Florene Mary Young and Margaret May Zeigler: The First Women in Professorial Ranks, Department of Psychology, University of Georgia

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I have no known conflict of interest.

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Abstract

In 1933, two factors resulted in Florene Mary Young (1903-1994) and Margaret May Zeigler (1882-1976) concurrently becoming the first women, tenured faculty members in the Department of Psychology at the University of Georgia (UGA). The first was the onset of the Great Depression in 1929 and the second was the legislative creation of the Board of Regents in 1932, established to oversee the University System of Georgia legislatively in 1933. For financial reasons the Regents closed the Georgia State Teachers College, where Young and Zeigler were employed, in Athens, GA, also home of UGA. Young and Zeigler were offered and accepted tenured faculty positions at UGA. Before presenting biographical information about Young and Zeigler, an overview of the history of psychology at UGA before their arrival as well as the status of women as students and faculty members at UGA before their arrival will provide useful background and context. Young was 21 years younger than Zeigler, earned the PhD in 1938, and had 36 years at UGA. Far more biographical information is available about Young than about Zeigler. The section preceding Closing Remarks considers Young and Zeigler in the context of other women psychologists of their generation.
Florene Mary Young and Margaret May Zeigler: The First Women in Professorial Ranks, Department of Psychology, University of Georgia

In 1891, the Georgia State Normal School (GSNS) was established in Athens, Georgia (Sells, 1923; Thomas, 2009). Normal schools in Georgia and elsewhere were designed to prepare certified but non-degreed school teachers. When degree requirements for teachers were required by the state legislature in 1928, the GSNS School was upgraded and became the Georgia State Teachers College (GSTC; Brooks, 1956; Dyer, 1985; Thomas, 2009). At this time, Florene (Mary) Young and (Margaret) May Zeigler were members of the faculty at GSTC.

Two factors contributed to Young’s and Zeigler’s move to UGA. The first factor was the Great Depression, which is generally accepted to have begun with the Stock Market crash of 1929, leading to extreme financial problems nearly everywhere in the United States of America. The second factor was that the state of Georgia, as early as 1919, had begun to consider the creation of the University System of Georgia which would mean extensive reorganization of the institutions that would constitute it (Fincher, 1991).

After several stalled starts, on January 1, 1932, the Board of Regents for the pending University System of Georgia was officially organized and on January 1, 1933, the new University System of Georgia was established. The Board of Regents began immediately to reorganize the 26 institutions under its authority. Financial concerns were paramount, and the GSTC was closed. Young and Zeigler, tenured faculty members at GSTC, were offered positions in the Department of Psychology at UGA. This article considers only the women offered positions in the Department of
Psychology in UGA’s Franklin College of Arts and Sciences. It has not been determined whether other women came to UGA in the professorial ranks in 1933, for example, in the College of Education.

**Young and Zeigler Arrive at UGA**

On May 31, 1933, I was elected as Assistant Professor of Psychology, University of Georgia, by the Regents of the University System of Georgia. . . . Dr. A.S. Edwards, Head of the Department of Psychology, welcomed Miss May Zeigler and me, and assigned our duties (Young, 1988, p. 7). ¹

Zeigler’s records (Zeigler, 1933-1952) show that she came to UGA as an Associate Professor. Regarding Zeigler’s Associate Professorship, she was 19 years older than Young and had been at GSNS and GSTC 19 years longer than Young, 1917 vs. 1926 (Young, 1988; Zeigler, 1933-1952). In 1933 both Young and Zeigler had M.A. degrees. In 1938, Young would earn her PhD degree. Young was promoted to Associate Professor in 1943 and to Professor in 1948. She retired as Professor Emerita in 1969 (Young, 1988). When Young and Zeigler joined Edwards as professors in the Department of Psychology, it became a three-faculty-member department and, perhaps, at the time a rare if not unique instance when in a state university’s Psychology Department’s women outnumbered men 2:1. It would remain that way until 1946.

**A Brief History of Psychology at UGA Before 1933**

The University of Georgia is the oldest chartered state university in the United States. Its charter was approved by the state legislature, known then as the General Assembly, of Georgia on January 27, 1785. Because the Charter’s history is relevant to women (see “Early History of Women at UGA” below), it will be considered in a bit more
detail here. UGA’s Charter was written by Abraham Baldwin, a native of Connecticut and a graduate of Yale University. Baldwin was invited to Georgia in 1783 by Georgia Governor Lyman Hall (a Yale graduate and signer of the Declaration of Independence in 1776) to advise the General Assembly on the matter of providing for public education in Georgia. Baldwin also served as one of Georgia’s representatives to the U. S. Constitutional Convention, and he and William Few were the two signers of the U. S. Constitution from Georgia (September 17, 1787). Georgia ratified the Constitution on January 2, 1788, the fourth state to do so.

However, 16 years passed (1801) before a location for UGA was chosen, land was acquired, and classes began. Meanwhile, the University of North Carolina, chartered on December 11, 1789, opened its doors to students on January 15, 1795 (Brooks, 1956).

