**DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY** 

GRADUATE INSTITUTE OF PROFESSIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

**DOCTORAL PROGRAM IN CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY** 

# **Student Handbook**

Part 5:
Dissertation Policies & Procedures

Revised: August 2017

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### **CHAPTER I**

### INTRODUCTION

At the University of Hartford Graduate Institute of Professional Psychology (GIPP), the predoctoral internship and the Psy.D. dissertation are the final program requirements that our doctoral students must complete. In keeping with the practitioner/scholar model and philosophy, the emphasis of the dissertation is the demonstration of competence in the form of an intellectual and scholarly endeavor. In addition, the dissertation should establish the student as capable of comprehensively integrating clinical knowledge within a scholarly and scientific framework. The dissertation is a formal indication that, in addition to being a well-rounded and competent clinician, the student is an articulate, well-rounded scholar in clinical psychology.

### The Nature of the Psy.D. Dissertation

Our approach to the Psy.D. dissertation is based on the National Council of Schools and Programs of Professional Psychology (NCSPP) model of training (Trierweiler, Stricker, & Peterson, 2010), in which the student's personal development as a competent professional clinical psychologist is a central goal. From this perspective, the Psy.D. dissertation is a practitioner-oriented task, with the following features:

- 1. The main purpose of the Psy.D. dissertation is its contribution to the development of a practitioner by using scholarly knowledge and skills. The dissertation requires that the student master a topic of relevance to clinical psychology, develop a cogent viewpoint concerning that topic, and be able to communicate such overall information in an articulate professional manner.
- 2. The Psy.D. dissertation permits a broad range of subjects and methods of inquiry, including quantitative and qualitative research methods, historical analysis, field and observational studies, and theoretical inquiry.
- 3. There is a recognition that clinical and ecological relevance must, in some situations, take precedence over scientific certainty.
- 4. The Psy.D. dissertation adheres to the highest standards of creativity, originality, and thoroughness, and to that end it is truly a work of scholarship. The student must demonstrate mastery of the relevant psychological literature, the current practices, and appropriate theoretical frameworks of the profession.
- 5. In addition to its scholarly aspects, the Psy.D. dissertation is an exercise in planning, time management, organization, and task execution. The Psy.D. dissertation requires knowledge of resources, methodologies, and communication with other psychologists.

### **Examples of Dissertation Projects**

Projects of all types must demonstrate a scholarly review of the literature relevant to the topic(s) of the student's dissertation. The review of the literature serves as the foundation for the dissertation project, and thus must be relevant, current, and include sufficient empirical research. Students must go beyond a summary of the literature to incorporate their own thinking, critical analysis, and mastery of the subject matter in their scholarly review. Some examples of the types of projects that a student might undertake include:

- 1. **An empirical study that demonstrates research design and statistical expertise.** Such a study may be experimental or correlational in its design, with data collected in a lab, clinical, or field setting, or by means of a mail or internet survey. For this type of project, all data must be collected per the proposal, analyzed, and discussed in detail, including implications for professional/clinical psychology.
- 2. **An evaluation design assessing the important aspects of an existing clinical program.** Such an evaluation involves designing a methodology, collecting data, analyzing the data, and presenting the findings in an incisive and constructive fashion including recommendations for improvements to the program and for on-going evaluation by the program personnel.
- 3. The development of an innovative program, instruction manual for clinicians, or guidebook for clients. Such a project would include the theoretical, empirical, and practical bases for the innovation, along with discussion of how it would be implemented and evaluated. Projects must be in finished form, such that the program, manual, or guidebook could be used "as is" by another professional. This includes all instructions, hand-outs, and guides for activities.
- 4. A psychoeducational book, with a target audience of children, adolescents, parents, families, or adults. All such projects must include a review of relevant literature and available resources. In the case of children's books, the final product must be complete with all text and illustrations. For other categories of books, the text and any appropriate graphics and/or illustrations must be complete.
- 5. An extensive and integrative analysis of the literature on an important topic in clinical psychology. This type of project involves a sophisticated analysis, critique, and integration of the literature in a systematic manner, such as through the use of meta-analytic techniques. The project must demonstrate a high level of original and scholarly thought that results in updated conclusions or new interpretations of previously published theory and research.
- 6. An integrative case study that addresses a theoretical proposition, a situation, or a condition important to clinical psychology. Such a project might be appropriate when instances of a clinical phenomenon are rare or the clinical situation precludes the use of other methods. The case study should include a review of relevant literature, a structured methodology for examining the chosen case, and articulation of appropriate conclusions and implications for the mental health field.

### **Development of the Dissertation Project**

As explained more fully in the subsequent chapters of these *Policies and Procedures*, the Psy.D. dissertation is developed in a series of stages over a period of several months. The dissertation usually begins in the Dissertation Seminar, taken in the Fall semester of the student's second year of the Psy.D. program. The desired outcome of this seminar is a dissertation prospectus, a brief paper that outlines the questions to be explored and the methods for their inquiry. The prospectus also serves as a document to enlist a potential dissertation chair and other committee members.

The next stage involves the development of a dissertation proposal, which is a lengthier review of the literature, delineation of research questions, and description of methods for the study. The proposal constitutes a near-final draft of the first two or more chapters of the final dissertation manuscript, along with a brief description of work to be completed. The proposal must be defended in a review meeting with the student's dissertation committee present. The defended proposal, edited to incorporate all changes recommended by the committee, serves as an agreement for the work to be completed in the final dissertation manuscript.

Should human research participants or animal subjects be involved in the dissertation project, it is required that the relevant human or animal subjects research committee review and approve the proposed research subsequent to the proposal meeting and prior to the collection of any data. When completing the final chapters of the dissertation manuscript, it is also important that the student update the previously approved chapters of the dissertation proposal.

When the student has completed a final draft of the dissertation manuscript, this work is ready for the formal presentation of the Psy.D. dissertation. This formal meeting includes the student, the dissertation committee, and other interested parties. The formal presentation, often referred to as an oral exam or dissertation defense, determines whether the student has successfully completed the requirements for the Psy.D. dissertation. In almost all cases, final approval of the dissertation is contingent upon at least minor revisions of the manuscript. The revised and approved manuscript is then presented to the larger academic community by including bound copies in the GIPP Library and the Mortensen Library, making it available by microfilm through ProQuest/UMI Dissertation Services, and publishing the abstract in *Dissertation Abstracts International*.

### **CHAPTER II**

### THE DISSERTATION SEMINAR

The Dissertation Seminar (CPS 852) is a one-semester course usually taken in the Fall semester of the student's second year. The goal of the seminar is to initiate the dissertation process in a group format with the guidance of a faculty member. The seminar is designed to help students choose a dissertation topic that will enhance the student's future professional development. Within the structure of the seminar, students discuss dissertation topics, refine these topics into questions of clinical relevance, consider possible strategies to answer these questions, and choose the best methodological approach commensurate with the selected topic.

### **The Dissertation Prospectus**

A major goal of the Dissertation Seminar is the development of the dissertation prospectus, a brief summary, about five (5) pages in length, describing the background, theory, questions, and goals of the dissertation. The title page for the prospectus should be similar to that of the dissertation manuscript (see p. 32 for an example), except with "DISSERTATION PROSPECTUS" typed two (2) lines above the title. A general description of the proposed method(s) and a schedule for completion of the research project should also be included.

The student should utilize the advice and guidance of the Dissertation Seminar leader in preparing the dissertation prospectus. The prospectus helps organize the dissertation ideas and becomes the core document for communicating with potential committee members.

### **Student Role**

Students should expect to carry out the necessary bibliographic research to become adequately familiar with the topic. Attention should be given to the appropriateness and availability of empirical data, whether that involves research participants or archival data.

The Dissertation Seminar is offered on a Pass/No Pass basis, and the student receives a grade of Pass when the prospectus has been formally approved by the Dissertation Seminar leader. If the student does not complete an approved prospectus by the end of the semester, a grade of Incomplete will be recorded. The grade will remain an Incomplete until changed to a Pass by the Dissertation Seminar leader once a prospectus is completed and approved.

The Seminar leader indicates approval of the prospectus by completing the *Approval of the Psy.D. Dissertation Prospectus* (see Exhibit A) and submitting both items to the director of dissertation research<sup>1</sup> for review and approval. These materials are then returned to the GIPP office coordinator for submission of the originals to the student's file and copies to the student, the seminar leader, and GIPP office staff for record-keeping.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Please see Appendix A for contact information of all individuals identified in these *Policies and Procedures*.

Students in Dissertation Seminar should also develop a plan and tentative dates for completion of the various parts of the dissertation (e.g., literature review, completed proposal, collection of any data or additional material, preparation of a complete dissertation manuscript), along with an outline of chapters to be completed.

### **Faculty Role**

The seminar leader is responsible for helping students to begin the dissertation process by providing guidance and encouragement. Within the seminar format, the seminar leader will help students find research problems of interest and sharpen these problems into interesting, important, and answerable questions. The seminar leader will also help the student choose the most appropriate and rigorous methodological approach, identify what is needed to answer the research questions, and provide appropriate recommendations.

While the student is enrolled in the Dissertation Seminar, the seminar leader will serve as the initial dissertation advisor. Upon completion of the seminar, a student may continue to develop the dissertation under the guidance of the seminar leader or another appropriate faculty member (see Chapter III). Availability of a specific faculty member is dependent upon the interests and current commitments of that faculty member.

# Flow Chart for Dissertation Seminar and Prospectus Approval Student takes doctoral Dissertation Seminar (CPS 852), with seminar leader as initial dissertation advisor, and develops draft of dissertation prospectus. Student completes dissertation prospectus and submits to Dissertation Seminar leader for review. Once a revised draft is approved by the seminar leader, the prospectus and original approval forms are submitted to the director of dissertation research for review and approval. The GIPP office coordinator then returns the original prospectus and approval forms to the student's file, and returns copies to the student, seminar leader, and GIPP office staff for record-keeping. Upon approval of dissertation prospectus, student receives grade of Pass for Dissertation Seminar.

### Chapter II Exhibit

Exhibit A: Approval of the Psy.D. Dissertation Prospectus (p. 6)

Department of Psychology Graduate Institute of Professional Psychology

# **Approval of the Psy.D. Dissertation Prospectus**

This is to certify that the Psy.D. disse	rtation prospectus entitled
(Title of Dis	sertation Prospectus)
presented by	, was approved on
(Name of Student)	(Date)
The student is now authorized to seek out a dissertation committee.	chair and, in consultation with the chair, form a
Dissertation Seminar Leader Name	
Dissertation Seminar Leader Signature	Date
Director of Dissertation Research Signature	Date

Note: Please attach a copy of the approved dissertation prospectus.

### **CHAPTER III**

### THE DOCTORAL DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

The guidelines described below were established by the Graduate Studies Committee of the College of Arts and Sciences (A & S) for all doctoral dissertation committees established after August 15, 2007.

### **Guidelines for a Doctoral Dissertation Committee**

The Psy.D. dissertation committee will consist of at least three members, with the optional addition of a fourth member.

