Fall 2011

Counselors Corner: A Newsletter of the Department of Counselor Education

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Mark your calendars! The first annual Master's Level Graduate Research Conference is being held at the College at Brockport Campus on Saturday, April 14, 2012! Counselor Education students are encouraged to apply to present at this conference! Master’s level students from Brockport and surrounding regional colleges will be invited to present their papers, posters, performances or demonstrations.

Please note that there will not be a Scholars Night at the MetroCenter as in the past, so graduate students are urged to apply to present at the new Master’s Level Graduate Research Conference on April 14th.

Calls for participation and presentation forms will be available November 1. For more information contact Jamie Spiller at jspiller@brockport.edu or Colleen Donaldson at cdonalds@brockport.edu.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chair’s Message</th>
<th>2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Department Announcements</td>
<td>3, 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Counselor Organizations</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Projects and Presentations</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Spotlights</td>
<td>6-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recent Graduates and Alumni Feature</td>
<td>8-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference Information and Important Updates</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Announcements</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty News</td>
<td>10-11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chair's Message

I had heard that we had just entered “Autumn.” I was not convinced, as the temperature continued to belie this fact with warm days. Having said that, we had entered September, we had begun classes, and we just had our Annual Department Cookout at my house (we had a great time!), and the year was off to a quick start!

This semester holds a lot of promise, as we have a number of exciting things happening:

We have sponsored a webinar with Dr. Sam Gladding of Wake Forest University on “Creativity in Counseling,” and a webinar on the use of the Strong Interest Inventory and the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator in career counseling. More importantly, we will be sponsoring many more as the academic year races forward.

ACA-NY got its start at the Brockport MetroCenter on October 21 at 5:30pm. Prior to the ACA-NY kickoff event on October 21, Dr. David Kaplan of ACA provided a workshop for graduate students. More opportunities to connect with the profession through ACA-NY will be offered, so stay tuned!

The Department will be hosting its Annual Scholarly Conference where students in Implementation II and Research & Program Evaluation will present their research and theses.

As the semester progresses, pay attention to Angel and your Brockport e-mail, as you will see the faculty will be adding events that you are sure to find valuable.

I am not just welcoming all of you students back to classes, I welcome our newest faculty member, Dr. Bellah Kiteki. Feel free to give her a warm Brockport welcome as you walk through our halls.

So, on that note, I want to welcome everyone back. I wish you all an enriching semester and invite you to stop by any time…

Enjoy!
Thomas J. Hernández, EdD, LMHC
Chair
Associate Professor

Congratulations to our May 2011 Graduates:

Michael Cole (School)
Laura Hicks (School)
Sydney Houseknecht (School)
Nicole King (School)
Lisa Shults (School)
Tracie Swalbach (School)
Kelly Tobin (School)

Before You Enter EDC 720 You must complete:

⇒ 6 Counseling Sessions
⇒ Child Abuse Reporting
⇒ SAVE (School Counselors only)
CHILD ABUSE REPORTING AND SAVE TRAINING

The NYS Mandated Reporter Training (which you have to take before EDC 720) is now available 24/7 at:

http://www.nysmandatedreporter.org/default2.html.

Once you have completed the training, make sure to print your certificate of attendance and submit it to the department.

Schools Against Violence in Education (SAVE) training will be provided in EDC 619 Counseling in School Settings.

Scholarship Opportunity

Irene Rivera de Royston Scholarship

The Department of Counselor Education is pleased to announce the Irene Rivera de Royston Scholarship in Counselor Education. Irene Royston, a 1974 graduate of the Counselor Education program, currently serves as an adjunct professor at the Norfolk State University in Norfolk, Virginia. Established by Mr. and Mrs. Royston, the award was created to recognize an outstanding student in our program who has demonstrated a commitment to and a potential for excellence in the counseling field.

The award is in the form of $500.00 paid in each of the two semesters ($250.00 per semester) following selection as a recipient. The award must be used by the recipient for educational expenses during the semesters following the receipt. The recipient must use this award for educational expenses at The College at Brockport and may not receive the award in cash.

