



# Reflections

News from the  
Old Dominion University  
Darden College of Education  
Counseling Programs  
Spring Semester 2007

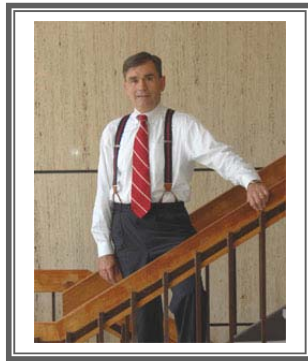
Photo by J. Rundle

## ODU Launches Counseling Doctoral Program

For years, the faculty and staff of the Darden College of Education have been discussing the exciting possibilities of expanding ODU's counseling programs to include doctoral studies. In the fall of 2005, Drs. Nina Brown, Radha Horton-Parker, Alan "Woody" Schwitzer, and Suzan Thompson formed a committee specifically for the purpose of developing proposals for both a future Counseling doctoral program and a new Mental Health track for master's-level studies. The rest of our faculty then reviewed these proposals, which carefully adhered to all of the detailed standards for accreditation set by CACREP.

In March of 2006, the doctoral program proposal was approved and slated to begin in the spring of 2007. And here we are! Under the current direction of Dr. Ted Remley, the inaugural class of PhD candidates consists of 8 full-time doctoral students with assistantships and 3 part-time students.

As if this good news weren't enough, University funding has provided these pioneers with full tuition waivers and, for those with assistantships, yearly stipends of \$22,500 each! How's that for incentive for the rest of us to continue our studies in counseling here at Old Dominion University? We have many reasons to be very proud!



**Dr. Dana Burnett**

### Leadership and Counseling Welcome Dr. Dana Burnett

Dr. Dana Burnett is chair and professor of higher education in the department of leadership and counseling at Old Dominion University. Burnett brings 37 years of experience in student affairs administration to the division. He has been with ODU, filling many diverse positions of increasing responsibility, since 1972. Since joining the university, Burnett has worked as the director of financial aid, placement director, dean of students and vice president since 1986. Burnett is active in many professional associations including the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and the American College Personnel Association. He has contributed to several scholarly journals in the student affairs field and given more than 40 professional presentations. He has also served on the board of directors for several local civic organizations, such as Norfolk FestEvents, Junior Achievement and the Norfolk Rotary Club. Prior to coming to Old Dominion University, Burnett served as a financial aid counselor at Indiana University. He served two tours of duty during the Vietnam War and currently holds the rank of Captain, U.S. Naval Reserve (Retired). He completed both master and doctorate degrees at Indiana University. His research interests include academic integrity, college student success and parents of college students.



**Dr. Ted Remley**

### Table of Contents

Counseling Programs and Leadership.....	1
ODU Welcomes Doctoral Students.....	2
Upcoming Conferences, Events and Academic Deadlines.....	3
The Faculty: "A Very Strong Team".....	4

Design and Edit by Jennifer Rundle

### Doctoral Program Led by Batten Scholar

Dr. Theodore P. Remley, Jr. has been named the Batten Endowed Chair in counseling, and professor of educational leadership and counseling. The endowed chair in counseling was funded by Frank Batten's \$32-million gift to Old Dominion University. The goal of the Batten endowment is to attract outstanding scholars to the university and to support their research. Remley holds a Ph.D. in counselor education from the University of Florida and a law degree (J.D.) from Catholic University in Washington, D.C. He is licensed as a professional counselor in Virginia, Louisiana and Mississippi, and is a member of the bar in Virginia and Florida. He is also a national certified counselor. Remley has chaired the counselor licensure boards in Virginia and Mississippi and has served on the counselor licensure boards in Washington, D.C., and Louisiana. He is a former executive director of the American Counseling Association. Before joining the faculty at Old Dominion University, Remley was a full-time counseling faculty member at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va., and served as department chair in counseling at Mississippi State University in Starkville and the University of New Orleans in Louisiana. He has authored three books, a monograph series, and 33 refereed journal articles, and he frequently presents workshops throughout the United States in the area of malpractice in mental health.

### Our Counseling Programs *Measure Up!* Master's Program Annual Assessment Results

For the 2005-2006 academic year, students in the counseling Program rated the program as "very good" ( $M = 4.0$ ,  $SD = .87$ ) on a 71 item, 5-point Likert scale (1 = unsatisfactory to 5 = excellent). Mean scores for additional items, broken down by specialty areas (community counseling and school counseling), also hovered around "very good." The items students scored as their top five and bottom five are listed below.

#### Top Five Items on 5-Pt Counseling Program Evaluation

95. The use of counseling and guidance activities and programs by the total school community to enhance a positive school climate.
57. One hour a week of individual on-site supervision.
54. A minimum of 40 hours of direct service with clients
33. Assessment instruments and techniques relevant to career planning and decision-making.
19. Basic interviewing, assessment, and counseling skills.

