Counselor's Corner: Fall 2017

Meaghan Hazen

The College at Brockport, edcga@brockport.edu
11th Annual Counselor Education Picnic

On Saturday, September 9th, the Counselor Education Department hosted their 11th annual picnic. New and current students, alumni, faculty, and family members all came together to enjoy food, fun, music, and conversations.

During the picnic, everyone was able to get to know each other. Current students and families were able to meet with new students and professors, exchange laughs, receive advice on how to successfully get through the program, and talk about their experiences in life and classes.

Near the end of the event, Dr. Bob Dobmeier, Dr. Rafael Outland, and Roslyn Phillips grabbed their instruments and played songs for everyone to enjoy!
Dear Counselor Education Students,

As we head into the midst of the fall 2017 semester I am grateful to many people who make the Department of Counselor Education an exciting and rewarding place to be. Your efforts toward greater self-awareness and academic competence as you prepare to become productive professional counselors are evident in your work and in your openness to the challenges of learning. I am appreciative of current faculty (Drs. Summer Reiner, Rafael Outland, Claudette Browne-Smythe, and Amy Gaesser), our program secretary, Lisa Mogle, and our adjunct faculty, who give themselves tirelessly to ensure a quality learning experience for you. As we adjust to the transitions of Drs. Susan Seem and Patricia Goodspeed to retirement and to Dr. Tom Hernandez to Dean of our new School of Education, Health, and Human Services, I am reminded of what they have given to the Department over the years to make it the high quality training program that it is.

This year the Department has taken on the task of reviewing our whole curriculum under the 2016 CACREP standards. This review has created the opportunity to recognize new areas that will enhance our curriculum and to make revisions in existing courses to ensure their currency. New courses are being developed in Child and Adolescent Development for students in the School Counseling emphasis (and for others as an elective), in College Student Development and in Foundations of Leadership in Higher Education for students in the College Counseling and Student Affairs Emphasis, and in Pre-practicum for all students. This course will allow greater preparation for the start of the clinical courses in Integration and Implementation. Under the 2016 CACREP standards all students are required to complete a master’s degree of 60 credits. However, if you have begun your Master’s under the 48 credit requirement you will be able to complete your program under the 48-credit requirement. Students in Implementation I and II provided valuable input into these curricular changes and many other students have contributed to these improvements through course evaluations, advisement relationships, and informal discussions.

The Department is currently conducting a search for two tenure track Assistant Professor positions. Students will be invited to participate in interviewing the candidates for the two positions. The plan is for the two new faculty to start in August 2018. Also, over the past year the Department has undertaken a Self-Study of our Online/Hybrid CAS School Counseling program. Reviewers will be visiting us to evaluate the program on November 2nd and 3rd.

The Department of Counselor Education is a place where many - students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends of the Department, give of themselves daily to create high quality learning experiences that will benefit our students and the people who they will serve going forward. As Chair of the Department I am honored to serve each of you in achieving our mission: “To prepare and mentor scholar practitioners, with a deep level of self-understanding, in the art and science of professional counseling.” Thank you for all that you do to make this possible.

Sincerely,
Bob Dobmeier
New Faculty Member

Dr. Amy Gaesser

Congratulations to Dr. Amy Gaesser, who was hired recently as one of the newest associate professors of the Counselor Education Department.

Dr. Amy Gaesser had once worked in the counselor education department, and she spoke about how she has enjoyed reconnecting with the faculty she had known before and getting to know the new faculty members. She said that she is excited to re-engage the students as well.

Dr. Gaesser started in the Mental Health field with a degree in social work. She worked in a group home setting as a director of a group home. She was planning on continuing her education with a Master's degree in social work but decided she did not want to learn more about the systems but instead was more interested in helping individuals overcome challenges.

She worked as an on-call counselor for a new crisis stabilization unit which was in a home-like setting. From this point, she worked towards a Master's Degree in School Counseling at Brockport. Dr. Gaesser became a middle school counselor for 16 years.

