

Addendum  
Preparation for 2008 – 2010 program Review for the Human Development Program

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As preparation for our next review, we have designed our assessment plan for AY 2008 – 2009, as follows:

We will collect information that is specific to the Human Development Program Emphasis Areas in order to assess the extent to which the Program is serving the career and/or academic preparation needs of its students. The student body of the Human Development Program has had a strong interest in counseling, followed by other human services careers, including human resources, teaching, healthcare, career or academic advising among other human service occupations. For several years the College Academic Master Plan (CAMP) has had a graduate program listed with an ever changing start up date for it. A plan for a graduate program came growing interest from students who have expressed interest in a masters program in human development. A survey of 55 Human Development students in Spring 05 found that more that 40% of the students participating in the survey planned to obtain a graduate degree (primarily a masters degree). Another survey of 45 students in Spring 06 found that more than 45% of those students planned to obtain a graduate degree. Now that the Program has had several years to establish its student body/persona, it is important to revisit the emphasis areas of Child, Adult, Counseling, and Health, and to examine the extent to which the emphasis areas and courses offered therein are in keeping with student needs, career trends, and graduate program requirements.

Several steps will be taken to collect data that is relevant and sufficient to determine the extent to which the Program serves the career and/or academic preparation needs of the Human Development Program students. The steps will be divided into two parts. First, extant information and data will be gathered from within the program and university:

- **Report Review:** Several reports will be reviewed, including, but not limited to, the Human Development Task Force report from Spring 06, Dr. Spencer McWilliams' report from Spring 06, Dr. Eliza Bigham's student evaluation project from Spring 05, the Psychology Department's Child Development Program report of Spring 06, the original P Form for the major, and the Human Development Program's senior surveys from Spring 2006.
- **Assessment:** A student questionnaire will be created based on the three sources of information above and data will be collected to assess student needs and career/academic plans.

Data will be compared to current emphasis area curriculum to determine whether the emphasis areas are in line with student needs, career trends, and graduate program requirements.

Second, data will be gathered external to the university and will include:

- **Job Market Analysis:** Data will be collected regarding current job market trends will be obtained and analyzed. The information will include all categories of careers identified in the reports listed above.
- **Graduate Program Analysis:** Data regarding graduate program requirements will be obtained and analyzed. The information will include all categories of graduate programs identified in the reports listed above.

- A focus group will be conducted that will include employer representatives from likely human services sectors representing each of the four existing concentrations of the Program: Counseling, health, children's services and adult/gerontology

Funding will be important to pay for conducting the focus group involving human and social service employers. Funding will be requested to pay for the undertaking at least one focus group. This will include funding for logistical aspects (food, drinks, etc.) and for a research assistant who will help with coordination, transcription and analysis of the data. The assessment of the Emphasis Areas will be done in concert with the existing Program advisory committee, which is interdisciplinary and includes faculty representatives from the allied disciplines of biology, psychology, anthropology and sociology.