#### Bottom Five Items on 5-Pt Counseling Program Evaluation

66. Awareness of ODU grants and scholarships that can be applied to graduate school.
69. Opportunities to engage in research activities either on your own or with faculty.
67. Awareness of and opportunity to participate in workshops, seminars, personal and professional development activities.
79. Theories and techniques of community needs assessment to design, implement, and evaluate community counseling interventions, programs, and systems.
48. Uses of computers for data management and analysis.

A mean score of 6.44 ( $SD = .96$ ) on a 7-point, 51 item Likert scale, was found for supervisor ratings of all of our internship students. Items specific for community counseling had a mean of 6.4 ( $SD = 8$ ). Items specific for school counseling had the following mean scores in each of three areas: (1) foundational skills,  $M = 6.2$ ,  $SD = 1.33$ ; contextual skills,  $M = 5.49$ ,  $SD = 1.79$ ; knowledge and skills,  $M = 5.6$ ,  $SD = 1.86$ . The last item, which asked the supervisors to rate the overall ability of our students, had a mean of 6.2 ( $SD = 8$ ) for our school counseling students and 6.4 ( $SD = 1.3$ ) for our community counseling students. The items students scored as their top five and bottom five are listed below:

#### Top Five Items of 7-Point Supervisor Evaluation

20. Demonstrated accurate empathy. (6.78)
27. Treated clients of different gender, age, and cultural backgrounds with respect and understanding. (6.76)
10. Established open and honest relationships with others. (6.73)
3. Exhibited desire to meet regularly and consult with supervisor and/or other staff concerning internship experiences. (6.71)
15. Was able to listen and attend to what others were saying. (6.69)

#### Bottom Five Items of 7-Point Supervisor Evaluation

50. Showed good faith in resolving interpersonal difficulties with the supervisor. (4.82)
51. Was able to deal effectively with evaluation-related anxiety. (5.82)
43. Was able to discriminate when clients need more or less structure for maximum growth. (6.0)
17. Showed good writing skills (e.g., reports, letters, etc.). (6.04)
45. Demonstrated an openness to information and experiences which appear contrary to his or her personal theory. (6.8)

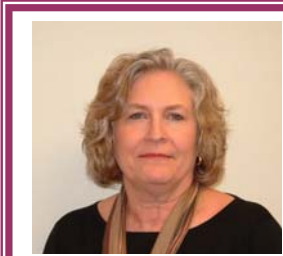
On the NCE and comprehensive exams our students outscored national norm groups considerably. The students should be commended for their excellence in mastering core content areas. Also, the student mean rating on a 6-point evaluation of their supervisors was 5.2, which seems to indicate that our students think highly of their supervisors.

Except for relatively few items noted, which will be addressed by the program faculty, the Counseling Program seems to be meeting most of the needs of its students and developing students with excellent skills.



# Counseling Program Doctoral Students

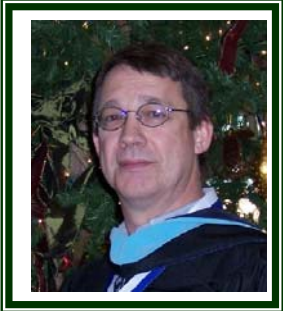
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**Sarah Deaver** is a faculty member at Eastern Virginia Medical School and teaches in the Graduate Art Therapy Program there. She earned her MS in Art Therapy from EVMS and an MS Ed. in Counseling from ODU. She is interested in researching adult learning styles and in counseling and art therapy pedagogy. Her clinical interests include the psychology of creativity, adolescent development, and psychotherapy with children, teens, and adults.



**Tracy Grothe** earned her Master's degree in Counseling at the University of New Orleans. She has worked as a Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist for the state of Nebraska's Department of Education, an Accessibility Specialist for the Workforce Investment Act and is an independent contractor for Mobility International USA. Special interests include working with International students and teaching assistive technology. Tracy wishes to secure a professorship while continuing to specialize in career development, multi-cultural counseling and disability advocacy.



**Mike Hauser** is from Georgia. In December he received a Master's degree in Community Counseling from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. He is undecided about what to pursue during his PhD program. He is a member of CSI, ACA, ACES, and the Tennessee Counseling Association. He has applied for National Counselor Certification.



**Cindy Jenkins** earned her Master's degree in Education and an Educational Specialist Degree with an Emphasis in Counseling at Old Dominion University. She is currently employed as a crisis counselor in the Emergency Room at a local hospital. Her interests lie in Community Agency Counseling.



