

# Psych department dedicates new home

By ED JONES  
Of the Emerald

Straub Hall, which once served as a men's dormitory, took on a new function Tuesday when it was dedicated as the new home of the University's psychology department.

The dedication took place in what was once the dining room. Where young men once studied and slept, psychology students now have labs and work space for

learning, research and experimentation in social, behavioral, clinical, physiological and other types of psychology.

Robert Fagot, chairer of the psychology department, presided at the ceremony. He spoke on the history of the building and about the psychology department's long search for space, which has now ended with the \$2 million remodeling of Straub Hall. Psychology faculty members Sheldon Cohen and

Lewis Goldberg spoke on the undergraduate and graduate programs.

The building, first dedicated in 1929, was named after the then-dean of men, John Straub.

Straub came to the University in 1878 as an instructor of Greek. During his 54 years here, he played an illustrious part in the early days of the University as a professor in Latin and rhetoric and as dean of liberal arts.

In 1895, the Department of Mental Science became part of the University and changed to the Department of Psychology in 1900.

The department paid \$150 for its first lab equipment, and its first labs were located in Collier Hall — the Faculty Club. Over the years the department grew to the point in 1969 when it was scattered all over campus in 24 different buildings.

Then in 1969 the psychology

department's quest for space came to an end, or so they thought, when the state Legislature authorized the construction of a new behavioral sciences building to house the department.

The project was abandoned because of a moratorium on capital construction and later the plan was redeveloped to convert and reconstruct Straub Hall.

Construction began in the fall of 1971 on a two-phase remodeling project.

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Robert Fagot presided over the dedication ceremonies in Straub Hall Monday, the new home of the psychology department.

Photo by Paul Hreibernick



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