

# Clinical Psychology PhD Program

Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences  
The University of Iowa

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and

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# Program Overview

- Continuously accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA) since 1948
- Also accredited by the Psychological Clinical Science Accreditation System (PCSAS) since 2011. Charter member of the Academy for Psychological Clinical Science
- Only accredited PhD program in Clinical Psychology in Iowa
- Top 20 program (U.S. News and World Report)
- 299 PhDs in Clinical Psychology awarded, starting in 1951
- Albert Bandura (PhD 1952) awarded National Medal of Science in January 2016.

# Program Description

- Strongly emphasizes a scientific approach to the understanding and treatment of psychological disorders (“clinical scientist model”)
- Integrated training in clinical science and practice
  - Research training: students heavily engaged in research on clinical problems with faculty mentors
  - Clinical training
    - Faculty-supervised practica in Carl E. Seashore Psychology Clinic
    - One-year clinical internship at APA-approved site

# Student Profiles

- 31 current students (including 7 on internship)
- 2015-16 admitted students
  - 102 applied, 6 accepted (6%)
  - Matriculated = 4, Minority students = 0
  - Qualifications (average scores)
    - GRE-V (87<sup>th</sup> percentile)
    - GRE-Q (78<sup>th</sup> percentile)
    - GRE-Analytic Writing (87<sup>th</sup> percentile)
    - 3.8 Undergraduate GPA
    - Significant research experience

# Internships & Degrees Conferred

- Internship Placement
  - 100% placed in APA-accredited internships
  - 100% paid internships
- In last 7 years, 35 students received PhD degree
- Mean number of years to completion = 7.1  
(including internship year)
- Attrition (2 out of 36 students over past 7 years)

# Clinical Faculty

- Alan Christensen
- Susan Lutgendorf
- Kristian Markon
- Molly Nikolas
- Michael O'Hara
- Teresa Treat
- Isaac Petersen (arriving Jan. 2017)
- Daniel Tranel (joint with Neurology Department)

# 2009-10 APA Commission on Accreditation Review

- Self study that addresses accreditation criteria related to
  - Foundational training in psychology
  - Substantive training in clinical domains
  - Research training
  - Practicum experiences
- APA reviews and responds to self study (determines eligibility for site visit)
- Site visit (3 reviewers)
- Site visit report and program response sent to CoA
- CoA makes determination of accreditation and duration (max 7 years)

# Results of Last Review

- Continued 7-year accreditation awarded on Aug. 5<sup>th</sup>, 2010
- Very positive report overall, with many strengths identified:
  - Program highly valued by College and University
  - Strong practicum experiences that integrate science and practice
  - Strong leadership and faculty
  - Talented students, positive student-faculty relations
  - Excellent in-house training clinic



# Response to Last Review

- Narrative response as part of ongoing self-study was due on Sept. 1, 2011
- Issues identified:
  - How the program measures student competence in research in the absence of minimum threshold of publications
  - How the program gathers outcome data on program graduates
  - Update public disclosure information on internship and attrition information
  - How broad and general training in consultation and supervision is provided to students

# 2016-17 APA Accreditation Review

- Self study will be prepared by Sept. 1, 2016
- Site visit will occur in Spring 2017
- Expect to be re-accredited in Summer 2017

# Questions?