To be eligible for this award, the student must:

⇒ Be accepted in one of the Master’s programs in Counselor Education,
⇒ Demonstrate academic excellence as judged by the department,
⇒ Have completed EDC 501, 502, or 503 (Self in Society) and hold a GPA of 3.0 or higher, and demonstrate a commitment to the counseling profession as judged by the department.

First preference will be given to students of Hispanic or African-American descent. Secondary preference will be given to any other student who meets the above criteria.

If you are interested in applying for this award, you must send a one-page letter to Dr. Reiner addressing why the department should grant you this award. The deadline is Friday, February 24, 2012. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Reiner at sreiner@brockport.edu.

CONGRATULATIONS

Steve Kassirer for receiving the Brockport Diversity Fellowship Grant this semester!!!
Nu Chapter of Chi Sigma Iota

Chi Sigma Iota
Chi Sigma Iota is an international honor society committed to academic and professional excellence in counseling. With over 77,000 initiated members, this organization supports and is supported by counselors, counselor educators, and students. Chi Sigma Iota's mission is to promote scholarship, research, professionalism, leadership, advocacy, and excellence in counseling, and to recognize high attainment in the pursuit of academic and clinical excellence in the profession of counseling.

Nu Chapter
Nu Chapter is Brockport's chapter of Chi Sigma Iota. Founded in 1986, Nu Chapter has initiated over 100 members.

Why Join Chi Sigma Iota?
As a member of Chi Sigma Iota, you will gain experience with professional organizing and leadership initiatives. You will have the privilege of networking with local Nu Chapter members as well as with Chi Sigma Iota members around the world. Chi Sigma Iota also offers annual international meetings, fellowships and internships, an international newsletter, and leadership and research awards.

How to Join
2. Complete and submit an application to Nu Chapter at the College at Brockport.
3. Complete and submit an application to Chi Sigma Iota International.

Questions
If you have any questions regarding Nu Chapter or Chi Sigma Iota, please contact:
- Dr. Kitty Fallon, Nu Chapter Faculty Advisor, at kfallon@brockport.edu

References
Chi Sigma Iota's website: http://www.csi-net.org
Nu Chapter’s Website: http://nuchapter.org

NYMHCA
The Mental Health Counselors of Greater Rochester, a chapter of NYMHCA, exists to advance the profession of mental health counseling and clinical excellence through education, networking and peer support. The chapter was established in 2003 to support the needs of local counselors, mental health providers and students. Since then, our membership has grown to over 60 active members. MHCRG hosts eight business/professional development meetings each year at the MetroCenter (55 St Paul St.), on the second Saturday of the month. Professional development presentations are dynamic and relevant. Certificates of attendance are provided to those participating. Networking events are held in place of chapter meetings in January, April, July and October. Dates, times and locations of meetings and events can be found on our website: www.mentalhealthcounselors.org.

We encourage and welcome students to visit our meetings/events up to three times before you decide to join us. Membership of NYMHCA is required for membership of our chapter. To join NYMHCA and MHCRG log onto www.nymhca.com.
Welcome New Counselor Education Students!
Patricia Bandy
Jaclyn Benham
Tiffany Bradley
Abigail Busch
Shiela Campbell
Beth Danehy
Lindsay Daniel
Ryan Foster
Lauren Giglia
Eric Goodwin
Valerly Guy
Kerry Heffernan
Tausa Hill
Joshua Hine
Denise Hyland
Steven Inkin
Mike Kalkbrenner
Nicole Kramell
Deborah Lewin
Christina Martinez
Emily Masi
Kristin Morgan
Jessica Pakan
Danielle Powell