Dr. Amy Gaesser brings a vast amount of experience to this program in regards to her formal training with a degree in social work, her Master's Degree in Counselor Education, as well as her Ph.D. in Counselor Education. Dr. Gaesser also has some training in some non-traditional approaches in Eastern and Western Psychology. One of the methods is using a meditative practice to help clients with what is going on within them and finding the answers inside themselves. This method combined with Western traditions such as Gestalt and REBT is a practice Dr. Gaesser has used. Finally, she brings neurocounseling to the department, which helps learners to understand how the system responds to anxiety and stress.

A message for the students from Dr. Gaesser: "When you're going through the intensity of the training of our program, it's important to remember self-care. Even when times are tough, do not give up. Don't be afraid of reaching out or talking to the faculty as well. Continue to persevere and reach out when you need it."
Dr. Summer Reiner received a Master’s Degree in Counselor Education and CAS in School Counseling from Canisius College and her Ph.D. in Educational Psychology: Counselor Education from the University of Connecticut. Her areas of specialty school counseling, professional identity, and life balance. She is the 2017-2018 ACES (Association for Counselor Education and Supervision) President and an American Counseling Association (ACA) Governing Council Representative (for the North Atlantic Region) 2016-2019. This past October, Dr. Reiner kicked off the ACES Conference in Chicago, IL with over 1800 Counselor Educators and Supervisors in attendance. The theme of the conference was Forging the Future of Professional Counseling and the keynote speaker was Dr. Paul Pelosi of Florida Atlantic University. One of Dr. Reiner’s goals for ACES is to encourage master’s level students and clinicians to see their responsibility in preparing for their role as site-based counselor educators (a.k.a., site supervisors). Professors alone cannot prepare professional counselors and really rely on on site-based counselor educators to teach students the practical application of their skills within their specialty area. Ensuring that site-based counselor educators and master’s students become members of ACES is critical in the future development of generations of professional counselors. In addition to her leadership roles, Dr. Reiner recently had several manuscripts on life balance accepted for publication and co-authored a book chapter on school counselor supervision.

Dr. Robert Dobmeier had an article article accepted for publication in AdultsSpan, “Reentry Needs: Men Who Are Young, Hispanic, Older, or With a Mental Illness” (with Dr. Swaroop [Kumari] Korn, Craig Johnson, and counselor education alumni/students Cassie Fleck, Elizabeth Cenci, Lauren Giglia, Robyn Broomfield, and Michael Morde. A second article is under revision “Evaluating Counselor Abilities, Beliefs, and Practices Related to the ASERVIC Spiritual Competencies” (with Drs. Summer Reiner and Rick Balkin). Two chapters, “Assessment and Diagnosis” (with Drs. Claudette Brown-Smythe and Linda L. Chamberlain) and “Retaining Sobriety: Relapse Prevention Strategies” will appear in the sixth edition (2017) of Substance Abuse Counseling: Theory and Practice (Stevens and Smith). This year Bob has served as chair of the AADA Older Adults Task Force whose purpose is to galvanize support and collaboration within the profession for advocacy, research, and best practices for counseling older adults. Bob has also chaired Brockport’s Library Advisory Council, which completed a focus group study with students, faculty, and staff in fall 2016 about strengths and areas for growth of campus library services. Bob also sits on the Advisory Board for Women and Gender Studies (WMS) wherein he has chaired the curriculum committee in their application for a WMS graduate certificate program.

