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**ACADEMIC PROGRAM REVIEW  
INTERIM PROGRESS REPORT FORM**

This form is composed of three parts: the Program Section, the Dean Section, and the Provost Section. Guidance for submission is provided in each section.

**Using the Form:** The form is pre-loaded with information specific to each program and posted on the [Program Review website](#). The program should download and save their form to begin using it. The form is locked, so instructions are viewable and the only sections of the document that can be edited are the form fields.

The form uses narrative, text, and drop-down boxes. Narrative boxes have a character limit, which includes spaces. When using text and drop-down boxes, if you want to undo an answer, press "Control-Z" or "Command-Z."

Responses are to be narrative only, and must be ADA and FERPA compliant. Do not embed any links, including to webpages or other documents. To be FERPA compliant, do not include the names of any current or former students. Rather, use statements such as, "In AY21 four program graduates were accepted to graduate programs in the field." Programs with specialized accreditation or other external recognitions must comply with restrictions regarding what can be published, as per the accreditor or external organization. Do not include appendices. Appendices to this form will not be accepted.

**Assistance:** For technical assistance with this form, email Academic Affairs ([uaa.oaa@alaska.edu](mailto:uaa.oaa@alaska.edu)).

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**Submission Date:** 3/1/2021

**Name and title of person(s) submitting the report:** Gloria Eldridge, Professor; Eric Murphy, Department Director

**Program(s) in the report:** MS Clinical Psychology

**Specialized Accrediting Agency (if applicable):** N/A

**Campuses where program is delivered:**  Anchorage  KOD  KPC  MSC  PWSC

**Year of last review:** AY2020

**Final decision from last review:** Revision

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**PROGRAM SECTION**

*After completing the Program Section, the program should email this form to the dean, and copy [uaa.oaa@alaska.edu](mailto:uaa.oaa@alaska.edu) for posting. If the program is delivered on a community campus, copy the appropriate community campus director(s) as well.*

**For each current recommendation listed below, provide a timeline for addressing the recommendation, an indication of how you will know when the recommendation has been successfully achieved, a brief**

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description of actions taken to date, and any evidence that the actions have been successful. Programs can access current data on the [IR-Reports Program Review site](#).

***Recommendation 1: Direct resources to the baccalaureate programs and seamlessly integrate the master's program into the Clinical-Community Psychology PhD, providing the training necessary for licensure at the master's level for students interested in this field. A plan for the revision, including consultation with the specialized accreditor, should be developed in AY21 and submitted along with an Interim Progress Report by March 1, 2021.***

**Timeline (2000 characters or less)**

Spring 2020-Spring 2021: Integration of baccalaureate and MS through development of the Behavioral Concentration and the Applied Behavior Analysis track in the MS.

The baccalaureate provides a conduit into the MS and the MS provides the opportunity for psychology students to pursue graduate training as master's level mental health clinicians. A unique development has been creation of a track in Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA). This track, approved in January 2021, will provide the only Alaska path to training as a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA). To create that ABA track, the Behavior Analysis Committee created a sequence of stacked undergraduate and graduate courses leading to BCBA certification. The new track will attract additional students, integrate undergraduate faculty and curriculum resources into the MS, and meet an unmet training need in Alaska. The graduate course work is awaiting approval as a Verified Course Sequence (VCS) with the Association for Behavior Analysis International (ABAI), the equivalent of accreditation for ABA programs.

Ongoing: Integration of the MS and PhD in Clinical/Community Psychology.

Six shared MS/PhD courses were offered in AY 20-21. Five of six shared courses are taught by MS faculty, extending scarce PhD program resources.

In AY 20-21, the MS Coordinator chaired a successful search for a PhD Assistant Professor, who will instruct shared MS/PhD courses, freeing MS faculty for further undergraduate teaching.

In August 2020, the Director of the Psychological Services Center (PSC), the shared MS/PhD training clinic, resigned. Since then, the PSC has been managed by a committee comprised of the PhD Director, MS Coordinator, and an Interim Director (member of the MS faculty and former PSC Director). A search for a two year term appointment for PSC director has begun.

Ongoing: American Psychological Association (APA) accreditation for the MS program

APA approved Accreditation Standards for master's programs Feb 27, 2021.

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**How will you know the recommendation has been successfully achieved? Include description of data or metrics used and method used to determine success. (2000 characters or less)**

Direct resources to baccalaureate program

We will assess the number of undergraduate courses taught by MS faculty, with each MS faculty member teaching at least one undergraduate course per semester, focusing on clinical prerequisite courses that benefit from instructors with clinical expertise. The catalog changes for the two-track MS (clinical track and ABA track) have been approved by the Graduate Academic Board and we are awaiting approval of the Verified Course Sequence by ABAI for the ABA track. The number of students registered in undergraduate ABA courses and moving through the undergraduate Concentration in Behavior Analysis will give an indication of increasing demand for the graduate ABA track.