Zeigler (1949) is the best published source for information about history of psychology at UGA before Psychology became widely recognized as an independent discipline after 1879. Until 1902, psychology and philosophy were inseparable in the curriculum, and psychology was represented in courses such as Mental Philosophy and Moral Philosophy. In 1890-1891, a course titled Mental Science was offered. In 1902-1903, the first course titled “Psychology” was taught, and William James’s *Psychology: Briefer Course* (1892) was the main textbook. The course also had an optional “laboratory course with apparatus” and E. B. Titchener’s *Experimental Psychology* was used. Zeigler did not specify which volumes related to Titchener’s *Experimental Psychology*, were used but presumably one or both published in 1901. A generous gift for the explicit purpose of equipping a psychology laboratory at UGA was made in 1902
by Oscar Straus, a Georgia philanthropist and U.S. Secretary of Labor and Commerce under President Theodore Roosevelt.

**Titchener’s Influence on Development of Psychology at UGA**

Edward Bradford Titchener (1867-1927), a native of England, earned his PhD in 1892 with Wilhelm Wundt (1832-1920), the widely acknowledged founder of Psychology as an independent discipline (Boring, 1950). In 1892, Titchener accepted a position at Cornell University where he, more than anyone else, pioneered experimental psychology in America (Thomas, 2021).

**Celeste S. Parrish (1852-1918).** Celestia S. Parrish best remembered as Celeste received her baccalaureate in philosophy under Titchener’s supervision in 1896. She established the first psychology laboratory in the South in 1894 at Randolph-Macon Woman’s College (Rowe & Murray, 1979; Thomas, 2006); her laboratory was modeled on Titchener’s laboratory at Cornell. A native of Virginia and long-time educator there, Parrish accepted a position at the Georgia State Normal School (GSNC) in Athens in December 1901 where she built a psychology laboratory using funds gifted by George Foster Peabody, a Georgia Philanthropist and friend of Oscar Straus. Peabody also donated funds for Parrish to oversee construction of a building, Muscogee Elementary, to house a “practice school” at GSNS (Montgomery, 2018).

Meanwhile, Parrish started teaching Child Psychology at UGA during the summers, before there were women on UGA’s regular faculty. Considering Parrish’s and Peabody’s friendship, it is reasonable to suggest that she helped UGA get the funds from Straus to build UGA’s psychology laboratory and that she guided its construction. There was no one else at UGA with her knowledge and experience.
Finally, the A. S. Edwards’s papers in UGA’s Hargrett Rare Book and Manuscripts Library purls.lib.uga.edu/Hargrett/UA0064/findingaid a handwritten list (author unidentified) of psychology laboratory equipment purchased at UGA by Parrish.

Parrish was fired on May 26, 1911 from the GSNS after years of conflict with the school’s president, Eugene Cunningham Branson. The primary source of their conflict was her outspoken progressive views regarding the education of women and African Americans and willingness to stand up to Branson (Montgomery, 2018). Parrish still had influence in Georgia, and a position was created by Governor Hoke Smith for her to serve as a supervisor of public schools for Georgia’s 44 most northern and mountainous counties. She relocated to Clayton, GA, 75 miles north of Athens. She died in 1918, a result of exhaustion and, possibly, influenza from overwork (Montgomery, 1918; Strickland, 1979).

**Ludwig Reinhold Geissler (1879-1932).** Geissler earned his PhD under Titchener in 1909. In 1912, Geissler accepted a position at UGA, becoming the first bona fide psychologist on UGA’s regular faculty. In 1908, the newly formed College of Education was opened at UGA in a new building with several rooms specified for psychological research. Philosophy and Psychology were transferred as one department from UGA’s Franklin College of Arts and Sciences to the College of Education. Although Geissler conducted Titchener’s version of “pure” experimental research throughout his career, his interests also shifted to applied psychology soon after receiving the PhD. During the academic year 1915-1916, while at UGA, he began founding the *Journal of Applied Psychology*, and in the Fall of 1916, he relocated to
Clark University where G. Stanley Hall and James Baird joined him as founding editors of the journal. The first issue was published in March 1917 (Thomas, 2009, 2021).

**Austin Southwick Edwards (1885-1976).** Edwards earned his PhD under Titchener in 1912. Born in Oswega, New York, Edwards attended public schools there and earned a diploma at the Oswega Normal School. In 1908, he earned a B.S. degree at the Teachers College at Columbia University, apparently planning to teach manual arts in secondary schools (Thomas, 2015). However, he enrolled at Cornell and earned a PhD under Titchener's supervision in 1912. After four years (1912-1916) on the faculty at the University of Minnesota, Edwards succeeded Geissler at UGA in 1916. Edwards was soon dissatisfied with the lack of support for experimental psychology by the administration of the College of Education but efforts to improve matters were interrupted by his service as Captain under Major Robert M. Yerkes in the U. S. Army during WWI. Yerkes’ group is well remembered for developing the Army Alpha (verbal) and Beta (nonverbal) tests designed to assess mental competence for service and promotion in the Army (Yerkes, 1921).

