

## IN THIS ISSUE

### FRONT PAGE

- Welcome
- Counselor Identity

Success is... 2  
Ph.D. Grad.  
Employment

2009 2  
CE Day

Program 2  
Updates

Research - 3  
Comparative  
Analysis

Kudos

CSI 3

Grief, Loss & 3  
Found

Save the Date 4

The REACH 4  
Project

# Counselor EdUcaTION

# News

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

SPRING 2010

## Welcome

### Dr. Marianne Woodside, Professor, Counselor Education

**Academic** scholarship, exciting programs, and counseling activities compose the heart of the counselor education community. We are committed to a strong professional counselor identity and social justice. In this issue you can read about how the Chi Sigma Iota Counseling Honor Society, the Grief Outreach Initiative, and counseling projects supported by grant activities support our values related to helping those in need.

With an eye to accountability, the mental health counseling, school counseling, and counselor educator doctoral programs launched two

evaluation and assessment efforts this past year. First, we received feedback from students, alumni, site supervisors, advisory board members, and employers of our graduates related to performance of our students and our work as educators. Second, during December 2009, the counselor education faculty systematically evaluated the curriculum using information such as applicant and admitted student characteristics, student classroom performance, and the development of professional identity and personal dispositions related to sound counselor development.

Finally, we have good news that relates to our professional standing in the counseling community. The Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Programs (CACREP) fully accredited and commended our Mid-Cycle Program Review. ◇



*Enjoy the newsletter and stay involved!*

## Counselor Identity Unified or Diversified

### Dr. Jeannine Studer, Professor, Counselor Education

**Professional** counselors possess a distinct set of skills, knowledge, and behaviors, yet the public often perceives *weight-loss counselors*, *financial counselors* or even *camp counselors* as similar to those of us who are credentialed members of the counseling profession. To standardize our counseling identity, the American Counseling Association (ACA) embarked on a recent initiative known as 20/20: *A Vision for the Future of Counseling*. Although uni-

fication is a laudable goal, not all counselor professionals agree with the principles outlined in this proposal. For example, the American School Counselor Association



(ASCA) did not support this initiative due to the belief that the principles do not adequately define the identity of the profession of

counseling, or how counseling is differentiated from other helping professionals.

There is strength when all counselors speak with one voice and communicate how the title of "counselor" represents a distinct professional skill set. Yet, many within the counseling profession express concern whether this goal can be realistically achieved without addressing the special skills that are required for the various counseling specialty areas. ◇

## SUCCESS is...

**Counselor Education Ph.D.** graduates have been very successful securing employment despite a tough economy. Recent graduates are employed around the southeastern United States and beyond. We wish them great success in their new careers! We're very proud of our graduates and their accomplishments. ◇

<u>Graduate</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Institution</u>	<u>State</u>
Dr. Aaron Oberman	2005	Assistant Professor	The Citadel Military Institute	SC
Dr. Laura Hebert	2007	Professional School Counselor	Seymour Elementary School	TN
Dr. Alex Gnillka	2007	Licensed Professional Counselor	CHCS	NC
Dr. Ellen Carruth	2008	Professional Counselor	SMH	WA
Dr. Cyndi Crawford	2008	Assistant Professor	The Citadel Military Institute	SC
Dr. Denis' Thomas	2009	Assistant Professor	Lindsey Wilson College	KY
Dr. Whitney Jarnigan	2009	Assistant Professor	Walter State Community College	TN
Dr. Tara Jungersen	2009	Assistant Professor	Nova Southeastern University	FL
Dr. Chad Luke	2009	Associate Dean	Lehigh Carbon Community College	PA
Dr. Carolyn Hacker	2009	Assistant Professor	Carson-Newman College	TN
Ms. Marinn Pierce	ABD	Assistant Professor	University of Great Falls	MT

## SUCCESS is...

**Tara Jungersen & Angie Fuss'**  
ACA presentations were selected as Blue Ribbon presentations.  
**Angie Fuss** received the 2009 Yates Dissertation Fellowship.



