

October 5th, 2011

To: Todd Shackelford, Chair, Department of Psychology
Randy Hansen, Assessment Representative, Department of Psychology

From: Aaron Bird, Chair
University Assessment Committee

Subject: Reply to Psychology Ph.D. and M.S. Assessment Plan Submitted September 29th, 2011.

The University Assessment Committee (UAC) has reviewed the assessment plan contained within the Graduate Program Proposal for M.S. and Ph.D. in Psychology. The plan contains three direct measures and one indirect measure of program student learning outcomes.

Direct measures in this plan include review of M.S. and Ph.D. theses, evaluation of teaching performance and undergraduate mentoring, and tallying numbers of peer-reviewed publications authored or coauthored by graduate students. Each direct measure is subdivided into measurable outcomes, which is very important for achieving meaningful results from your assessment activities. We do wish to note one of the measures used for evaluation of teaching performance, namely undergraduate students' evaluations of graduate student performance, is an indirect measure and should be listed separately in that section of the plan. The other indirect measure is an alumni survey to be administered every two years.

Your plan meets the current NCA criteria for program assessment and has been formally approved by the UAC. Now that your program has an approved assessment plan, you should implement your proposed activities as soon as is feasible. Your first assessment report will be due 2 years after the start of the program, tentatively scheduled as October 15, 2014, with all future assessment reports due on a 2-year cycle. Please consult the OU Assessment website at

www.oakland.edu/oira

for an updated schedule, copies of reporting forms, and copies of forms detailing the criteria the UAC uses to review assessment plans and reports.

The UAC realizes that these programs are still in the proposal stage and specific information regarding assessment tools may be in the developmental stages. The UAC therefore requests that you provide the following at the time of the first report:

- Specific rubrics/criteria for all direct measures
- A copy of the alumni survey

If your faculty would like to meet with members of the UAC for more specific comments and assistance, please contact Aaron Bird (bird2@oakland.edu) or Pat Piskulich (ppiskuli@oakland.edu).

For information purposes, we are sending a copy of this to Provost Moudgil, Associate Provost Piskulich, Dean Sudol and Associate Deans Moore and Stewart.

cc: UAC files

Virinder Moudgil, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost

Ronald Sudol, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

Kathleen Moore, Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

Robert Stewart, Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

Michelle Piskulich, Associate Provost for Academic Affairs