Annual Report

Department of Psychology

2002
DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY: ANNUAL REPORT
for the Calendar Year 2002
and Budget Request 2004

I. Unit Title: Psychology

College: Education

Unit Administrator: Gene Hamon

II. Data and information for department:

<table>
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<th></th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2002</th>
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<tr>
<td>Credit hours, undergraduate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Credit hours, graduate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of graduates, BA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of majors</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student-Teacher Ratio (Fall only)</td>
<td>20</td>
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<td>20</td>
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- The number of majors decreased by 1, and the number of graduates remained the same.
- The student-teacher ratio did not change.
- Average class size remained the same for lower level classes, and increased by five for upper level classes.

III. Personnel

Noteworthy activities and accomplishments
- Dr. Paul Nicodemus
  - served as a statistical and research consultant for the After-School Tutoring Program (Gentry High School, Indianola).
  - served as lead evaluator for two federally funded projects.
  - coauthored a paper presented at a state convention.
  - coauthored a paper published in the *Journal of General Psychology*.
  - coauthored a paper presented at a regional convention
  - served on the 4th Circuit Court of Mississippi Drug Court Committee.
  - coauthored a paper accepted for presentation at a state convention.
  - served as the Vice President for the West Delta Behavioral Health Network.
- Dr. Reid Jones
  - presented three research papers on ACT at MidSouth Educational Research Association Annual Convention, Chattanooga, TN
  - chaired workshop at Mississippi Academy of Sciences, Updating Federal Guidelines for Protection of Human Subjects
  - selected as one of 15 faculty nationwide to attend special training session in GRE preparation offered at the Educational Testing Service, Princeton, NJ
• presented two GRE workshops for DSU
• served as Chair of the DSU Institutional Review Board (IRB) for Protection of Human Research Subjects
• reviewed 45 DSU projects
• served as volunteer IRB reviewer for four NIH Research Grants at Delta medical practices
• negotiated $2,000 contract for continuing IRB review for local medical practices, with proceed going to two DSU faculty
• appointed Chair of the DSU Research Committee
• expanded to five subcommittees (one is the IRB mentioned above)
• obtained $2,342 NSF grant for two DSU faculty for advanced training in Evaluation Research
• negotiating with UMC, Jackson to provide Research Internships for DSU faculty in psychology, nursing, health and related sciences
• obtained $500 grant for three DSU faculty to provide ACT preparation workshop series for local public high schools

• Dr. Carol Hayes
• developed and taught two online courses.
• coauthored NSF grant (pending) for $100,000
• co-established relationship with Western New Mexico University for cooperative ventures with Delta State University

• Dr. Scott Hutchens
• coauthored a paper published in the Journal of General Psychology.
• coauthored a manuscript submitted for publication.
• presented a paper at a regional convention.
• had a paper accepted for presentation at a regional convention.
• coauthored four papers accepted for presentation at regional conventions.
• was selected to chair two paper sessions at two regional conventions
• coauthored a paper accepted for presentation at a state convention.

• Department members participated in six faculty development activities.
• Drs. Gene Hamon, and Scott Hutchens have developed Web assisted classes using WebCT.

New positions requested with justification
• None

Recommended change of status (promotion or tenure)
• Paul Nicodemus recommended for promotion to Associate Professor.

IV. Degree Program Addition or Deletion
• None
V. Department Goals for 2002

A. Goal 1: Encourage faculty to make effective use of new technology both in and outside of the classroom.

B. Institutional Goal: Optimize the effective use of technology in support of the education process.

C. Expected Results: All faculty will use a computer classroom for at least one course each semester. Faculty will use the Internet in the classroom and develop Web assisted courses, and were appropriate will develop power point class room presentations.

D. Assessment Procedures: Survey of faculty was done at the first departmental meeting Fall 2002. Faculty members were asked about use of computer classroom, use of Internet in classrooms, and development of Web assisted courses.

