INTERNERSHIP IN CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

I. Clinical Internship Description
The internship in Clinical Psychology is a requirement that pretend to qualify clinical psychologists in the professional practice, commitment and in concordance to ethics exigencies in the educational level. Preparing professionals to attend and understand the suffering of every person, family, group or organization.

The formation process has to include interview experience, assessment process, psychotherapy, inter-consulting, crisis intervention, consulting and supervision. The process should allow the integration of articulated clinical skills with theoretical formation to carry out the case conceptualization and the evaluation of the therapeutic process under its own responsibility.

II. Internship Objectives:
A. Facilitating the development and integration of skills in this areas:
   1. Psychological diagnosis and evaluation
   2. Crisis intervention and short time term psychotherapy with individuals, families and groups.
   3. Psychotherapy emphasis in long term interventions with individuals, families and groups.
   4. Psychological consulting
   5. Clinical supervision
   6. Design and execute prevention programs and services
   7. Particular Education in pertinent areas
   8. Psychological service administration
   9. Psychological research and program evaluation
   10. Interdisciplinary work

B. Facilitating the acquisition of know-how theoretical-practices in areas to the ones that the students have not had exposition formal previously and to fortify the know-how acquired in the following areas:
   1. Ethic
   2. Psychological evaluation
   3. Psychotherapy
   4. Communitarian focal point
   5. Professional controversies
   6. Personality
   7. Development
   8. Psychopathology
   9. Psychology historical development
   10. Consulting
   11. Supervision
   12. Administration
   13. Research
   14. Group intervention

C. Expose the student to a different models and theoretical frameworks that include psychotherapy models based on the evidence.
D. Favoring that the intern can identify their areas of professional competence and factors that promote and limit the development.

A. Promote the cultural diversity and individual clinical work.
B. Promote the critical analysis of knowledge and clinical skills, and its applicability in cultural and socio-economic context.
G. Encouraging the theoretical models development and clinical skills that respond to Puerto Rican reality in the socio-cultural context.
H. Stimulates a responsible leadership and auto-critic with other colleagues.
I. Promoted the inter-disciplinary work.

IV. Administrative structure for the facilitation of the objectives

A. Students have to approve 79 credits before the beginning of the internship.
B. Before the internship student is evaluated in three areas: academic experience, conceptual and practice for the identification of the development areas that must be improve. The evaluation and intern preference is used to identify the internship center.
C. Every agencies and institution the provide service as internship center have to provided a experience that facilitate skills development in this four areas:

   **Area I**: Diagnostic, psychological assessment, long and short term psychotherapy with individuals, families, groups and couples. 
   Psychotherapy emphasis in long-term interventions with individuals, families, and groups.

   **Area II**: Psychological consulting and Clinical supervision.
   Interdisciplinary work service for individuals, families, groups, and couples.

   **Area III**: Design and execute prevention programs and services. Clinical Psychology education.

   **Area IV**: Psychological service administration, research and program evaluation.

Interns have 1,000 hours for skill development in area I, and 1,000 hours to the other three areas, taking in consideration the student’s interests.

D. Every agencies and institution that service as an internship center have to provide a didactical experience in Area II. If the center cannot offer this experience, the Psychology Department assumes the responsibility to offering courses, modules, conferences and continued education; the internship center have to permit to the intern the time to attend or assist to the activities.

E. Every internship center has to have a minimum of two psychologies for the intern’s supervision. Is a requirement that the supervisor have Psychology license for the practice of the profession in PR and doctoral degree. If the internship is out side of Puerto Rico, the supervisor need to have a state or country license. In those cases with doesn’t exist one or two license psychologies with doctoral degree, the Psychology Department will designate a person for this function.

F. Is highly recommended that every internship center maintain two or more interns for the exchange of experience between interns.
G. Every intern has to receive 3 hours weekly supervision. Is recommendable more supervision.

H. It is required two writing evaluations, with the official model for the intern development of the Psychology Department: one in the middle and other in the final state of the center. This evaluation are witted for the intern supervisor, the student and Psychology Department will receive a copy of the evaluations.

I. The intern has to have meeting with clinical area coordinator, in the middle and the final of the internship. The middle evaluation is used for the deficiency modification and for the professional development. The final evaluation has the purposed to evaluate the internship center.

J. Every intern has to present to the Psychology Department a written evaluation of the internship experience in the end of the internship.

K. Every internship center must provide 600 hours maximum of experience outside of the center for the psychological formation.

L. Public service provider, need population, low wage people have priority internship center.

V. **Methodology Qualification**
The Internship is a course that involves 400 hours weekly practice. The number of hour for this course permitted the student the 2,000 hours required in a year. This implies that the student is registered for two consecutive semesters in the internship.
The grades are assigned at the end of the first semester is going to be " NG" (not grade) until the student complete the 2,000 hours internship. When the internship is finish, the student received a pass grade. The limit date for the delivery of these lists is in the summer section.

The student supervisor is part of the faculty in Psychology Department; the final grade of the course is being reported to the teacher with whom the student is register. This process is done in consultation of the member in the faculty that have been supervising the student previously, and with the Coordinator of the Graduate Program in Psychology. If the internship supervisor is not part of the faculty; the Psychology Department will receive the final grade of the internship center in consultation with the supervisors.

VI. **Problems solving process**
To attend and resolve situations related to the fulfillment of the contract and contained stipulations in this document itself the following thing:
1. Problem identification for the intern, one or more superior in the internship center.
2. Intern Coordinator notification.
3. Coordinator internship reunions with Interns, supervisor and coordinators.
4. The coordinator of the internship develops and actions plan that facilitated problem solving or recommend the student suspension.
5. This procedure is going to be coordinate with the rules or dispositions on the Student Manual.