Integration of the MS and the PhD in Clinical/Community Psychology

Indicators are the number of shared MS/PhD courses, the number of PhD dissertation committees that include MS faculty, successful hire of a new Director for the PSC, and having the new PSC Director assume responsibility for supervision of MS and PhD clinical experiences in the community (PSY 670 and 653).

For the first time since MS GTA funding was removed and MS enrollment fell to less than half our usual class size, in AY 20-21, we admitted a full cohort of 12 high quality MS students. This allows for larger class sizes and greater efficiency in the six shared MS/PhD courses. Today is the application deadline for the MS program. Given the number of applications we have, we anticipate that we will easily fill our 12 class slots in the clinical track for the coming year.

American Psychological Association (APA) accreditation for the MS program

Indicators of progress will be setting up an Accreditation committee with members of the MS and PhD programs. The first step in the process will be to integrate processes between the MS and PhD, which is already APA accredited, complete a mock self-study, and consult with the Psychology Director about resources needed for MS accreditation.

**Actions taken to date and evidence of success to date. (2000 characters or less)**

Integration of baccalaureate and MS program

MS faculty teach undergraduate prerequisite courses that require clinical training and expertise (PSY 345, 425, and 473), giving exposure to MS clinical faculty for students in those courses and disseminating information about the MS. One MS faculty member has been a member of the Behavioral Concentration Planning Group throughout the process of creating the undergraduate Concentration and stacked undergraduate and graduate courses. With the approval of the second MS track through GAB, students in the undergraduate behavioral concentration can pursue an MS in applied behavior analysis in Alaska and the Licensed Behavior Analyst (LBA) license in Alaska.

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#### Integration of the MS and PhD in Clinical/Community Psychology

The MS and PhD continue to offer six shared courses, MS faculty sit on PhD dissertation committees, the programs share use of the PSC training clinic, and they share membership in department search committees, such as the just completed Assistant Professor PhD search and the current PSC Director search. Since the PSC Director and MS faculty member resigned in August 2020, the PSC has been managed by a committee comprised of the PhD Director, MS Coordinator, and an Interim Director (MS faculty member and former PSC Director).

#### APA accreditation for the MS

Accreditation standards for master's programs in Health Service Psychology (HSP) were approved by APA Feb 27, 2021. The MS in clinical psychology falls under the category of Health Service Psychology. In anticipation of APA publishing standards to accredit master's level training programs, two members of the MS faculty worked with the Alaska Psychology licensing board in AY 20-21 on proposed regulatory changes to the Licensed Psychological Associate (LPA) license to make that license more accessible to MS graduates. This is especially important now that APA will accredit MS programs in HSP and there will be increased demand for the LPA license in Alaska.

#### **Future actions to take, if applicable. (2000 characters or less)**

#### Integration of baccalaureate and MS program

To develop the ABA track, activities to advertise the new MS track will begin immediately to encourage applicants for AY 22-23. Behavioral Concentration Faculty will be integrated into the MS Clinical Training Committee for planning in AY 21-22 and will sit on the Admissions Committee in March 2022. The Behavioral Concentration group will continue to work with ABAI for final approval of the Verified Course Sequence for the ABA track.

#### Integration of the MS and the PhD in Clinical/Community Psychology

In addition to continuing shared courses and integrating MS faculty into PhD dissertation committees, the search committee (comprised of members from the MS and PhD programs plus an external member from Social Work) will complete the search for a term appointment for PSC Director and MS Assistant Professor. The new PSC director will to assume responsibility for supervision of MS and PhD students in clinical sites in the community (PSY 670 and 653), completing integration of MS and PhD courses.

#### American Psychological Association (APA) accreditation for the MS program

In AY 21-22, we will begin to work toward APA accreditation of the clinical track of the MS by establishing an accreditation committee with members from the MS and PhD program – this will be a substantial benefit to accreditation for the MS because we can capitalize on the expertise of PhD

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faculty who have already gone through the entire APA accreditation process for the PhD. We will also initiate consultation with the APA Commission on Accreditation, and consult with the Psychology Department Director about resources required for APA accreditation. We will also consult with the PhD Director and Administrative Assistant on integrating processes and procedures from the PhD into the MS program to be consistent with accreditation standards across the two programs, further integrating the MS and PhD.

***Recommendation 2: Revise the program according to the plan in AY22, for implementation in fall 2022.***

***Timeline (2000 characters or less)***

Integration of baccalaureate and MS program

Once ABAI approves the Verified Course Sequence for the ABA track in the MS program, we will begin to advertise the track for applicants for AY 22-23. Faculty workloads will be adjusted to allow for delivery of the ABA graduate program. After completion of the search for a second Assistant professor for the PhD program in Fall 2021, faculty workloads will be adjusted for Fall 2022 to free up MS faculty for coursework in the MS program and the undergraduate program to allow Behavioral Concentration faculty to deliver the ABA program without additional faculty resources.

