Department of Psychology

at

Florida State University

A PROPOSED PROGRAM

for the

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY DEGREE IN PSYCHOLOGY
A DOCTORAL PROGRAM IN PSYCHOLOGY

The Department of Psychology herewith submits for the consideration of the Graduate Council and the Board of Control, the following information to support its request for permission to offer the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology.
OUTLINE

I. The Growth of the Department of Psychology

II. Justification for a Doctoral Program in Psychology

III. The Program
   A. General-Experimental
   B. Clinical
   C. Child Development
   D. Guidance and Personnel
   E. Special Education

IV. Facilities
   A. Library
   B. Laboratory
   C. Clinical
   D. Child Development
   E. Guidance and Personnel
   F. Special Education

V. Graduate Course Offerings

VI. The Graduate Faculty

VII. Supporting Areas
THE GROWTH OF THE DEPARTMENT

of

PSYCHOLOGY

A glance at the following table will show that there has been a significant increase in members of the psychology faculty, and in the number of students granted M.A. degrees. At the February graduation four students received this degree. There are now seventy-five students working toward the M.A. degree in one of the several areas of psychology. Also, it may be noted that there are currently six student candidates for the Ph.D. degree.

The number of inquiries from graduate students interested in earning a doctorate in psychology at Florida State University is increasing at an encouraging rate.
GROWTH OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

<table>
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<th>YEAR</th>
<th>PROF.</th>
<th>ASSOC. PROF.</th>
<th>ASSIST. PROF.</th>
<th>INSTR.</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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<th>PH.D.</th>
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1. For the year 1950-51 there are 80 undergraduate students majoring in one of the areas in psychology.

2. During this same year there are 75 students in the several areas working toward an M.A. degree in psychology.
JUSTIFICATION FOR A DOCTORAL PROGRAM

IN PSYCHOLOGY

The very fact that Florida State University was established implies the offering of advanced work to those wishing to pursue graduate studies.

The psychology department is now thoroughly equipped to give that fundamental training in "pure" psychology which is the foundation of the various "applied" fields. Basic courses in laboratory and experimental methods, research techniques, and mathematical and statistical procedures are now given by experts, at the advanced graduate level. In addition, the physiological and social ramifications of the subject and the necessary understanding of basic concepts in learning, perception and related fields are thoroughly established in the candidate before he is permitted to go on. In this respect our graduate program lays a firm foundation of fundamentals before the student begins his training in specialized fields. It, therefore, follows the pattern established in doctoral training in other first-rank institutions. A doctoral program will provide an opportunity for advanced studies in psychology by students in collaboration with faculty members, and will make sound research possible for both students and faculty.

A science faculty which does not engage in research soon finds that its knowledge has withered back to the level of textbook information. Direction of graduate research at the doctoral level serves to maintain contact between the faculty and the frontiers of science, and to stimulate
the staff's own research and professional interest.

Within a university, the pedagogical or administrative ability of a department faculty is a primary consideration, but for the outside observer, the prestige of the university is largely determined by the scholarship of the faculty. In science scholarship means research, and the universities with fame among universities are those which contribute to new knowledge. One of the major ways in which knowledge is advanced is by the research of doctoral candidates, and a sound doctoral program is a large contribution toward general recognition of the university.

The Department of Psychology at Florida State University is known throughout the country to be outstanding. Many of the facilities here are superior to those in some of the great universities. During the past twenty-five years, the department has been able to attract well-qualified staff members, and the students who majored in psychology on the undergraduate and graduate levels have been uniformly superior. These majors have entered many of the great universities and have found their training at Florida State College for Women and Florida State University as good as, and in many cases better than that received in the great universities. The graduates of Florida State University are teachers, clinicians, lawyers, personnel directors, in foreign service, the F.B.I., and on college faculties.

The program in child development and child psychology at Florida State University is the only one in the Southeast. It is organized on an inter-divisional basis through the master's level. On the
Ph.D. level, it is offered on a departmental plan. The number of students interested in child development at the graduate level is increasing at an encouraging rate.

The program of adult education, family counseling, and consultant services, child welfare work, and teaching has created a need for a better understanding of the basic psychological development of the growing child. Florida State University offers a program in this field leading to advanced degrees in the Department of Psychology.

The guidance program has been designed to meet the need of various students. The courses offered by the University in the field of counselor-training are pointed toward the objective of supplying such agencies as schools, guidance centers, placement offices, welfare agencies, business and industrial concerns, and individuals especially trained as counselors. The graduate major in guidance is recommended for such specialists as deans of students, personnel technicians, guidance and personnel directors, etc.

The Florida legislature in 1947 set up provisions for the teaching of handicapped children. A large number of the units have been set up in the public schools. This legislation immediately created a teacher shortage. It will require ten or more years to catch up with this demand. The Department of Psychology has planned a program in special education to adequately train teachers for this service. A program of graduate work is also necessary to prepare individuals to train these teachers. The demand for well-qualified personnel is tremendous. Florida State University has the staff and facilities to
launch this graduate program.

The School of Education has offered a doctoral program for some time. Advanced students in education are using such areas as clinical, child development, guidance and personnel, special education, and educational psychology as fields of concentration. The School of Home Economics and the School of Social Welfare send students to the Department of Psychology for advanced work. In turn, many students in psychology will take concentrated work in the School of Education, School of Home Economics, and the School of Social Welfare. Therefore, it becomes necessary for the Department of Psychology to offer doctoral level work if the demands and challenges of the students and the University are to be met.

No one or several universities will be able to prepare enough well-qualified young men and women to meet the challenges of our time. The faculty of the Department of Psychology of Florida State University have areas of specialization which are distinct from the specializations of other psychology departments in the region. It seems clear that doctoral students of this department are needed both for their numbers and their unique qualifications.