- 1. The first member will serve as dissertation chair. The chair must be a full-time or emeritus member of the Department of Psychology faculty.
- 2. The second member must meet at least one of the following criteria:
  - (a) A University faculty member eligible to serve as chair, as defined above.
  - (b) A full-time doctoral-level faculty member with expertise in the dissertation topic at a member school of the Hartford Consortium (Capital Community College, Central Connecticut State University, Charter Oak State College, Goodwin College, Hartford Seminary, Manchester Community College, Rensselaer at Hartford, St. Thomas Seminary, Trinity College, University of Connecticut Greater Hartford Campus, University of Hartford, and University of Saint Joseph).
  - (c) A psychologist or member of a related profession who is approved by the A & S Graduate Studies Committee. To request approval for such an individual, the student should submit this person's curriculum vitae (CV) to the director of dissertation research. If approved, the director of dissertation research will complete the form for *Approval as Second Member for Psy.D. Dissertation Committee* (see Exhibit B) and forward the form and CV to the A & S Graduate Studies Committee for final approval. Factors considered in approval of such an individual as a second member will include whether the individual:
    - (i) holds a Psy.D., Ph.D., or Ed.D., based in part on completion of a scholarly dissertation.
    - (ii) has demonstrated requisite competence in scholarship by means over and above his/her own dissertation which meets the approval of the director of dissertation research and the A & S Graduate Studies Committee.
- 3. A third member (and any additional members) must be a doctoral-level professional deemed appropriate by the committee chair and the director of dissertation research. In addition to Department of Psychology faculty, this would potentially include any GIPP affiliate or

adjunct faculty, faculty at consortium schools or elsewhere, clinical supervisors, or statistical consultants. A CV may be requested for anyone who has not served in this role previously.

**Please note:** At least one committee member must be a core faculty member in GIPP.

### **Roles of the Doctoral Dissertation Committee**

The doctoral dissertation committee has two main roles: (1) to provide guidance in completing the doctoral dissertation in a way that significantly contributes to the student's education as a professional psychologist, and (2) to evaluate the quality and acceptability of the student's work.

The committee will be guided by the dual responsibilities to the student and to the larger profession of clinical psychology. Thus, the committee members have a strong interest in guiding the student to completion of a dissertation that demonstrates competence and mastery of the intellectual responsibilities associated with doctoral-level expertise. The committee must also interpret the quality standards of the larger profession of clinical psychology. The committee should always seek to operate as a system to ensure that the student has demonstrated the independence, conceptual sophistication, and professional expertise required by the profession.

Students should thus give serious thought to the selection of committee members and then be prepared to adopt the role of consultee with the various committee members. Students should not have expectations for passive guidance and approval by the committee, but should seek to incorporate the valuable input of the committee they have selected. The student needs to use the committee's input to construct a creative piece of scholarship reflecting the best usage of these professional resources.

### **Specific Tasks of the Doctoral Dissertation Committee**

Specific tasks of the dissertation committee include the following:

- 1. Members participate in developing the dissertation proposal (see Chapter IV) by providing a thorough review of the written draft and suggestions for changes.
- 2. Members formally review the finalized proposal at the dissertation proposal meeting (see Chapter IV). This meeting must be attended by the student and all committee members. While such a meeting is usually done in person it may also be held via telephone conference call in a form acceptable to the chair of the committee. After the committee approves any and all requested changes, the approved proposal becomes an institutional contract for the acceptance of the dissertation manuscript upon satisfactory completion of the project.
- 3. The chair is largely responsible for providing consultation with the student as the project is developed. However, the student should occasionally contact committee members with questions and progress updates. The chair has the responsibility to monitor this activity and ensure that the student's needs are being met without overburdening committee members.

- 4. The chair is responsible for facilitating the proposal review meeting and the formal presentation of the completed dissertation. Duties include taking committee votes about approval of the proposal and completed dissertation and informing the student of the results.
- 5. Members read and suggest revisions to the near-final dissertation draft in preparation for the formal presentation (see Chapter VI).
- 6. Committee members attend the formal presentation of the Psy.D. dissertation, at which the student will present and publicly defend the dissertation. Committee members are expected to attend this meeting in person. In exceptional circumstances, the chair may grant permission for a committee member to participate in the meeting by telephone or videoconference.
- 7. Specific responsibilities of second and third members are listed in Exhibit C.

### **Compensation for Dissertation Committee Members**

The Department of Psychology has a system of record-keeping and compensation for its full-time faculty members for their service as dissertation committee members. Service for such faculty is recorded through timely submission of forms (described below) to establish the dissertation committee, approve the proposal, and approve the completion of the dissertation.

Compensation for second and third members who are not full-time in the department is described in a corresponding document with the contract for such members. Students should direct such committee members to the GIPP office coordinator to establish appropriate contracts for their service and initiate an invoice to request payment. Payment for service as a second or third member thus requires return of the signed contract, a signed form indicating approval of the proposal or dissertation, and return of the invoice for the advisement provided.

### **Appointment of the Chair and Committee**

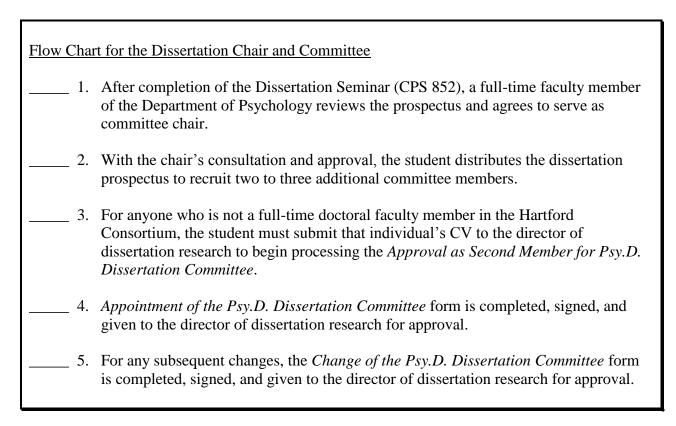
Students are encouraged to speak with several faculty members before requesting that a particular person take on the role of dissertation chair. Students should select other members of the dissertation committee in consultation with the chair. The chair and committee members may be appointed any time after the student's prospectus has been approved.

The chair and committee members should include resources with expertise to guide both the content and methods of inquiry for the chosen topic. The content resource person is an individual who has special expertise to offer the student guidance in the current state of knowledge for the particular topic area. The method resource person should offer guidance in the adequacy of particular research methods appropriate to the area of inquiry. A committee member may commonly fulfill more than one of these roles, but each committee member will carefully read the student's work and advise the student as effectively as possible.

Formal appointment of a committee requires approval from the director of dissertation research. A student must obtain signatures from all committee members on the *Appointment of the Psy.D. Dissertation Committee* form (see Exhibit D) and submit it to the GIPP office coordinator for approval from the director of dissertation research. A committee is not

considered officially formed until a completely signed form is returned to the GIPP office coordinator for inclusion in the student's file.

Once the committee is approved, the student, chair, or committee members may not unilaterally change its composition. Any request to change the composition of the committee requires the approval of the director of dissertation research. Such a change may be requested by completing the *Change of the Psy.D. Dissertation Committee* (see Exhibit E). In the event that such a request is not approved, a student may appeal this decision to the entire core faculty of GIPP. Sustaining such an appeal will require a majority vote of the core faculty.



### Chapter III Exhibits

Exhibit B: Approval as Second Member for Psy.D. Dissertation Committee (p. 11)

Exhibit C: Second and Third Member Responsibilities (p. 12)

Exhibit D: Appointment of the Psy.D. Dissertation Committee (p. 13)

Exhibit E: Change of the Psy.D. Dissertation Committee (p. 14)

## Department of Psychology Graduate Institute of Professional Psychology

### Approval as Second Member for Psy.D. Dissertation Committee

requests	s that
(Name of Student)	(Name of Proposed Committee Member)
serve as a second member on the student's	s Psy.D. dissertation committee. Please fine
of the CV for the proposed committee men	ember.
Director, GIPP Dissertation Research	Date
Chair, A & S Graduate Studies Committee	Date
	(Name of Student) erve as a second member on the student's of the CV for the proposed committee me Director, GIPP Dissertation Research

Department of Psychology Graduate Institute of Professional Psychology

### Second and Third Member Responsibilities

The following represents an understanding between a second or third member of a doctoral dissertation committee and the Department of Psychology of the University of Hartford.

The second or third member agrees to serve on a doctoral dissertation committee and to assist in the development and evaluation of the student's Psy.D. Dissertation. The amount of supervision provided is expected to be less than that of the dissertation chair. In particular, it is expected that the second and third members will:

- 1. Become familiar with the Department of Psychology dissertation requirements, as articulated in the most current *Policies and Procedures*.
- 2. Review and provide timely feedback on proposal and dissertation manuscript drafts as they approach near-final form.
- 3. Respond promptly to telephone and/or e-mail contacts from the student, the dissertation chair, and the Department of Psychology staff.
- 4. Attend and contribute to the student's proposal review meeting and formal presentation of the Psy.D. dissertation at the University of Hartford.
- 5. Coordinate advising efforts with the dissertation chair and Dr. Jack Powell, Director of Dissertation Research in the Department of Psychology. Notify the dissertation chair and Dr. Powell of any problems with accomplishing the above tasks.
- 6. For a second or third reader who is not a University of Hartford employee, the department will prepare an invoice for payment after successful completion of the student's dissertation proposal defense and after successful completion of the formal presentation of the Psy.D. dissertation, provided all Independent Contractor paperwork has been completed and returned to the department. Compensation will follow, within approximately four to six weeks, after the date the director of dissertation research signs off on all requirements.
- 7. Agreements to serve as a second or third reader are automatically renewed at the end of each semester unless cancelled by the co-chair of the Department of Psychology. If, in the judgment of the departmental co-chair, the reader has not satisfied the above requirements, the agreement will be cancelled, and the reader will receive no compensation.

Department of Psychology
Graduate Institute of Professional Psychology

# Appointment of the Psy.D. Dissertation Committee

	who is in go	od standing and matriculate	ed in the Doctoral
(Name of Student) Program in Clinical Psychology	_	_	
Dissertation Title:			
Student Name	Signature		Date
(1)		(2)	
(1) Dissertation Chair Name		(2) 2 <sup>nd</sup> Member Name	
Signature		Signature	
Institution and Department		Institution and Department	
Date		Date	
(3) 3 <sup>rd</sup> Member Name		(4) 4 <sup>th</sup> Member Name (optional)	
3rd Member Name		4 <sup>th</sup> Member Name (optional)	
Signature		Signature	
Institution and Department		Institution and Department	
Date		Date	
Approved:  Director of Dissertation	Dl-	Date	

Department of Psychology Graduate Institute of Professional Psychology

# Change of the Psy.D. Dissertation Committee

We hereby request the following change(s) in the Psy.D. dissertation committee for

(Name of Student)	<del>.</del>		
Dissertation Title:			
<b>Present Committee</b>	<b>Proposed New Committee</b>		
(1)	(1)		
Dissertation Chair Name	Dissertation Chair Name	Signature	
	Institution and Department		
(2)	(2)		
2 <sup>nd</sup> Member Name	(2) 2 <sup>nd</sup> Member Name	Signature	
	Institution and Department		
(3)	(3)		
3 <sup>rd</sup> Member Name	(3) 3 <sup>rd</sup> Member Name	Signature	
	Institution and Department		
(4)	(4)		
4 <sup>th</sup> Member Name (optional)	4 <sup>th</sup> Member Name (optional)	Signature	
	Institution and Department		
Student Signature	Date		
Present Dissertation Chair Signature	Date		
Approved:  Director of Dissertation	n Research Da		

### **CHAPTER IV**

### THE DISSERTATION PROPOSAL

The dissertation proposal represents a critical stage in the development of the Psy.D. dissertation. In this proposal, the student demonstrates expertise in the identified topic area, an ability to communicate concepts in a scholarly manner, and a reasonable plan for completing the rest of the dissertation manuscript. The proposal involves a critical review of the relevant literature, a delineation of the research questions to be explored, and a description of methods for the study.

A student should conceptualize the proposal as a near-final draft of the first two or more chapters of the final dissertation manuscript, plus an outline of work that needs to be completed. As such, the chapters of the proposal must be written in the style and organization described in Chapter V. The title page for the proposal should be similar to that of the dissertation manuscript (see p. 33 for an example), except with "DISSERTATION PROPOSAL" typed two (2) lines above the title.

