

Materials linked from the February 5, 2015 Budgets & Fiscal Planning Committee agenda.

Summary of Faculty Senate Budget & Fiscal Planning Committee's Review of the PhD, MS in Psychology Proposal #92189 (<https://secure.oregonstate.edu/ap/cps/proposals/view/92189>)

The proposal suggests that there will be no net increase in costs to the College to add this program but this appears overly optimistic. Mentoring 15 additional graduate students (which includes 10 less graduate students in MAIS) and instruction of 14 new graduate courses cannot be reasonably accomplished with the addition of only 2 more faculty members (from 13 to 15) as suggested in the proposal. Newly hired tenure track faculty should not be overly burdened with teaching or their potential for success will be limited. The proposal states, "Students in the Ph.D. program will be advised by a tenure-track faculty." However, there needs to be some clarity who will be mentoring the MA students (tenure track faculty or "PhD/instructors"). Currently, there is not enough documentation within the proposal that there will be sufficient resources for the program to be successful. It would be helpful to add a timeline to the proposal so that it will be easier to see how faculty FTE will be spread out over this proposal (mentoring, instruction, etc.).

Also for budgetary clarification, there is only a brief mention in the proposal how the new program will affect the MAIS program. "There are currently ten students in the MAIS program who have declared psychology to be their primary area." Once the new graduate program in Psychology is established, the School will plans to withdraw these ten GTAs from the MAIS program and have less faculty available to serve on committees for MAIS students. "We do not believe that our program will impact enrollment in other graduate programs at OSU or in the state. The exception to this is the MAIS program. We do expect that we will deemphasize our role in the MAIS program as our faculty will naturally gravitate toward the mentoring of doctoral students. In particular, we will shift GTA funding and the associated GTA space from MAIS students to Ph.D. students. Overall, we have no plan to discontinue entirely our participation in the MAIS, although it is likely that the bulk of our participation would migrate to secondary program status." In addition, the extra effort required for administration of another graduate program needs to be discussed (the proposal said that the new program would be under the administrative support of the MAIS program). A letter of acknowledgement from Dr. Bernell (MAIS director) is needed in this [proposal](#).

Commented [LS1]: that describes the MAIS program's administrative support for the students in the new program.

Other concerns included:

- 1) The number of credit hours in required coursework for a PhD student and the requirement for all PhD students to first obtain a MA degree. "Some students might enter the Ph.D. program with a Master's degree. These students will be required to complete the entire curriculum but may have certain elements in their program (e.g., a specific core course or first year Research Presentation) counted towards the degree requirements at the discretion of their Graduate Committee and the School's Graduate Education Committee. *Up to 15 credits of relevant coursework from another degree program can be applied to the Ph.D.*, with the approval of the committee." For the remainder of the coursework, these PhD students would need to take additional classes from OSU.
- 2) There is some overlap with PSU PhD program in Applied Psychology in the health psychology area and the University of Oregon's program. One of the proposal's justifications for the overlap is that this would allow some shared teaching between the institutions. However, since "there are no plans for Ecampus delivery" of courses, the committee would like additional examples of the vision for the shared teaching model.
- 3) The inconsistency throughout the proposal on number of students accepted per year and total number of students within the program. For instance, in one area, the proposal indicates that up to 5 students will be admitted per year but then later it says 5-6 students will be admitted

per year, and then it 6 students per year would be admitted. Similar inconsistencies exist when describing the maximum number of students that will be in the program.

- 4) "An internal analysis of our curricular needs suggests that the number of faculty we will have in place by FY16 (15 FTE) will be adequate to staff the graduate program and maintain our undergraduate curriculum. Our analysis can be briefly summarized as follows. Recent experience suggests that 85 undergraduate sections per year can accommodate our on-campus demand, albeit with classes at capacity. With an increase to 15 tenure-track FTE, and maintaining our current instructors, we can generate 95 sections under current teaching loads. The graduate program will require approximately 14 4-credit graduate courses per year (assuming the Methods and Professional Core are taught annually and the Content Core and new electives are taught every other year, along with regular special topics classes). This is consistent with other OSU graduate programs. We expect losses from the undergraduate curriculum totaling a maximum of 29 classes due to the 14 graduate courses, reduction in teaching load for tenure-track faculty to accommodate increased mentoring, thesis, and dissertation supervision, and reduced teaching load for the Graduate Program Director. To help replace these losses, ABD GTAs will be assigned to teach sections. By the fourth year of the program, we anticipate at least nine such students will be available, and more thereafter. This generates a minimum of 27 new sections, even if each GTA only teaches one class per term. We estimate this leaves us with a loss of two undergraduate sections, for a total of 93 sections, well above the 85 sections identified above." We'd like to see some clarification to this statement to demonstrate how the funding would flow to support this – and work levels after the changes described.

Commented [MK2]: Seems like funny math to me