Scholarly Conference Projects and Presentations
Support Your Fellow Students And Scholars As They Present Their Research Findings! Implementation II Projects:
Urban High School Climate: Students’ Perceptions of Bullying and Homophobic Remarks in School- Joe Navarra
Teachers’ Perceptions and awareness of Cyberbullying Among Middle School Students- Andrew Beringer
Factors that Impact Substance Abuse- Patrick Ducey
Assessing the Counseling Needs of High School Students- Nick Sculli
College Students’ Rates and Rationales of Disclosure of Disability Status to Employers- Janine Rowe
Teacher Perceptions of the School Counselor’s Role- Jenna Marchetta
School Counselor Burnout- Michael Nobles
Teacher Perceptions of the American School Counselor Association’s National Model in an Urban Setting- Bryan Rivera

EDC 606 Research Projects:
⇒ College Student Awareness of Counseling Services: Tausha Hill, Mike Kalkbrenner, and Jessica Pakan
⇒ Counselor Perceptions of Transitioning a Mental Health Organization into a Person-Centered Setting: Latasha Craig and Amanda Regan
⇒ School Counselors’ Perceptions of Typical Responsibilities: Ryan Foster, Jessica Hess, and Emily Masi
⇒ Engaging Families of ELL Students in the Educational Process: Melody Coene, Kashima Morrison, Jodie Overstrom, and Rozetta Smith

Implementation I Student Internship Placements
Alex Clark– East High School
Jeff Mangini– Wilson Magnet High School
Nick Delaney– Catholic Family Center
Dave Luce– Livingston County Mental Health Services
Christine Reber– Roth Middle School
Laura Hale– Batavia Middle School/ High School
Amy Powell– Greece Olympia High School
Carli Cavanaugh– Dansville Elementary School
Chelsea Graff– Caledonia Mumford Middle School/ High School
Tamekia Howard– Monroe County Correctional Facility
Stephanie Catlin-Rakoski– Evelyn Brandon Mental Health Clinic

Scholarly Conference
When: November 30
Where: Metro Center
Time: 3:00-6:30pm
Student Spotlights

Keri Neadom, School Counseling Track

My personal experiences in counseling impacted me in a powerful and life changing way. Although I am, and will always be, a work in progress, I attribute my positive life changes that were made during my undergraduate years to time spent in one-on-one counseling. My hope is to serve my future clients with the same compassion, genuineness, and support that I was given. I am drawn to young girls that may be struggling with body issues and/or low self esteem. I think this is a delicate population, but one that could benefit greatly if they are reached at a young age, before all of their ideas of who they are and what they are worth are solidified.

After graduation, I intend to look for a School Counseling job in the Rochester area.

Loved ones (family and friends) are a huge part of my life and I spend a lot of time in their company, if possible. However, I do love to find ways that I can be still: playing guitar, singing, writing music, and painting are a few things I really enjoy. And for the times I can’t seem to sit still, I enjoy doing anything in nature, but mostly hiking, camping, and picking flowers.

David Buckhout, College Counseling Track

During my high school years, I found myself drawn to others, particularly in the areas of learning about their interests, relationships, and emotions. I discovered years later as an undergraduate student that this connection was due to my desire to learn about and be there for people in difficult times in their lives. Close friends and family members were major contributors to my decision to apply for The College at Brockport’s Counselor Education Master’s program for College Counseling.

During my undergraduate career, I had the opportunity to work in the Career Center of Monroe Community College and at Cornell University as a Student Assistant for Residence Life. I also found myself becoming President of a club at MCC and the Secretary of Pathways to Success Transfer program at Cornell. All of these experiences have drawn me to pursue college counseling. I have the desire to look at the specific areas of residence life and career counseling, not just because of my past work experiences, but also due to having learned how influential I can be for college students in those areas.

During my graduate career at The College at Brockport as a Counselor Education master’s major, I found the love of my life, Caroline, who is also a counselor, but in the Mental Health area. Currently, she works for St. Mary’s in the Psychiatric Unit, and we became engaged during the Spring 2011 semester. We are getting married in Ohio during the summer of 2012. After I graduate, we have decided to find jobs outside of New York State, exploring our lives together as well as the lives of those individuals we encounter along the way. These plans and connections we forge will no doubt be important for my career as a College Counselor. Hopefully, I will get a job as a Residence Director, Personal Counselor, or Administrator at a college.

