Fall 2007

Counselor Education Corner: A Newsletter of the Department of Counselor Education

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Dear Students,

Welcome to the 2007 – 2008 academic year. Exciting things are happening in the Department of Counselor Education. Our new MS in Mental Health Counseling program began this fall semester. We are pleased to say it is in high demand, with 20 students transferring to the program and six new students selecting that program. We have also made changes to the curriculum that impacts all students. We are now offering our own course in Research and Program. We also created two new courses: Counseling in School Settings and Counseling in Mental Health Settings. We believe that the content of these courses reflects the current state of the counseling profession and will increase your knowledge and skills.

As you already know, we have two new faculty members in our department: Dr. Bob Dobmeier and Dr. Summer Reiner. During our faculty search last year, we looked carefully for faculty who could bring needed knowledge and skills to the department. Dr. Dobmeier brings extensive experience in mental health counseling and administration and Dr. Reiner has solid experience in school counseling. They also bring much energy, enthusiasm and new ideas and innovative teaching approaches with them.

I want to inform you that the Department has been granted permission to search for another faculty line. We will be advertising for that line shortly and reviewing applicant files this fall. We plan to bring in candidates in the beginning of the spring semester. We always involve students in our interview process and look forward to their feedback.

The other important item on the Department’s agenda is accreditation. Currently, we are involved in writing our CACREP self-study. The self-study will be submitted to CACREP in the spring semester and we will have a CACREP site visit sometime fall 2008. Additionally, the school counselor emphasis is accredited by NCATE. Their site visit is scheduled for April 2008. We will be talking with our school counselor students about their involvement in that visit.

Let me end this column by saying that I hope that you are having a wonderful semester. I also hope that you have time to take care of yourself and to enjoy the wonderful weather we are having.

Susan Seem
Department Chair
EDC 690: MARRIAGE AND FAMILY COUNSELING

In the spring the program will offer Marriage and Family Counseling, a survey course that will examine family systems theory and other conceptual frameworks, the predominant schools and trends in the family therapy field, and the clinical application of family therapy strategies. Students will view videotape of master family therapists demonstrating various approaches to family and marital problems. Students will also examine other relevant topics such as the family life cycle and development, cultural differences and the role of the self-of-the-therapist in clinical practice. This course is relevant for students enrolled in college, school and mental health counseling. Whether or not you will even do marriage and family counseling, systems theory and framework will help you think contextually about your individual clients.

This course will be taught by David B. Seaburn, Ph.D., who is the Director of the Family Support Center, a free family counseling service in the Spencerport Central School District. Prior to coming to Spencerport Schools in 2005, Dr. Seaburn was Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Family Medicine at the University of Rochester Medical Center, where he was the Director of the Family Therapy Training Program, Director of the Psychosocial Medicine Rotation and a National Research Services Award (NRSA) Fellow. Dr. Seaburn has published extensively, including two books, and has presented nationally and internationally. Dr. Seaburn is also a graduate of this department.

NEW CLASS OFFERED IN SUMMER, 2008

The Use of Expressive Arts in Counseling will be offered next summer (2008) by Mardie Howe Rossi, MA, LMHC. Expressive Arts is the use of art, music, poetry, movement, and drama to help clients/consumers identify and express thoughts and feelings, and gain new insight into existing and past issues. This process leads to healing, new creative solutions, and the development of resiliency. Expressive Arts is a research-based practice that is used in a multitude of settings such as schools, hospitals, agencies, and in private counseling practices. Counselors who use the Expressive Arts do NOT have to be skilled in any of the arts. This experiential class will teach the skills of facilitating the arts in counseling with individuals and groups of all ages.

Mardie Howe Rossi has been using the Expressive Arts in a variety of treatment settings for over 15 years. She has advanced training in Expressive Arts Therapy through the European Graduate School’s Expressive Arts CAGS program, and Glass Lake Studio in Albany, NY. She teaches Expressive Arts Therapy at SUNY Oswego and is currently a doctoral student in Counselor Education at the University of Rochester. Dates and times of this class are still to be determined.

YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW & ACADEMIC POLICIES HANDBOOK

Students should check out the important student-related policies in this Your Right to Know and Academic Policies Handbook. The policies address various aspects of graduate student life and can be found on the web at: www.brockport.edu/publications/yrtk. The handbook is comprised of the following topics:

Chapter 1: Planning Your Academic Program
Chapter 2: Registration, Course work and Degree Completion
Chapter 3: Grades, Transcripts, Academic Honors, Dismissal Policies and Financial Aid Standards
Chapter 4: Student Rights
Chapter 5: Codes of Student Social Conduct
Chapter 6: Addressing Hazing at SUNY Brockport
Chapter 7: Important Policies and Student Appeal Procedures
Chapter 8: Health
Chapter 9: The College Campus Safety Report
Chapter 10: Living on Campus
Chapter 11: Other College Policies
Chapter 12: Definitions
On October 25-27 the New York Counseling Association (NYCA) held its annual conference at the Clarion Riverside Hotel in Rochester. The theme of the conference was Counselors Uniting to Nurture the Ties that Bind Us. Counselors from across New York State gathered together to be united, to network, and to discover what is new on the horizon. NYCA is the state arm of the American Counseling Association, the national organization that advocates for counselors, the counseling field, and the clients that we serve. Students from the SUNY Brockport Counselor Education Department attended. There were some excellent topics covered in the presentations and workshops including the role of high school counselors, diversity, cyber bullying, health and obesity in school aged children, job searching, school violence and peer mediation, working with autism, and mental health in the schools. Dr. Summer Reiner conducted a best practices session on Teacher Perceptions of the ASCA defined role of the school counselor. Dr. Bob Dobmeier conducted a workshop on Spirituality and mental health. Dr. Susan Seem was a member of a panel that addressed unity in the counseling field. Students can join NYCA for $25 and an additional $10 to participate in the mental health, school, or college divisions. For more information about NYCA go to: http://www.nycounseling.org/
The Department of Counselor Education offers a workshop once a semester on Child Abuse Reporting and SAVE Training. Students in the school counselor emphasis are required to have Child Abuse Reporting and SAVE Training. Students enrolled in the college counseling emphasis and in the mental health counseling program are required to take Child Abuse Reporting. Remember, you must complete this requirement before you enter EDC 720: Integration and Application of Counseling Concepts.

At the workshop, you will be required to sign in and out, and fill out a certificate form. The workshop instructor will forward those forms to the Certification contact person at Brockport. You will be sent a Certificate of Completion and SAVE Training and/or Child Abuse Reporting will be listed on your transcript.

If you have already taken this training and have a Certificate of Completion, you do not need to attend a workshop. You WILL, however, be required to provide your advisor with a copy of your certificate/s. Your advisor will forward the copy to the Certification contact person at Brockport. SAVE Training and/or Child Abuse Reporting, in this instance, will not be listed on your transcript.

If you have any questions about whether or not you should attend a Department workshop, please contact your advisor.

My name is Michael Cross, a Counseling Education graduate from 2003 and current President of Nu Chapter, Chi Sigma Iota, the international honor society for counseling professionals. I wish to extend an open invitation to all current Counseling Education students to attend one of our monthly Saturday morning get-togethers. We call these events Coffee Talks. We gather in one the Salon rooms at SUNY Metro Center for coffee, juice, bagels, fruit, and a sharing of ideas, challenges, experiences, and helpful dialogues. Sometimes we have an agenda for a topic, and sometimes we open the floor for anyone to bring up a topic that they want to share or elicit information about. These events tend to be very lively. We welcome all students, including non-members, to join us every first Saturday of the month beginning at 9:45 am.

Past coffee talks have touched on issues that have implications for all counselors. We strive for inclusiveness in the discussions. Last year, one particularly enjoyable and informative discussion was centered around gifts, and gifting between counselors and clients. We have also talked about multi-cultural issues, working productively with administrative supervisors or school officials, and other numerous topics. These Coffee Talks would be of particular interest to students entering Integration and Implementation classes, as you begin to see more challenging issues.

I also wanted to briefly mention that we are holding a half-day workshop geared towards helping the indecisive client in a career, college, or guidance setting. The workshop will feature sector-specific breakout groups so that community, college, and school counselors will find something of interest to his or her chosen field. This will be held at Metro Center Saturday, Nov. 17th. Keep your eyes peeled for more information to be distributed via student emails and department bulletin boards. This promises to be a valuable workshop. Dr. Tom Hernandez will be our keynote speaker and session presenter.

Mark your calendars for our meetings, and please feel free to attend any of them as we move through this academic year. Come and see what professionals in the field have to offer. Come and share some food and drink. Come and see what Nu Chapter is all about.

Michael Cross
President of Nu Chapter, Chi Sigma Iota
SUNY College at Brockport recently welcomed Phyllis Griswold MSEd/NCC/LMHC to the Office of Career Services as a career counselor. In her new position, Griswold will serve graduate students and develop career services for alumni, both on the Brockport campus and at the Career Services Satellite Center at the MetroCenter.