Integration of the MS and the PhD in Clinical/Community Psychology

We will continue to offer shared MS/PhD courses, including supervision of clinical experiences for the MS and PhD students in the community. Having two new hires in the PhD program by AY 22-23 will allow workload adjustments in the MS and PhD programs. (This will also allow MS faculty to support the undergraduate program and the ABA track in the MS.)

APA accreditation for the MS program

In AY 21-22, we will begin to work toward APA accreditation of the clinical track of the MS by establishing an accreditation committee with members from the MS and PhD program – this will be a substantial benefit to accreditation for the MS because we can capitalize on the expertise of PhD faculty who have already gone through the entire APA accreditation process for the PhD. We will also initiate consultation with the APA Commission on Accreditation, and consult with the Psychology Department Director about resources required for APA accreditation. We will also consult with the PhD Director and Administrative Assistant on integrating processes and procedures from the PhD into the MS program to be consistent with accreditation standards across the two programs, further integrating the MS and PhD.

***How will you know the recommendation has been successfully achieved? Include description of data or metrics used and method used to determine success. (2000 characters or less)***

Integration of baccalaureate and MS program

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Indicators will be the number of MS Applied Behavior Analysis applicants for Fall 2022, the number of MS Applied Behavior Analysis admissions for Fall 2022, and the number of ABA courses being offered in AY 22-23

Integration of the MS and the PhD in Clinical/Community Psychology

Indicators will be the number of shared MS/PhD courses and the number of MS students in the clinical track, which allows for greater efficiency in delivery of the shared MS/PhD courses.

APA accreditation for the MS program

Indicators are creation of an Accreditation committee, progress on adopting PhD policies and processes into the MS program, consultation with the APA Commission on Accreditation, consultation with the Psychology Director on resources needed for accreditation, and successful receipt of required resources, as indicated by the Commission on Accreditation.

**Actions taken to date and evidence of success to date. (2000 characters or less)**

Integration of baccalaureate and MS program

The Verified Course Sequence for the Applied Behavior Analysis track was submitted to ABAI in February 2021 is awaiting approval. Stacked graduate and undergraduate courses have been created and a second track in the MS program has been approved by UAA Curriculum approval processes. MS faculty are teaching at least one undergraduate section per term to maintain undergraduate enrollments and provide exposure to clinical faculty for students in MS prerequisite courses.

Integration of the MS and PhD in Clinical/Community Psychology

Shared MS/PhD courses are being offered. Cohort size in the MS has increased back to its level of approximately 12 students per year, which allows for greater efficiency in delivery of the shared courses. Since the PSC Director resigned in August 2021, the PSC has been operated by a management committee consisting of the PhD Director, MS Coordinator, and an Interim PSC Director (MS faculty member and former PSC Director). The search for a PSC director is ongoing, with search committee membership from the MS and PhD programs.

APA accreditation for the MS program

APA published its Accreditation Standards for Health Service Psychology programs on Feb 27, 2021. Plans are in place to begin moving toward APA accreditation for the clinical track of the MS in Fall 2021 through creation of an Accreditation Committee made up of MS and PhD faculty, consultation

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with the APA Commission on Accreditation, consultation with the Psychology Director on resources needed for accreditation, and consultation with the PhD administrative assistant on integrating policies and procedures from the PhD into the MS program, given that the PhD is already APA-accredited. MS Faculty will continue to work with the Psychology licensing board to improve access to the LPA license for MS graduates; in light of APA accreditation standards for master's programs, this becomes even more critical.

**Future actions to take, if applicable. (2000 characters or less)**

Integration of baccalaureate and MS program

Future actions are to obtain the Verified Course Sequence designation for the ABA track in the MS program, the equivalent of accreditation for ABA programs, advertise the new ABA track and seek applicants for the cohort starting in Fall 2022, make workload adjustments so that the ABA course sequence can be delivered, integrate Behavioral Concentration faculty into the MS Clinical Training Committee, and begin delivering the new ABA coursework.

Integration of the MS and the PhD in Clinical/Community Psychology

We will continue with the integration activities outlined above, including shared courses, shared membership on dissertation committees, shared use of the PSC training clinic, and integrating supervision for the PhD program PSY 653 (clinical training the community) into the workload for the PSC Director.

