

Psychology Department

COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Program Review Action Plan

May 2010

The Department of Psychology (PSY) offers B.S. and B.A degrees in Psychology, a B.S. in Gerontology, and minors in both Psychology and Gerontology.

The B.S. in Gerontology is recognized as a Program of Merit by the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education (AGHE). At the graduate level, students may select the Clinical, Industrial/Organizational, or Experimental Psychology track of the M.S. in Psychology. The Department also offers a new graduate certificate in Forensic Child Psychology. The graduate program is certified by the Council of Applied Masters Programs in Psychology, which is the only current option for master's level accreditation or certification. Psychology contributes two courses to the general education program,

PSY 121 Introduction to Psychology and PSY 101 Psychology for Personal Growth. With a combined enrollment of 2,802 students, these two courses generated 8,430 credit hours during 2009. The Psychology department also provides service courses that support degrees in the College of Education (COE) and courses in statistics for several programs in the College of Health and Human Services (CHHS).

The University awarded 157 baccalaureate degrees in Psychology and 17 graduate degrees in Psychology in 2009. The Psychology Department had 657 undergraduate majors and 50 graduate students in Fall 2009. The Department operates an Advisement Center for undergraduate advisement and supports two student organizations, the Psychology Club and Psi Chi, the International Honor Society in Psychology. Currently there are 29 tenure-track faculty and three instructors. Three of the four faculty who retired in 2010 will continue to teach as emeritus faculty during 2010-2011.

The Psychology Department is housed primarily in Hill Hall, with the Gerontology faculty in the Professional Building, the Learning Diagnostic Clinic (LDC) in the Alumni Building, and research space in both the Park Central Office Building (PCOB) and Pummill Hall. The RStats Institute, located in PCOB, is staffed by faculty and graduate assistants from the Psychology Department, and provides research, statistical training, analysis and technical support for faculty and students. RStats faculty associates also provide individual consultations and workshops on research planning, design and statistical analysis to advance the scholarly work of researchers in CHHS and COE.

The Psychology Department's LDC provides evaluation services for students who are seeking accommodations for psychological or learning disabilities.

Services are provided to students referred by Missouri State University's Office of Disability Services, and to the general public. The LDC also offers

Project Success, an academic support program for college students with a learning disability, ADHD, or other diagnosis who desire more comprehensive services than those covered under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Those enrolled in Project Success will be offered a wide variety of services tailored for students with learning disabilities. Graduate assistants from the Psychology Department's Clinical track gain valuable experiences by working in the LDC.

An external review of programs offered by the Department of Psychology was conducted by Dr. Maureen McCarthy and Dr. Mary Kite. The site visitors reviewed the Department of Psychology's self-study and were on campus October 30-31, 2008.

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Consultants' Recommendations<sup>1</sup>

December 2008