Spring 2009

Counselors Corner: A Newsletter of the Department of Counselor Education

Robert Dobmeier

The College at Brockport, rdobmeie@brockport.edu

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.brockport.edu/edc_news

Part of the Counselor Education Commons

Repository Citation


http://digitalcommons.brockport.edu/edc_news/18

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Counselor Education at Digital Commons @Brockport. It has been accepted for inclusion in Counselor Education Newsletter by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @Brockport. For more information, please contact kmyers@brockport.edu.
Dear Students,

I hope that you are enjoying your semester. The semester is certainly flying by for me. It’s hard to believe that spring break is a week away. I have a couple of announcements that I believe you will be excited to hear.

First, the Department’s MSEd - Counseling, college and school counselor emphases and MS – Mental Health Counseling received CACREP accreditation. The MSEd – Counseling programs received continuing accreditation. These programs have been accredited since 1987, the first in the state to achieve such distinction. The MS program received first time accreditation. This is no small feat as it requires a continual review of programs, curriculum, and clinical experiences to ensure that the education you receive meets CACREP standards. I feel so proud of the department’s programs, our faculty and you our students.

The CACREP site team was quite impressed with our emphasis on self. They reported that they heard how important that focus was from many sources: students, alumni, and site supervisors. For example, the CAREP site team shared with us that alumni spoke to how challenging this focus was as students and how they often did not like the focus at all as a student. Now in their work as professional counselors, alumni spoke to how valuable this focus was in their work. This feedback confirms for me how important using one’s self as a therapeutic tool is. It confirms for me that learning to be a counselor is much more than just learning information. Learning to be a counselor is about learning about oneself, gaining self awareness, and being able to use who you are as source of help and comfort. Looking at oneself, understanding one’s blind spots, understanding one’s worldview, and being aware of privilege, oppression, and difference are critical areas that need to be explored and understood in order to be an effective counselor. I do know that it is often challenging to look at oneself, to give honest feedback, and to hear constructive feedback. I applaud each and every one of you who are willing to engage in this process. I truly believe it is what makes our graduates so effective as counselors.

The department is also looking at writing across the curriculum. In addition, to knowledge of self, we also believe that it is imperative that professional counselors be able to communicate effectively in writing. This task has turned out to be more challenging than we anticipated. As a result, the department is going to hold a retreat later in the spring semester in order to have the opportunity to spend some time in dialogue with each other about what we believe needs to happen in our curriculum that will result in graduates of our department being effective writers.

The department is also looking at writing across the curriculum. In addition, to knowledge of self, we also believe that it is imperative that professional counselors be able to communicate effectively in writing. This task has turned out to be more challenging than we anticipated. As a result, the department is going to hold a retreat later in the spring semester in order to have the opportunity to spend some time in dialogue with each other about what we believe needs to happen in our curriculum that will result in graduates of our department being effective writers.

I am excited about the faculty’s commitment to our students. I see it every day in a myriad of ways. I see faculty working hard to create curricular experiences that will help students master the material needed to be effective counselors. I know that faculty care about students, their well being, and their graduate work. We want all of our students to succeed. Sometimes this means having to give a student critical feedback that is a challenge to hear. Sometimes this means that a faculty member goes “the extra mile” with a student, meeting with him or her to provide such feedback and to provide support while a student grapples with the feedback. We know we expect a lot from our students. I also know we believe that you can rise to the challenge – whether it is in terms of academics or in terms of personal work. Please know that all of us are here to help you. Just ask.

Take Care,

Susan
Before you can enter EDC 720: Integration and Application of Counseling Concepts, School Counseling students must complete the Child Abuse Reporting and the SAVE trainings, and College and Mental Health Counseling students must complete the Child Abuse Reporting training.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

All students are required to provide written documentation of completing 6 counseling sessions prior to starting EDC 720: Integration and Application of Basic Concepts (Practicum).

---

**CHILD ABUSE REPORTING AND SAVE TRAINING**

Online LIVE internet training for Child Abuse Reporting can be used to meet the child abuse reporting requirement for college, mental health, and school counselors. It is FREE and offered the first Thursday of every month from 1:30-3:30. Students should go to the following website to register for the online training: https://www.nysmandatedreporter.org/register/. After completion, the state will send the student a Certificate of Attendance, which should be submitted to your advisor.

