

*Assessment Update for Greenville College
March, 2003*

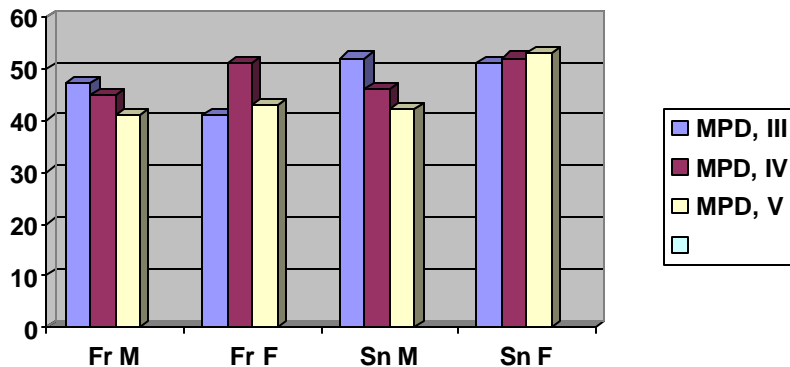
The Measurement of Psychosocial Development (MPD) was developed by Gwen Hawley at Emory University to measure the positive and negative attitudes associated with each of the eight developmental stages of Erik Erikson. The inventory gives an overall index of psychosocial health and focuses on healthy personality growth rather than pathology. The inventory is age-referenced and allows an individual's score to be compared to a national sample of persons of the same age and gender.

Greenville College students are tested in their freshman NSO experience and seniors are tested within the last two months of their final semester. Cohort groups are used to compare freshman and senior average scores.

GC freshmen males have scores on scales III, IV and V that are slightly below the average score for the standardization sample. GC freshmen have scores on these scales that are at or slightly above the average for the standardization sample.

Senior males are slightly above average in III, and relatively unchanged in IV, and V. Senior females are slightly above average in III, IV, and V. At the time of graduation senior male and female scores on scale III are roughly equivalent. Senior female scores on IV and V remain higher than male scores on these scales.

The following chart describes growth patterns in freshman males and females, and in senior males and females. MPD scale III is **Initiative**, scale IV is **Industry**, and scale V is **Identity**. **Initiative** is defined as the willingness to try even when you may not have the right answers, **Industry** is defined as the ability to excel in an area of skill and expertise; **Identity** is defined as the awareness and confidence that comes from understanding one's own strengths and limitations.



It is interesting to note that females gain more in the area of Initiative and Identity (III and V), while males grow primarily in the area of Initiative (III). How might this information help you design classroom activities that promote cooperation and planning for your freshmen and sophomore students?

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