I enjoy writing stories in the science-fiction arena, taking pictures of adventures I embark on, being with Caroline and having her unconditional support and love, biking the trails of Greece, NY, talking with friends and family about philosophy and self exploration, and making connections.

Want To Know More About The Integration Experience? Talk To One Of These Students Who Are Currently Taking EDC 720…

Siu Yim Au Yeung
Rosa Luciano
Angela Pezzimenti
Leslie Pierre-Philippe
Megan Taylor
Steve Kassirer, Mental Health Counseling Track

To say that my road to counseling has been bumpy would be an understatement. It has been more like crossing the Rockies, the Andes, the Himalayas, and topping it off with the scaling of Mt. Everest and KT-22, simultaneously. I am what they refer to as a “non-traditional” student. I received my BA from UB in 1987, after which I immediately moved to San Francisco to become a VISTA volunteer. From there, I attended the University of San Francisco School of Law, graduating in 1993. I practiced law from 1993-2002, ultimately making partner at a mid-sized San Francisco law firm. I was diagnosed HIV+ in 1997, which led me down the road of self-pity, depression, and, ultimately, eight years of active cocaine and opiate addiction. In 2002, I came very close to dying from complications of AIDS and addiction. I got clean through Narcotics Anonymous in 2006. Along the way, I had begun to see a therapist, who I later discovered was an LMHC. She was my introduction to counseling. As my health improved and my life began to make sense again, I realized that I no longer wanted to practice law. As I began looking for another career, I began to speak with my therapist about the counseling profession and how it differed from psychology and social work. After doing some research, I found that, perhaps the best counseling program was at Brockport, which happened to be in my own back yard. I started the application process and the rest is history.

In a way, my specific area of interest is myself. In other words, I am interested in the effects of chronic illness on mental health and addiction (not necessarily in that order, but the integration of all three areas). I am also interested in qualitative research because I believe it allows the researcher to become part of the lived experience of the research and research participants. After graduating from the program, I plan on pursuing my PhD in Mental Health Counseling either locally or, more likely, out west.

In my spare time, I enjoy the outdoors, especially camping and hiking. I also enjoy going to concerts featuring “jam bands,” such as the remnants of the Grateful Dead and Phish. I am an avid coffee house fan, and spend much of my “free time” at Equal Grounds on South Ave.

Recovery from addiction has contributed to my becoming the person I am. It has allowed me to better understand and accept myself for who I really am, one day at a time. It has also taught me a great deal about empathy, compassion and unconditional love (which, in NA, translates to unconditional positive regard). Having AIDS has also impacted my life in a positive way. Living with a chronic, potentially fatal illness has taught me to make the most of each day…to appreciate life’s small wonders. I never thought I would be grateful to have both AIDS and addiction, but these experiences have had the most profound, positive effect on me as an individual.

Registration is now officially opened for the annual ACA Graduate Student Ethics Competition at http://www.counseling.org/competition/index.aspx

The American Counseling Association provides leadership training, publications, continuing education opportunities, and advocacy services to nearly 48,000 members, and helps counseling professionals develop their skills and expand their knowledge base.

The purpose of the competition is to educate members of ACA about ethical issues and to engage graduate students (master’s and doctoral level) in critically analyzing a potential ethical case and creating an appropriate ethical decision-making plan to respond to the situation. Competition rules, registration, and other details can be found at http://www.counseling.org/competition/index.aspx

The 2011 competition will follow this calendar:

⇒ Case Submission Deadline: 12/11/2011
⇒ Winners Notified On or Before: 1/31/2012

Please contact Erin Martz, Director of Ethics and Professional Standards, at 800-347-6647 ext. 314 or emartz@counseling.org with any questions.
Alumni Features

Name: Emily Carpenter
Year you graduated from this program: 2001
Emphasis: College Counseling
Where are you currently employed? University of Rochester Career and Internship Center
Brief job description: I am the Senior Associate Director for the Career and Internship Center. I counsel, teach and coach students through all steps of the career search process. My office also runs several events each year (both on and off-campus) and I coordinate and assist with several of these programs.