E. Actual Results: 80% of faculty use a computer classroom for at least one class meeting per semester. One faculty member has developed and taught two online courses. Two faculty members have created Web assisted courses, and all are using the Internet to enhance courses. Two faculty members have developed power point presentation for all their classes.

F. Use of Results: Faculty using a computer classroom and the Internet will share experiences with the others. As a results other faculty are planning on developing Web assisted courses.
A. **Goal 2:** To reduce the student-teacher ratio and the average class size to meet the institutional mission of "special attention to small classes."

B. **Institutional Goal:** Provide sufficient faculty in all disciplines to maintain a student-teacher ratio that ensures opportunities for meaningful intellectual interaction between students and faculty.

C. **Expected Results:** The student-teacher ratio for Fall 2002 will be less than it was Fall 2001.

D. **Assessment Procedures:** Analysis of credit hour production and information furnished by the Office of Institutional Research and Planning. The average class size was determined by taking credit hour production and dividing it by three to create the number of students enrolled in all Psychology classes for Fall 2002. This figure was then divided by the number of classes to create average class size. The student-teacher ratio was created by taking credit hour production and dividing by 15 to create full time equivalent (FTE) students. This figure was then divided by FTE faculty to derive the student-teacher ratio.

E. **Actual Results:** The student-teacher ratio for Fall 2002 did not change. The average class size for lower level classes remained the same, and the average class size for upper level classes increased by 5 to 21. For Fall 2001, the department student-teacher ratio of 20 was one of the highest in the university. The university average was 14.

F. **Use of Results:** Student-teacher ratio and class sizes will be monitored. If needed, maximum class size will be decreased.
A. **Goal 3:** To develop a more systematic method of collecting data for program evaluation.

B. **Institutional Goal:** Review and update undergraduate and graduate programs to adequately address basic skills, knowledge, and competencies necessary for students to be properly prepared in their chosen fields, to complete licensure requirements, enter the work force, and/or continue advanced study in graduate or professional school.

C. **Expected Results:** Increased effectiveness of program evaluation.

D. **Assessment Procedures:** Examination of current data collection procedures.

E. **Actual Results:** One hundred percent of the 2002 graduates took the Major Field test and completed the Senior Survey. Also 100% turned in portfolios.

F. **Use of Results:** The requirement that PSY 490 (Senior Seminar) be taken was effective Spring 2000 for majors who transferred Fall 1998, and was effective for other majors Spring 2002. This goal has been met.
A. **Goal 4:** Improve student recruitment and retention.

B. **Institutional Goal:** Attract and retain qualified and diverse students, faculty, and staff.

C. **Expected Results:** It is expected that the number of new majors will increase.

D. **Assessment Procedures:** Comparison of the number of new majors (transfers and new freshman) Fall 2002 with the number for Fall 2001.

E. **Actual Results:** For Fall 2001 there were 90 majors, including 14 new freshmen and 12 transfers. For Fall 2002 there were 95 majors, including 8 new freshmen and 17 transfer students.

F. **Use of Results:** The recruiting efforts implemented previously will continue. The number of new majors admitted for each fall semester will be monitored.
VI. Student Outcomes

Major: Psychology  
Degree: B.A.

A. **Student Outcome 1**: Students graduating from this program will possess knowledge of Psychology.

B. **Expected Results**: Sixty percent of seniors will score above the 50th percentile on the ETS Major Field Test (MFT) in Psychology.