Schools Against Violence in Education (SAVE) training will be provided in EDC 619: Counseling in School Settings. This training is required for students in the School Counselor emphasis.

---

**Counselor Education Graduate Assistantship**

The department is pleased to announce that it has received continued funding for a graduate assistantship for the fall and spring semesters 2009-2010. The department is looking for someone to help with faculty research, department assessment, and management of the Graduate Room, among other duties. Computer skills and knowledge of word processing and statistical packages are required. You must be a matriculated student in order to be eligible for the assistantship.

The assistantship is for 15 hours per week for both fall and spring semesters. It includes tuition for up to nine credits per semester and a stipend of $6000 for 2009-2010.

To apply, fill out an application and provide a resume and a cover letter stating the reasons for your interest in the assistantship. Anne Nenni, the department’s secretary, has application forms and the job description.

The deadline date for applications is Friday April 24, 2009 at 5 p.m. Please turn in your application and supplemental material to Dr. Susan Seem, Chair. The department will make its decision shortly after that date.

If you have any questions, please call Susan at 395-2258.

---

**ACA Foundation's annual Graduate Student Essay Contest**

Topics have just been announced for the American Counseling Association Foundation’s annual Graduate Student Essay Contest, open to all grad students in counseling or related programs. The winner will receive $500 and there are other valuable prizes, too.

May 1st is the deadline and this year’s topics are as follows:

A. Do you think there is an advantage to Counselor Education programs having students focus on a particular theoretical framework, or should Counselor Education promote a more wide-ranging and eclectic approach in training counselors?

B. Given how our country’s demographics have changed in a variety of ways in recent years, do you think that the counseling profession has taken adequate steps to meet the needs of this nation’s changing population? If yes, in what ways have counselors or counseling changed? If no, what needs to be done?

Students should write up to 750 words on one topic and send the essay to acafessays@counseling.org. Full contest rules are available online at counseling.org/ACAFContest.
New York Mental Health Counselors Association of Rochester:

We exist:

- To support mental health counselors in the Greater Rochester area. We provide collegiality, networking opportunities, professional development workshops, and the latest information on legislative policies and issues.
- To support graduate students who are training to be mental health counselors. Our goal is to assist students with internship placements, mentoring, and support in the licensure process.
- To educate consumers, collaborating professionals, and insurance companies about the profession of Mental Health Counseling.

The second Saturday of most months we meet at the Metro Center (55 St. Paul Street) from 10-12:00 for a chapter business meeting, followed by a one hour professional development presentation. Quarterly, we host networking events (January, April, July and October) at various times and venues. Students are welcome to visit our meetings and if they decide to join us they must first join NYMHCA, our state organization. Once they have joined at the state level, dues for our Greater Rochester chapter are $15. The website for the state is www.nymhca.org and our chapter website is mental-healthcounselors.org. We welcome and encourage visitors to our meetings.

State of the State video-conference with Judy Ritterman, Executive Director

On Feb. 14th, Judy Ritterman, Executive Director of the New York Mental Health Counseling Association, communicated with members of the Greater Rochester Chapter of NYMHCA through videoconference. Many students and faculty from the Counselor Education Department were present at the Metro Center for the event. Judy was very instrumental in New York State’s creating the law establishing professional licensing for Mental Health Counselors. She continues to provide leadership through her contacts with the New York State Office of Mental Health and the New York State Education Department Office of Professions to ensure that Mental Health Counselors are able to be hired and to complete internships in state OMH and Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services licensed programs, and to practice as providers on third party insurance panels. Brockport faculty will attend a meeting on April 4th with NYMHCA, OMH, OASAS, and Office of Professions representatives to address these issues and scope of practice for the various professions working in OMH programs. Students interested in more information about the role of NYMHCA as advocates for Mental Health Counseling should go to the Mental Health Counselor Emphasis site on Angel.

About Nu Chapter:

For those of you who are not aware of Nu Chapter, we are the local chapter of Chi Sigma Iota, the international honor society for students, professional counselors, and counselor educators. Nu Chapter was one of the first chapters to be established. Currently, there are over 250 chapters in the United States and abroad.