Edwards returned to UGA in 1919, and by 1921, his dissatisfaction with the College of Education resulted in successful actions to have Psychology reinstated as a department separated from Philosophy in the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences (see Edwards’ essay, “Building a Department,” included in Young, 1985). Edwards’ other accomplishments included (a) achieving formal recognition of the Department’s Psychology Clinic in 1930, (b) having UGA included among the colleges and universities with a Charter Chapter of Psi Chi, (c) serving on the Committee that helped Georgia become the second state to have a licensing law in applied psychology;
Connecticut was the first, and (d) becoming the first licensed psychologist in Georgia (Doverspike, 2021, August 12; Thomas, 2015; Young, 1985).

**Early History of Women at UGA**

It was noted above that the Charter founding UGA in 1785 became relevant to women. The original Charter was handwritten on two pages of vellum, and it included 13 numbered sections. Section 11 is relevant to women, because it became controversial regarding women (Eidson, 1951). Eidson noted that only one printing of the 1785 Charter appears to have been based on the original handwritten document, and it was done by Robert and George Watkins for *A Digest of the Laws of the State of Georgia Through 1799*. Eidson, UGA English Professor and Editor of *The Georgia Review*, wrote that “all later printers seemed to have used the Watkins version or one of its followers (p. 4).” As Eidson and Coulter (1951; E. M. Coulter was a UGA History Professor who specialized in Georgia history) showed from their careful re-transcription of the original Charter using magnifying glass as needed, some mistakes were made by the Watkins and other mistakes were made by subsequent printers, some of which “vitaly affect the meaning” (Eidson, 1951, p. 4). Eidson continued, “The most radical deviation is the insertion of the word *her* in Section 11.” According to Eidson and Coulter (1951, p. 10), the correct transcription of Section 11 is:

11\(^{th}\) THE TRUSTEES shall not exclude any person of any religious denomination . . . on account of his or their speculative sentiments in Religion . . . .

Eidson (1951, p. 4) noted that the Watkins had transcribed “his or their” accurately and that:
Horatio Marbury and William H. Crawford in their *Digest of the Laws of Georgia* in 1802 changed the Watkins' accurate reading of the phrase . . .
to “on account of his, her or their speculative sentiments,” and all
future printings that have been found retain the prophetic *her*.

Despite the perpetuated, “prophetic” error, strong opposition, mostly by UGA’s Trustees, to enrolling women at UGA or hiring women on the faculty prevailed for more than a century. Nonetheless, in 1889, the General Assembly of Georgia passed legislation calling for the admission of women to all branches of the University except School of Technology (“Georgia Tech”) in Atlanta and the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta. Still, UGA’s Trustees refused to enroll women until 1911, when they were allowed to enroll Summers only and only for the M.A. degree. The first woman to earn a M.A. degree from UGA was Mary D. Lyndon in 1914. In 1919, she became the first woman to be UGA’s Dean of Women, at which time she was also appointed Associate Professor of Education (Dyer, 1985; Brooks, 1956). In 1936, Mary Lyndon Hall was opened as a residence hall for women graduate students.

The Trustees relented further in 1918 (to take effect in 1919) and allowed women to be admitted on a regular basis as undergraduate and graduate students, but only in the College of Education and in the Agriculture and Mechanical School (the latter included Home Economics). The Agriculture and Mechanical School became part of UGA owing to UGA having become a Land Grant University following the Morrill Acts (1862, 1890) in the U. S. Congress. The purpose of Land Grant universities was to promote greater emphases on higher education with more practical value, including the emerging field of home economics. Despite the Trustees’ stated limits on where women
could enroll in 1919 and with no fanfare, that limit was ignored, and by 1919 women were enrolling also in the University’s main College, the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences (Brooks, 1956, pp. 145-146).

With the inclusion of home economics in the curriculum, the University became more open to the inclusion of women on the faculty to teach these courses, although there were no women on the faculty until 1918. However, in 1888, Sarah A. Frierson, who had no professional training, was appointed to run UGA’s, then small, library, for $100.00 annually. By 1910 when she retired, her salary had increased to $540.00 annually (Boney, 1986, p. 99). For context, the entire UGA expendable income in 1888 was $44,795.00 which by 1910 had increased to $235,498.00 (Brooks, 1956, p. 238). Thus, for both years, 1888 and 1910, likely coincidentally, Frierson received .002% of the UGA budget.

**Mary Ethel Creswell (1878-1960)**

Creswell has the distinction of being the first women to earn an undergraduate degree at UGA (B.S.H.E; bachelor of science in home economics) in 1919 while also serving as the first regular woman faculty member at UGA. Creswell was appointed Director of the newly created Home Economics division at UGA in 1918. She might not have achieved either had she not already graduated from the Georgia State Normal School (GSNS; see above) in 1902 and served as a faculty member there. When Celeste Parrish was fired in 1911 (see above), Creswell resigned in protest from the GSNS and “quietly took additional science courses [at UGA]” (Boney, 1986, p. 106). According to Dyer (1985, p. 172), “Creswell then studied bacteriology surreptitiously [at UGA] and was able to transfer credit to the University of Chicago.” Throughout all this,
Creswell was the protégé and close friend of Celeste Parish (see above) who had advised her to study at the University of Chicago. They remained close friends until Parrish’s death in 1918; Creswell was one of the last to visit Parrish in Clayton, GA, 75 miles north of Athens (Montgomery, 2018). Creswell Hall, a 9-story residence hall was constructed in 1963.