**Alumni at the UT Counselor Education Reception, 2009 TCA Conference in Chattanooga**



## 2009 Counselor Education Day

Over 40 prospective students attended the 2009 Counselor Education Day, held on October 9<sup>th</sup> at the UT Visitor's Center! Lunch and live music were provided during an informal meet and greet. During this time, program posters and information were made available while representatives from admissions, the graduate school and financial aid were on hand to answer questions and provide information. During the formal address, Dr. Carolyn Hodges, Dean of the



Graduate School, and Dr. Bob Rider, Dean of the College of Education, Health and Human Sciences, greeted and welcomed guests to the event. A student panel addressed the

group regarding their experiences in their respective programs and faculty highlighted program goals and objectives. The event ended with levity and laughter as attendees won door prizes. Those interested took a campus tour following the event. Counselor Education Day 2010 is scheduled for Fall 2010. (More details will be announced as plans are finalized). ◇

## Program Updates - '08-'09 in Review

**Mental Health Counseling.** Recent MHCP graduates have fanned out across the country, taken choice counseling positions, are on track for licensure, and are making a positive difference in the lives of persons and communities in need. In 2009 we had about 60 applicants for 13 openings. We have established a number of new

partnerships for practicum student and interns: addictions treatment programs, child and adolescent treatment centers, the Knox County Juvenile Court, and MANE Support (an equine assisted treatment center).

**School Counseling.** Graduates are respected as professional resources and contribute by

serving as officers in the SMCA and TCA and presenting at conferences.

**Ph.D. Counselor Education.** Faculty revised program curriculum. Students worked collaboratively with faculty resulting in nine conference presentations and 11 publications. ◇

## A Comparative Analysis of CACREP & JCD

J. Diambra, M. Gibbons, J. Cochran, S. Spurgeon, W. Jarnigan, & P. Wynn

The Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) approved new guidelines in 2009. One of the flagship journals, *Journal of Counseling and Development* (JCD) informs students about issues facing counselors. Three Counselor Educators and two doctoral students compare this journal's articles to the CACREP guidelines. We reviewed 538 articles published from 1997-2006 to CACREP's eight core areas

and assigned the articles to each core area. The highest area with the most articles was in the area of Human Growth and Development and Helping Relationships. Second were in the area of Social and Cultural Diversity and Professional Orientation. The least number of articles were in Assessment, Career Development, Research and Program Evaluation, and Group Work.

In a similar study, group counseling and vocational development received the

most attention (William & Buboltz, 1999). Our findings demonstrated considerably less focus on these areas over the last 10 years. Clearly, shifts in the literature have occurred over the past 25 years. Through our research findings, we hope to encourage further discussion of the match, contrast, and complimentary natures of JCD and CACREP. ♦

## Chi Sigma Iota - Upsilon Theta Chapter

Blair Mynatt, President CSI



UTK's Chi Sigma Iota (CSI) chapter is looking forward to a productive and busy spring semester. After obtaining data from the students in the mental health and school counseling programs, a desire to have a community of peers emerged as one of the most important needs for students during their graduate training. Also important was the opportunity to participate in service-learning projects.

CSI continues to evolve to meet the needs of masters level students, doctoral students, counseling faculty and staff. These needs will be at the forefront of our goals and mission. Did you know that the strongest predictor of mental health is one's level of social support? Come and strengthen your own mental health with us this semester and increase your sense of friends and family. ♦

We have added several social events and a chapter-wide service project. All events are open to all counseling students and faculty. ♦

**GET INVOLVED**

Contact  
[bmynatt@utk.edu](mailto:bmynatt@utk.edu)  
 & check out our  
[CSI Facebook page](#)