We meet on the first Saturday of every month during the academic year at the Metro Center. All counselor education students are welcome to attend the first hour of our monthly meetings from 9:45 to 10:45 for our “Coffee Talks,” which are opportunities for connecting with professionals and discussing counseling-related issues.

Some of the events we’ve sponsored or co-sponsored in the past year include the winter and spring graduate receptions held in the Albert W. Brown Office Building for the department graduates and their families. We have also sponsored our annual honors and recognition event in June, “Just Desserts.” At this event, awards are presented to accomplished students and professionals. Our annual initiation ceremony is conducted at this meeting to formally welcome and accept the new initiates.

In the past, we have presented numerous workshops and professional development opportunities, such as: “The Undecided Client: Career Counseling,” which was designed to benefit professionals from all counseling focus areas, members and non-members.

If you are interested in joining Nu Chapter, please contact Dr. Susan Seem or Ms. Anne Nenni for application materials. We are an evolving chapter and we welcome interested students who are looking to learn more about us.

Sincerely,
Mindy Chamberlin
President
Student Accomplishments

Awards: Congratulations to...
- Donelle Burke who won the Irene Rivera de Royston Scholarship
- Eileen Meyer who won the Outstanding Student Award
- Yama Hernandez, who won an annual membership to the ACA and registration to the conference
- Courtney Cannan, who participated in the WNYSCC poster presentations and won an award for her work
- Megan Barrell who won the School of Professors Graduate Student Award

Thank You:
- Kassy Gallup, Kristin Dauenhauer, and Kim Knab who assisted with the WNYSCC Conference.

Professional Presentations:
WNYSCC Conference:
- Career and college needs of high school seniors: A survey
- Poster presentation by Courtney Cannan

Dec. 3rd Scholarly Conference Presentations:
- The effectiveness of group therapy in decreasing symptoms of depression in children Elena Pilato
- Using art therapy to express yourself Sandra Vazquez

Poster Presentations:
- Career and college needs of high school seniors: A survey Courtney Cannan
- Examining the needs of clients and therapists: Providing mental health services for persons with co-occurring disorders Nafisah Clay
- Parental knowledge of internet use and cyberbullying in middle schools Na'Lisa Rowe
- The impact of a family member’s diagnosis of cancer on the child: Understanding children’s adaptation Stacy Bowman
- Violence in high schools: Emotional consequences for students Kaitlyn Flad

Want to know more about the Integration experience? Talk to one of these folks who are currently taking EDC 720...
- Leticia Alston
- Stacy Bowman
- Michael Cole
- Kaitlyn Flad
- Michael Gorton
- Rebecca Hamilton
- Daniel Kandris
- Lindsay Kirchoff
- Ryan Pedersen
- Tracie Swalbach
- Jenna Winicki

Spring Semester Student Internship Placements
- Megan Barrell- Caledonia-Mumford MS/HS
- Stephanie Bliss- Wilson Foundation Academy
- William Broome- Global Media Arts HS @ Franklin
- Mary Corteville- Spencerport High School
- Krystal Dunning- Greece Odyssey
- Doris Hernandez- Strong Recovery
- Sally Howe- Wayne Middle School
- Kimberly Knab- Livonia Intermediate School
- Joshua Maldonado- Strong Memorial Child & Adolescent Clinic
- Keisha Manning- Dr. Freddie Thomas HS
- Eileen Myer- Caledonia-Mumford MS/HS
- Lindsay Rachow- St. Joseph’s Neighborhood Center
- Melissa Sakofskey- Webster Spry MS
- Kate Stanford- Alternatives for Battered Women
- Latoya Taylor- Evelyn Brandon Health Center
- Kelly Tobin- East Irondequoit MS
- Yao-Szu Tsou- Catholic Family Center