Dr. Rafael Outland is a native of College Park, GA. He received a bachelor’s degree in Psychology from Clark Atlanta University and a master’s degree in Education (Specialization in School Counseling, K-12) from Boston University. He earned a PhD in Counseling and Counselor Education at the University of Rochester. His dissertation was titled “The Meaning and Experiences of Violence among Urban African-American adolescent males (UAAM).” This qualitative study explored the experiences of UAAM that influence their attitudes, perceptions, and beliefs of violence. Utilizing interviews and a focus group, the aim of the study was to provide UAAM a voice regarding individual, social, and institutional factors influencing these youth’s meaning and perceptions of violence. Mr. Outland’s research interests include exploring the developmental trajectory of violence, primarily of marginalized youth, as well as program evaluation and counselor supervision. He also remains engaged in youth outreach and social activism in the local Rochester community, through his affiliation with grassroots organizations, such as Teen Empowerment Incorporated (TE) and The Gandhi Institute for Nonviolence (GIN). Mr. Outland’s primary aim as a counselor educator is to empower his students, in hopes that they can empower their clients, in “becoming” agents of individual, social, and institutional change.
Dr. Claudette Brown-Smythe is a graduate of Syracuse University with her PhD in Counselling and Counselor Education. She has a wide range of experiences and training and brings this diverse mix to the department. She is a trained secondary school teacher, a master’s level trained social worker as well as a trained mental health and rehabilitation counselor. Dr. Brown-Smythe has worked in middle and high school, college and agency settings as a counselor. She has worked with local and international agencies in her native country Jamaica doing advocacy and social justice work around a child development specifically around issues of child abuse and neglect and promoting children’s rights, and has done similar work with the elderly in various countries in the Caribbean. This mix of training and experience fuel her passion for the respect and dignity of all beings. She believes that individuals impact and are impacted by their environments and that sometimes what needs to change is not the individual but the environment, to help them realize and experience greater sense of well-being. Her research interests involve exploring how spirituality impact mental health and well-being, addressing diversity issues in counseling and supervision; exploring loss, grief, and trauma in counseling and rehabilitation and reentry of inmates to the community. Her professional identity as a counselor is evident by her involvement in professional counseling organizations at the national, regional, and local level. She is a member of the American Counseling Association (ACA) and serves as the Western region event chair of ACA-NY. She is also a member of the Association for Counselor Educators and Supervisors and serves as the secretary for her regional branch – North Atlantic Regional Association for Counselor Educators and Supervisors (NARACES) and is a member of the Association for Spiritual Ethical and Religious Values in Counseling (ASERVIC). Dr. Brown-Smythe is also volunteer the National Board of Certified Counselor.

Dr. Amy Gaesser is currently a new Professor of Counselor Education at the State University of New York College at Brockport. She received her PhD in Educational Psychology with majors in Counselor Education and Gifted Education from the University of Connecticut, her Masters in Counselor Education from SUNY Brockport, and her Bachelor of Science in Social Work with a minor in Religious Studies from Nazareth College of Rochester. She is a certified New York State School Counselor and a Nationally Certified Counselor with 20+ years experience in mental health and academia. Populations she has worked with include adult clients challenged with chronic mental health concerns and school-based adolescents and their families dealing with a variety of developmental, social, and emotional issues, with a special focus on high-ability youth. Her research interests include the social and emotional well being of gifted students and interventions blending Eastern, Western, and Energy Psychology to assist clients and students in overcoming challenges and reaching their greatest potentials. Her present research examines child and adolescent anxiety, and anxiety interventions in school settings, especially Emotional Freedom Technique (EFT). She is a member of ACA, NAGC, ACES, NARACES, and NYSSCA.
Nu Chapter's mission is to promote scholarship, wellness, professional development, leadership, advocacy, and excellence in counseling. These ideals are the foundation of our programming initiatives. Each semester, the Nu Chapter board decides on a theme that our events will be based around. Historically, we have reached out to current students soliciting feedback on which topics they would like to learn more about. In recent years, Nu Chapter has hosted events on topics including Process Addictions, Veterans, Trauma and Crisis, LGBTQ individuals, and more! This semester, Nu Chapter has decided to focus on Challenging Topics in counseling. Our idea behind introducing a challenging topics theme was to help students feel more confident in working with students and/or clients in which they might find difficult to navigate.

Our first event—a Live Counseling Demonstration—was a success. We were lucky to have Dr. Amy Gaessar and Dr. Sandra Vazquez of Brockport join us in portraying a high school and college counselor. We were also happy to welcome an undergraduate student, Helena, who helped with the client/student roles. With our impressive attendance and our positive feedback, it seems like we will continue to have the Live Counseling Demonstration as our annual staple event! For the remainder of the semester, be on the lookout for our activities!

From Monday October 23rd- Wednesday October 25th, Nu Chapter will be tabling at the MetroCenter on the 3rd floor as a way to engage with incoming students and provide information and answers to your questions.

Then, our Panel Discussion event will be held on Thursday, October 26th at 5:30pm in the Golden Eagle Room at the MetroCenter. During this conversation, counselors from the Rochester community will be sharing with us how they handle challenging themes in the work they do on a daily basis. We will have a School Counselor, College Counselor, and Mental Health Counselor present to be sure we cover all specialty areas. We hope this event provides insight and background of challenging work in our profession.