## Grief, Loss & Found

Dr. Tricia McClam, Professor & Associate Head

Countless children experience loss and grief in the Knoxville area on a daily basis. Death, divorce, imprisonment, violent acts and relocation are some of the factors that lead to children experiencing loss and grief. Dr. McClam directs and EPC students provide counseling to Knoxville area children through the Grief Outreach Initiative, an idea sparked by Dr. Bob Rider, Dean of the College of Education, Health and Human Sciences. The initiative began in October 2008 and faculty and students have already provided services to dozens of children in our area. If you're interested in serving in this initiative, contact Dr. McClam at [mcclam@utk.edu](mailto:mcclam@utk.edu) ♦



## Kudos

Chancellor's Honors  
 2009 - Excellence in  
 Teaching Award  
**Dr. Shawn Spurgeon**



Donald Hood Student  
 Research Award  
 Recipient  
**Marinn Pierce**



## Alumni Accolades

**Jen Beckler**  
 SMCA & TCA  
 2009 Middle School  
 Counselor of the Year

**Kat Coy**  
 SMCA & TCA  
 2009 High School  
 Counselor of the Year

## SAVE the DATE



- March 2** 3:30 CSI Business Meeting, Claxton Complex 412
- March 4** 5:30-7:30 SMCA Mtg., Diversity, Calhoun's, Bearden Hill
- March 23** 7-9 CSI Bowling, Down Under (UC Basement)
- March 29** 3:30-4:30 Research Seminar, Dr. Vince Anfara: Mixed Method Research Design. BEC 242
- April 8** 3:30 CSI Business Meeting, Claxton Complex 412
- April 12** 3:30-4:30 Research Seminar, Dr. Chris Skinner: Single Subject Design, BEC 242
- April 23** 4-6 CSI Awards Ceremony & Initiation, Welcome Center Followed by End of Semester Celebration, Barley's
- April 30** CSI Executive Board Training
- May 6** 5:30-7:30 SMCA Awards Banquet, Calhoun's Bearden Hill
- May 13** 4:30pm Graduate Hooding Ceremony, Thompson-Boling Arena

\*CSI March Spring Service Project— TBA

## Counselor Education

Educational Psychology and Counseling  
525 Jane & David Bailey Education Complex  
1122 Volunteer Boulevard  
Knoxville, Tennessee 37996-3452  
Phone: 865-974-8145  
Fax: 865-974-0135  
<http://web.utk.edu/~edpsych/default.html>



Counselor Education  
Doctoral Students  
Engaged in Supervision Class

## Grant Award - The REACH Project

Dr. Jeff Cochran, Associate Professor, & Dr. Bob Kronick, Professor, Counselor Education

**REACH** (Relationship Enhancement and Child Harmony) is a project Drs. Jeff Cochran and Bob Kronick developed as a result of receiving a first year grant award of \$44,000 from the Tennessee Commission of Children



and Youth and the Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention, Federal Formula Grant. They will provide and research mental health counseling services at a local

elementary school that serves a large percentage of high-risk children in an urban community. Jeff Cochran serves as the director, Bob Kronick as the co-director. Nancy Cochran serves as the

treatment coordinator, Ashley McIntyre as the mental health counselor, and Lindy Cohen as the REACH Project intern. Drs. Shawn Spurgeon and Melinda Gibbons are Counselor Education faculty who are lending vital assistance to the project. Early outcome measures are indicating very good progress for the children and families served. The primary goal is to prevent juvenile delinquency and disproportionate minority youth contact in the juvenile court system. We have seen great behavioral and school success for the children served and are strengthening families. The services feature child-centered play therapy, parent skills training, and peer-to-peer conflict resolution services.

Funding is expected for three years.

However, grant funding for such projects is always in short supply. Donations aimed at expanding or continuing this project could be made through the UTK College of Education, Health and Human Sciences Development Office and Jeff Cochran.

There are many opportunities for collaboration for those who may want to join the REACH Project in helping to make our community an ever better place. ♦