Award Gatherings:
- 2009 Scholars Day: Presentations
- Assessing the academic, personal/social and career needs of middle school students Megan Barrell
  - The flip side: an investigation into the personalization of communication Eileen Myer
- Posters
  - The impact of a family member’s diagnosis of cancer on the child: Understanding children’s adaptation Stacy Bowman
  - Action Research: Survey of internship site supervisors Josh Minarik and Sarah Waled
  - Survey of College administrators attitude regarding sexual violence on campus Michelle Jones and Peter Fox
- Student focus groups: Sexual Violence on Campus Laura Hicks, April Aycock, Patrick Ducey, and Meghan Lenter
- Determining the counseling needs of middle school students: Teacher, administration and mental health staff perspectives Kelly Tobin
- Outreach methods for victims of domestic violence Kate Stanford
- Empathy skills training experience on middle school students Melissa Sakofskey
- Mental health screenings in a clinic setting Ya-Szu Tsou
- Using group therapy to improve the well-being of children in foster care Joshua Maldonado
- Counseling needs of chemically dependent women Latoya Taylor
- Does attendance in a pre-k program affect career aspirations Keisha Manning
- The effectiveness of gender separation on academics and behavior in middle school Stephanie Bliss
- The effectiveness of gender separation on academics and behavior in middle school Stephanie Bliss
- 2009 Scholars Day: Presentations
- Assessing the academic, personal/social and career needs of middle school students Megan Barrell
  - The flip side: an investigation into the personalization of communication Eileen Myer
- Posters
  - The impact of a family member’s diagnosis of cancer on the child: Understanding children’s adaptation Stacy Bowman
  - Action Research: Survey of internship site supervisors Josh Minarik and Sarah Waled
  - Survey of College administrators attitude regarding sexual violence on campus Michelle Jones and Peter Fox
- Student focus groups: Sexual Violence on Campus Laura Hicks, April Aycock, Patrick Ducey, and Meghan Lenter
- Determining the counseling needs of middle school students: Teacher, administration and mental health staff perspectives Kelly Tobin
- Outreach methods for victims of domestic violence Kate Stanford
- Empathy skills training experience on middle school students Melissa Sakofskey
- Mental health screenings in a clinic setting Ya-Szu Tsou
- Using group therapy to improve the well-being of children in foster care Joshua Maldonado
- Counseling needs of chemically dependent women Latoya Taylor
- Does attendance in a pre-k program affect career aspirations Keisha Manning
- The effectiveness of gender separation on academics and behavior in middle school Stephanie Bliss
- 2009 Scholars Day: Presentations
- Assessing the academic, personal/social and career needs of middle school students Megan Barrell
  - The flip side: an investigation into the personalization of communication Eileen Myer
- Posters
  - The impact of a family member’s diagnosis of cancer on the child: Understanding children’s adaptation Stacy Bowman
  - Action Research: Survey of internship site supervisors Josh Minarik and Sarah Waled
  - Survey of College administrators attitude regarding sexual violence on campus Michelle Jones and Peter Fox
- Student focus groups: Sexual Violence on Campus Laura Hicks, April Aycock, Patrick Ducey, and Meghan Lenter
- Determining the counseling needs of middle school students: Teacher, administration and mental health staff perspectives Kelly Tobin
- Outreach methods for victims of domestic violence Kate Stanford
- Empathy skills training experience on middle school students Melissa Sakofskey
- Mental health screenings in a clinic setting Ya-Szu Tsou
- Using group therapy to improve the well-being of children in foster care Joshua Maldonado
- Counseling needs of chemically dependent women Latoya Taylor
- Does attendance in a pre-k program affect career aspirations Keisha Manning
- The effectiveness of gender separation on academics and behavior in middle school Stephanie Bliss

American Counseling Association:
- Counselor education students serving as consultants to school counselors Kelly Tobin, Eileen Meyer, Megan Barrell, and Melissa Sakofskey