The proposal must be defended in a proposal review meeting with the student's dissertation committee present. The defended proposal, which invariably involves some recommended changes by the committee, serves as an institutional agreement for the work that needs to be completed for approval of the final dissertation manuscript.

### **The Proposal Review Meeting**

With the chair's approval, the student may set up a date and time for the proposal review meeting at least two (2) weeks in advance. The student is responsible for distributing the proposal to committee members at this time, at least two (2) weeks prior to the meeting.

A proposal review meeting may be scheduled at any time subject to committee member availability. A student who encounters any significant difficulty scheduling a proposal review meeting may consult with the director of dissertation research for possible remedies. The student may request to audiorecord the proposal review meeting for his/her reference. Any requests for other parties to attend the proposal review meeting must be approved in advance by the student and dissertation chair.

Under unusual circumstances, the proposal review meeting may be conducted with one or more participants off-site. If only one individual cannot be physically present, the meeting can transpire at the Department of Psychology with the other participants by speakerphone or videoconference. In more complicated situations, the meeting may require a conference call arranged through the phone company. It is the student's responsibility to provide the GIPP program specialist with the time, date, and all telephone numbers to set up such a conference call.

The student presents and defends the proposal at the proposal review meeting, a formal meeting of the student and all committee members. The committee's approval of the proposal, with any recommended changes, must be unanimous. If the committee does not approve the

proposal, the student and dissertation chair may call a subsequent proposal review meeting once the latter believes that all deficiencies have been rectified.

Following a successful proposal review meeting and approval of all recommended manuscript changes, the dissertation chair and committee members document their approval of the proposal by signing the *Approval of the Psy.D. Dissertation Proposal* (see Exhibit F). The student is responsible for the preparation of this *Approval* form. For final review and approval, the student gives the director of dissertation research one copy of the dissertation proposal (with all recommended modifications) and the signed *Approval of the Psy.D. Dissertation Proposal*. These materials are then returned to the GIPP office coordinator for submission of the originals to the student's file and copies of the *Approval* form to the student, the dissertation committee, and GIPP office staff for record-keeping.

**Please note:** The official date for completion of the dissertation proposal is the signature date of the director of dissertation research on the *Approval* form.

### **Proposal Approval Required for Internship Application**

As described in the GIPP *Predoctoral Internship Manual*, any student who requests approval from the GIPP faculty to apply for a predoctoral internship must have an approved dissertation proposal that is completed according to the following schedule:

For students in the 4<sup>th</sup> year and beyond at the time of approval review:

- The dissertation proposal defense must occur no later than **July 1**, and the scheduling of this meeting with committee members must occur no later than **June 15**.
- In addition, the student must provide the committee chair a complete draft of the proposal prior to scheduling the defense meeting, and must provide this draft to committee members at least two weeks prior to the date of the defense.
- With prior approval from the committee chair, a student may submit a written petition to the DCT to extend the deadlines for scheduling and defending a dissertation proposal defense. This petition must be submitted to the DCT no later than **June 15.** The petition must articulate the extenuating circumstances necessitating the extension and be countersigned by the committee chair after consultation with the other members of the dissertation committee. The petition will be forwarded to the DCT for approval by vote of the PsyD faculty.
- No later than **September 15**, the student must submit to the DCT a fully signed Proposal Approval Form indicating successful defense of the dissertation proposal and completion of any recommended changes to the proposal draft. There will be **no** exceptions to these deadlines for submitting the fully signed Proposal.

**Deadlines for 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Students.** Students in the **3<sup>rd</sup> year of the PsyD program** at the time of approval review are subject to the above policies, except the following deadlines will apply:

- The scheduling of the proposal defense must occur no later than **August 23** for a proposal defense no later than **September 7**.
- The deadline for requesting an extension of the proposal defense, as detailed above, is **August 23**.
- The deadline for submitting to the DCT a fully signed Proposal Approval Form, as detailed above, is **October 1**.

### **Permission to Begin Gathering Data**

Following approval of the dissertation proposal, any student collecting human subject data must obtain approval from the University's Human Subjects Committee before data collection can begin. For the collection of data involving animals as subjects, similar approval must be obtained from the University's Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee. Upon approval from the relevant committee, the student should forward the letter of approval to begin data collection to the GIPP office coordinator for inclusion in the student's file.

### **Approval by the Human Subjects Committee**

Any proposed project that involves human subjects as research participants must be reviewed and approved by the University's Human Subjects Committee prior to the collection of any data. Procedures for review and approval by this committee are available online at: <a href="http://uhaweb.hartford.edu/hsc/">http://uhaweb.hartford.edu/hsc/</a>.

The Human Subjects Committee acts as a final review for a proposed Psy.D. dissertation. Research with human participants must first be reviewed and approved in writing by the student's dissertation committee, any outside institution(s) that are responsible for the subjects participating in the study, and any outside institution(s) that provide research equipment and facilities.

**Please note:** The Human Subjects Committee requires documentation that the student and the dissertation chair (as research supervisor) have completed acceptable training in the protection of human research participants. Anyone proposing or supervising research involving human participants should refer to the website noted above for further information.

Proposals should be submitted to the Human Subjects Committee only after they have been approved by the dissertation committee. Prior consultation with members of the Human Subjects Committee is permitted, however, to assure that the same proposed research will be acceptable both to the student's dissertation committee and to the Human Subjects Committee.

The student is permitted to begin collecting data upon receipt of the approval letter from the Human Subjects Committee. Approval by this committee should be cited in the Participants section of the Method chapter, and a copy of the approval letter should be included as a dissertation appendix.

### **Approval by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee**

In the same manner as with human research participants, any proposed project that involves animal subjects as research participants must be reviewed and approved by the University's Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee. Procedures for review and approval of research involving animals are available from the chair of that committee. For more information, visit the committee's website at: <a href="http://uhaweb.hartford.edu/grants/IACUC.html">http://uhaweb.hartford.edu/grants/IACUC.html</a>.

Other procedures for the use of animal subjects are the same as for human research participants, as noted above.

### **Dissertation Consultation**

### **Statistical Consultation**

The Psy.D. dissertation is intended to be both a learning experience and a demonstration that the student is capable of independent data-gathering activities as a professional psychologist. Data-processing activities during the research project will give the student the practical preparation to conduct independent data analyses as a professional, as well as the knowledge that may be needed to supervise data-processing activities of others.

As a demonstration of competence for independent professional functioning, the student will be responsible for selecting appropriate statistics and for dealing with computer applications to calculate those statistics. The student must be in a position to defend the selection of the statistical procedures, the interpretation of all data, and the manner in which they were implemented. In addition the student is expected to understand, explain, and defend the assumptions underlying any statistics used.

As a learning experience, it is important to receive statistical and methodological instruction from a variety of sources prior to, during, and after data processing activities. Course work serves as one source of preparation. Members of the dissertation committee may be chosen for their methodological and statistical expertise. With and only with the chair's permission, the services of an independent statistical consultant may be acquired for training in data processing.

In those cases where students may elect to seek consultation in matters of experimental design and data analysis, the student is encouraged to provide these consultants with a copy of this section prior to engaging their services. The requirements specified in this section do not preclude a student using a paid statistical consultant.

**Please note:** The role of a statistical consultant is to assist the student in learning how to design studies and process data. It is *not* the role of the consultant to do these activities for the student, and use of a consultant in this manner constitutes a violation of the academic honor code. The consultant does not serve as the technician between the student and the computer

facilities or as a spokesperson for the student to the dissertation committee. In the event that there are discrepancies in the information from the variety of resources available to the student, the student is responsible for articulating a defense of the statistical choices that were made.

### **Editorial Consultation**

The Psy.D. dissertation is intended to be a demonstration that the student is capable of critical thinking and independent authorship. As a demonstration of competence for independent professional functioning, the student will be responsible for mastery of APA Style in describing a review of the relevant literature, reporting procedures and findings, and presenting conclusions and implications for the field of professional psychology.

The student must be able to write in a clear, professional style that communicates effectively and unambiguously with the reader of the dissertation. As a learning experience, it is important to receive instruction and feedback from a variety of sources prior to, during, and after each draft of the manuscript. Academic course work serves as an important source of preparation for professional writing. Members of the dissertation committee may be chosen for their writing expertise as well as for their mastery of the content area. With and only with the chair's permission, the services of an independent editorial consultant may be utilized for the purpose of providing additional training and feedback in writing drafts of the dissertation.

The requirements specified in this section do not preclude a student using a paid editorial consultant. Should a student elect to seek consultation in matters of writing style and communication, the student should provide the consultant with a copy of this section prior to engaging such services. In the event of discrepancies in preferred writing style from the variety of editorial resources available to the student, the student is responsible for resolving any such discrepancies with his or her dissertation committee.

**Please note:** The role of an editorial consultant is to assist the student in learning how to organize and present written material in the dissertation. It is *not* the role of the editorial consultant to write the dissertation for the student, and use of a consultant in this manner constitutes a violation of the academic honor code.

### **Maintaining Continuous Registration**

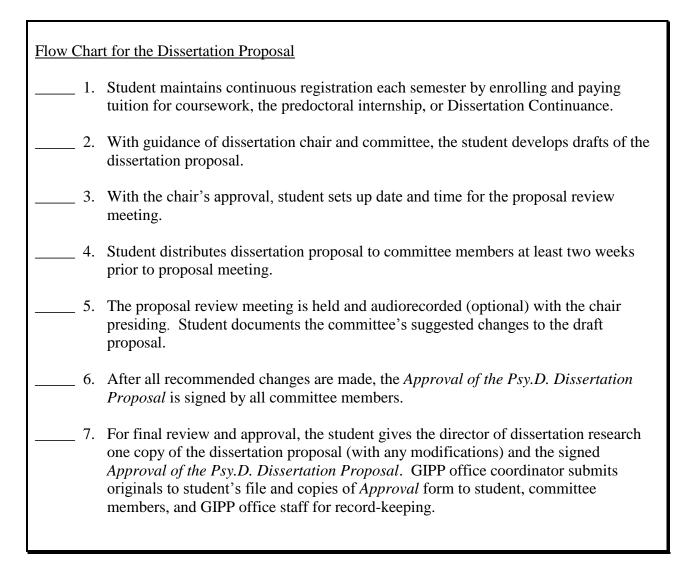
Active status for matriculated students is maintained by enrollment in course work during the first three years of the Psy.D. During the internship year, advanced students register for Predoctoral Internship (CPS 080, 081, or 082). Advanced students who are not registered for course work or predoctoral internship *must* maintain active status by enrolling in Dissertation Continuance (CPS 090, 091, or 092) each semester until the degree is awarded. This requirement assures deferral of student loan repayment, a valid student ID card, and access to dissertation advisement, institutional facilities, and other privileges of graduate students.

Registration for Dissertation Continuance may be waived for a student in the final semester of the program providing *all* the following conditions are met: (a) the student has filed a degree application to receive the Psy.D. at the next degree ceremony; (b) the student has completed all program requirements except for the dissertation; (c) the student has posted the announcement for the formal presentation of the Psy.D. dissertation no later than the first day of

the semester, and (d) the formal presentation is scheduled for no later than two weeks after the first day of the semester.

Registration for Dissertation Continuance may also be waived for a student who has completed all degree requirements except for the predoctoral internship, but will not begin the internship for another one or more semesters. The student would instead pay the Continuous Enrollment fee to register for CPS 070, 071, or 072 for the semesters prior to the start of the internship.

Failure to register for one (1) semester or more constitutes a break in the student's continuous registration and may require that the student formally seek readmission to the program to continue as a student. A student who is readmitted after a lapse of one (1) semester may resume the degree requirements of the *University of Hartford Graduate Bulletin* in effect at the time of the student's entry into the Psy.D. program. If the student has not been enrolled for a full academic year, except in special circumstances such as military service or extended illness, the requirements of the *Graduate Bulletin* in force at the time of re-admission must be met. Readmission requires payment of all tuition and fees accrued during the lapsed period and approval of GIPP faculty.