APA accreditation for the MS program

APA published its Accreditation Standards for Health Service Psychology programs on Feb 27, 2021. Plans are in place to begin moving toward APA accreditation for the clinical track of the MS in Fall 2021 through creation of an Accreditation Committee made up of MS and PhD faculty, consultation with the APA Commission on Accreditation, consultation with the Psychology Director on resources needed for accreditation, and consultation with the PhD administrative assistant on integrating policies and procedures from the PhD into the MS program, given that the PhD is already APA-accredited. MS Faculty will continue to work with the Psychology licensing board to improve access to the LPA license for MS graduates; in light of APA accreditation standards for master's programs, this becomes even more critical.

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**DEAN SECTION**

*After completing the Dean Section and signing it, the dean should email this form to the program, and copy [uaa.aaa@alaska.edu](mailto:uaa.aaa@alaska.edu) for posting. If the program is delivered on a community campus, copy the appropriate community campus director(s) as well.*

**For each recommendation, comment on the progress to date and provide commendations and guidance as appropriate. (2000 characters or less for each recommendation)**

***Recommendation 1: Direct resources to the baccalaureate programs and seamlessly integrate the master's program into the Clinical-Community Psychology PhD, providing the training necessary for licensure at the master's level for students interested in this field. A plan for the revision, including consultation with the specialized accreditor, should be developed in AY21 and submitted along with an Interim Progress Report by March 1, 2021.***

Part of this recommendation was about a “better” focus of resources toward the bachelor programs. The IPR shows how resources in the bachelor program – particularly those aimed at behavior analysis – are integrated into MS track, providing a pipeline from one to the other and stacking courses. The IPR also shows how faculty affiliated with the MS program continue to teach undergraduate courses. Less clear from the IPR is if current resources are “better focused” and more directed to bachelor programs than in previous years. I encourage Provost Runge to compare the merits of (a) Provost Stalvey’s recommendation for better focused integration aimed at undergraduate programs against (b) the IPR response to Provost Stalvey’s recommendation.

Another part was about focusing resources for “seamlessly integrating” the MS program into the PhD program. Six courses are shared across the MS & PhD programs with students from both programs seated together. It is not clear from the IPR, however, if the department plans any more integration than existed before AY20. The curricula for both graduate programs are quite different, so further integration might be limited without major revisions to PSLOs. Short of that, perhaps more integration might be possible in the coverage of research methods where the MS program uses one course (PSY A609) focused on clinicians evaluating and applying research in the fields, while the PhD program uses another course (PSY A639) focused on students becoming researchers in complex, real-world settings. More integration might also be possible in practicum supervision in the Psych. Services Center where MS offers one course (PSY A665) every Fall, Spring and Summer to 2-4 students while the PhD program offers another course (PSY A652) every semester to 3-5 students. If the PSC practica were merged, the two programs might be able to offer fewer than six sections per year based on the ebbs and flows of enrollments.

***Recommendation 2: Revise the program according to the plan in AY22, for implementation in fall 2022.***

It is unclear from the IPR if the program is considering revisions in line with Provost’s Stalvey’s recommendations about better directing resources to the undergraduate program and further integration with the PhD program. The IPR does, however, show one actual revision and one potential revision that could strengthen the MS program. The actual revision is the addition of a behavior analysis track that required new courses and leads to licensure as a behavior analyst. The potential revision is the pursuit of the brand-new option of having an APA-accredited master’s program in Health Service Psychology, something that will help students pursuing licensure as a psychological associate. Both revisions line up well with the health focus of UAA and are clearly tied to workforce development. However, both revisions also might impose new constraints on the department (e.g., licensure in behavior analysis requires courses A, B, and C, while APA accreditation and licensure as an psychological associate requires C, D, and E) that make it harder to achieve Provost Stalvey’s recommendations. Therefore, I encourage Provost Runge to assess the comparative merits of both (a) Provost Stalvey’s AY20 recommendations and (b) the faculty’s plans

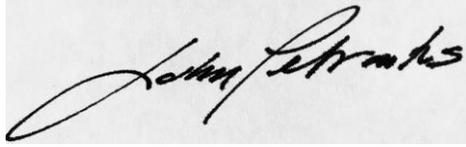
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for the future.

**Dean's overall recommendation to the provost:** Follow-up Program Review in AY25.

**If recommending Suspension with Follow-up Program Review, that review will need to be in AY2022 or AY2023. Please indicate which year:**  Select Academic Year.

**Dean's signature:**



**Date:** 3/31/2021

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#### PROVOST SECTION

*After completion and signature, the Provost will email the final decision to the program and dean, with a copy to [uaa.oaa@alaska.edu](mailto:uaa.oaa@alaska.edu) for posting. If the program is delivered on a community campus, copy the appropriate community campus director(s) as well.*

**Provost's commendations, additional or adjusted recommendations, if any, and other general comments (3000 characters or less):**

**Final decision:**  Select a final decision.

**Provost's signature:**



**Date:**  Select date.