How did the College at Brockport's Counselor Education program prepare you for your work at this site? My counseling skills are utilized on a daily basis in my one-on-one work with students. However, career counseling is a bit different than mental health counseling in that there are often educational/teaching moments and definitive answers to questions. There is a "right" way to write a resume or follow up with an employer, but the process a student undergoes to discover a career path and/or select a job/internship/graduate school is always very individual and there are often periods of high anxiety and rejection. This is a large part of the job and requires strong reflective listening and counseling skills.

Any words of wisdom or a quote that inspires you - "In the race to be better or best, do not miss the joy of being."

Is there anything you would recommend or suggest to current students? Consider doing an independent study or research project with a faculty member to further explore your area(s) of interest. I also sought out a part-time internship opportunity with my current employer that later led to my Implementation site placement and eventually my full-time job - so I would recommend gaining any and all additional experience!

Name: Kimberly Ball
Year you graduated from this program: December of 2009
Emphasis: School Counseling
Where are you currently employed? Churchville-Chili Central School District as an Elementary School Counselor
Brief job description: I am the School Counselor for an Elementary School building, working with students in Kindergarten through fourth grades. Most of my time is spent providing group counseling and individual counseling services to students with social or emotional needs of all different levels of severity. I am also our 504 Accommodation Plan Case Manager, sit in on a number of building team meetings, and work closely with our School Psychologist and building Principal and Assistant Principal, in order to ensure that the needs of students in our building and their families are being met.

How did the College at Brockport's Counselor Education program prepare you for your work at this site? So many of the skills that School Counselors use can only be learned on the job. The Counselor Education program at Brockport gave me the confidence in myself that I needed in order to learn these skills. The program gave me extensive background knowledge of counseling styles and skills and then enabled me to explore and build upon those skills in a safe environment. The program also taught me the importance of working in collaboration with others, and allowed me to build upon my collaboration and interpersonal skills in a supportive environment. Most importantly, the program connected me with knowledgeable, helpful, and encouraging professors that I can still count on as an alumna.

Words of wisdom for those in the school counseling emphasis: Impending and recent graduates should know that it is incredibly difficult to find a position as a school counselor at this time within the current economic climate and education job market. Don’t give up. Wait tables, work in retail, take that boring office job, do whatever it takes to get by in the meantime. I promise it is worth it once you finally find where you are meant to be.

Is there anything you would recommend or suggest to current students? As I said before, so much of what we do is learned on the job. So, learn as much as you can during your internship. Take initiative. Ask questions. Gain the knowledge and build the confidence that it will take to work side by side with building administration, return a phone call to a desperate parent looking for strategies to deal with a difficult child, or sit in on a response to intervention team meeting and help a teacher with a challenging student. When you are done interviewing, and you haven’t found a job yet, volunteer at another district to gain a different experience. Enjoy what you do. And most importantly, smile a lot while you do it.

Winter Session Classes Offered:
EDC 693: Counseling in Secondary Schools (Metro)
EDC 695: Play Therapy (Metro)
EDC 883: Counselor as Systems Consultant (Online)
Name: David W. Eckert, NCC, CRC, LMHC  
Year you graduated from this program: 1993  
Emphasis: Community/Mental Health Counseling  
Where are you currently employed? Monroe County Office of Mental Health  
Brief job description: I am on both the Policy & Planning and the Contract Management teams for MCOMH. Much of our current focus involves understanding and managing the rapidly evolving behavioral healthcare environment. MCOMH is in a central and vital position, which involves actively partnering with providers, clients and other stakeholders to ensure that the services address the needs of individuals and families in our community in the most effective and efficient ways possible.

