming first-year students

Nothing is more exciting than coming back to my alma mater, University of Virginia. Especially, to the university that has shaped me into the clinician I am today.

Thank you for asking me to speak to incoming first-year students about the program at the University of Virginia during Orientation. This is such an honor, as there have been plenty of successful clinicians that have gone through the University of Virginia speech-language pathology master's program.

August 2nd, 2018, the same day as Orientation, I had prior plans to attend a conference in New York City. This conference is to help better my knowledge in my specialty, swallowing, which will allow me to better serve my clients.

As the University of Virginia starts to prepare student clinicians from the first day they enter the clinic, I would love to write a few tips to share with first-year students. These tips would include things that helped me succeed through graduate school and things I wish I would of known when I was in graduate school.

Whether you choose another person to speak at orientation or use my tips, I have no doubt that these student clinicians will be nothing but successful during their time at the University of Virginia. The program you all have created has built students up for a successful future as a speech-language pathologist. Thank you again for reaching out and I hope I can be of assistance in the future.

Yours truly,

Lisa Smith, MA, CCC-SLP

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Appendix A:

Scenario 3: Decline on invitation to speak to first-year students.

You are a recent graduate of the Speech Pathology master's program at the University of Virginia. The program coordinator has recently invited you to come back to campus and speak to first-year students at their orientation. Making up any additional details that you need, write a letter to the program director explaining why you are declining to speak to first-year students.