Flow Char	rt for the Dissertation Proposal (Cont'd)
8.	Student obtains necessary review and approval from any non-University Human (or Animal) Subjects Committee.
9.	Student obtains necessary review and approval from University Human Subjects Committee (or the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee).

# Chapter IV Exhibit

Exhibit F: Approval of the Psy.D. Dissertation Proposal (p. 22)

# Department of Psychology Graduate Institute of Professional Psychology

# Approval of the Psy.D. Dissertation Proposal

	(Title of Dissertation Proposal)	
presented by	, has (Name of Student)	been approved unanimously by
the members of the Psy.D.	Dissertation committee at the proj	posal meeting on(Date)
and obtain approval from t	research project involves human (or he Human Subjects Committee (or iversity of Hartford prior to any da	r the Institutional Animal Care a ta collection. If applicable, I wi
obtain similar approval fro	om the committee responsible for p stitution involved in data collection	
obtain similar approval fro		
obtain similar approval fro participants at any other in Student Signature		
Student Signature  Dissertation Chair Name	stitution involved in data collection	n for this research.
obtain similar approval fro participants at any other in	Stitution involved in data collection data col	n for this research.  Signature

### **CHAPTER V**

### TYPING AND ORGANIZING THE DISSERTATION MANUSCRIPT

The student is expected to be well acquainted with proper format and style required for the Psy.D. dissertation manuscript. Consult the sixth (or most recent) edition of the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (APA, 2010) for guidance concerning grammatical and stylistic elements, such as quotations, abbreviations, capitalization, punctuation, footnotes, references, and preparation of tables and figures. The section on doctoral dissertations notes that universities usually have special rules (as highlighted below) regarding formatting of the dissertation manuscript.

Each candidate assumes full responsibility for correctness of content and form of all copies of the Psy.D. dissertation and for having all pages present and in the proper order. If a typist is engaged by the student, the typist is responsible for preparation of the manuscript in accordance with instructions given by the student author. Typists are not expected to research style manuals or to edit materials.

A sample dissertation is provided in Appendix C to illustrate the following points.

### **Typing Format**

### **Punctuation and Style**

**Margins**. The left margin is to be 1-1/2 inches; the top, right, and bottom margins are to be one inch. Margins should be aligned on the left and uneven (ragged) on the right. Use standard rules of syllabication for hyphenating words at the ends of lines. Hyphenation should not occur on more than two (2) adjacent lines.

**Line spacing**. The Psy.D. dissertation manuscript must be *double-spaced* throughout, with the following exceptions for the Table of Contents, reference list, and lengthy quotations. In the Table of Contents, headings greater than one line are single-spaced, with a blank line (i.e., double-spacing) between headings. Similarly for the reference list, each entry is single-spaced, with a blank line (i.e., double-spacing) between entries. The format for lengthy quotations is described below.

**Quotations**. Direct quotations must be referenced and reproduced with complete accuracy as to words, capitalization, spelling, and punctuation. Direct quotations of no more than four (4) typewritten lines are enclosed in quotation marks and included within the paragraph. For direct quotations that exceed four (4) typewritten lines, no quotation marks are used. The quotation is set off from the text in a separate paragraph (or paragraphs), indented one-half inch from each margin, and is single-spaced. If there is a new paragraph within the quotation, it is indented an additional one-half inch.

Omission of words within quotations is permissible, provided that the sense of the quotation is not distorted. Omissions will be indicated by three (3) periods (i.e., ellipse marks)

with alternating spaces. When one (1) or more sentences at the end of a paragraph is omitted, four (4) periods are used instead of three (3).

**Paragraphs**. Indent the first line of each paragraph one-half inch from the left margin.

**Pagination**. As seen in the sample dissertation (see Appendix C), the first set of preliminary pages (blank page, Approval Page, Brief Curriculum Vitae, and Abstract) do not contain page numbers. The second set of preliminary pages begins with the Title Page, which is understood to be page i, even though the page number is excluded from this page. From the blank page after the title page up to the page just prior to the start of Chapter I, pages are designated with lower-case Roman numerals at the bottom center of the page. Beginning with page 1 of Chapter I, Arabic numerals are placed at the upper right-hand corner of the page, three (3) lines from the top, flush with the right-hand margin. This pagination continues for the remainder of the dissertation. Figures and tables that appear as separate pages are numbered consecutively with the other manuscript pages. Appendices, references, and footnotes are also numbered consecutively.

**Running head.** The running head should be typed in all uppercase letters and placed at the top left corner of each page (*i.e.*, the header) of the document, beginning on page 1. In contrast to the instructions described in the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological* Association (APA, 2010), the running head should *not* be included on the title page of the dissertation. A maximum of 50 characters, including letters, punctuation, and spaces between words, can be used for the running head.

**Tables, figures, and other materials**. Tables follow the format described in the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (APA, 2010). Prepare figures in a professional manner suitable for journal submission. In contrast to APA style, figure captions appear on the same page as the figure, as they would appear in a published journal. Sources and documentation should be provided for all illustrative materials that do not originate with the author of the Psy.D. dissertation manuscript.

Any table, figure, or other material (e.g., photograph or drawing) is incorporated into the text in the area of the manuscript in which it is first described. Good practice is to insert the table or figure as a separate page immediately following the page of text in which it was first referenced. In contrast to APA style, two or more small tables or figures may be included on the same page. Likewise, a page may include one part text and one part table (or figure), provided that three (3) blank lines separate the two parts.

### **Organizing the Manuscript Sections**

The sections of a dissertation manuscript must be arranged in the following order:

**Part A: Unnumbered preliminary pages.** The first set of preliminary pages are not numbered and do not contain a running head.

1. Blank Page.

- 2. Approval Page. The Approval Page (see Exhibit F) is the signed Approval of the Psy.D. Dissertation, which contains the names of all committee members. It is signed by the approving members of the committee after the formal presentation and after all required revisions have been completed.
- 3. *Brief Curriculum Vitae*. Biographical information furnished in tabular form includes the author's name, record of graduate and undergraduate education with major and minor areas, degrees received, degree to be conferred with official conferral date, publications, professional presentations, and previous positions held. **Please note:** For personal security, items such as date and place of birth, social security number, home address, and phone number should be deleted from this version of the CV. An email address below the student's name will suffice for contact information. A sample CV is provided in Exhibit G.
- 4. *Abstract*. The Abstract (Exhibit H) is a summary of the dissertation. The heading of the Abstract contains the title of the Psy.D. dissertation, the year that the degree will be officially conferred, and the names of the author and committee chair. The format of this summary must not exceed the following parameters of the computerized process that ProQuest/UMI uses to reproduce the abstract for publication in *Dissertation Abstracts International*.
  - (a) Length not to exceed 350 words.
  - (b) A maximum of 2,450 typewritten characters. The count of characters includes spaces and punctuation in a line.
  - (c) An average of about 70 characters per line.
  - (d) A maximum of 35 lines.

**Part B: Paginated preliminary pages.** The second set of preliminary pages is paginated with lower-case Roman numbers centered at the bottom of the page (i.e., footer). These pages do not contain a running head.

- 5. *Title Page*. The Title Page (Exhibit I) is understood to be page i, but the page number is excluded from this page.
- 6. Blank Page. This page is left blank, except for the page number (ii) in the footer.
- 7. Copyright Page (Optional). Under the United States Copyright Law, duplication of published work without a notice of copyright ordinarily results in dedication of the work to the public domain, which may defeat any later attempt to gain copyright protection. However, copyrighting a Psy.D. dissertation may present some difficulty in having it later published in a professional journal. Further information about copyrighting is available online at: http://www.copyright.gov/.

If copyright protection is desired, a copyright page must be inserted in the Psy.D. dissertation manuscript on the *reverse* side of the blank page that immediately follows the title page. This page is not numbered and is placed so that the type is centered in the middle of the page. The copyright notice should appear as in the following example:

### Copyright by Susan J. Williamson All Rights Reserved

- 8. *Dedication (Optional)*. This section calls attention to people or ideals that are important enough to the author to receive dedication of the Psy.D. dissertation. Examples are: "To my parents," "To Pat, my love," or "To the advancement of psychology as a science, as a profession, and as a means of promoting human welfare." If included, the optional Dedication is numbered as page iii at the bottom center of the page.
- 9. Foreword (Optional). The Foreword is an optional section used primarily to mention matters of background that are necessary for an understanding of the Psy.D. dissertation, but that do not logically fit into the text. The following items may be included in the Foreword: reasons for the selection of the topic, the scope and limitations of the investigation undertaken, an explanation as to how the topic fits into the existing literature, and difficulties encountered. A Foreword is not necessary if these matters are more appropriately discussed in the text of the dissertation. The Foreword is not the same as the Introduction, which is a Chapter in the main body of the dissertation manuscript.
- 10. Acknowledgements (Optional). An Acknowledgments page is also optional. Its purpose is to express the author's recognition and appreciation for the guidance and assistance received in planning and conducting the research project and in the preparation of the dissertation manuscript. Please note: Psy.D. dissertation manuscripts do not include both a Foreword and an Acknowledgments page. If a Foreword is provided, this includes whatever acknowledgments are expressed by the author, and a separate Acknowledgments page is not included.
- 11. *Table of Contents*. The Table of Contents (Exhibit J) lists the headings of chapters, sections, and subsections of the Psy.D. dissertation, as well as their beginning page numbers. The first section that is listed in the Table of Contents is the Foreword or Acknowledgments section, or, if the dissertation manuscript contains neither, the first chapter. The Table of Contents also lists the page numbers on which the reference list and any appendices begin. The unnumbered preliminary pages and the Title Page are not listed in the Table of Contents. Headings which exceed one line are single-spaced, and there is a blank line (i.e., double-spacing) between headings.

The wording, punctuation, and capitalization of all headings listed in the Table of Contents must correspond exactly to the headings as they appear in the text of the manuscript. The Table of Contents is not only a guide to the order and location of the various sections of the manuscript, it is also a visual representation of the organization of the material. The relationship between chapters, sections, and subsections is reflected in the capitalization of headings, according to the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (APA, 2010). Chapter headings begin at the left margin, section headings are indented once, and subsection headings are indented twice. It is not necessary to include paragraph headings in the Table of Contents.

12. Lists of Tables, Figures, and Other Materials (if any). If the dissertation manuscript contains figures, tables, photographs, drawings, or other material, each of these lists is presented on a

separate page following the Table of Contents. The List of Tables (Exhibit K) is presented first, followed (if needed) by a List of Figures (Exhibit L) and an appropriately titled list of any other materials. The title of all tables should appear in the List of Tables exactly as it appears in text. The figure caption should appear in the List of Figures exactly as it appears in text, except that only the first sentence of a lengthy figure caption is included in the list.

**Part C: Body of text.** Beginning with page 1 of the first chapter, all remaining pages have a header which includes the running head adjusted to the left margin and page number adjusted to the right margin.

13. *Chapters*. Each chapter represents an important division of the dissertation manuscript. The wording, punctuation, and capitalization of each chapter are identical to that in the Table of Contents. Chapters are numbered with upper-case Roman numerals and centered at the top of a new page, as follows:

### CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

Chapter headings are printed in capital letters, bold font, and no terminal punctuation. The word "CHAPTER" is followed by a Roman numeral indicating the chapter number. It is followed two (2) lines below by the title of the chapter, also centered, in all capital letters, bold font, and no terminal punctuation. Titles longer than one line are to be double-spaced, with each line centered. Each new chapter begins on a new page, with the first line of the heading (i.e., chapter number) placed 1-1/2 inches from the top of the page.