On November 29th at 7:00pm, we will be hosting a social gathering at Legend’s Restaurant & Bar. Nu Chapter is always excited for our social events, as it gives us the opportunity to meet and connect with students no matter where we are in the program.

Nu Chapter is also on a mission to recruit students to attend professional conferences. There are already several students planning on attending the New York State School Counselor Association conference in November, and others looking into the American College Counseling Association conference and the American Counseling Association conference for 2018. We hope to see many of you at our gatherings this semester. If you have any questions about our programming, how to apply to Nu Chapter, or want to attend a conference, please don't hesitate to contact me!

All the best,
Jenna Mollura
President of
Nu Chapter:
Chi Sigma Iota
INTRODUCING: NEW STUDENTS TO THE PROGRAM

Joshwuan Veiro
School Counseling Emphasis

School Counseling. I'm leaning towards becoming a middle school counselor.

What brought you to the counseling field?
I took Intro to Counseling in my undergraduate studies and absolutely fell in love. Intro to Counseling was one of my favorite classes during undergrad. For the class we had to attend several counseling sessions and that was an amazing experience. I learned so much about myself. I learned to love myself and embrace my flaws.

How has your experience been so far?
Grad school is definitely an adjustment, but I'm enjoying every minute of it. I'm glad that I chose this program because the faculty and my classmates are nothing but supportive. I'm truly excited to see what this program has in store for me and I hope I will become a great counselor.

What ways do you practice self-care?
I practice self-care by exercising, listening to music, and hiking with friends.
As far as anything personal, I have a great sense of humor and I have a desire to help children learn to love themselves.

Kayla Casper
Mental Health Emphasis

Mental Health Counseling.
"Be the change you wish to see in the world"- Gandhi
This quote has been my emphasis and my driving force for as long as I can remember. My mind is always focused what I can do to be the change.

What brought you to the counseling field?
My desire to help people in need and an art therapy internship at Hutchings Psychiatric Center. My internship ignited a passion that I did not know that I had, but I am so glad that I found it.

How has your experience been so far?
It only been three weeks and has been a big transition from undergrad but it is going really well! I'm enjoying my classes thus far and have already begun building friendships.

Specific area of interest?
I enjoy all aspects of mental health, but I am especially interested in the different treatments available for schizophrenia, and which treatments can be considered the most effective.

What ways do you practice self-care?
I practice self-care by exercising, eating healthy, and ensuring that I give myself time to breathe.
School Counselors: Prepared to Lead the Way!
November 17-18, 2017 at the Syracuse DoubleTree!

February 22-25, 2018 in Charlotte, NC

April 26-29, 2018
Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta, GA

Exploring Innovative Approaches in Counseling and Counselor Education
April 13-15, 2018 at the Albany Marriott

If you are interested in learning more information about a conference please contact Nu Chapter President, Jenna Mollura, at jmoll2@u.brockport.edu.

NBCC Foundation Scholars and Fellows
Supporting counselors-in-training is integral to the Foundation’s mission. The Foundation offers scholarships and fellowships to master’s and doctoral counseling students, training awards to individuals earning the BCC certification, and professional development awards to CCE credential holders.

Awards range from $8,000 to $20,000
For more info visit http://www.nbccf.org/programs/

Application Deadline is October, 31st 2017
Successfully Getting Through the Program
Advice from current and former students

Times can get tough, you'll be swamped with work both professionally and academically, your thoughts will be challenged, but know that you can push through. "The harder the battle, the sweeter the victory" -Victoria Pardee

Align yourself closely together as a cohort because you can all be a great support system for one another. It is very important to have true strong genuine connections with each other to be able to work through all situations that will arise while preparing and completing these significant milestones to this program. This has not been easy at all and it is even harder when you have multiple roles to fill in life. Balancing can become a bit too much at times. Which leads to the importance of SUPPORT SUPPORT SUPPORT.

-Support

Believe in yourself and be patient. It will all fall into place. -Dan Waldbillig

Develop good time management skills, and follow the topics and populations that are interesting or you have a passion for.

