

# Professional Practices Doctorate (PsyD) in School-Community Psychology *A Proposed Program of Distinction*



Vincent C. Alfonso, Ph.D.  
Dean, School of Education

Thomas V. Trotter, Ph.D.  
Educational Leadership  
Gonzaga University

# Agenda

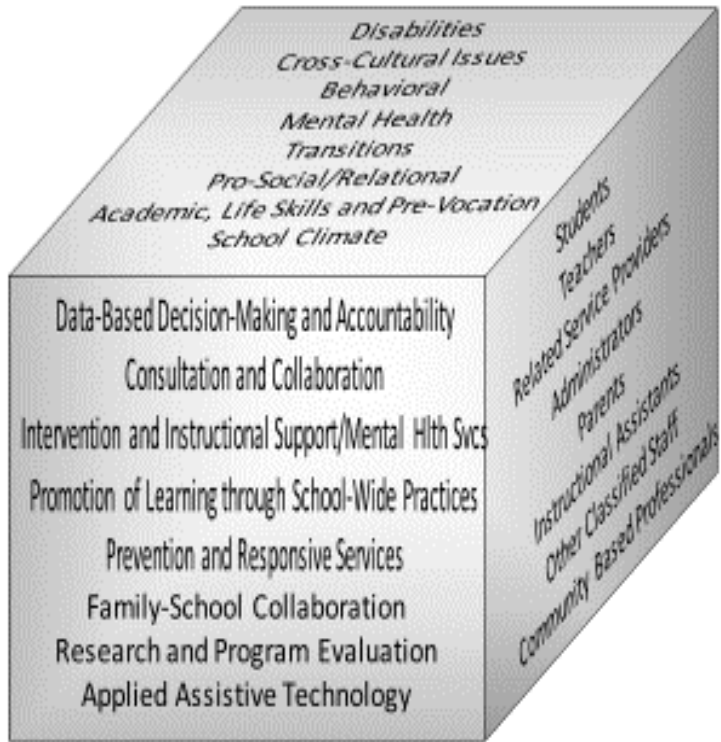
- Progress Report – *A work in progress.*
- The Professional Practices Doctorate (PsyD) – *Compared/contrasted with the Ph.D.*
- Rationale – *Why the time is right.*
- Highlights – *How is this program of study unique?*
- The Program of Study – *Curriculum content and delivery system.*
- Next Steps
- A Survey of Interest

# Progress Report

- Ed.S. and Psy.D. proposals in development.
- Institutional approval slated for Spring 2016.
- Washington State (PESB) approval targeted for Fall 2016.
- Logistics/resources acquisitions.
- Recruitment, application, screening, and placement procedures.
- Implementation of Ed.S. slated for Summer 2017 and Psy.D. for Summer 2018.

# The Professional Practices Doctorate (Psy.D.)

- Coursework and clinical experiences prepare for professional practice.
- Coursework, research (problem of practice-oriented), and clinical experiences are more integrated.
- Relies more on portfolios in lieu of qualifying examinations.
- ‘Integration of professional workplace’ emphasized.



## Rationale – *Why the Time is Right*

- Nature and intensity of concerns expressed; social-emotional needs are critical.
- Advanced training at the doctoral level will lead to greater expertise.
- Input from the field, professional associations, and PESB.
- Key findings of market analysis: student demand, competitive saturation, and employment projections.

# Highlights

*How is this program of study unique?*

- School Psychology – a delivery system embedded in School and Community Psychology
- Three points of entry: post-Bachelors, post-Masters, and post-Specialist degrees
- Advisory Council
- Strategic plan driven
- Dissertation/capstone in journal-ready format

# Highlights

*How is this program of study unique?*

- Selected doctoral-level practitioners in/ outside schools serve as adjunct faculty.
- Doctoral students assist Specialist-level students in clinical placement and may instruct in Specialist curriculum.
- Curriculum and clinical experiences at doctoral level will comply with APA and Washington State Psychology License standards.



# Program of Study

- 57-credit core
- 15-credit/1,500 clock hour clinical experience
- Specialty area embedded in research core
- 72 credits total

# Next Steps

- Determine level of continuing interest in Program.
- Secure input re: desired content/curricular focus.