A chapter may be further divided into smaller parts, following APA style for three levels of heading. Section headings are centered, in bold font, with the first letter of each major word capitalized. A section may be divided into subsections, with headings that are flush to the left, in bold font, with the first letter of each major word capitalized. A subsection may be divided with paragraph headings that are indented, in bold font, capitalized as in a sentence, and ending with a period. For sections and subsections, the text begins as a new paragraph on the next line, whereas the text follows a paragraph heading on the same line. Below are examples of these three types of heading:

### **Section Heading**

Text follows on the line below as a new paragraph.

### **Subsection Heading**

Text follows on the line below as a new paragraph.

**Paragraph heading.** Text follows on same line.

Although additional levels may be utilized in APA style, three levels of heading are usually sufficient for organizing a chapter. The following matrix shows the relationship of three levels of heading within a chapter. With the left column indicating the level of heading for the preceding text, the meaning conveyed to the reader by introducing a new level of heading for subsequent text is indicated in the next three columns. You are permitted to move upward one or more levels of heading, but must move downward only one level at a time.

		New Level of Heading	;
Preceding Level of Heading	Section Heading	<b>Subsection Heading</b>	Paragraph Heading
Section Heading	Same level: You are moving on to the next section of the chapter.	Down 1 level: You are developing the topic in the section by considering a specific sub-topic.	Down 2 levels: Not allowed. Use a subsection heading to move down 1 level instead.
Subsection Heading	Up 1 level: You have completed the final subsection and are moving on to the next section of the chapter.	Same level: You are moving on to the next sub-topic of the section.	Down 1 level: You are developing the sub-topic by considering an even more specific paragraph-level topic.
Paragraph Heading	Up 2 levels: You have completed the final paragraph topic of the final subsection. You are moving on to the next section of the chapter.	Up 1 level: You have completed the final paragraph topic in the subsection. You are moving on to the next sub-topic of the section.	Same level: You are moving on to the next paragraph topic of the subsection.

- 14. *References*. The Reference list contains all of the works cited by the author. This list should begin a new page, with **REFERENCES** centered at the top of the page. The format for references follows the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (APA, 2010), except that references are single-spaced, with a blank line between entries.
- 15. Footnotes (if any). Footnotes are used to supplement or to amplify substantive information in the text. In dissertation manuscripts, footnotes are not inserted at the bottom of pages in the text, but are listed by number in a separate section after References.
- 16. Appendices (if any). The purpose of placing material in an appendix is to keep the text from being interrupted or cluttered with supplementary, illustrative materials. Instructions, questionnaire items, consent forms, research committee approval letters, very lengthy quotations, and excerpts from behavioral diaries are among the items that may be included in

appendices. Each appendix is designated by letter (Appendix A, Appendix B, etc.) in the same sequence as it is mentioned in the manuscript. Pages in the appendix continue the pagination of the dissertation manuscript following the references and/or footnotes.

Each appendix begins on a new page. If space permits, the appendix number (e.g., Appendix A) is centered at the top of the page, with the title of the appendix centered on the next double-spaced line. Another option is to center at the top of the page the appendix number, followed by a colon, two spaces, and the title of the appendix. A third option is to insert a title page prior to the appendix. The appendix number is centered on this page, with the title of the appendix centered on the next double-spaced line.

**Please note:** Copyrighted materials (e.g., questionnaires or tests) should only be included as an appendix with written approval from the holder of the copyright. If approval to reproduce copyrighted materials is not obtained, a reference citation or publication address will suffice.

17. Blank Page. This is the final page of the dissertation.

### **Paper and Copies**

Final copies of the dissertation manuscript must be printed by a letter-quality printer on one side of good quality acid-free, 8-1/2 X 11 inch paper. Printer/copier paper is acceptable; bond, watermark, or resumé paper is not required. All copies must be clean, legible, and professional in appearance. Three copies must be submitted for retention in the University libraries.

Digital images or photographs may be inserted in the dissertation manuscript, as appropriate. It is preferable for an image to be in black and white, or in differentiable shades of grey. If color is needed to understand the image, then each copy should contain a color image.

**Inserted materials**. Folded tables, graphs, illustrations, and similar inserts must fit within the margins indicated above. Otherwise they run the risk of being cut during the trimming and binding process.

### Chapter V Exhibits

Exhibit G: Sample Curriculum Vitae (pp. 30-31)

Exhibit H: Sample Abstract (p. 32)

Exhibit I: Sample Title Page (p. 33)

Exhibit J: Sample Table of Contents (pp. 34-35)

Exhibit K: Sample List of Tables (p. 36)

Exhibit L: Sample List of Figures (p. 37)

### **CURRICULUM VITAE**

### Susan Jean Williamson

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Education

2017, May Psy.D., Clinical Psychology, Graduate Institute of Professional

Psychology, University of Hartford, West Hartford, Connecticut.

2015, September M.A., Psychology, University of Hartford, West Hartford, Connecticut.

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University, Cleveland, Ohio.

2011, August Certificate of Completion, Radio Broadcasting, Ohio School of

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2011, May B.S., with honors, Psychology and Biology, Cleveland State University,

Cleveland, Ohio.

Awards and Honors

2010-present Member, Kappa Beta Phi

2009 Who's Who in Ohio Collegiate Biology

2007 National Merit Scholarship Semifinalist

Professional Experience

2016-present Predoctoral Intern, Consortium for Greater Psychological Health and

Well-being, Hartford, Connecticut.

2015-present Adjunct Instructor, West Central Community College, Northville,

Connecticut.

2015-16 Clinical practicum, Mechanized Care Unit, Almagamated

Hospitals and Clinics, Hartford, Connecticut.

### Professional Experience (Continued)

2014-16	Teaching Assistant, Graduate Institute of Professional Psychology, University of Hartford.
2014-15	Clinical practicum, Outpatient Mental Health Center, Tiny Clinic in the Vale, West Pleasantville, Connecticut.
2009-11	Research Associate, Department of Psychology, Cleveland State University.
2008-09	Research Assistant, Department of Biology, Cleveland State University.

### **Publications**

Hoople, M. T., & Williamson, S. J. (2015). Wilbur J. Wilbur: A man of his time and ours. *The American Behaviorist*, *9*, 357-359.

### **Presentations**

- Williamson, S. J., & Stromboli, I. J. (2016, August). Reasons why most people think that managed care is not too good an idea: A survey. Paper presented at the meeting of the American Psychological Association, New Orleans, LA.
- Hoople, M. T., Wilson, A. M., & Williamson, S. J. (2015, July). The influence of maverick psychologists on psychology as we know it. Paper presented at the meeting of the Connecticut Psychological Association, East Rogaine, Connecticut.

Date of Preparation: May 2017

### **ABSTRACT**

# WILBURIAN THEORY IN CLINICAL PRACTICE: A SURVEY COMPARING PSYCHOLOGISTS WHO FAVOR OR DISFAVOR SHORT-TERM THERAPY

Susan J. Williamson, Doctor of Psychology, 2017

Psy.D. Dissertation Chaired by Wilbur J. Wilbur, Jr., Psy.D., Associate Professor, Graduate Institute of Professional Psychology

Recent trends in psychotherapy practice have included an increased emphasis on short-term therapy and greater reliance on treatment manuals. While such trends can be directly attributable to the managed care of mental health services, a historical review of the psychotherapy literature reveals several examples of short-term, manualized treatment approaches over 75 years ago. One early proponent of this type of psychotherapy is the maverick psychologist, Wilbur J. Wilbur. Wilbur (1925; Wilbur & Mendota, 1927) developed a controversial two-hour psychotherapy format, in which the therapist quickly engages the client with unconditional acceptance, then confronts the client's problems using standardized comments of a derogatory nature. At the critical juncture, therapy abruptly shifts back to standardized affirmations of the client's inherent self-worth.

To explore the current appreciation of Wilbur's theories, 150 licensed psychologists were randomly sampled from the list of licensed psychologists in Connecticut. Seventy-six useable surveys were returned, for a response rate of 50%. Results showed that, while over 90% of those surveyed routinely engaged in therapy of six sessions or less, 34% voiced reservations about whether short-term therapy can produce lasting change in therapy. Respondents who favored short-term therapy rated Wilbur's ideas as more potentially effective, more ethical, and more consistent with current psychotherapy research than did those who disfavor short-term therapy.

# WILBURIAN THEORY IN CLINICAL PRACTICE: A SURVEY COMPARING PSYCHOLOGISTS WHO FAVOR OR DISFAVOR SHORT-TERM THERAPY

by

## Susan Jean Williamson

B.S., with honors, May 2011, Cleveland State University M.A., May 2015, University of Hartford

Psy.D. Dissertation submitted to the
Graduate Institute of Professional Psychology
Doctoral Program in Clinical Psychology
University of Hartford
in partial fulfillment of the
requirements for the degree of
Doctor of Psychology
2017

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2.	Frequency distribution of overall attitudes toward Plankian psychotherapy

#### **CHAPTER VI**

## THE FORMAL PRESENTATION OF THE DISSERTATION

When the student has completed a final draft of the dissertation manuscript, this work is ready for the formal presentation of the Psy.D. dissertation. This formal meeting includes the student, the dissertation committee, and any other interested parties (as noted below). The formal presentation, often referred to as an oral exam or dissertation defense, determines whether the student has successfully completed the requirements for the Psy.D. dissertation. In almost all cases, final approval of the dissertation is contingent upon at least minor revisions of the manuscript after the presentation. The revised and approved manuscript is then presented to the larger academic community by including bound copies in the GIPP Library and the Mortensen Library, making it available by microfilm through ProQuest/UMI Dissertation Services, and publishing the abstract in *Dissertation Abstracts International*.

## Announcement of the Formal Presentation of Psy.D. Dissertation

After the dissertation chair has agreed that the Psy.D. dissertation manuscript has been completed, the student should distribute copies of the manuscript to all members of the dissertation committee at least two (2) weeks prior to the announcement of the formal presentation. Conservatively, this is at least four (4) weeks prior to the anticipated date of the formal presentation. Committee members will use the first two (2) weeks to review and evaluate the manuscript. When all members of the committee have given final approval to the finished manuscript, the student is permitted to schedule and announce the formal presentation two (2) weeks afterward.

The time and place of the formal presentation must be scheduled through the GIPP office coordinator. The formal presentation must be announced at least two (2) weeks in advance, using the *Announcement of Dissertation Formal Presentation* (see Exhibit M). The student should contact the program specialist to ensure that the announcement is posted on departmental bulletin boards and emailed to all Psychology faculty, staff, and students. In addition, the student should arrange for any audio/visual equipment that may be required.

## **The Formal Presentation**

In addition to committee members, the formal presentation is open to members of the University community and persons invited by the student. All attendees, however, are reminded that the central purpose of this meeting is an oral examination of the student's dissertation project and manuscript. During the formal presentation, the student presents and discusses the hypotheses or questions, methods, results, and interpretations of the dissertation. A general question-and-answer period provides for dialogue among the student, committee members, and other attendees. After the question-and-answer period, the committee asks the student and any attendees to leave the room. The committee will then discuss the student's performance, decide whether to accept the dissertation (i.e., pass the student), and agree upon any required changes to the dissertation. The student then returns, is advised of the outcome, and receives a summary of any changes required by the committee. The committee's approval of the dissertation, pending any changes, must be unanimous.

After the formal presentation is completed, any and all final revisions must be made to the satisfaction of all committee members, as indicated by their signing of the *Approval of the Psy.D. Dissertation* (see Exhibit N). The student should prepare this form by filling in all information except signatures and dates, and bring this to the formal presentation, even though further revisions of the dissertation are likely. Once changes are approved, a fully signed *Approval of the Psy.D. Dissertation* is required before any copies of the final manuscript are deemed official.