"A best practice trend in higher education is bridging the efforts of Career Services with Alumni Relations. The Career Services Satellite Center will be a resource for Brockport alumni, whether they are seeking help in their own career development, or seeking to hire Brockport graduates to strengthen their organization or firm. We are delighted to add Phyllis to the Career Services team to better serve and engage our alumni," said Claire VanDenBerghe, assistant vice president for enrollment management and student affairs and director of career services.

Griswold has more than 10 years experience counseling diverse/international college students and adults in personal, academic and career-related areas. She has a unique blend of both counseling and business skills. She has had two companies of her own and most recently completed five years in outplacement where she successfully transitioned hundreds of former employees to new positions or retirement. She worked at two corporate career centers at Eastman Kodak Company and Corning Inc.

"I think I bring a ‘real world' view of the opportunities and challenges that exist in the job market today. This perspective is due to extensive experience in sales, marketing, counseling and career development/management," said Griswold. "I know what employers are looking for in a viable candidate. I can help the SUNY Brockport students and alumni to find their true career path and to package their unique strengths and abilities for ultimate success."

Griswold earned both a master of science in education: career education (’99) and a bachelor of arts in art history/photography (’73) from SUNY Brockport. She is a National Certified Counselor and a Licensed Mental Health Counselor. Griswold resides in Rochester with her husband.

SUCCESS IN INDIANA

Indiana House Bill 1821 became law, effective July 1, 2007. This law reversed a 1997 decision authorizing the Indiana Psychology Board to create a Restricted Test List (RTL), a list of instruments that could only be administered by licensed psychologists or those supervised by them.

NBCC and the Fair Access Coalition on Testing (FACT) advocated strongly against all of the proposed RTLs, supporting professionals’ right to administer and interpret assessment instruments as long as they possess the appropriate training and experience. FACT, a multidisciplinary and nonprofit organization, is housed in NBCC headquarters. FACT organized a coalition of state and national organizations to block the formation of an RTL, and repeal the language permitting the creation of such a list. Counseling organizations involved in the coalition were the American Counseling Association, the American Mental Health Counselors Association, the Indiana School Counselors Association, and the Indiana Mental Health Counselors Association.

The Coalition argued that state licensure boards are responsible for adjudicating complaints about professionals providing services outside their scope of training, including allegations of test misuse. Over the past ten years, this coalition of state and national organizations has worked to educate government officials about the importance of citizens’ accessibility to appropriately trained professionals. Without these collective efforts, a repeal of the RTL legislation would not have succeeded.
On-Site Technical Support:
- Two technology staff members and a member of Drake Library (2.5 FTE) are assigned to the MetroCenter to provide on-site instructional and administrative technical support. An effort is made to have at least one of these technology staff members available during the period when most classes are running.

Library Access:
- An on-site member of Drake Library is available for research, consultations and may be contacted to arrange in-class demonstrations on how to effectively use Drake Library’s resources. This staff member also assists with some technology support
- Internet access to Drake Memorial Library and many online databases such as JSTOR & LEXIS-NEXIS may be found at www.brockport.edu/library/
- Rochester Public Library (Central Library)
  - LIBRA (Library Information Bridge for the Rochester Area) on-line library services may be found at www.rochester.lib.ny.us/

Internet/Network Access:
- Point-to-point T1 connection to SUNY Brockport main campus
- Student access computers are minimally 2 gHz Pentium IV
- WIFI (wireless sub-network completed 9/21/07)
  - Authenticated wireless printing is being considered

Computer Access:
- Windows environment (all student computers and print jobs are authenticated access)
- 16 stations located in open areas throughout the third and fourth floors of the facility and walkup stations
- Open access for SUNY Brockport students and faculty during facility operating hours. Systems shut down 45 minutes before closing time
- Macs are not supported
- Instructional labs in rooms 341 and 342 have 25 and 18 student stations and one instructor station respectively
- Currently there are eight (8) mobile computers with LCD projectors
- In class Web based demonstrations
  - Seven “Smart Carts”

Other technology services also available

Instructional Technology/AV:
- Most classrooms are wired for network/internet access
- TV/VHS VCR in most classrooms
- Overhead projectors are in most classrooms
- Available upon request:
  - DVD players (some rooms have VCR/DVD combo units)
  - Audio cassette recorders
  - VHS camcorders
- LCD projector for use with notebook computers
- Telecourse videos (VHS & DVD) formerly housed at the SUNY Resource Center are now located for viewing at the MetroCenter.