-KT LaPorta

Nobody is perfect. It took me awhile to realize that, but I have had to just let some things go while in this program. It's hard to juggle life and school and work and families etc. This is easier said than done, but don't be too hard on yourself!

-Elissa Ostrander

Make sure you are financially stable the last year of the program. Never doubt your ability. You will struggle, you will have times where you will fail, but as long as you continue to press on, you do have the ability to be the best counselor you are. And last but not least make sure you make time for self care.

-Anna Reynolds

Take it day by day and remember to enjoy your clients and students! There will be so many moments you will cherish.

-Jenna Mollura

Trust the process! Make ambiguity your bff! Be you! Laugh together, like a lot and enjoy "the pigpen" c/o Fall 2014's tagname for the counseling center area (Integration). Have cheerleaders, you're going to need it at times. When you get stuck on papers, purge (your thoughts). Network! This program truly transformed me, I am a “better version of me” as a result of being honest with myself and receiving feedback from others.

2 sayings from professors that I still use: Push through the discomfort & Share your thoughts, your words could help someone have a breakthrough/grow. Best wishes!

-Tausha Hill

Make sure you’re getting enough sleep!

-Jackie Singer

Don’t overlook self care. Even small moments of time can help to let go of stress and energize. Schedule time for self care on your calendar and keep it like you would a doctor’s appointment.

-Renee Anne

Prioritize self-care, Talk with your professors because they want to see you succeed and learn time management.

-Kate Rogers

Fall 2017
Year Graduated and Emphasis:

Graduated May 1989 emphasis in school counseling.

Current Employment and Brief Job Description:

School counselor at Webster Schroeder since 1990. Serve student's academic, emotional and social needs with a team that includes admins, psychologists and social workers. Other duties have included frosh orientation, class adviser, key club and running events like dodge ball and pep rallies.

How the Brockport Counselor Ed. Program Prepared Me for My Work at Site:

Brockport taught me counseling skills, how to analyze student data and how to work through my own “stuff” so that I could be a better counselor. I have also had several interns through the Brockport program that have kept me inspired and renewed!

Recommendations for Current Students:

Enjoy the career and spend time with all of your students. Don't surrender your day to someone else's vision of the job. Emails and meetings have their function but can cripple your student time--so be aware of that.

A Quote that Inspires Me:

"I shall pass through this world but once. Any good that I can do or any kindness that I can show any human being, let me do it now and not defer it....for I shall not pass this way again."
Students in EDC 606 and Implementation II will present their research at the EDC Scholarly Conference on Wednesday, November 29, 2017, from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. This event will be held in the Golden Eagle Room at the downtown MetroCenter Campus. Everyone is welcome to attend! Come and support your fellow classmates!

**MASTER'S CAPSTONE RESEARCH PROJECT AND LITERATURE REVIEW PRESENTERS**

- **Terri Clarke**: The Needs and Perspectives of Parents/Caregivers of Youth Demonstrating Truant Behavior
- **Latrina Green**: The Impact of School Based Health Centers on Ethnic Minority Adolescents’ Awareness, Perception, and Utilization of Mental Health Services
- **Renee Finnemore**: Perceptions of Stress Experienced by Student Athletes in an Education Opportunity Program
- **Amanda Horth**: Relationships & Mental Health: A Qualitative Perspective of Individuals Within the Transgender Community.
- **Jennette Mollura**: School Personnel Attitudes and Knowledge Towards LGBTQ Students
- **Allison Parry-Gurak**: Teacher and Staff Perspectives on the Needs of High School Students who are at Risk of Academic Failure and Truancy
- **Roslyn Phillips**: Microaggressions: The Impact on Student Mental Health
- **Sherry Crumity**: The Impact of Parenting Styles on Elementary Students with Challenging Behaviors
- **Stephanie Purnoske**: The Effectiveness of Counseling for Clients with Intellectual Disabilities
- **Jillian Peer**: Resilience and Adverse Childhood Experiences
- **Jillian Wilton**