Florene Mary Young (1901-1994)

Although Young was born in Oak Hill, Alabama (11/17/1901), her ancestral home from 1839 was Due West, South Carolina. It was somewhat coincidental that John Todd Young’s (Florene Young’s father) first job was as principal and teacher in a private school in Oak Hill for two years. The family then returned to Due West where John Young attended Erskine Seminary. After one year, the family moved to Xenia, Ohio where Florene Young’s father graduated from the United Presbyterian Seminary in 1905. His first pastorate was in East Greenwich, New York, where Florene Young started first grade in 1907. Because she already knew how to read, she assisted the beginners and “. . . at this early stage I decided I wanted to be a teacher” (Young, 1988, p. 4). Next, John Young was transferred to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania where during their third winter, Young’s mother nearly died from pneumonia. The family physician recommended that she not spend another winter in Philadelphia, and her father transferred to Greenwood, SC (19 miles from Due West) where Young completed her pre-college education in what she described as very good public schools (Young, 1988, pp. 5-6).

Four years after high school Young graduated from Winthrop College (Rock Hill, SC) in 1923. She then taught for one year in public schools in Belmont, NC. She
accepted a loan from family friends to attend graduate school at Columbia University in New York City which she supplemented by tutorial work and “baby sitting with children of different ages (Young, 1988, p.8).” She earned her M.A. degree in 1926 and accepted a position at the Georgia State Teacher’s College in Athens, GA. Noting the pressure to earn the PhD degree after repaying her debts, she planned to return to Columbia University in 1929. The Great Depression changed her plans. “It seemed best not to return to N.Y.C. but to go to Peabody College in Nashville, TN” (Young, 1988, p. 8). Young had to alternate between teaching responsibilities at GSTC (1926-1933) and at UGA (beginning 1933), and studies at Peabody College, but she eventually earned her PhD in 1938. She also taught summers at Piedmont College (1926, Demorest, GA), Wake Forest College (1927-1929), and the University of Mississippi (1930-1932). Initially, her Major Professor at Peabody was Joseph Peterson (President of the American Psychological Association, 1934) who died in 1935 (Robinson & Robinson, 1936). Paul Boynton supervised her dissertation.

**Teaching**

Writing as a student in three of Young’s undergraduate classes (Abnormal Psychology, Clinical Psychology, and Developmental Psychology), I perceived that she was not a charismatic classroom teacher. She read her lecture notes and did not encourage questions or in-class discussion. However, her tests were rigorous and my only undergraduate C was in her Abnormal Psychology class. My experience may not be representative, as she seemed to be a well-liked teacher.

Young’s research record was weak which may partially explain why she supervised only seven masters’ degree theses and no PhD students. However, the
department was small for most her UGA career, and its first PhD was not awarded until 1960; William F. Angemeier’s doctoral research was supervised by William T. James (Adams, 2010, p. 117). Young did supervise the M.S. degree for the first women to earn a PhD in the Psychology Department, Elizabeth C. Aderhold (1966), PhD supervised by Carl N. Sipprelle (Adams, 2010, p. 118).

Research

Young described her research record best.

In reviewing her career, Dr. Young says she did not do enough research because she was overloaded [with patients]. . . . I was criticized for that and it was justified. But I said that I choose to write on human hearts instead of paper (Anonymous, 1989; italics added).

Her list of published papers (Young 1988, pp. 35-36) shows 21 journal articles and 2 chapters spanning the years 1932-1956; she published no research after 1956. Perhaps of most general interest among her publications is Young (1952) describing details associated with the Georgia licensing law as passed by the Georgia legislature on February 21, 1951. Young received license number 19 (Doverspike, 2021, August 12) probably in 1951 or early 1952. Euri Belle Bolton, a faculty member at Georgia State College for Women, received license #5 the same day the first four were issued to men (Doverspike, 2021, August 12).

Clinical Practice

Young’s priorities at UGA were clinical practice and devotion to the Psychology Clinic until her retirement in 1969 (Young, 1933-1964; Young, 1985; Young 1988), and she continued private clinical practice after retirement from UGA until she had a stroke
in July 1978. Although she felt she should not continue to practice, she remained active and, for example, wrote a history of the Department of Psychology (Young, 1985) and her autobiography (Young, 1988)

According to Edwards (essay, “Relations of the University of Georgia Psychology Clinic and Milledgeville State Hospital” included in Young 1985, pp. 20-21), clinical work in the UGA Psychology Department began in 1920 but the Psychology Clinic was not “officially recognized by the Chancellor of the University” until 1930. In addition to being Department Head, Edwards became Director of the Psychology Clinic. Although it is not clear from available sources, it seems likely that Young was appointed Assistant Director of the UGA Psychology Clinic upon employment at UGA in 1933, as she had been working in conjunction with Edwards in the Clinic before her employment at UGA. In 1950, she became Director of the Clinic, one year before Edwards retired in 1951. Young remained Clinic Director until her retirement from UGA in 1969 (Young, 1988). The Psychology Clinic is viable today (2021).