Faculty Space:
- Some faculty have departmental offices located at the MetroCenter
- Working space is provided for associate (adjunct) faculty
- Office technology is provided for faculty to use much as they would have in their main campus office space

Technical support is extended to faculty through individual consultation ranging from “what should I buy” to sharing expertise in areas of technological interest.
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 an educational expense grant ($500.00) annually, 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 SUNY Brockport and may not receive the award in cash. To be eligible for this award, the student must:

- Be accepted in the Masters of Education program in Counselor Education
- Demonstrate academic excellence as judged by the department
- Have completed EDC 501 or 502 or 503 Self in Society and hold a GPA of 3.0 or higher at the time of the application
- 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 criteria in #1-4 above.

If you are interested in applying for this award you must send a one page letter to Dr. Summer Reiner addressing why the department should grant you this award. The deadline is April 1, 2008. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 395-5497 or via email at sreiner@brockport.edu.

**INVITATION FOR APPLICANTS: ASGW PEG CARROLL SCHOLARSHIP**

The ASGW Awards Committee invites applicants for the $2,000 scholarship given annually to honor Marguerite “Peg” Carroll, former ASGW President and pioneer in group work. The purpose of the award is to support the study of group work and further the understanding of group dynamics. Any student interested in the field of group work is eligible for consideration by the ASGW Awards Committee. Applicants are requested to respond to the following questions:

- There are many types of group experiences such as: therapeutic and/or counseling, decision-making, task oriented, psycho-analysis, quality circles, classroom meetings, etc. What area interests you the most and why?
- Where would you obtain training in your area of interest? Be specific in respect to trainers, institutions, workshop sponsors, etc. In addition, describe your intended degree program, if it applies.
- In what setting(s) and with what population do you hope to use your expertise?
- How do you plan to assess if you and your groups are making progress? Have you had any experience with these evaluation tools? Explain fully.
- List the types of groups in which you have participated. Describe their duration and the positive and negative aspects of each experience and your role (participant, leader, intern, etc.).
- Describe your participation in professional organizations related to group work.

The application should have a cover sheet with name, address, home and work phone numbers, e-mail address, social security number, and the names and contact information of three professional references who are familiar with the applicant’s work with groups. These letters should address topics such as group counseling skills, evidence of ethical behavior, and evidence of professional commitment and potential, and should be forwarded directly from the recommendation source to the address listed below and must be received by January 31, 2008. Electronic submissions are preferred and may be submitted via email (attachment) to: kelly.mcdonnell@wmich.edu. Submissions via regular mail should include three (3) typed and double spaced copies of the application to: Kelly McDonnell, Ph.D., Western Michigan University, Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology, 3102 Sangren Hall, Kalamazoo, MI 49008. Applications must be received by January 31, 2008. The scholarship recipient will be announced at the ASGW Luncheon at the ACA Conference in Honolulu, Hawaii. Recipients must be (or become) members of ASGW.
JUSTIN RYAN is a Graduate Assistant for the Counselor Education Department in 2007-2008. He received an undergraduate degree from SUNY Brockport in December 2006, with a double major in Criminal Justice and Sociology, and a minor in Psychology. He was accepted into the Counselor Education program in the spring semester of 2006, and he is currently in his last year of the program. He is in the school counseling track and interns at the Brockport Central School District where he splits his time between the A.D. Oliver Middle school and the High School. After graduation he plans to either start working in a middle school as a school counselor, or go on for a PhD and eventually teach at the college level.

As a graduate assistant for the Department of Counselor Education Justin provides support to faculty and students in a variety of ways. It does include tasks that may be considered less exciting, such as doing a lot of typing on the computer, or photo copying endless amounts of documents. However, he is also involved in tasks that are pretty interesting. He has been researching high tech camcorders for the Department for the Integration class next semester. Justin assists faculty with scholarly research, analyzes program evaluation data, and is involved in the registration process for the 2007 WNYSCC (Western New York State School Counselors Consortium, www.WNYSCC.org) Conference, which, he states, students should attend!

Speaking of students, Justin also provides assistance to all of you. He helps to maintain the Graduate Room, which houses a host of resources that students are welcome to use, such as books and journals pertaining to the field of counseling, reference texts, and student thesis projects since 1999. He will also be involved in conducting a study concerning the employment status of past graduates, as well as maintaining a list of recent and past graduates who are looking for positions. Justin offers that if you have any questions, or if he can be of help, stop by room 183 of the Brown Building to see him.

JAMES KATES is also a Graduate Assistant for the Counselor Education Department for 2007-2008. James is currently majoring in the school counseling track and hopes to graduate in December 2007. He is doing an internship at Wilson Commencement of past graduates, as well as maintaining a list of recent and past graduates who are looking for positions. Justin offers that if you have any questions, or if he can be of help, stop by room 183 of the Brown Building to see him.