2009 Scholars Day: Presentations
- Assessing the academic, personal/social and career needs of middle school students Megan Barrell
  - The flip side: an investigation into the personalization of communication Eileen Myer
- Posters
  - The impact of a family member’s diagnosis of cancer on the child: Understanding children’s adaptation Stacy Bowman
  - Action Research: Survey of internship site supervisors Josh Minarik and Sarah Waled
  - Survey of College administrators attitude regarding sexual violence on campus Michelle Jones and Peter Fox
- Student focus groups: Sexual Violence on Campus Laura Hicks, April Aycock, Patrick Ducey, and Meghan Lenter
- Determining the counseling needs of middle school students: Teacher, administration and mental health staff perspectives Kelly Tobin
- Outreach methods for victims of domestic violence Kate Stanford
- Empathy skills training experience on middle school students Melissa Sakofskey
- Mental health screenings in a clinic setting Ya-Szu Tsou
- Using group therapy to improve the well-being of children in foster care Joshua Maldonado
- Counseling needs of chemically dependent women Latoya Taylor
- Does attendance in a pre-k program affect career aspirations Keisha Manning
- The effectiveness of gender separation on academics and behavior in middle school Stephanie Bliss
Meet Mirna Cordero, College Counseling Track

I chose my emphasis in college counseling because I want to help people with their personal problems and difficult decisions. Given my experience, I believe that I will work best with this population. One example of the challenges faced by many college students is that when they first go to college they might have to work to meet school or other personal expenses. Generally, they start working part-time, but later many of them become full-time, without realizing the consequences this will have on their studies. With the money they make some costs are covered, but in the meanwhile they may have missed opportunities to receive help to earn good grades. Sometimes working too many hours may result in dropping out of college. This can have a negative impact on their career goals. I hope to help students to look at the consequences of their decisions and to assist them to work through the conflict between the need for income in the present and future career goals.

Meet Jessie Williams, Mental Health Track

I have been working as a sociotherapist at Crestwood Children’s Center for the past 9 years. I have really enjoyed doing crisis intervention and behavior management, but I want to become more active in the therapy aspect of treatment. I have loved working with kids and could see myself continuing to work with them in the future. Some of my interest lies in the treatment of PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder) in general, and specifically as it relates to the medical field and disaster victims. I have a strong interest in the creative process and how it can relate to the counseling process.

Meet Chelsea Graff, School Counseling Track

I was accepted into the Counselor Education program in the fall of 2008. Through coaching gymnastics, I have discovered that I have a very strong passion for working with children and adolescents. I enjoy being a role model and someone that they can turn to when they are going through difficult times. I think it is essential for everyone to feel like they have at least one person that they can talk to and trust, so I hope to be that person for the students that I work with in the future. My ultimate goal at the completion of this program is to become a middle or high school counselor.
Alumni Feature: Meet Tanishia Johnson,
Dream School Counselor, Global Media Arts High School at
Franklin Educational Campus

My Role: I provide socio-emotional counseling to students in grades 7-12.

How long: Employed with RCSD since 11/3/06.

I credit much of what I have experienced in the Counselor Education Program for providing the foundation for the way in which I counsel students, interact with my colleagues, and create and maintain successful personal relationships. The Counselor Education program, with its phenomenal professors, assisted me to learn about myself and to broaden my views of the world and of others.

My greatest personal growth to date has taken place because of my journey in the program. In addition to the support from the professors, Nu Chapter’s members embraced me throughout my time in the program. I was awarded the Nu Chapter Joseph R. Kandor scholarship, which assisted me during a time that was extremely difficult. I have built life-long friendships during the journey that began in the Counselor Ed program in the Spring of 2003 and I am eternally grateful.

Something fun about me: I love children!! When you look at life through the eyes of a child, life just seems so much better! I am the mom of five wonderful children, ages one through eighteen - four sons and one daughter. Life is always fun and interesting, and every day is an opportunity to learn something new about these incredible little lives we’ve been blessed with. We never take a day for granted. I love hanging out with my husband and children, college friends, and extended family.

Congratulations to our December 2008 Graduates!

In December 2008, we celebrated the graduation of a number of our students from three program emphases. These students successfully navigated through their master’s experience and were able to find employment, even during these difficult economic times. Here are our graduates and their new places of employment:

Courtney Cannan (School, ’08) – Webster Thomas High School
Christine Ferris (Mental Health, ’08) – Unity Health System
Jocelyn Rebisz (Mental Health, ’08) also graduated and will be staying home to care for her children and may be looking for employment in the mental health arena in the future.
Lisa Robey (Mental Health, ’08) – Rochester City School District
Na’Lisa Rowe (School, ’08) – Rush – Henrietta Roth Middle School
Sandra Vazquez (College, ’08) – The College at Brockport, Counseling Center
Sharee Washington (Mental Health, ’08) – Strong Behavioral Health, University of Rochester

Alumni in Action!

