

Members of the School of Psychological Sciences are heavily involved in professional service at multiple levels. Our service taps our expertise as teachers and scholars, our passion for “giving away” the science of psychology to a broad audience, and our commitment to shared governance of the University of Northern Colorado.

SCHOOL SERVICE

The routine, but time-consuming, service at the School level is vital for the effective function and governance of our unit. Like faculty across the University, we have personnel searches to execute; program assessments and faculty evaluations to perform; graduate and undergraduate curriculums to revise and add to; prospective majors to meet at orientations, preview days, and off-campus recruiting events; applications for MA and PhD programs to process; decisions to make collaboratively regarding policies, procedures, and use of resources; web pages and promotional materials to produce and update; undergraduate and graduate student societies to support etc. etc. The large number of students we advise, 500 + majors and 40+ MA and PhD students, drives a high volume of meetings, email exchanges, letters of recommendation, consultations on careers and graduate schools and so on. We are unusual for our heavy reliance on Teaching Assistants (more than 30 TA-taught classes per year) which requires significant commitment from our faculty. The substantial effort of multiple faculty members is necessary to screen and select applicants, offer orientation information, and provide on-going support in the form of meetings, lecture observations, and other mentoring activities. Last semester one of our faculty organized regular “teaching circle” conversations as a service to all our instructors, but especially to provide additional support for our TAs. Something else unique to our School is the large undergraduate research participation pool comprised of our introductory psychology students. This important resource for faculty and student researchers (and important learning opportunity for the participants) is monitored by a faculty Coordinator who is a member of the Institutional Review Board and reviews scores of research proposals. School-level activities easily consume the nominal 20% of the service assignment for most of our faculty. But wait, there’s more.

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Our faculty is represented on the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences Diversity Committee, Program Review Committee, Curriculum Committee, and Teaching Award Committee. We had a representative on the Executive Board of the Center for Collaborative Research in Education. We provide colloquia for the undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty of the College and consult with colleagues across the College on matters related to teaching and research. We staff approximately 10 service courses per year off campus for programs in teacher education, counseling, nursing, and special education. With courses in introductory psychology, social psychology, human growth and development and educational psychology, we also contribute heavily to the Liberal Arts Core program and the Professional Teacher Education Programs. Our faculty sits on multiple graduate committees for students outside our School. We participate in the screening and selection of personnel such as the College foundation officer and the Dean’s office administrative assistant. Also, we are currently involved in planning for a new building at the Bishop-Lehr site that may house our College.

At the University level, we are represented on the Institutional Review Board (Co-Chair) and the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee. We are also on the Faculty Senate and the Academic Policies Committee of the Senate. We currently have a member on the Faculty Research and Publications Board and in 2006 the Chair of this group was from our School. We also have (or recently had) faculty members on the President's Planning Council, Capital Planning Committee, University Disciplinary Committee, Academic Planning Steering Committee, and the Commission on University Experience. One of our professors is on the Advisory Board for Environmental Studies and the Executive Board of the Math and Science Teaching Institute. One participated on the Information Technology Committee tasked with recommending a replacement of the computerized test-scoring system. One is Advisor to Chi Alpha Campus Ministries. One served as judge for the Research Symposium for the Center for Honors, Scholars, and Leadership.

It is not unusual for us to be tapped to serve on personnel committees for other units. We have recently participated in the search for the Head Men's Basketball Coach, the McNair Assistant Director, and for an Assistant Professor of Gerontology.

One of our faculty members made a presentation to the State Personnel Employees Council on the psychology of dreams. Another gave talks for the Center for the Enhancement of Teaching, and Learning on the importance of context in teaching and on the ethics of the student-teacher relationship. These presentations were well attended by instructors from across campus.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

A number of our faculty members engage in professional service to the community. Three different professors have done pro bono work for three different area schools, consulting on matters such as science education, the development of an introductory psychology course, and entry policies for kindergarteners. One has given talks related to his expertise in psychopharmacology to emergency medical technicians and to school psychologists and was interviewed for a documentary film on the danger of binge drinking on college campuses. One wrote an invited article in the Greeley Tribune on the topic of child development and education and another wrote as a guest columnist for the Tribune on the topic of brain-based education. One, an expert on cognitive aging, gave a community talk at a local library on the relationship between physical fitness and cognitive function; another gave a full-day presentation to the Weld County Sheriff's Office on bipolar and major depressive disorders.

SERVICE TO THE DISCIPLINE

Service to the discipline often occurs on weekends, in the evenings, and in home offices rather than on campus. As such, it might be easy to overlook, but our faculty take a good deal of pride, and certainly contribute extensive time and effort to their service at this level. At least 10 of our faculty members regularly review or serve as editors for journals such as *Infancy*, *Learning and Individual Differences*, *Infant Behavior and Development*, *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research*, *Journal of the International Society on Infant Studies*, *Developmental Neuropsychology*, *Brain and Cognition*, *Journal of*

Experimental Child Psychology, Journal of Cognition and Development, Psychological Science, Acta Psychologica, Neurobiology of Aging, International Journal of Aging, Spanish Journal of Psychology, Journal of Adolescent Health, Sex Roles, Developmental Psychology and *Teaching of Psychology*. There is also much more reviewing of texts, books, chapters, grant proposals and conference submissions for regional and national psychological associations. The peer-review system, crucial to scientific progress, is well supported by our staff.

Other notable contributions to discipline-level service by individuals in our School include:

- Keynote Speaker for Mountain States Conference on the Teaching of Psychology
- Selection by the Board of Educational Affairs' Steering Committee for the APA National Conference on Undergraduate Education in Psychology to participate in a work group addressing the question: How are we using knowledge gained over the last decade about effective teaching and learning?
- An article for the newsletter of the Society for Research in Child Development about developmentally appropriate instruction at the college level
- Organized round table discussion on classroom teaching techniques for students with disabilities at the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association convention
- Moderated the "Teaching Gurus Symposium" at the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association convention
- Symposium Co-Chair for Division Two, Teaching of Psychology, at the annual APA convention
- Service as Associate Chair of the National Awards Committee for the Society for the Teaching of Psychology (APA Division Two)
- Service as Executive Secretary for the Colorado-Wyoming Academy of Science
- Service as President-Elect, President, and Past President of the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association
- Coordinator of the Society for Research in Child Development's Teaching and Developmental Science Institute
- Program Project Reviewer for National Institute of Child Health and Human Development
- Managing editor of the journal *Mind, Brain, and Education* (rated as the Best New Journal-Social Sciences & Humanities by the Association of American Publishers' Professional & Scholarly Publishing Division)

Thank you for considering the service endeavors of the dedicated faculty in our School. I hope I have done justice to our staff in communicating the commitment we have to our students, the institution, the local community, and the psychological sciences.