James enters data for completed Department theses. He provides information about the program to people who call. He administers the candidates’ recording interview session as well as writing samples for candidates who have completed the second interview process. James shares that he is involved in a music ministry. He sings and leads praise and worship at his church. He also sings in a gospel group called Exalted. James states that music has been an inspiration to him since the age of five. He also enjoys traveling and being around relatives and friends. He is also into the arts. His strength is being creative!

SUSAN SEEM, PHD, NCC, LMHC, ACS. Susan continues to work on her book with two other authors, An introduction to feminist counseling and psychotherapy. She is presenting with Tom Hernandez at the American Counseling Association Conference in March 2008 - Feminist Therapy: A modality for men too. Susan is a member of ACA's Professional Standards Committee and is a Board Trustee of the Association for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered Issues in Counseling. Recently, she has gotten back into sewing and quilting, which she loves. Susan says that she love colors, fabrics and textures.

THOMAS HERNANDEZ, EDD, LMHC Tom was invited to present Time Management techniques for mental health counselors to The Center for Youth, Rochester, NY in June 2007. A safe school climate: A systemic approach and the school Counselor was an invited paper presented at the Oxford Symposium on School-based Family Counseling, Hong Kong, China, June 2007. Tom was invited to present Communicating about career: Learning to listen and College and career decision-making: Trusting the process at the College Information Night of the Webster Central School District in March 2006. He was invited to co-present with Susan Seem Licensure in New York: The big “?” for school counselors to Operation Inform Conference, Brockport, NY, in October 2006. Tom was invited to present The career development of graduate student interns in school counseling, and co-presented Data dialogue: Assessments methods for school counselors to the New York State School Counselor Association, Lake George, NY, in November 2006. Tom co-presented with Susan Seem Ongoing growth and development for school counselors: Peer support and supervision, and Getting the most from your graduate internship at the Western New York School Counselors Consortium, Rochester, NY in January 2007. He co-presented with Susan Seem Understanding self and power: Meanings in the diagnostic endeavor. to the North Atlantic Regional Association of Counselor Education and Supervision, Lake George, NY, October 2006.

SUNY COLLEGE AT BROCKPORT

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SUMMER REINER, PHD, LMHC, NCC. Summer published in Adultspan Journal fall 2007, A literature review of religious and/or spiritual concerns at end-of-life: Counseling implications. Summer also has an article and a chapter in press. Creating data-driven curriculum through collaborations among multi-layered partnerships is co-authored and has been accepted by the NYS School Counselor Association Journal; Ethics in substance abuse counseling in Stevens, P. & Smith, R. L. (Eds.), Substance abuse counseling (4th ed.) is in press with Prentice Hall. Summer will co-present Breathe in, breathe out: Leisure development and planning throughout the lifespan at the March 2008 American Counseling Association Annual Conference in Honolulu, Hawaii. She presented poster sessions on School counselors-in-training: Proposing solutions to critical issues in transforming school counseling and on Co-residence caregiving of aging parents at the 2007 American Counseling Association Annual Conference in Detroit. Summer presented School counseling and lifespan development at the 2007 Association for Adult Development and Aging Mini-Conference in Beaumont, TX. She has been accepted to do a best practices presentation Teacher perceptions of the ASCA defined role of the school counselor at the New York Counseling Association Annual Conference in Rochester, NY, in October 2007 and Communicating with parents and students at Nu Chapter, Chi Sigma Iota event in November 2007. Summer was recognized as an Emerging Leader of the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision and invited to participate in an emerging leader workshop in 2007. Summer enjoys golf, dancing, crafting and spending time with family and friends.

ROBERT DOBMEIER, PHD, LMHC, CRC. Bob presented Treatment of individuals with mental illness and chemical abuse to clinical staff at the Cattaraugus County Council on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse in August 2007. He co-presented Treatment of mentally ill offenders to judges and magistrates in Cattaraugus County in July 2007. Bob presented Dealing with loss and grief to the Cattaraugus County Department of Social Services in November 2006. He presented Recovery from mental illness to the Cattaraugus County Mental Health Association Board of Directors in November 2006. Bob led the planning and organization of a Treatment of eating disorders conference at St. Bonaventure University in March 2007. He will present on Spirituality and mental health at the October 2007 New York State Counseling Association Annual Conference in Rochester, NY. Bob was recognized by the Cattaraugus Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services Board of Directors for outstanding community leadership in November 2006. Bob enjoys basketball, hiking, and playing guitar.

I would like to thank everyone that contributed to the newsletter. A special thanks goes to Dr. Summer Reiner for her laying out the format of the newsletter.

Newsletter Editor: Robert Dobmeier

If you have any questions, comments, or submissions, please contact me at: rdobmeie@brockport.edu