Edwards also kept the department headship until he retired in 1951. By then, the department had added two male faculty members (“Former and Current Faculty” roster maintained by principal staff assistant to Department Head). Reluctantly, Young agreed to serve as Department Head for one year (1951-1952) until a new Department Head could be hired (Young, 1988).

**Professional Activities**

Young’s (1933-1964) UGA personnel file shows she was a Diplomate of the American Board of Examiners in Professional Psychology, a Fellow in the American Psychological Association’s Clinical Division, Chairman (her word) of the Georgia State
Board of Examiners, President of the Georgia Psychological Association and member of its Board of Directors, a Fellow in the Georgia Academy of Science and a member of its Executive Council, President of UGA’s chapter of the Society of Sigma Xi, a member of the Southeastern Psychological Association and a member of the Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology. The above fails to represent the extent of her (a) involvement in the Georgia Psychological Association on behalf of the development of clinical psychology in Georgia or (b) service on the Board of Examiners associated with license approval under Georgia Licensing Law for Applied Psychology.

Altogether, she served 15 years (1953-1968) on the Board of Examiners including stints as Vice-Chairman and Chairman (her words, Young, 1988, p. 23). She described the Board’s Quarterly Meetings, often in the State Capitol, as involving administering written and oral examinations. “At most of our meetings there was a problem with at least one unqualified person whose case had to be heard, investigated and resolved” (Young 1988, p. 23). She reported that legal counsel was provided by the Secretary of State of Georgia.

The Board members worked conscientiously and diligently to keep “quacks” and persons who were unqualified from taking advantage of the public (Young 1988, p. 23).

Young’s service and valuable state-wide contacts, especially via her work with the Georgia Psychological Association and the Georgia State Board of Examiners, were instrumental in gaining approval by the UGA administration, the Chancellor of the University System of Georgia, the Board of Regents, and the necessary legislators to gain funding for the new six-story Psychology Building that was opened in 1969. Young
was also instrumental in gaining APA accreditation for the Clinical Psychology Program at UGA in 1965 (Hammock & Beach, 1989).

**Honors**

Hammock and Beach (1989) discussed at length the evidence for referring to Young as a “Pioneer in Clinical Psychology in Georgia,” much of which was cited above. Her personnel records (Young, 1933-1969) show that she was recognized as “Woman of the Year” in 1963 by the Business and Professional Woman’s Club of Athens GA. Anonymous (1989) quoted the nine “WHEREAS’s” to substantiate the reasons that the Mayor of Athens, Dwain P. Chambers, gave for declaring November 17, 1989 as “Florene Young Day” in Athens, GA. Also in 1989, the Department of Psychology at UGA established the “Florene Young Award,” to be made annually to a graduate student:

> ... who embodies the twin ideals of modern psychology: (1) a solid grounding in the empirical principles of the science of psychology and (2) a deep and abiding compassion for individuals who are suffering


Finally, it would be remiss to fail to note that Young was guided throughout her life and her life’s work by a deep and abiding faith in God. This is shown in the final stanza of a poem quoted in Anonymous (1989) by F. W. Huff, a UGA PhD graduate in Clinical Psychology, titled “Praise (For Dr. Young).”

> “Whatever I am

> Whatever I have done
Was through God’s help
And for His glory.” (Quotation marks in original, p. 4).

**Margaret May Zeigler (1882-1976)**

Although UGA Personnel Records were used in the section on Young (Young, 1933-1964), they were minimally necessary, as most of the information about Young was available elsewhere. However, in the case of Zeigler (Zeigler, 1933-1952), her UGA Personnel Records are the primary source. Thus, a brief explanation of what UGA Personnel Records were in Young’s and Ziegler’s times at UGA may be useful.

All information was provided by the faculty member (except Zeigler’s date of death was in the Records) and in Zeigler’s case, every entry was written in her cursive handwriting, except the final page that included her death in 1976. Records were updated annually, and, presumably, such records were used in decisions such as salary, promotion, and tenure. However, in Zeigler’s case the records provided to me are unclear whether they are complete and dates are often difficult to determine definitively. Young retired June 30, 1969, but her records ended in 1964 which, presumably, was when that form of data collection ended. Some information was sought in early records that might be considered unacceptable today, such as, asking about one’s political party membership and physical measurements such as height and weight, but at the top of the form (titled “FACULTY BIOGRAPHICAL RECORDS”) was the statement: “This information will be confidential and for legitimate uses by the University administration.” Except when noted otherwise, all information about Zeigler is from her UGA Personnel Records. Item categories that are likely unacceptable today will be shown in quotation marks as will be her responses.
Margaret May Zeigler was born June 21, 1882, in Orangeburg, SC. She preferred her second given name “May” which is how she spelled it. However, over the years it appeared variously as “Mae” or “May” in various University of Georgia Bulletins (catalogs of faculty members, courses, degree requirements, etc.), and in the UGA student newspaper, The Red and Black (May 30, 1952), the announcement of her retirement identified her as “Mae Zeigler.”