Following the committee signatures, the student must submit the approved copy of the manuscript (including the signed *Approval* form) to the director of dissertation research for review and signature of the *Approval* form. These materials are forwarded to the GIPP director and then to the chair of the A & S Graduate Studies Committee for their respective reviews and signatures. The GIPP program specialist then returns the final manuscript and fully completed *Approval* form back to the student and copies of the *Approval* form to the student's file, dissertation committee members, and GIPP office staff for record-keeping.

**Please note.** The official date for completion of the Psy.D. dissertation is the signature date of the GIPP director on the *Approval* form. The A & S evaluator announces the deadline for depositing dissertation copies for each semester in which degrees are conferred. Consequently, the student should plan to obtain all necessary signatures as far ahead of the deadline as possible.

## **Manuscript Binding and Distribution**

After the final manuscript and signed *Approval* form are returned to the student, the manuscript is ready for copying, binding, and distribution. The student should plan for at least three (3) copies of the manuscript to be duplicated on good quality, permanent-durable (i.e., acid free), bond paper. Two (2) of these copies will be placed in the Mortensen Library and the third will be kept in the GIPP Library. The student should also arrange for the dissertation chair and each committee member to receive a bound copy of the final manuscript. Additional copies of the manuscript may be submitted for binding at the student's discretion.

All copies of the dissertation manuscript are deposited for binding to the Periodicals Librarian at the Mortensen Library. Information for depositing dissertation copies may be found online at: <a href="http://library.hartford.edu/services/thesis">http://library.hartford.edu/services/thesis</a> binding/binding psyd requirements.aspx. In preparing payment for binding costs, the student should also complete the *Thesis/Essay/Dissertation Binding* Form, which is available online at: <a href="http://library.hartford.edu/services/thesis\_binding/binding\_form.pdf">http://library.hartford.edu/services/thesis\_binding/binding\_form.pdf</a>.

Upon depositing copies for binding, the student should return the completed form for *Distribution of Bound Psy.D. Dissertation Copies* (see Exhibit O) to the GIPP Program Coordinator. This form facilitates the return of bound copies to their proper destinations. The Mortensen Library will retain its two bound copies and return the remainder to the GIPP Program Coordinator. The program specialist will place one copy in the GIPP Library, distribute copies to faculty with University mailboxes, and contact the student for return of any additional copies. The student is responsible for distributing bound copies beyond the University.

## **Publication of the Psy.D. Dissertation**

To make the scholarship of University of Hartford students accessible to scholars beyond our campus, University policy requires that doctoral recipients submit a complete final copy of the dissertation for publication by ProQuest/UMI Dissertation Services. The entire Psy.D. dissertation is published by ProQuest/UMI and made accessible in various formats (including print and online). The dissertation abstract is indexed by ProQuest/UMI in *Dissertation Abstracts International*.

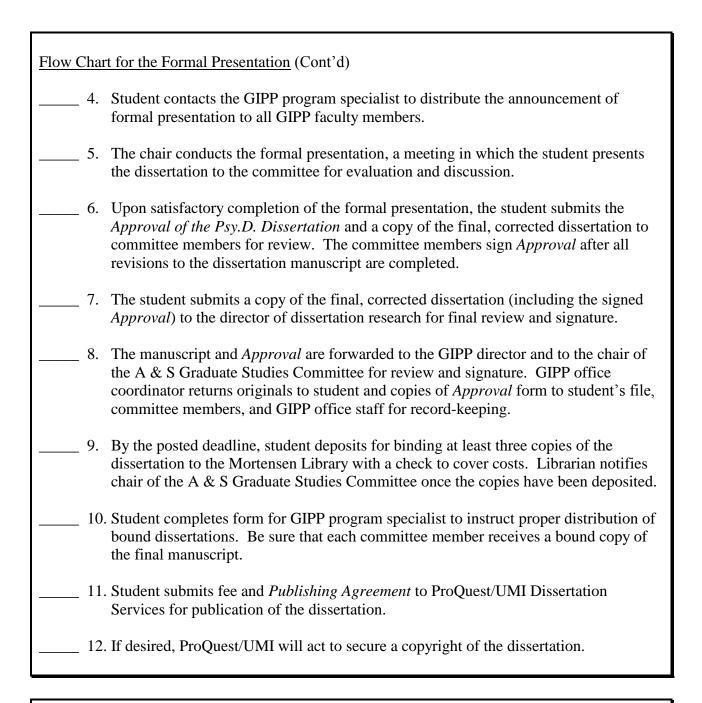
When depositing dissertation copies for binding, the student must also submit the publication fee and the *ProQuest/UMI Publishing Agreement* Form (see: <a href="http://library.hartford.edu/services/thesis\_binding/2016-UMI.pdf">http://library.hartford.edu/services/thesis\_binding/2016-UMI.pdf</a>. The Library will send to ProQuest/UMI one of its copies of the completed dissertation, abstract, and title page, along with the *Publishing Agreement* and payment. This copy of the completed dissertation is then returned to the Library for binding.

**Please note.** ProQuest/UMI allows University of Hartford students and faculty free full-text accessibility to dissertations and theses completed at our University. Interested individuals outside the University of Hartford community would need to purchase a student's dissertation to view it in its entirety. The searchable database is available at the Harrison University Libraries website (<a href="http://library.hartford.edu">http://library.hartford.edu</a>); select "Databases and articles" on the homepage, submit a "Search All" request, and then select the "Dissertations and Theses @ University of Hartford" database.

## **Copyright Registration (Optional)**

If a student wishes ProQuest/UMI to act as an agent in securing the copyright, this can be indicated on the *ProQuest/UMI Publishing Agreement* (see above). This service is available for a fee (plus any filing fee set by the U.S. Copyright Office), which includes the copyright registration fee plus the cost of two (2) copies of the dissertation for deposit in the Library of Congress, as required under copyright law. The student may also choose to file a copyright at a later date through ProQuest/UMI or by other means.

# Flow Chart for the Formal Presentation \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 1. Student maintains continuous registration by enrolling and paying tuition for coursework, the internship fee, or the Dissertation Continuance fee each semester. \_\_\_\_\_\_ 2. Student completes a final draft of dissertation for review at the formal presentation. \_\_\_\_\_\_ 3. In consultation with chair, committee members, and GIPP office coordinator, student schedules date, time, and place for formal presentation at least two weeks in advance of meeting. Student distributes copies of manuscript to committee at this time.



## **Chapter VI Exhibits**

Exhibit M: Announcement of Dissertation Formal Presentation (p. 42)

Exhibit N: Approval of the Psy.D. Dissertation (p. 43)

Exhibit O: Distribution of Bound Psy.D. Dissertation Copies (p. 44)

# University of Hartford

Department of Psychology

Graduate Institute of Professional Psychology

Doctoral Program in Clinical Psychology

Announcement of

## Formal Presentation of the Psy.D. Dissertation

for the degree of

## **Doctor of Psychology**

Candidate:

Dissertation Title:

Date & Time:

Location: University of Hartford
East Hall Room 117J
200 Bloomfield Avenue
West Hartford, CT 06117

**Dissertation Committee:** 

All members of the University community are invited to attend.

# University of Hartford

## Department of Psychology Graduate Institute of Professional Psychology

## Approval of the Psy.D. Dissertation

This is to certify that the Psy.	.D. Dissertatio	on entitled			
		Dissertation)			
resented by	21 66	Candidate)	,		
	Candidate)				
(BA/BS, year, institution)					
			,		
	(MA/MS, year	r, institution)			
as been approved unanimously by th	ne Psy.D. disse	ertation committee on			
			(Date)		
1)		(2)			
1) Dissertation Chair Name		(2) 2 <sup>nd</sup> Member Name			
ignature					
ignature		Signature			
nstitution and Department		Institution and Department			
Citle Citle		Title			
3)		(4)			
3) <sup>rd</sup> Member Name		(4) 4 <sup>th</sup> Member Name (optional)			
Signature		Signature			
nstitution and Department		Institution and Department			
Title		Title			
Received:					
Director of Dissertation Research	Date	Director of GIPP	Date		
Received:					
Chair A&S Graduate Studies	Committee	Date			

# University of Hartford

## Department of Psychology Graduate Institute of Professional Psychology

## Distribution of Bound Psy.D. Dissertation Copies

Name:		Date: _		
Address:		Phone:		
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	Distribution of Copies	Quantity	Sent	Date
	Mortensen Library:	2	[]_	
	GIPP Library:	1	[]_	
(Cha	ir):		[]_	
(Member	2):		[]_	
(Member	3):		[]_	
(Member	4):		[]_	
(Member	5):		[]_	
	Student:		[]_	
Tota	l Number of Copies Submitted for binding:			

Please return to the GIPP program specialist when copies are submitted to the Periodicals Department for binding.

## **CHAPTER VII**

## GRADUATION AND COMMENCEMENT

The University officially awards degrees in September, January, and May of each year, but commencement exercises are held only in December and May. For information regarding commencement exercises, the student should visit the University of Hartford website (www.hartford.edu); go to Quick Links and then Commencement.

#### **Graduation Timetable**

A conservative date for submitting the finished dissertation manuscript to committee members is eight (8) weeks prior to commencement. This timetable provides for two (2) weeks that members of the committee are allowed to review the manuscript prior to giving permission for scheduling the formal presentation of the Psy.D. dissertation, two (2) weeks required between the announcement and the meeting for the formal presentation, two (2) weeks for revising and copying the manuscript to be submitted to the chair of the A & S Graduate Studies Committee, and two (2) weeks for review by the chair of the A & S Graduate Studies Committee and certification for graduation by the A & S evaluator.

The student should begin this final countdown as early in the semester as possible. While it may be possible for the sequence to be shortened somewhat, it is inappropriate for the student to subject faculty and other University personnel to pressures to accommodate last-minute submissions.

## **Graduate Degree Application**

All students anticipating graduation must complete a formal application for the graduate degree, which is available from the A & S evaluator or from the Office of the Registrar. The student submits the application form to the registrar with the applicable fee. It is recommended that formal application be made at the start of the semester in which the student expects to graduate. The initial application and fee are in effect for one (1) year, after which another application and fee are required. The degree application also provides a timely occasion to review remaining program requirements with the A & S evaluator who eventually will be responsible for certification of the student's transcript for graduation.

#### **Certification for Graduation**

The student is not certified for graduation until the chair of the A & S Graduate Studies Committee informs the A & S evaluator that all dissertation requirements and forms have been completed and the A & S evaluator certifies that all other University requirements have been met. Prior to the anticipated semester of graduation, the student should check with the A & S evaluator to assure that all program requirements will have been met. The date that the GIPP director signs the *Approval of the Psy.D. Dissertation* is the date used for purposes of licensure and other non-University certifications.

#### **Last Minute Reminders**

As the Psy.D. dissertation nears completion and as graduation approaches, several items may be overlooked that could interfere with graduation. Please make sure to:

- Rectify all grades of Incomplete for previous course work.
- Return borrowed testing equipment, supplies, and library books.
- Return keys to the department and to practicum agencies.
- Pay any outstanding library fines.
- Pay any outstanding parking tickets.

#### **Commencement Exercises**

GIPP strongly encourages public recognition for completion of the Psy.D. degree through participation in the December and May University commencement exercises. Students who complete all degree requirements in time for a September degree may participate in the December commencement exercises. Students who complete all degree requirements for a January degree **no later than November 1** may also participate in December commencement. All other graduates, including those eligible but unable to participate in December commencement, may participate in the graduate commencement ceremony in May. In December and May, the University hosts a reception for graduates and their guests immediately following commencement exercises.

Caps, gowns, and hoods are available for rental or purchase through the University of Hartford. Students planning to participate in the December or May commencement should make arrangements for rental or purchase of academic regalia by the specified deadline.

