

COMPREHENSIVE ACADEMIC AFFAIRS PROGRAM REVIEW

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2020-2021

| Complete Program Title | |
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| Arts and Sciences - Psychology Concentration | |
| Program Coordinator | |
| Eric Hess | |
| Division | Division Chair |
| Social Sciences | Sharon Brunner |
| Type of Program | |
| Transfer Degree: | Terminal Degree: |
| ☑ Associate of Arts (A.A.) | Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) |
| Associate of Arts in Teaching (A.A.T.) | Certificate: |
| Associate of Fine Arts (A.F.A.) | Directed Technology Certificate |
| | |
| Associate of Science (A.S.) | New Certificate Program within an Existing Degree Area |

1. Synopses of the significant findings

- Since fall 2015, the number of psychology graduates has increased by 127%.
- Over the past 5 years, the psychology program enrolled more part-time students than full-time students and averaged 40.13 FTE.
- The Psychology program enrolls significantly more females than males and more white students than students of color.
- Academic expectations for the two general education courses, General Psychology and Human Development, were updated to improve rigor and learning outcomes.
- The overall success rate in Psychology courses is high.
- Since the concentration was established, retention rates have improved from 39.2% in fall 2015 to 47.9% in spring 2020. This is significantly higher than College-wide retention rates.

2. Strengths of the program

- The Psychology program draws traditional college-age students who may select from a variety of Psychology elective courses based on interest and transfer institution requirements.
- Program courses were modernized to better represent knowledge needed in the field and for transfer. Out-dated courses were deactivated. Other courses were updated with relevant content and new courses were added to meet student interests and trends.
- The Psychology Advisory Board includes transfer partners and area professionals who have provided valuable insight and resources.
- Many courses in the Psychology program use open educational resources and discounted textbooks per publisher agreements.
- The program partners with Career Development to offer an annual Psychology student event to encourage exploration and discussion on a variety of topics.

3. Weaknesses of the program

- Co-listing courses with Continuing Education occurred. However, the noncredit student population has been minimal.
- The Psychology club, known as Carroll Undergraduate Psychology Students, has grown since its establishment in 2019. The club is transitioning to new leadership and remote interaction.

4. Plans for Improvement including a timeline

- Increase full-time enrollment by 5% over the next five years.
- Work toward additional free and low-cost content for students. Add two additional free/low-cost courses within the next 5 years.
- Develop a more active Carroll Undergraduate Psychology Society (CUPS) by spring 2021.
- Discuss the potential for a gender/sexuality/equity concentration/certificate in 2022.
- Continue to hone course selections.
- 5. Identification of weaknesses or deficiencies from the previous review and the status of improvements implemented or accomplished
 - Based on PSYC-101 data from 2010 2015, the high percentage of F grades was a concern. The percentage remains about the same, but the rigor of the class has increased. Students are encouraged to use the academic services available to them to succeed in the course.
 - PSYC-101 and PSYC-211 remain two popular courses for many students.
 - Transfer agreements are now in place with four 4-year institutions to promote seamless transfer.

6. Budget/position requests

• No additional positions are needed at this time.

| Signatures | |
|---|----------|
| En.11. | 2/3/21 |
| Program Coordinator | Date |
| Sharon Brunner | 2/3/2021 |
| Division Chair | Date |
| Melody L. Moore | 5/17/21 |
| Associate Vice President for Program Development and Partnerships | Date |