When Zeigler completed her first UGA Personnel form, she reported her “Height” was “5 ft. 6 in.” and “Weight” was “127”. She said her “Health” was “Excellent” and that her “Physical defects” were “none.” She reported that her “Church preference” was “Baptist” and answered “Yes” that she was a “Member.” Unanswered was “Positions held with church.” She listed her “Fraternial organizations” as “A.A.U.W.” (presumably, American Association of University Women). “College clubs or societies” were “Kappa Delta Pi, Gamma Mu, Psi Chi.” Her “Political party” was “Democrat.” Examples of other items of information sought that would be perceived today as curious at best and unacceptable at worst include, “Magazine and newspapers for which you subscribe,” “Musical training and experience,” “Recreation choices,” “Hobbies,” and “Favorite sports.”

**Education and Employment Prior to UGA**

**Education.** Zeigler reported receiving her high school education in a “Private School” in Orangeburg, SC and at the Winthrop Training School in Rock Hill, SC. She then earned an A.B. degree at Winthrop College (Rock Hill, SC) in 1904 and the M.A. degree at the University of Georgia in 1922. She identified her undergraduate major as Latin with minors in History and English. She identified her graduate major as
Psychology and a minor in Psychology and Education. Prior to earning the M.A. degree, she reported having taken 6 graduate courses at Columbia University in New York and 4 courses at the University of Chicago. After earning her M.A. degree, she reported taking 8 courses at the University of Cincinnati and “2 half minors” (unspecified). She described “(Subject of A. M. thesis)” as “Definitiveness in Aim as a Factor in Learning.” However, she showed M.A. degree in her personnel records in her handwriting, so that is the degree that will be specified for her.

Employment. After receiving her A. B. degree, she taught elementary school at Columbia (Miss) City Schools in 1909-1910 and at “Bausberg City School” (I am unsure of her handwriting re “Bausberg”) from 1914-1917. She reported teaching at the Georgia State Teachers College from 1917 until 1933, although it was the Georgia State Normal School before it became the Georgia State Teachers College in 1926.

Teaching

There is little information regarding Zeigler’s teaching. It is reasonable to conclude that with only the M.A. degree, she could not formally supervise graduate students. While one might examine all the UGA Bulletins during the years she was on the UGA faculty to identify courses she taught, a sufficient sample into the types of courses Zeigler taught may be seen in the “Summer School Announcement of Courses” for 1933 (Bulletin of the University of Georgia, Volume 33, March 1933, Number 6) and 1934 (Bulletin of the University of Georgia, Volume 34, April 1934, Number 4). In Summer 1933, Zeiger taught two classes, Psychology of Childhood and Psychology of Adolescence. In Summer of 1934, she taught two classes, Applied Psychology and Social Psychology.
Research

Zeigler’s research record is similarly skimpy, although it seems likely that it was more extensive than the evidence indicates. For example, in her personnel record associated with the item “Research projects with dates and brief descriptions” she wrote, “Oral Transmission of Message’s by Seven Year Old Children” and that it was in progress in 1932. Under “PUBLICATIONS OR PAPERS READ BEFORE LEARNED SOCIETIES,” she reported that she “read on WSB” (then, the major radio station in Atlanta) “Nail-biting, Cause and Cure.” She also presented “Some Applications of Psychology to Leadership” at “Extension Division” which referred, presumably, to the branch of the College of Agriculture under the Land-Grant University requirements pertaining to County Agents to advise on agriculture and home economics. She described both presentations as “Scientific.” Except for the Georgia Academy of Science, she did not list memberships in any of what are usually considered to be “learned societies.”

Regardless of her research record’s weakness, her only known publication “Growth and development of psychology at the University of Georgia” (Zeigler, 1949) is immensely valuable. It involved careful examination of University of Georgia Bulletins and similar sources to trace the development of psychology at UGA via courses taught and textbooks used.

Retirement and Death

Zeigler’s retirement effective June 30, 1952 was reported in the UGA student newspaper, The Red and Black (May 30, 1952), as well as in the Georgia Alumni Record (1952, 40, page unnumbered). The Georgia Alumni Record later reported her
death on September 27, 1976. The notice said she was “of Orangeburg, S.C.” but it was unclear whether that was her location when she died.