**EDC 606 ACTION RESEARCH PROJECTS AND PRESENTERS**

**Creating a Tool to Evaluate Site Supervisors:**
Anna Leo, Joe Simmons, Jayden Wolcott

**Perspectives of Treatment Court Judges On What Causes Change for Court Participants:**
Anthony DeRomanis, Wayne Gandy, Igor Litvinchuk, Charles McKnight

**Mental Health Needs Assessment for Students Attending Brockport, Byron Bergen, Holley, and Kendall Schools:**
Ashli Bifulco, Regina Howland, Mathew Kois, Robert LaVeck

**Brockport University Police Perception of Racial Discrimination Incidents on Campus:**
Elizabeth Bach, Victoria Pardee, Kristofer Rounsville
PREPARING TO INTEGRATE?

Students must apply for EDC 720 during the semester before enrolling. Faculty will then review the application and notify students of their decision during a mandatory meeting. Before entering integration, each student must complete the following:

- Child Abuse Reporting Training: The New York State Mandated Reporter Training is available at http://nysmandatedreporter.org
  Six documented counseling sessions
- For students in the school counseling track: Schools Against Violence in Education (SAVE) training
- For students in the school counseling track: Harassment and Bullying Prevention and Certification Training (DASA)
- Liability Insurance: Become a student member of ACA or ASCA, and they will provide you with professional liability insurance coverage as an additional value-added benefit of membership.

DASA Training (School Counseling Track requirement)

New York State’s Dignity for All Student’s Act (Dignity Act) seeks to provide NYS public elementary and secondary school students with a safe, supportive environment free from discrimination, intimidation, taunting, harassment, and bullying on school property, a school bus and at a school function.

The 6-hour training consists of two parts: Part 1 is a 3-hour online training with accompanying assessment. Part 2 is a 3-hour in-person training. All Part 2 in-person sessions will be held at the SUNY Brockport campus, Brockport, NY.

The training pro-actively addresses the social patterns of harassment, bullying, and discrimination. It is carefully designed to provide participants with the knowledge and skills to create and support an affirming educational environment for all students through addressing school culture and climate. It also includes the identification and mitigation of harassment, bullying and discrimination; and strategies for effectively addressing the problems of exclusion, bias, and aggression in educational settings.

Upcoming dates:

Thursday, October 12, 2017; 5:30 pm—9:00 pm
Monday, November 13, 2017; 5:30 pm—9:00 pm
Wednesday, December 6, 2017; 5:30 pm—9:00 pm
To register for an upcoming session, please go to https://www.brockport.edu/academics/certification/DASA.html

As a Counselor Ed student, you have access to the department’s library of books on topics such as multicultural counseling, substance abuse counseling, group counseling, research and assessment, family therapy, human development, and more. Stop by the Counselor Ed library in Morgan Hall at any time or email Meaghan Hazen at edcga@brockport.edu for information.
WHERE CURRENT STUDENTS ARE NOW

INTEGRATING AT THE COUNSELING CENTER

- Asia Collins
- Anna LaDelfa
- Katherine Rogers
- Stacey Shirley
- Sean Spooner
- Alisha Starks
- Tabitha Vick

IMPLEMENTATION I INTERNSHIP SITE PLACEMENTS

Megan Dingler: Genesee Mental Health
Jillian Flanegan: Wheatland Chili HS
Ashley Glover: Village Elementary School
Meaghan Hazen: Webster Schroeder H.S.
Ellisa Ostrander: Webster Schroeder H.S.
Kristen Randall: Strong Pediatric Behavioral & Wellness Center
Tamara Sheppard: East Irondequoit Middle Sch
Daniel Waldbillig: Brookside Elementary School
Lisa Dorsey: Interim Health Care & Freedom Center
Sally Espinosa: Finger Lakes Community Health Center
Jillian Peer: Catholic Family Charities_Wayne County

IMPLEMENTATION II INTERNSHIP SITE PLACEMENTS

Terri Clarke: Geneva Middle School
Latrina Green: Edison Tech High School, Genesee Mental Health
Renee Finnemore: The Arthur O. Eve Opportunity for Higher Ed Program
Amanda Horth: Trillium Health
Jennette Mollura: Greece Arcadia High School
Allison Parry-Gurak: Royalton-Hartland Central School District,
Roslyn Philips: Hazen Center for Integrated Care
Sherry Crumity: John Kennedy Elementary School
Stephanie Pumoske: Easter Seals
Jillian Wilton: Villa of Hope
Jillain Peer: Catholic Family Center
Katie Rogers
Mental Health Track

What brought you to the field of counseling?
I have always been passionate about helping others and always thought a career in psychology would be interesting. After working at DePaul University for a little over 3 years, I realized that I wanted to work directly with individuals in need of mental health services.