Congratulations to Michael Johnson, Counselor and Assistant Professor at Monroe Community College, and to Jacob Scott Jr., Coordinator of Family and Support at the Rochester City School District, for their recent recognition in the Democrat and Chronicle. Both were featured as emerging African American leaders in the Rochester Community.

Welcome New Students!
The following Students were accepted for the Spring 2009 Semester:
Andrew Beringer
Mirna Cordero
Kristin Davenhauer
Carli de Souza
Ashley Ellis
Ansiedad Fernandes
Loren Goldstein
Crystal Hanna
Laura Hicks
Sydney Houseknecht
Michelle Jones
Jenna Marchetta
Janine Rowe
Monica Siclare
Megan Taylor
Sara Thomas
Sean VanLaeken
Jesse Williams
Tips from your colleagues:

“What types of self care activities do you do to deal with the high demands of school and lifestyle whole?”

- I attempt to continue an exercise regime I started over a year ago. I maintain prayerfulness. The hardest part is to get enough rest and sleep. I try to maintain positive self talk. I also attempt to not procrastinate the outside class work.- Monica

- I do leisure reading, teach dance, and watch at least one movie a week— Mary

- Some of my alternatives are: 1) Music - it’s a great release. 2) Drive - I will get in the truck and usually drive around, often to the lake or a bay where I park and watch the water. 3) Movie - Sometimes I take a break and pop in a movie that I have seen a few times already. - Joe

- I often just lay low and watch movies in order to relax. I find that movies serve as an escape from the craziness of everyday life. - Kassy

- I make sure I have time to do the things I enjoy, like playing basketball and Texas hold ‘em (poker). - Michael

- While I don’t always do this enough, one of the best ways I have found to take care of myself during the school year is to be able to say no to those who would put extra demands on my time. Becoming more assertive and learning to set boundaries has been of utmost importance in maintaining a healthy lifestyle and not adding to the stresses of the demands of school, work, and home life. - Sally

- I shop and take naps when I can! - Letitia

- Things I do to take care of myself... ride my horse, take my dogs for a walk, spend time with my family, call a friend, and read a book -- that is, not a textbook! — Janalee

- I cook a lot or I write poetry. I don’t really have any time to blow off steam with work, internship, Integration, and classes, so that’s what I do. I also have a few drinks with the guys every now and then to get me back on track. — Dan

- Planning, Planning and some more Planning! I plan my work related activities, plan the time I spend with my children, plan chores at home, plan school activities, and plan time for relaxation. - Saarah.

- I schedule a time and day for each assignment and stick to it. Also, taking a weekend day to relax and not do any school work helps, too. - Bryan

- What works for me is relaxation in the hot tub and movie nights with my kids... Both are seemingly a temporary escape from the pressure.— Stacy

Do you want to get involved with the publication of the Counselors Corner?

We are currently seeking three student volunteers (one for each of the emphases) to assist with the Counselors Corner, the newsletter for the Counselor Education department. If interested, please email Bob at rdoebmeie@brockport.edu
Save the Date!

The Counselor Education Summer Picnic will be held from 5pm-8pm August 28th... details to follow!

New Student Orientation will also be on August 28th, but will begin at 9am and last until 4pm.

Conferences and Key Dates

- American Counseling Association Conference Charlotte, North Carolina, March 19-23, 2009
- Health Counselors Association Conference, April 16-18, 2010
- Western New York School Counselors Consortium Conference, February 2010
- 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, 9:45-11:00 am

Try to attend at least one of these events to strengthen your professional network and development. Check out the student conference rates!

Brockport Students Join ACA!

Do you want to know more about a student membership to the American Counseling Association? Ask one of the counseling education students below, as they are new members. Welcome!