Young, Zeigler, and Other Women Psychologists in the USA

First-Generation Women Psychologists in the USA

The “first-generation” of women psychologists was defined by Furumoto and Scarborough (1986, Table 1) and Scarborough and Furumoto (1987, Table 6.1) as the 25 women who were members of APA or who were listed in the first edition of *American Men of Science, 1906*. Table 1 in the 1986 article lists 22 women in the 1906 *American Men of Science*. Pertaining directly to this article, Celeste Parrish is not shown in the 1987 list but she is shown in the 1986 list. Additionally, Furumoto and Scarborough (1986) erred in saying she had “No graduate study.” Parrish had taken graduate courses at the University of Chicago three consecutive summers (1887-1889) with John Dewey who greatly influenced her pedagogical views thereafter (Montgomery, 2018). According to Furumoto’s and Scarborough’s definition, neither Zeigler nor Young would be considered “first-generation.”

Second-Generation Women Psychologists in the USA

Rossiter (1982), who also wrote about the first-generation of women scientists including psychologists, wrote two books (Rossiter, 1995, 2012) about post-first-generation women scientists including psychologists. Before considering Rossiter further, it was Johnston & Johnson (2008, p. 41) who “... define[d] the second generation [of women psychologists] as those psychologists who earned their doctorates between 1906 and 1945.” Using these criteria, Young was clearly second generation. Zeigler never earned a doctorate, but given her years as a tenured Associate Professor at UGA (1933-1952) she should qualify as “second-generation.”
Factors Influencing the career opportunities for post-first-generation women psychologists. Rossiter (1995) includes a most informative graph pertaining to second-generation and later women scientists, including psychologists. Her Figure 1 (page 34) shows the number of science doctorates awarded by year (1940-1960) by sex (her word) in two-year increments (abscissa) and 500-persons increments (ordinate). The scale of the graph prevents precise estimates, but in 1940 approximately 1,500 men versus 200 women earned doctorates. In 1950, approximately 3,300 men versus 250 women earned doctorates, and in 1960 approximately 4,000 men versus 400 women earned doctorates. Rossiter’s Table 2.2, “Scientist and Engineers by Field and Sex, 1948” shows for Psychology there were 1,892 men and 385 women. Taken together, the two graphs indicate that there were far more male than female degree-qualified applicants for academic positions during the second-generation as defined by Johnston and Johnson (2008). Thus, that Young and Zeigler obtained tenured faculty positions at UGA in 1933 was likely exceptionally fortuitous.

Another Second-Generation Woman Psychologist at UGA. Edith Weisskopf-Joelson (née Edith Weisskopf) who appears in Johnston’s and Johnson’s (2008) list of 107 second-generation women psychologists (see Appendix, pp. 70-72) was the first women hired full-time in the UGA Psychology Department after Young and Zeigler. Weisskopf-Joelson was born in 1910 in Austria and earned her PhD at the University of Vienna in 1937. In 1939, she escaped Nazism to go to the United States of America (Weisskopf-Joelson, 1957-1987, 1988). All biographical information in this section is from Weisskopf-Joelson’s autobiographical book (Weisskopf-Joelson, 1988) or from her “Vita” (from UGA Psychology Department files). Access to her collected papers may be
seen in Weisskopf-Joelson (1957-1987) although none were deemed necessary for this article.

Weisskopf-Joelson was hired at UGA in 1967 as a professor after having spent most of her career rising to the rank of Professor at Purdue University (1949-1965). The UGA Psychology Department began the 1960s with about 10 faculty members, including Young, and ended the 1960s with about 40. “About” is accurate because the department had part-time members whose main appointments were elsewhere at UGA. Nevertheless, when Young retired in 1969, Weisskopf-Joelson was the only female faculty member in the UGA Psychology Department until Karen S. Calhoun was hired in 1970.

Weisskopf-Joelson remained at UGA until retirement in 1974 and continued to live in Athens until she died of cardiac arrest in 1983. She held short-term positions at Briarcliff College in New York (1939-1942, her first position upon arrival from Austria in 1939), St. Mary’s-of-the-Woods College in Terra Haute, Indiana (1964-1965) and Duke University (1966-1967). She was a tuberculosis patient at Valley View Hospital (1962-1964, location undetermined) when her schizophrenia became evident and was a patient diagnosed with schizophrenia in the Pineville Mental Hospital (1965-1966; location undetermined).

At UGA she was productive in published research and she supervised 8 M.S. degree theses and 2 PhD dissertations (she had supervised 7 masters theses and 10 dissertations at Purdue). She will be most remembered for her book, *Father have I kept my promise? Madness as seen from within* (Weiskopf-Joelson, 1988). The book was based on diaries she kept during her treatment for tuberculosis coupled with an
eventual diagnosis of schizophrenia, 1962-1966). She reported in the book that her diaries were intended to be private, but the text often reads as if she expected that they would be read. Her book was assembled from her papers and edited posthumously by staff at the Institute for Logotherapy and published by the Purdue University Press. She was a colleague and friend of Viktor Frankl, neurologist and psychiatrist and founder of Logotherapy, and who is perhaps best known for his autobiographical, *Man’s Search for Meaning* (1946/2006) based on his experiences in a Nazi concentration camp. Frankl wrote the Afterword for Weisskopf-Joelson’s book.