Flow Char	rt for Graduation and Commencement
1.	Student maintains continuous registration by enrolling and paying tuition for coursework, the internship fee, or the Dissertation Continuance fee each semester.
2.	Student contacts the A & S evaluator to submit Graduate Degree Application.
3.	Student requests verification of completion of requirements from A & S evaluator.
4.	Student checks with the University bursar and GIPP program specialist that there are no outstanding fees or departmental responsibilities.
5.	If attending commencement exercises, student places order for cap, gown, and hood.

## REFERENCES

- American Psychological Association. (2010). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, DC: Author.
- Trierweiler, S. J., Stricker, G., & Peterson, R. L. (2010). The research and evaluation competency: The local clinical scientist-review. In M. B. Kenkel, & R. L. Peterson (Eds.), *Competency-based education for professional psychology* (pp. 125-141).

APPENDIX A: DISSERTATION DIRECTORY

Name	Title	Office	Phone	Email
Cox, Katie	Arts & Sciences Evaluator	Hillyer Hall 204	4257	Kcox
Crane, Dr. Barbara	Chair, Human Subjects Committee	Dana Hall 410C	5371	Hsc
Mehm, Dr. John	GIPP Director	East Hall 117H	5224	Mehm
Milling, Dr. Len	Chair, Psychology Subject Pool	East Hall 203F	4546	Milling
Oppenheimer, Cindy	GIPP Office Coordinator	East Hall 117	5391	Oppenheim
Powell, Dr. Jack	Director, Dissertation Research	East Hall 204C	4720	Jpowell
Registrar	Student Administrative Services Center (SASC)	Computer Center 217	4999	Registrar
Sharp, Dr. Olga	Chair, Arts & Sciences Graduate Studies Committee	East Hall 203L	4045	Osharp
Van Haelen, Melanee	Periodicals Department	Mortensen Library L106	5950	Vanhaelen
Viereck, Betty	GIPP Program Specialist	East Hall 117G	5323	Viereck
Wasko, Dr. Dennis	Chair, Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee	Hillyer Hall 155	4925	Wasko

*Note.* Mailing address for all offices: University of Hartford, 200 Bloomfield Avenue, West Hartford, CT 06117.

Area code and prefix for all phone numbers: (860) 768-xxxx.

Server for all email addresses: hartford.edu.

## **APPENDIX B: SUMMARY OF FEES**

Fee	Amount	Payee	Recipient
Graduate degree application, cap,	\$208, if paid by deadline	University of Hartford	Registrar
gown, and hood	\$225, if late		
http://www.hartford.e	du/aboutuofh/office_of_provost/r	egistrar/graduation.aspx	
Dissertation binding	\$15/copy for title on spine	Mortensen Library	Mortensen
	\$27/copy for title on spine and front cover		Library
http://library.hartford.	edu/services/thesis_binding/		
Publication of dissertation abstract	No fee	ProQuest/UMI	ProQuest/UMI
http://library.hartford.	edu/services/thesis_binding/electron	conic_submission.aspx	
Students are advised t	to check with ProQuest for fees as	sociated with optional copyr	right registration.

*Note.* All fees are current as of this printing, but are subject to change. See websites for further information.

## APPENDIX C: SAMPLE DISSERTATION

		Department Graduate Institute of  Approval of the  This is to certify that the Psy. D. Dissertati Belonging and Social Support: Poter  (Title o presented by Stephanie S. Bozz (Name of BA 2005. Bingha	f Dissertation)  k Candidate)  mitton University , n, mittinion)
		(MA/MS, ye has been approved unanimously by the Psy.D. disc	
		(1) Anne E. Pidano, Ph.D.	(Date) (2) John G. Mehm, Ph.D.
		(1) Aunie E. Pitaino, Pa.D.  Dissertation Chan Name  Aran E. Pitaino  Signature  Univ. of Hartford, Psychology—GIPP	(2) John G. Menin, Ph.D.  2 <sup>th</sup> Menber Name  folia G. Wadon  Signature  Univ. of Hartford, PsychologyGIPP
		Institution and Department Assistant Professor Title	Institution and Department Director, GIPP Title
		(2) Stephen O. Fagberni, Psy.D., Ph.D.  3 <sup>rd</sup> Member Name  Ghopten G. Traptons	(4) 4 <sup>th</sup> Member Name (optional)
		Signature Univ. of Hartford, PsychologyGIPP Institution and Department	Signature  Institution and Department
		Affiliate Faculty Title	Title
		Received: Director of Dissertation Research  S/1/13 Date	Golie G. Mohm
		Received: June P. Harring Chair, ARS Graduate Studies Committee	Date
	CURRICULUM VITAE Stephanie Sue Bozak	AB	ISTRACT
	stephaniebozak@gmail.com	COLLEGE STUDENTS' SENSE OF	F BELONGING AND SOCIAL SUPPORT:
Education		POTENTIAL FAC	CTORS IN RESILIENCE
2013, May Ps Ps	sy.D., Clinical Psychology, Graduate Institute of Professional sychology University of Hartford, West Hartford, Connecticut.	Stephanie Bozak, D	octor of Psychology, 2013
	I.A., Psychology, University of Hartford, West Hartford, onnecticut.	Psy.D. Dissertation Ch Associate Professor, Graduate	naired by Anne Pidano, Ph.D., Institute of Professional Psychology
2005, May B. Ui	.A., Psychology and Sociology, Binghamton University – State niversity of New York, Binghamton, New York.	W	stressors and at least one potentially traumatic
Clinical Experience		event in their lifetime. Although it was in	itially thought that those exposed to difficulties
	Unical Coordinator, Community Residences, Inc., Southington, Connecticut.		tcomes, many seem to adjust and function well.
	redoctoral Intern, MercyFirst, Syosset, New York.		ersities they face are considered to be resilient.
	Clinician, Northwest Village School, Wheeler Clinic, Plainville, Connecticut.		unic process by which positive adaptation occurs the way in which individuals utilize both
2010-2011 O R	Outpatient Clinician, Mt. Tom Center for Mental Health & Recovery - Behavioral Health Network, Holyoke, Massachusetts.	Will the My their State	me adversity or threats to their development.
2009-2010 C	Clinical Practicum, Mt. Tom Center for Mental Health & Recovery, Behavioral Health Network, Holyoke, Massachusetts.		research studies looking at social support as a udies indicating that social support is related to
	short Term Assessment and Respite Clinician, Community Residences, Inc., Southington, Connecticut.	2940.094.45.20.094.70.40.091.194.05.304.50.05.094.05.74.00.05.75.00.05.74.00.05.75.00.05.75.00.05.75.00.05.75.00.05.75.00.05.75.00.05.75.00.05.75.00.05.75.00.05.75.00.05.00.05.75.00.05.75.00.05.75.00.05.00.05.00.05.00.05.00.05.00.05.00.05.00.05.00.05.00.05.00.05.00.05.00.05.00.05.00.05.00.05.00.00	esearch focusing on sense of belonging as a
	Fee for Service Clinician, Child Guidance Clinic, Community Mental Health Affiliates, New Britain, Connecticut.		study was to examine whether social support,
2008-2009 F P	Fee for Service Clinician, Supervised Visitation and Adoption Program, Family Services of Central Connecticut, New Britain, Connecticut.	six University of Hartford students comp	are correlated with resilience. Two hundred and letted a survey which included measures of social
2007-2008 C	Clinical Practicum, Child Guidance Clinic, Community Mental Health Affiliates, New Britain, Connecticut.	7944 STANDARD OF SEC. W. W.	OBI-A and SOBI-P), perceived stress (PSS), and ted that sense of belonging would be positively
		*	

*Note.* Continuation pages of CV and Abstract are excluded from this sample.

# COLLEGE STUDENTS' SENSE OF BELONGING AND SOCIAL SUPPORT: POTENTIAL FACTORS IN RESILIENCE Stephanie Bozak B.A., May 2005, Binghamton University M.A., September 2007, University of Hartford Psy.D. Dissertation submitted to the Psy.D. Dissertation submitted to the Graduate Institute of Professional Psychology Doctoral Program in Clinical Psychology University of Hartford in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Psychology 2013 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS A special thank you to my Dissertation Committee members, Dr. Pidano, Dr. Mehm, and Dr. Fagbemi. Your collective patience, effort and shared expertise were integral to this TABLE OF CONTENTS Great gratitude is also owed to the following people: ACKNOWLEDGMENTS ..... iii My family, not only for your support throughout my undergraduate and graduate career, but for helping me become who I am today. J.K., to whom I am immeasurably thankful for helping me to overcome roadblocks and achieve the necessary frame of mind to complete this project. For being a constant support and being unwavering in your love. T.P., for showing me what resilience truly is. I am so honored and feel so privileged to have had the opportunity to know you.

*Note.* Copyright information would be printed on back of p. ii. Sample does not include a Foreword or Dedication. Continuation pages of Table of Contents are excluded from sample.

PSYCHOLOGICAL SENSE OF BELONGING AND RESILIENCE LIST OF TABLES CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION Table Page Most people will experience daily stressors (Bonanno, 2005; Bonanno, Galea, Bucciarelli & Vlahov, 2007), and, the majority of adults have been exposed to at least one potentially traumatic event in their lifetimes (Bonanno et al., 2007). In the mid- Gender differences in MSPSS, SOBI-A, SOBI-P, PSS and CD-RISC . . . . . . . . . 65 1950's it was believed that a poor developmental outcome was likely for individuals who Multiple Regression Model using MSPSS, SOBI-P, and PSS to predict were exposed to difficulties such as poverty, parental psychopathology, trauma, and chronic family discord (Werner, 2005). However, despite widespread exposure to and common beliefs about potentially traumatic events, both children and adults react in many different ways to the same experiences. While many children do develop psychological difficulties when faced with stressors or adversity, many seem to adjust and function well (Luthar, 1991; Werner, 1989). It is apparent from research that many children who experience stressful, disadvantaged, or abusive childhoods are able to grow up to develop into prosocial and productive adults (Bartol, 2006). People who function well despite the adversities they face are considered to be resilient (Luthar, 1991) and are said to have internal characteristics and access to externa factors, which help them to "bounce back" from traumatic experiences and help buffe them from detrimental psychological effects (Baruth & Carroll, 2006; Luthar, 1991; Luthar & Cicchetti, 2000; Richardson, 2002). The notion of resilience or resiliency refers to the dynamic process by which positive adaptation occurs within the context of adversity (Cicchetti & Garmezy, 1993; Luthar, Cicchetti, & Becker, 2000; Masten & Tellegen, 2012; Werner, 2005). In other words, resilience, considered to be interchangeable with resiliency, describes the way in which individuals utilize both PSYCHOLOGICAL SENSE OF BELONGING AND RESILIENCE PSYCHOLOGICAL SENSE OF BELONGING AND RESILIENCE suggests that recovery and resilience are two distinct and separate trajectories after stressful events. First, the dissertation reviews relevant literature related to resilience in exposure to risk and negative events in one's life. This is not to say that that a resilient order to facilitate a greater understanding of the relationships between social support and person does not experience upset or stress related to the aversive event, but rather that his sense of belonging, and ascertain any evidence for a correlation with resiliency. The or her overall level of functioning has remained the same (Mancini & Bonanno, 2006). dissertation focuses on social support as a factor in resilience by reviewing the literature While a resilient person may experience loss or become distressed due to the adverse life related to social support. It explores the relationship between the two constructs of social event or circumstance, those who possess resilient qualities do not significantly change in support and resilience. It then discusses the similarities and differences between social their level of functioning. They possess capabilities to overcome this distress and will support and sense of belonging and discusses how sense of belonging is related to not show any significant difference in how they function in their day to day life over resilience. It outlines the study which aims to help explore the correlation between time. An example would be experiencing stress due to the loss of a job. While this may resilience, social support, and sense of belonging produce high levels of stress, a resilient person may have qualities and take efforts that The following section discusses the research on resilience and outlines the history help to overcome the difficulty without significant loss of functioning. If a person loses a of resilience research in psychology, different models of resiliency, identified risk factors job, but was in the process of being hired elsewhere, he or she may experience some stress related to the job loss, however, his or her functioning would remain the same if the social support and sense of belonging as potential factors in resilience. new job served as a buffer. A lack of resilience may result in high levels of stress that Resilience hinder the person's ability to find a new job or move forward with their life, possibly Resilience or resiliency may be defined as the process by which a person utilizes ing them to fall into a state of depression. If, as time passes, this person seeks help, internal and external resources to overcome adversity and adapt despite potential threats this is considered recovery and the person is able to move forward and try to find a job. to their development (Cicchetti & Garmezy, 1993; Everall et al., 2006; Luthar et al., History of Resilience Research 2000; Masten & Tellegen, 2012; Werner, 2005). Resiliency is two-dimensional, Although the experience and process of resilience have likely existed throughout involving both exposure to adversity and positive adjustment after exposure to the history, research involving the concept of resilience is relatively new. Evidence for adversity (Friborg et al., 2009; Luthar & Cicchetti, 2000; Masten & Tellegen, 2012). It resilience can be found in early research with populations ranging from individuals requires something that can be evaluated as a stressor or hardship and the ability to exposed to extreme stress, to those who experienced historical traumatic occurrences, to overcome this stressor. It also involves having the characteristics that help a person to early programs of research with populations diagnosed with schizophrenia (Cicchetti & "bounce back" from adversity and deter an individual from detrimental psychological

*Note.* Sample does not include a List of Figures. Only selected pages of Chapter I are presented. Heading on p. 6 denotes a new section, whereas heading on p. 8 denotes a subsection.