How did the College at Brockport’s Counselor Education program prepare you for your work at this site?  
Brockport’s program emphasized an experiential approach, which encouraged us to learn about ourselves as we learned about the profession. I am grateful for being challenged and for getting the opportunity to learn about the mindset of an effective counselor, which has everything to do with helping people tap into their own innate healing potential.

Any words of wisdom or a quote that inspires you? Delve into your own unique areas of interest and never stop learning.

Is there anything you would recommend or suggest to current students? Get involved in the state-wide effort to help ensure that legislation gets passed that will allow LMHCs to practice without unnecessary employment restrictions.

Conferences And Key Dates

⇒ American Counseling Association Conference, March 21-25, 2012
⇒ Western New York School Counselors Consortium Conference, February 8, 2011
⇒ New York School Counseling Association, October, 27-29, 2011

⇒ New York Mental Health Counselors Association (Rochester Chapter), 2nd Saturday of every month, Metro Center, 10 am-12pm
⇒ Chi Sigma Iota (Nu Chapter), 1st Saturday of every month, Metro Center, 1st Floor Conference Room, 9:00-11:00am
⇒ College Student Personnel Association of New York State, Inc., October 23-25, 2011

Student Travel Grants Available
Funds are provided by Brockport Student Government and the Office of Academic Affairs. Grants are available to students presenting at a conference alone, with other students, or with a Brockport faculty/staff member that will take place between August 1, 2011 and June 30, 2012. If you receive an award of up to $300, you are expected to present at Brockport’s Master’s Level Graduate Research Conference on April 14, 2012. To download an application, go to:  
www.brockport.edu/etc/forms/grant/StudentTravelGrantstoPresent2011-12.doc

Fun In The Sun!
This year’s department picnic was filled with food, fun, and games shared by many current students, alumni, and faculty members!

We hope to see you next year at the department picnic!
THOMAS J. HERNÁNDEZ, EDD, LMHC

Dr. Thomas Hernández recently published *Cyberbullying: A study of online behaviors of Middle School students* with Robin Hernández in the New York State School Counseling Journal. He also was second author to Megan Barrell ('09) in *Middle School students speak about their counseling needs: A survey*, also published in the New York State School Counseling Journal. In addition, along with Dr. Bob Dobmeier, Randi Barrell, Donelle Burke, Crystal Hanna, David Luce, Stephanie Catlin-Rakoski, Janine Rowe, and Monica Siclare, Dr. Hernández completed a grant funded study and published *Student knowledge of signs, risk factors, and resources for depression, anxiety, sleep disorders and other mental health problems on campus* in the CSPA-NYS Journal of Student Affairs. Dr. Hernández also saw the publication of the first issue of the New York State School Counseling Journal as co-editor with Dr. Summer Reiner.

PATRICIA GOODSPEED GRANT, EDD, NCC, LMHC.

Dr. Goodspeed Grant is currently working on two major research projects. The first is her sabbatical project, which she is in the process of analyzing and writing up with the assistance of our diversity fellow, Steve Kassirer. The second is analyzing and writing the results of a qualitative research project that she conducted in Texas last fall on the expectations and outcomes of persons undergoing bariatric surgery. In addition, Dr. Goodspeed Grant submitted a major revision of her book chapter on social class and counseling. Dr. Goodspeed states, “These three projects kept me very busy during my sabbatical!”

KATHLEEN FALLON, PHD, NCC

Dr. Fallon has been nurturing opportunities to collaborate with students and faculty. She and Dr. Dobmeier are working with new students Eric Goodwin and Lauren Giglia on a manuscript addressing how to work with students experiencing values conflicts working with LGBT clients. She and Rosa Luciano facilitated a consultation project with the Greece School District on providing culturally competent counseling to homeless youth and families. She is working with Keri Neadom and Stephanie Cicero on developing a research project exploring the impact of using contemplative practices in counselor education. This October, she presented two workshops at ACES with her colleagues. Dr. Fallon and Dr. Goodspeed presented on experiential learning in counselor education, while she and Dr. Hernandez facilitated a roundtable on counselor education programs transitioning to the 2009 CACREP standards.