Weisskopf-Joelson appeared in Johnston’s and Johnson’s Table 3 as one of the second-generation married women who had no children. Interestingly in this regard, one part of her diaries upon which her book was based is titled, “A letter to my unborn schizophrenic son” (pp. 141-147) in which she explains to her unborn son both why she chose not to conceive him when she was of an age when she might have and why she later regretted her decision. Weisskopf-Joelson married twice, first to Gustav Ichheiser (1941, divorced 1943) and to Michael Joelson (married 1951, separated 1961, divorced 1972).

Before moving on, it would be remiss to fail to note that between Young and Weisskopf-Joelson was a part-time woman assistant professor (1954-1958) in the UGA Psychology Department, Emeliza Swain. Her part-time position was because she worked in the Guidance and Counseling Center directed by Psychology Professor, Robert Travis Osborne; otherwise, Swain’s appointment was in the College of Education.
After the Second-Generation

Rossiter (2012, Figure 1, p. 96) shows approximately 500 women psychologists earned PhDs in 1970 and approximately 2,500 earned PhDs in 2000. In the absence of other data sets to examine the status of women in psychology in academia after the Second Generation, the UGA Psychology Department might be reasonably representative of peer departments (UGA is a R1 Research University that has been ranked 16th since 2016 by *U. S. News and World Report* of “best public universities.” All data about women hires on UGA Psychology faculty hereafter are from (a) an informative list of “Former and Current Faculty” maintained by the Psychology Department and, presumably, available upon justifiable request and (b) the current, 2021, departmental website.

After Weisskopf-Joelson, the next full-time, tenure-track woman hire was Karen S. Calhoun, a clinical psychologist, in 1970. She remained full-time at UGA until she retired in 2009. Rather than continue individual by individual, this section will close with two representative samples, (a) those hired when I was Department Head from 01/01/1984 – 07/01/1993 and (b) those in the department today, 2021. During my headship years 15 men and 9 women were hired; 3 of the 9 women were the first African-American women hired in the UGA Psychology Department. In the context of Rossiter (2012, pp. 214, 225, 228, 230) considering the increasing number of women in high academic administrative posts, one of the 9 hired as assistant professor when I was Head, Garnett S. Stokes (also a UGA Psychology M.S. and PhD graduate). Stokes, served as Department Head (1999-2004) and Dean of the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences (2004-2011) at UGA. She then relocated to Florida State University
(FSU) where she was Provost & Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs (2011-2014) and Interim President of FSU during part of 2014 before moving to the University of Missouri where she was Executive Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost (2014-2018). On May 12, 2018 she became President of the University of New Mexico where she remains today (2021).

Today (2021), the UGA Psychology Department Faculty includes 34 men and 24 women as may be seen on the Psychology Department website, Welcome to the Department of Psychology | The Department of Psychology (uga.edu). However, not all are tenure-track or tenured. There are 5 women and 2 men who are either Lecturers or Senior Lecturers (non-tenurable but renewable positions with the longest currently in his 20th year). There are 3 women and 6 men who are “Part-time Clinical Assistant Professors, Industrial Organizational Master’s Program” who are also non-tenurable and who mostly teach night classes at a satellite UGA campus close to metropolitan Atlanta. Subtracting these non-tenurable faculty members leaves 26 tenure-track or tenured men and 16 tenure-track or tenured women on the UGA Psychology Department Faculty today (2021).

Closing Remarks

Young and Zeigler had some interesting parallels. Young was born in Alabama during the only two years her father was principal and teacher at a private school there; otherwise, both were from South Carolina families. Both were A. B. graduates of Winthrop College. Both attended Columbia University, Young earning the M.A. and Zeigler taking 6 graduate classes at Columbia before completing her earning her M.A. at UGA. Both were teaching at the Georgia State Teachers College when it was closed
and they were offered positions at UGA in 1933. Both wrote histories of Psychology at UGA. Both were second-generation women psychologists as defined by Johnston and Johnson (2008), except that Zeigler lacked the PhD degree.

There the parallels end. Zeigler’s emphasis, first and last, was on teaching. Her only known academic publication was her history of psychology at UGA published in the *Journal of Genetic Psychology* (1949). Young’s emphasis was on practicing clinical psychology, first in the Department of Psychology’s Psychology Clinic where she was Assistant Director for 18 years and Director for 18 years, and in private practice after retirement from UGA. She was widely recognized for her achievements, especially related to her 15 years’ service, including service as “Vice Chairman” and “Chairman,” on the Board of Examiners for licensing Applied Psychologists in Georgia. She also published an article about the establishment of the Georgia licensing law one year after its establishment (Young, 1952). In the 54 years I have been a resident and taxpaying citizen of Athens, GA, she is the only person whom I can recall to have a day declared in their name by the mayor of Athens, GA.
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Footnote

Footnote 1. In the late 1980s, the author, as Department Head of Psychology at UGA, invited retired faculty members to write autobiographies. Guidelines were suggested but not required. Most accepted the invitation including Florene Young. A.S. Edwards, Jr. wrote an informative biography of his father. Both and others may be found in University Archives, Psychology Department, Hargrett Rare Book and Manuscript Library, University of Georgia Libraries, Athens, GA.