PSYCHOLOGICAL SENSE OF BELONGING AND RESILIENCE Garmezy, 1993; Masten & Tellegen, 2012). Literature on schizophrenia can be thought of as one of the founding bases for resiliency research due to the patterns found in some patients who evidenced adaptive behaviors (Cichetti & Garmezy, 1993; Masten & Tellegen, 2012). During early research, however, those people who exhibited positive adaptation were considered atypical and were not given much attention (Cicchetti & Garmezy, 1993). Cicchetti and Garmezy (1993) also cited research with those exposed to chronic stress as early evidence for resilience. Those who experienced chronic stresses were considered to be exposed to risk and researchers believed that negative development would inevitably follow. Despite the exposure to risk, however, many people in these early studies went on to develop normally without hardships or difficulty. Masten et al. (1990) state that studies of children at risk of psychopathology played an important role in the understanding of what has become known as the concept known as resilience. For example, although poverty encompasses a range of stressors, early literature revealed that many children who grew up exposed to this adversity developed positive behaviors (Cicchetti & Garmezy, 1993). In addition to research involving "at risk" children, developmental pathology has also informed resilience research (Garmezy, Masten &

Successful adaptation. As researchers studied developmental pathology, they began to note children who flourished despite risks (Masten, Best, & Garmezy, 1990). Research has helped to shed light on the different developmental outcomes and pathways, and as these are becoming more recognized there has been an increased acknowledgement of successful adaptation despite adversity (Cicchetti & Garmezy, 1993; Masten et al., 1990). In these early studies, the definition of successful adaption was often based on

PSYCHOLOGICAL SENSE OF BELONGING AND RESILIENCE

## CHAPTER I

## Participants

The survey was administered to 206 student participants from the University of Hartford in West Hartford, Connecticut. The 206 students were recruited using the Psychology Department's Subject Pool. Participation was voluntary for all students and those who participated received credit for their participation. The majority of the participants, 70.9%, were Caucasian (n=146). There were more female (66%, n=136) than male (34%, n=70) participants. The majority of the participants were in their freshman year (66.5%, n=137) and lived on campus (i.e., did not commute) (86%, n=178). The participant demographics were comparable to the University of Hartford, except for the ratio of female to male students. According to the university website, females represent 51.4% of the student body, while males represent 48.6 % (University of Hartford, 2012). Most of the participants were originally from less than 3.5 hours away from the university (cumulative percent of everyone less than 3.5 hours away from the university = 84.5%, n=174) and an overwhelming majority began their college career at the University of Hartford (i.e., did not transfer to the university) (97%, n=201). Given that the Psychology Department's Subject Pool gathers participants from Psychology 101 and Psychology 102 classes, it was expected that most participants were within their first year of college and started at the University of Hartford. Additionally, given that most first year students live on campus, it was also expected that most of the participants were living on campus

Approval for the research study was granted through the University of Hartford's Human Subjects Committee (see Appendix A). Participants were treated in accordance

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mean of 72.29, (SD=11.53), and a Cronbach's alpha of .90.

## CHAPTER III RESULTS

This study focused on the relationships between social support, sense of belonging, perceived stress, and resilience. Statistics for the main study scales are presented in Table 1. The MSPSS had a mean of 69.46 (SD=10.64), with excellent internal consistency reliability indicated by a Cronbach's alpha of .92. Sense of belonging was measured using the two scales of the SOBI, and included the antecedents and the psychological experience. The SOBI-A or the antecedents had a mean of 43.47 (SD=3.86), and a Cronbach's alpha of .71, while the SOBI-P or psychological experience had a mean of 58.62 (SD=8.38), and a Cronbach's alpha of .94. Internal consistency for the SOBI-A was found to be slightly less robust (Cronbach's a=71) when compared to the SOBI-P (a=94). The PSS measuring perceived stress, had a mean of 18.70 (SD=6.380), and a Cronbach's alpha of .86. The CD-RISC, measuring resilience had a

Hypothesis 1 stated that the two scales of the Sense of Belonging Instrument,
Antecedents and the Psychological Experience would be positively correlated with each
other. Correlational analysis supported this prediction, indicating that the two scales
measuring sense of belonging, the SOBI-A and the SOBI-P had a statistically significant
correlation coefficient of .31. The hypothesis also stated that the constructs, sense of
belonging and social support, would be positively and statistically significantly correlated
with each other. Although the SOBI-A was found to have less reliability than the SOBI-P, the SOBI-A was found to be positively and statistically significantly correlated with
social support (r=.31). The SOBI-P was also found to be positively and statistically

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Table 1

Summary of correlations, means, standard deviations, and Cronbach's a for scores on the MSPSS, SOBI-A, SOBI-P, PSS, and CD-RISC

Scale	1	2	3	4	5
Multidimensional Scale of Perceived Social Support					
2. Sense of Belonging Instrument - Antecedents	.31 **				
Sense of Belonging Instrument – Psychological Experience	.64 **	.31 **			
4. Perceived Stress Scale	33 **	10	54 **		
5. Connor-Davidson Resilience Scale	.41 **	.25 **	.50 **	55 **	
Mean	69.46	43.47	58.62	18.70	72.29
SD	10.64	3.86	8.37	6.38	11.53
Cronbach's a	.92	.71	.94	.86	.90

significantly correlated with the MSPSS (r=.64). Hypothesis I also stated that sense of belonging and social support would be negatively correlated with perceived stress and this was also support by the correlational analysis. The SOBI-P was negatively correlated with PSS with a correlation coefficient of -.54, and MSPSS was negatively correlated with PSS with a correlation coefficient of -.33. The SOBI-A, however, was not found to be statistically significantly correlated with perceived stress.

Hypothesis 2 looked at the predicting factors, sense of belonging, social support, and perceived stress, and their relationship with resilience. It was hypothesized that resilience will be positively correlated with sense of belonging and social support, while being negatively correlated with perceived stress. The SOBI-A was positively and

*Note.* Only selected pages of Chapters I, II, and III are presented. Heading on p. 9 is a paragraph heading. Table 1 appears on page after it was first referenced.

PSYCHOLOGICAL SENSE OF BELONGING AND RESILIENCE PSYCHOLOGICAL SENSE OF BELONGING AND RESILIENCE CHAPTER IV REFERENCES DISCUSSION Ahearn, N.R., Kiehl, E.M., Sole, M.L., & Byers, J. (2006). A review of instruments measuring resilience. Issues in Comprehensive Pediatric Nursing, 29, 103-125. doi: 10.1080/01460860600677643 Summary of Finding Hagerty et al. (1996) suggest that sense of belonging is a unique element of American Psychological Association, Ethics Office (2010). Ethical principles of psychologists and code of conduct. Retreived from http://www.apa.org/ethics/code/index.aspx relatedness and that it is one of many concepts that are part of social support. Although erchers (Dumon & Provost, 1999; Hagerty et al., 1992; Hagety et al., 1996) have Anant, S.S. (1967). Belongingness, anxiety and self-sufficiency: Pilot study. Psychological Reports, 20, 1137-1138. ested that sense of belonging and social support are empirically key correlates, there is a lack of evidence in this matter in the current literature. Researchers have also Bartol, C.R. (2006). Resilience and antisocial behavior. In Bartol, C.R. & Bartol, A.M. (Eds.), Current Perspectives in forensic psychology and criminal justice (pp. 79-92). Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications. ested that although social support and sense of belonging are related, they are Baruth, K.E., & Carrol, J.J. (2002). A formal assessment of resilience: The Baruth Protective Factors Inventory. *The Journal of Individual Psychology*, 58(3), 235-244. ate and different constructs (Dumont & Provost, 1999; Hagerty et al., 1992; Hagerty et al., 1996). Other researchers, however, have found that social support does not significantly correlate with sense of belonging (Hagerty & Williams, 1999). Despite Bernardon, S., Babb, K.A., Hakim-Larson, J., & Gragg, M. (2011) Loneliness, attachment, and the perception and use of social support in university students. Canadian Journal of Behavioural Science, 43(1), 40-51. istencies, Hypothesis 1 predicted that social support and sense of belonging would be positively and statistically significantly correlated. The results of the present study did Bonanno, G.A. (2004). Loss, trauma, and human resilience: Have we underestimated the human capacity to thrive after extremely aversive events? *American Psychologist* 59(4), 20-28. in fact, support Hypothesis 1 indicating that sense of belonging is correlated with social support and also suggested that although correlated, they are not so highly correlated to Bonanno, G.A. (2005). Resilience in the face of potential trauma. Current Directions in Psychological Science, 14(3), 135-138. doi: 10.1111/j.0963-7214.2005.00347.x suggest that they measure the same concept. This provides evidence for what researchers Bonanno, G.A., Galea, S., Bucciarelli, A., & Vlahov, D. (2006). Psychological resilience after disaster: New York City in the aftermath of the September 11<sup>th</sup> terrorist attack. Psychological Science, 17(3), 181-186. have suggested indicating that, although related, sense of belonging and social support are separate from each other (Dumont & Provost, 1999; Hagerty et al., 1992; Hagerty et Bonanno, G.A., & Mancini, A.D. (2008). The human capacity to thrive in the face of potential trauma. *Pediatrics*, 121(2), 369-375. doi:10.1542/peds.2007-1648 al., 1996). In other words, sense of belonging is related to but separate from social Bovier, P.A., Chamot, E., & Perneger, T.V. (2004). Perceived stress, internal resources, and social support as determinants of mental health among young adults. *Quality of Life Research*, 13, 161-180 Sense of belonging involves two important dimensions which were identified by researchers, the antecedents and the psychological experience (Hagerty et al., 1992; Hagerty et al., 1996). Hypothesis 1 stated that both the antecedents and psychological PSYCHOLOGICAL SENSE OF BELONGING AND RESILIENCE PSYCHOLOGICAL SENSE OF BELONGING AND RESILIENCE APPENDIX A University of Hartford Study Approval UNIVERSITY OF HARTFORD

*Note.* Only selected pages of Chapter IV, References, and Appendices are presented. Running head and pagination continue through Appendices and final blank page.