William Ryelle Broome
Christine Danielle Ferris
Kathryn Gallup

Doris Hernandez
Yamalis Hernandez
Sally Ann Howe
Jenna Leigh Winicki

Summer Course Offerings

Mark your calendars! The following courses will be offered in the Summer:

EDC 693 Counseling in Secondary Schools, Summer Reiner, PhD.— Beginning 5/18 thru 5/29
EDC 731 Implementation III, Bob Dobmeier, PhD.— Beginning 5/18 thru 8/7
EDC 614 Contemporary Issues—Thomas Hernandez, PhD.— Beginning 6/1 thru 7/2
EDC 695 Play Therapy, Barbara Higgins—Beginning 6/1 thru 7/2
EDC 883 (CAS class) Counselors As Consultants, Summer Reiner, PhD.— Beginning 7/6 thru 8/8
EDC 612 Human Experience, Amy Gaesser—Beginning 7/6 thru 8/8
SUSAN SEEM, PHD, NCC, LMHC, ACS

In February 2009, Susan co-presented with Tom Hernandez at the Western New York School Counselors Conference on The Millennial Student and Career Success: Strategies for School Counselors. In April 2008, Susan attended the Institute for Disaster Mental Health’s conference on Healing the Scars of War. Susan and Dr. Hernandez co-presented in September 2008 at the North Atlantic Regional Association for Counselor Education and Supervision, on The New Millennium Student in Counselor Education. She continues to work on a book on feminist therapy with two friends from her doctoral program, Kathy Evans and Beth Kincade. Susan serves as editorial board member of the Journal for Specialists in Group Work, and as a Board member for the Association for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Issues in Counseling. She was recently appointed Chair of the College Wide Diversity Committee at The College at Brockport and appointed as a member of the Graduate Education Committee at The College of Brockport.

THOMAS HERNANDEZ, EDD, LMHC

Tom presented with Susan Seem at the NARACES Conference in Portland, Maine in September 2008 on The New Millennium Student in Counselor Education. Tom and Susan also presented in February 2009 at the Western New York School Counselors Consortium Conference in Rochester, NY on The Millennial Student and Career Success: Strategies for School Counselors. Tom and Susan are currently working on an article about this very topic. Tom also serves on the Steering Committee and as co-conference coordinator for the Western New York School Counselor Consortium. Tom was very happy to see that one of our graduates, Courtney Cannan (School, ’08), was the winner of the Consortium award for best poster presentation, a presentation of her thesis that she also gave at the Department’s first annual Scholarly Conference that Tom coordinated in December 2008.

PATRICIA GOODSPEED GRANT, EDD, NCC, LMHC


Pat continues to serve as Secretary, Greater Rochester Chapter of NYMHCA and as Strategic Planning Chair, NYMHCA. Pat is the Treasurer Elect of the Association for Adult Development and Aging and serves on the College Senate.
Dr. Reiner began the school year serving as the President Elect of the Association of Adult Development and Aging, a division of the American Counseling Association. She will begin her presidential-term on July 1, 2009 and is currently seeking students interested in serving on a committee for the national association. She believes that serving on an AADA committee can help students get known in the profession but is also an opportunity to meet those who are known in the profession.

Shortly after Summer’s President-Elect term began, she received notice that her manuscript, influenced by her dissertation, was accepted for publication in the Professional School Counselor Journal for the American School Counselor Association (ASCA), a division of ACA. In addition, this past fall semester Bob Dobmeier and Summer submitted a manuscript to the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (ACES), a division of ACA, titled “Spirituality in counselor education curriculum: A national study of student perceptions”. Bob and Summer presented the findings of the aforementioned research at the ASERVIC conference in North Carolina this past summer.

This March, Summer will be co-presenting “Career Transitioning: Building a Resilient Identity or a Quest to Find Self?” at the ACA Conference in Charlotte, NC. Finally, Dr. Reiner is in the process of mentoring a group of students (Megan Barrell, Eileen Myer, Melissa Sakofsky, and Kelly Tobin) in preparation for their poster presentation at the ACA conference.

Dr. Fallon had the pleasure of working with students from the Fall 2008 Contemporary Issues class to propose and present a workshop on using personal stories in college courses. Here is the reference:


Thank you to everyone who contributed to the newsletter.

A special thanks to Yama Hernandez for her research and arrangement for the newsletter!

Sincerely, Bob Dobmeier