History of Au.D. Transition

1949 — The Doctor of Audiology degree was first called for.

1977 — ADA is formed to support dispensing & private practice.

1978 — Task Force on Science (ASHA) discussed the need for a professional doctorate to free Ph.D. programs from becoming corrupted for this purpose.

1983 — ASHA underwrote a study that concluded that the master's degree does not provide adequate professional preparation.

1984 — Professional doctorate recommended by ASHA task force.

1986 — ASHA Audiology Task Force recommended Au.D. to become entry level degree by 1998.

1988 — ADA Education Conference called for audiology training to move to doctoral level.

1989

- AFA created with the charge to "transform audiology to a doctoral profession with the Au.D. as its distinctive designator."
- An ASHA Task Force recommended that "ASHA should strongly endorse the concept of the professional doctorate" and recommended that it should be post-bachelor's, not post-master's.

1990 -1992 — Six independent surveys reported majority support for the Au.D. degree.

1992

- ASHA Ad Hoc Committee on Professional Education recommended the Au.D. as the entry level degree to the practice, setting the year 2001 as a target date for implementation.
- Au.D. papers published in *Asha* magazine drew a record response in peer review process with 72% of respondents in favor of mandating the Au.D. as the preferred degree.
- Members of audiology-related professional organizations (RPO's) unanimously called for ASHA to facilitate Au.D. degree development and implementation.

1994 — AFA awarded $25,000 to first Au.D. program at Baylor College of Medicine.

1995

- AFA sponsored Au.D. Standards and Equivalency Conference. Participants called for "entitlement" to Au.D. designator for practitioners with experience and CEU's.
- ASHA recommended a doctoral degree for entry level to practice audiology, not necessarily the Au.D.

1996 — AFA began Professional Recredentialing Program to enable practitioners who meet psychometrically developed requirements, which measure their practice capabilities, to earn the Au.D. credential.

1997

- ASHA postponed transition to doctoral degree as entry requirement to 2012.
- AFA Alliance Fund provided fellowships for 40 Au.D. students in 4 universities.

1998 — Six residential Au.D. programs were available.

1999 — Several distance educations programs were available for practicing audiologists.

2000 — AFA organized first Au.D. accreditation meeting.

2001 — AFA held contest to create a symbol for audiology profession.

2002 — Two Outstanding Au.D. Student Scholarships awarded.

2006

- All Master's Programs closed
- Over 70 residential Au.D. Programs open.
- Almost 4,000 Au.D.'s.