The University of Georgia

University Council
Athens, Georgia 30602

October 10, 2012

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Graduate Student Representative – Mr. Garrett Jaeger

Dear Colleagues:

The attached proposal for a new Area of Emphasis in School Psychology under the major in Educational Psychology (Ph.D.) will be an agenda item for the October 17, 2012, Full University Curriculum Committee.

Sincerely,

David E. Shipley, Chair
University Curriculum Committee

cc:    Provost Jere W. Morehead
       Dr. Laura D. Jolly
Dr. Arthur Horne, Dean
College of Education
University of Georgia

27 January 2012

Dear Dean Horne:

The School Psychology faculty, with the support of Dr. Roy Martin, Associate Department Head and Coordinator of the Educational Psychology programs and myself, propose to add School Psychology as an Area of Emphasis under the Ph.D. degree program in Educational Psychology. The School Psychology Area of Emphasis has a specific and established curriculum associated with it. This proposal for an Area of Emphasis within the Educational Psychology Ph.D. degree program is primarily on behalf of our students, who prefer, and would directly benefit from, the flexibility of having both Educational Psychology and School Psychology appearing on their official University of Georgia (UGA) transcript.

Specifically, for UGA graduates seeking academic positions, Educational Psychology is most often the department in which they would be seeking employment. These students want to have Educational Psychology as their degree program. For students seeking licensure or a career in the schools, having School Psychology appear on the transcript as the official Area of Emphasis eases concerns of licensing boards who do not associate Educational Psychology with a license-eligible field. In fact, the Ph.D. program in School Psychology was created on behalf of those students.

Currently, students entering UGA for graduate work must choose between the Ph.D. degree program in Educational Psychology and the Ph.D. degree program in School Psychology. However, they are often not in a position to make such a choice. Furthermore, many students who study School Psychology at UGA would like to retain the flexibility of pursuing an academic and a practice-based career. For them, having both Educational Psychology and School Psychology appear on their official transcript allows them maximum flexibility. Another consideration is that having our students split between two degree programs creates accounting difficulties for administrators seeking to understand the number of students studying "School Psychology" at the University of Georgia.

With the introduction of the Area of Emphasis option, and particularly its appearance on the students’ official transcript, we believe that the best option for our students and for our program is to have all of our students listed under the Educational Psychology Ph.D. program with an Emphasis in School Psychology. Our students approve of this change. Once the School Psychology Area of Emphasis (under the Educational Psychology Ph.D. degree program) has been approved, and our students have been reclassified as Ph.D. students in Educational Psychology, then we will seek to eliminate the Ph.D. program in School Psychology.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Maribe Branch, Head
Department of Educational Psychology and Instructional Technology

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PROPOSAL FOR AREA OF EMPHASIS

School/College: College of Education
Department/Division: Educational Psychology and Instructional Technology
Major: Educational Psychology

If major has more than one area of emphasis, submit all areas of emphasis under one major together. A course may appear in more than one area of emphasis, but each area of emphasis should have a distinct focus.

Major Requirements: Attach a list of requirements for the major. Undergraduate programs may attach a copy of the major requirements from the online bulletin. Graduate programs may provide a list of general requirements for the major.

Area of Emphasis Title (as it will appear in the Bulletin): School Psychology

Proposed starting date: As soon as approved

Area of Emphasis Description: Include prefixes, numbers and titles of required courses, number of credit hours required: residency requirements (if any); and grade requirements (if any). Graduate Areas of Emphasis may refer to groups of courses if necessary.

Area of Emphasis:
The courses below satisfy the area of emphasis.

All of these courses:
EPSY 6300 (3 credits): Introduction to School Psychology
EPSY 8140 (3 credits): Developmental Psychopathology
EPSY 7330 (3 credits): Individual Academic Interventions
EPSY 7100 (3 credits): Individual Assessment of Development
EPSY 7200 (3 credits): Diagnosis of Social/Emotional Behavior in Education
EPSY 7310 (3 credits): Consultation Processes in Educational Settings
EDAP 7040 (3 credits): School Law

Practicum:
EPSY 6720 (total of 6 credits): Master's Practicum in School Psychology
EPSY 7720 (total of 21 credits): Practicum in Psychoeducational Assessment
EPSY 8720 (minimum of 12 credits): Practicum in School Psychology
EPOSY 9720 (minimum of 8 credits): Advanced Internship in School Psychology

Measurement course:
ERSH 8610 (3 credits): Educational Measurement Theory

History and Systems:
PSYC 6180 (3 credits): History of Psychology or equivalent (3 hrs).

One of the two:
PSYC 6130 (3 credits): Biological Foundations of Behavior (3 hrs)
ECHD 8610 (3 credits): Fundamentals of Human Neuroscience

*An equivalent course can be used to replace a required course with the consent of the degree committee.
Signatures:

Department Head

Department

Date

College of Education

School/College Curriculum Committee Chair

School/College

Date

2/27/12

Dean

College of Education

Date

2/27/12

Dean of Graduate School

Date

9/14/13

University Curriculum Committee Chair

Date