Summary of the Psychology Department's
Recent Assessment of Applications - Personal

PLO - Applications: *Personal*. Students will apply psychological principles, knowledge, and skills to their own lives (personal development, relationships, personal experience, etc.)

- <u>Assessment</u>: Students in PSY 140, Theories of Personality ($n = 30$), were asked to engage in an experience or activity that is contrary to the way they experience or see themselves. The purpose of the assignment was to help students better understand both their own personalities and the nature of personality in general. These were graded on clarity, insightfulness, and depth of engagement. In PSY 196, Capstone Senior Practicum ($n = 9$), students completed a journal describing their personal and professional growth over the course of the semester. This includes addressing their personal interest and goals, how practicum experiences have shaped their professional/career interests, their own particular strengths and weaknesses in the clinical setting, and how these strengths and weaknesses impacted or interfered with their clinical work.

- <u>What We Learned</u>: Their average grade on the first PSY 140 assignment was 93, and the average range on the PSY 196 assignment was 94. Students have learned by the time that they take these two junior/senior level courses how to apply what they have learned in their psychology courses to themselves and are able to articulate how they perceive and evaluate themselves. With respect to the departmental benchmarks, these students fall between Effective and Distinguished on the Personal benchmarks in Table 4.

TABLE 4. Benchmarks for *Applications* Student Learning Outcome

Student Learning Outcome	Underdeveloped	Developing	Effective	Distinguished
Personal	Generally fails to examine personal development, experiences, and relationships in light of psychological knowledge	Has a minimal awareness of ways in which psychological principles applies to personal life, experiences, and relationships	Is aware of ways in which psychological principles apply to personal life in order to grow in self and in relationships with others	Is psychologically insightful and applies psychological knowledge and principles to personal development and growth

- <u>Changes We Have Made and Plan to Make</u>: Similar assessments will be made in other courses.