Specific areas of interest?
I am interested in working with anyone within the adult population. Specific areas of interest include those who suffer from severe and persistent mental illness and substance use.

What do you plan to do after you graduate?
After I graduate, I plan on working in an outpatient mental health facility.

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?
In my spare time, I enjoy playing with and walking my dog and working out. Also, I enjoy spending time with my family, boyfriend, friends, and especially my nephew. I also love to cook.

Sean Spooner
School Track

What brought you to the field of counseling?
I've always known I wanted to be in a helping profession. I studied psychology in undergraduate school which really sparked my interest in the mental health field. Child behavior disorders, developmental psychology, and intro to counseling were the 3 classes I took in undergrad that really pointed my interest towards school counseling.

Specific areas of interest?
I am very interested in the impact bullying and cyberbullying has on both parties and bystanders involved, comprehensive bullying prevention plans, and ADHD.

What do you plan to do after you graduate?
Hopefully work as a middle school counselor :)

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?
I try to spend my spare time on self-care which consists of working out at the gym, listening to music, and spending time with friends. I also enjoy snowboarding and spending time outside (especially during the fall)!

Anna Reynolds
Mental Health Track

What brought you to the field of counseling?
My life experiences and traumas that I have gone through. You are welcome to talk about my abusive relationship with my ex husband, cancer cells scare for 3 years and my divorce. Also, my desire to help others who are hurting become the best person they can.

Specific areas of interest?
Working with children and prisoners

What do you plan to do after you graduate?
I hope to work in the Rochester Jail as an LMHC. I hope to bring filial therapy (parent conducted child-centered play therapy) to jails and prisons so that parents who are incarcerated and their children can form stronger and positive relationships.

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?
Cooking, spending time with family and friends, painting and doing random acts of kindness!!!

Anything personal about you that makes you who you are?
Always trying to be the best I can be to every soul I meet and showing them kindness because we never know what their story is.
UPCOMING DIVERSITY EVENTS

Friday, October 27 and Friday November 10, 2017, 7:00 - 9:00 pm, Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church, 4301 Mt. Read Blvd., Rochester, NY

Christian Rainbow Fellowship
A welcoming place to meet other LGBTQ+Christians. Admission: Finger food for 8, ready to serve. RSVP or for more information email: Hans and Linda Irmer, lindagpi8@gmail.com

Thursday, November 16, 3:30 - 5 pm, Eagle's Lookout
Restorative Justice for Community Building

This Community Conversation will focus on nonviolence and its connection to restorative practices, highlighting how Restorative Justice incorporates a set of skills and techniques that have the power to build community, understanding, and creating a safe place for healing to happen - not only victims, but offenders as well. The conversation will feature Maria Engels and Kit Miller Youth Educator and Director, M.K. Gandhi Institute for Nonviolence, Rochester, NY.

Campus Accessibility and Disability Rights Training

Full Training coming Spring 2018. For fall semester contact the Committee of Disability and Access for invited speakers and trainings at diversity@brockport.edu

Editorial

Newsletter Editor: Meaghan Hazen
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Rafael Outland
Contributors: Katie Rogers, Sean Spooner, Ty Lambert, Anna Reynolds, Kayla Casper, Jenna Mollura, Joshuan Veiro, Victoria Pardee, Roslyn Phillips, Dan Waldbillig, Renee Anne, Tausha Hill, KT LaPorta, Elissa Ostrander, Jackie Singer, Jenna Mollura Dr. Rafael Outland, Dr. Amy Gaesser, Dr. Claudette Brown-Smythe, Dr. Summer Reiner, & Dr. Bob Dobmeier. Thank you all!

Have questions about the department newsletter? Suggestions? Please email edcga@brockport.edu. This is your newsletter and we welcome your contributions.