BELLAH KITEKI, PHD

Dr. Kiteki completed her doctoral studies from The University of North Carolina at Greensboro in May. Her dissertation title was “Acculturation and Psychosocial Adjustment of African Adolescent Refugees in the U.S.: The Role of Social Support.” Also, she will be co-presenting at the ACES Conference in Nashville on the title, “Counseling Supervision in Brazil, South Korea, and Turkey: Relevance of US Supervision Models.”

SUSAN SEEM, PHD, NCC, LMHC, ACS.

Dr. Susan Seem is on leave in a temporary position as Assistant to the Provost for Graduate Education and Scholarship. The Department continues to wish Susan the best in her administrative role!
SUMMER REINER, PHD, LMHC, NCC

Dr. Summer Reiner recently published her first journal as Co-Editor (with Dr. Hernández) of the New York State School Counseling Association. She also published one article, had an article accepted for publication in Spring 2012, submitted a book chapter revision, and submitted three manuscripts for publication review. Dr. Reiner spent some time in the summer lobbying with other leaders in the American Counseling Association in Washington, D. C. on Medicare Reimbursement for professional counselors and on providing funding for elementary school counseling. She is also the President of the American Counseling Association of New York (ACA-NY) and President Elect of the North Atlantic Region of the Association of Counselor Education and Supervision (NARACES). Recently, she co-hosted an ACA-NY event, where David Kaplan (ACA Chief Professional Officer) served as the keynote. Finally, she served as a guest speaker at East Irondequoit School District for 12 hours of continuing education.

ROBERT DOBMEIER, PHD, LMHC, CRC

Dr. Bob Dobmeier had three articles published recently. Parent, teacher, and school administrator views of the role of school counselors in elementary education: A survey in a suburban school district, was published in the NYSSCA Journal, co-authored with Syd Houseknecht, Nicole King, Nick Sculli, Andrew Beringer, and Dr. Summer Reiner. Student knowledge of signs, risk factors, and resources for depression, anxiety, sleep disorders, and other mental health problems on campus was co-authored with Dr. Thomas Hernández along with college and mental health students. School counselors support student spirituality through Developmental Assets, Character Education, and ASCA Competency Indicators was published in the Professional School Counseling Journal. With Drs. Summer Reiner and Kitty Fallon, and Elaine Casquarelli, Bob contributed to an article in Counseling Today on Working with LGBT clients: A space for spirituality. Recently, Bob was appointed co-president of the New York Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (NYACES). With Drs. Summer Reiner, Thomas Hernandez, and Kitty Fallon, he is a founding member of ACA-NY, which started up this fall.

This semester, the department is working on updating our website to make it more reflective of what our department is about. If you have any feedback or suggestions for improving the website, please email Stephanie Catlin-Rakoski at edega@brockport.edu

A copy of the National Counselor Exam Study CD is on reserve in the Metro Center Library! It includes practice tests and a study guide. This resource was kindly donated by alumna, Jan Atwood! Thank you so much, Jan, for the generous donation!

The Association for Specialists in Group Work (ASGW) Graduate Student Committee is offering an exciting opportunity for graduate students to meet and interact with leading group counseling professionals at the Association for Specialists in Group Work 2012 Biennial Conference, in Albuquerque, NM (February 9-12, 2012). In return for seven hours of their time volunteering at the conference, graduate student volunteers will receive a $100 stipend. Information about the scholarships and conference can be found on the ASGW website at http://www.asgw.org/

Thank you to Stephanie Catlin-Rakoski, our Graduate Assistant, who conducted the research, interviews and picture-taking, and was responsible for the layout and design of the Fall 2011 Counselors Corner. Thank you, Stephanie!

Thank you, also, to all of the students, faculty, and alumni who contributed to this publication.

We hope that reading the accomplishments of our students, alumni, and faculty will be an inspiration for you as you continue on your professional journey! If you have feedback on the newsletter or would like to contribute to the publication of the spring 2012 newsletter, please contact us.

Sincerely, Bob Dobmeier