

MINUTES OF THE STAFF MEETING
PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT
October 19, 1970

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The Psychology Department held its October meeting in EP 104 at 4 o'clock October 19, 1970.

All members were in attendance except Mrs. Stapleton and Dr. Roberts who had conflicting meetings.

The following items were discussed:

1. Dr. Prewett gave a brief report of his testimony at a hearing held by the Motor Vehicles Department on Thursday, October 8 in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Dr. Prewett indicated that he was testifying as President-elect of the North Carolina Psychological Association, as Chairman of the Psychology Department at East Carolina University, and as a representative of the State Board of Examiners of Practicing Psychologists. The specific statute in question at the hearing, GS-20-17.1, in which individuals accepted for treatment at Alcoholic Rehabilitation Centers or at mental health facilities would have their driver's license revoked was expressly described (in Dr. Prewett's testimony) as regressive, discriminatory, and illogical. The essence of Dr. Prewett's testimony was that the whole statute should be abolished and a new start should be made by the next Legislature in the area of safety on the highways in this general context.


2. Dr. Long discussed the question of the State Personnel Board permitting an individual with an A. B. Degree in psychology to advance up the career ladder so that he, at the end of three years, would have the same job title and responsibilities as an individual who had completed a Master's Degree in clinical psychology. Dr. Long pointed out that the graduate students at East Carolina University had sent a letter to Dr. William E. Thomas, Chief Psychologist, N. C. Department of Mental Health, about this position and expressing their opposition to it. Dr. Long also indicated that favorable response had already resulted from the letter and that the Personnel Board had instigated a moratorium on this question for the moment.
3. The whole question of employment of individuals in psychology with partially finished graduate programs and with A. B. Degrees was discussed. Also, such programs as those at technical institutes came up for discussion. The staff decided to appoint a committee to investigate this general problem. The following members were named: Williams, Chairman, Corwin, Tacker, Moore, and Long.
4. Dr. Mitchell reported for the Curriculum Committee. The following courses were approved:

Psychology 403--Seminar in School Psychology (3)
Psychology 417--Individual Testing of Exceptional Children
(3)
Psychology 418--Psychological Study of Children (3)

5. Dr. Martoccia reported for the Library Committee. He stated that, due to the purchase of a good many back issues of journals, The Psychology Department appears to be operating now with a deficit of some \$1600, as far as library funds are concerned.
6. A general discussion was held in regard to the new grading system for graduate students. Dr. Martoccia's statement that perhaps the honors grade should go to those students whom you would have given an A+ under the old system seems to have some degree of acceptability to the staff. Further discussion of this problem will take place at subsequent staff meetings. (The Committee established under Item 3 will also deal with this question.)
7. Dr. Tacker presented a report of an Ad Hoc Committee concerning procedures to follow for use of the new calculator purchased for staff research. The report was as follows:

The Committee recommends that the new electronic calculator remain in Dr. Prewett's office in a locked drawer, the keys of which will be available through Mrs. Brown. A reservation and sign-out sheet will be available in the drawer. After a staff member has had possession of the calculator for 24 hours any other staff member may call for its immediate return.
8. The perennial question of the graduate comprehensives examination was brought up for discussion. In the interest of time it was decided that Dr. Charles Moore and Dr. Charles Mitchell, with other persons being added to form a committee, would present a report at the next staff meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30.



Clinton R. Prewett, Chairman