C. **Assessment Procedures**: Analysis of scores on the ETS Major Field Test (MFT) in Psychology.

D. **Actual Results**: Forty-six percent scored above the 50th percentile. This was an decrease from the prior year. The correlation between the student's Psychology GPA and test score was +.73 (Spring 2002) and .90 (Fall 2002). The MFT was administered to the Spring 2002 and the Fall 2002 Senior Seminar classes, and data from the two classes will be presented separately. The Spring 2002 group (n = 15) scored at the 57th percentile on the total test. Additional analysis indicated exceptional performance in two areas (sensory and physiological – 85th percentile, and development – 71st percentile), acceptable performance in three areas (memory and thinking – 38th percentile, clinical and abnormal – 39th percentile, and measurement and methodology – 36th percentile), and deficiency in social – 20th percentile. The average Psychology grade point average was 3.25. The Fall 2002 class (n = 7) did not do as well. They scored at the 14th percentile on the total test. Additional analysis indicated acceptable performance on sensory and physiology – 32nd percentile, and deficiencies in five areas (memory and thinking – 16th percentile, development – 10th percentile, clinical and abnormal – 9th percentile, social – 23th percentile, and measurement and methodology – 16th percentile. The class average Psychology grade was 3.00

**Dates of the most recent evaluations**: May 2002 and December 2002

E. **Use of Results**: Social Cognition was first offered Fall 1998. From 1995 to 1999 the average percentile scores on the social area was at the 10th percentile. From 2000 to 2002 the average has increased to the 23rd percentile. This shows a good improvement.
Major: Psychology             Degree: B.A.

A. Student Outcome 2: Graduating seniors will show a high degree of satisfaction with the Psychology Department.

B. Expected Results: The average rating given to the "overall quality of this department" will be "good" or "excellent," and the average rating for "quality of career advising in my major" will also be "good" or "excellent."

C. Assessment Procedures: Comparison of Departmental ratings on the 2002 Senior Survey with the 2001 Survey.

D. Actual Results: The average rating for quality of department was 1.62 (2 - good, 1 - excellent). The average for 2001 was 1.81. The average rating for quality of career advising was 2.14 (2 - good, 1 - excellent). The average for 2001 was 2.12.

Date of the most recent evaluations: May 2002 & December 2002

E. Use of Results: While the average ratings were slightly better the prior year, the ratings were better then the seven year average. The ratings will be monitored to see if the trend continues.
A. **Student Outcome 3:** Each graduate will demonstrate proficiency in statistics and research methods.

B. **Expected Results:** Ninety percent of graduating seniors will demonstrate competent statistical and research skills by making a grade of "C" or better in the Statistics and Research Methods courses. The Department will rank at or above the 30th percentile on the measurement and methodology assessment indicator for the ETS Major Field Test in Psychology.

C. **Assessment Procedures:** Analysis of grades in PSY 200 (Statistics) and PSY 201 (Research Methods) for graduating seniors (N = 21) taking the ETS Major Field Test in Psychology. The percentile rank for measurement and methodology assessment indicator (ETS Major Field Test in Psychology) was also examined.

D. **Actual Results:** Ninety percent had grades of C or better in both PSY 200, and 100% in PSY 201. The Spring 2002 class scored at the 36th percentile on the measurement and methodology assessment indicator while the Fall 2002 class ranked at the 16th percentile.

**Date of the most recent evaluations:** May 2002 and December 2002

E. **Use of Results:** The goal for 2003 is that all students will earn a grade of C or higher in the two courses, and the percentile rank will be at least 50%. The comparison between the PSY 490 group and the non-PSY 490 group (see last years report) clearly showed that the students who take PSY 490 perform better on the measurement and methodology assessment indicator than do students who do not. PSY 490 became a required course effective with the 1998-99 catalog, and students who entered Delta State for the first time at or after that year are required to take the course. Since all majors are now required to take the course, it is expected that performance on the measurement and methodology assessment indicator will continue to improve.
VII. Goals for 2003-2004

A. **Goal 1**: Encourage faculty to make effective use of new technology both in and outside the classroom

   1. **University Goal**: Improve the use of instructional technologies.

B. **Goal 2**: To reduce the student-teacher ratio and the average class size to meet the institutional mission of “special attention to small classes.”

   1. **University Goal**: Establish an enrollment management program.

C. **Goal 3**: To improve student recruitment and retention.

   1. **University Goal**: Develop a university relations and marketing plan.
   2. **University Goal**: Establish an enrollment management program.
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