**Katie Moore** earned her Master's Degree in Counseling at Old Dominion University. She is thrilled to continue on with the Ph.D. program here at ODU. She's been working as an intern at Seton Youth Shelter for the past several months, which has helped her develop a great appreciation for work with adolescents. She hopes to pursue research opportunities centered around adolescent and/or family counseling.

**Bianca Puglia** completed her Master's at the University of New Orleans in 2001. Her clinical experience includes working with the seriously mentally ill in a Partial Hospitalization Program, specializing in group work and persons with dual diagnoses. She served as the Director of Voices For Children, a psycho-educational program, helping children of families in the midst of a divorce. Her academic interests include counselor supervision, multicultural issues, and counselor identity.



**David J. Richels** is a Special Education Teacher and Women's Varsity Soccer Coach at Hickory High School in Chesapeake, Virginia. He earned his B.S. in Psychology from Old Dominion University and a Master's degree in Marriage and Family Therapy from the University of Maryland. His interest is in working with couples and families.

**April Sikes** received her Master's Degree in Education with a concentration in Counselor Education from Augusta State University in 2004. She then worked as an Elementary School Counselor in Warren County, Georgia. She is interested in research concerning child abuse and child social development. She would like to continue to be an advocate for children, specializing in child abuse and crisis intervention.



**Brenda Joyce Smith** is a native of Georgia and has been a resident of Virginia for the past 10 years, residing now in Chesapeake with her husband and three children. She earned her MSW and her M.A. in Urban Education Guidance and Counseling from Norfolk State University. She has also published her first book, *Where Did Mommy Go? A Spiritual Tool to Help Children Grow from Grief to Peace*.

**Cynthia Walley** has lived in Augusta, Georgia for the last 8 years. She completed her M.Ed. in Community Counseling at Augusta State University. Cynthia's area of interest is children and adolescent community/mental health counseling. Currently, she is an associate professional counselor in Georgia and is a Nationally Certified Counselor.



**Breyan Williams** earned her Master's of Education in Counseling from Virginia State University. Her research concentration will be in Multicultural Counseling and Marriage and Family Counseling. She's engaged to be married on May 26, 2007.

# Events and Opportunities...



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## NATIONAL CONFERENCES & CONVENTIONS:

**VACES:** Friday, Feb. 16, 2007, 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. in Williamsburg, VA. Register by February 9th at <http://www.vcacounselors.org/calendardisplayevent.cfm?event=157220&date=2007-02-16>

**AACE (Association for Assessment in Counseling and Education):** Friday-Saturday, Nov. 9-10, 2007 in Atlanta, GA. Contact Dr. Hays for details.

**ASCA (American School Counselor Association):** Sat.-Tues., June 23-26, 2007 in Denver, CO. See <http://www.schoolcounselor.org/content.asp?pl=325&sl=129&contentid=182>

**ACA:** Wed.-Sun., March 21-25 in Detroit, MI. Visit <http://www.counseling.org/Convention/>

**ISPRC Diversity Challenge:** Oct., 2007. [http://www.bc.edu/bc\\_org/avp/soe/isprc/conference.htm](http://www.bc.edu/bc_org/avp/soe/isprc/conference.htm)

**VSAC:** March 15-16, 2007 in Richmond, VA. See <http://www.vsca.org/conference2007/index.htm>

**AMHCA:** Thurs.-Sat., July 26-28, 2007 in New Orleans, LA. Visit <http://www.amhca.org/register/>

**ACES:** Wed.-Sun., Oct. 10-14, 2007 in Columbus, OH. Go to <http://www.aces2007.net/index2.swf>

## The Association for Counselor Education and Supervision "ACES and Social Justice"

October 10-14, 2007 in Columbus, OH

Conference Website: <http://www.aces2007.net/index2.swf>

Graduate students interested in volunteering at the 2007 ACES Conference: Five volunteers will be selected from each region and to receive 50% off the conference registration fee, in exchange for volunteer services at the conference.

Student volunteer applications and guidelines can be found online, at <http://www.aces2007.net/VolApp.doc>. Application deadline is March 1, 2007.



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"Every person is an individual, with qualities and possibilities infinitely capable of development."

Carl Rogers, 1961

## Our Very Own Students, Presenting at VACES & VSAC Conferences!

Our own Rebekah Byrd, Rachel Moore, and Alex Sorrentino will present a call for Leadership and Advocacy for the support, safety and acceptance of all LGBTQ adolescents in the school setting. Rebekah, Rachel and Alex plan to lead the way in challenging the status quo and bringing change to the counseling profession.



## Counseling Program Mission Statement

To equip our students with the skills, knowledge, and attitudes which will enable them to function well in the demanding and ever-changing world of the professional counselor, in congruence with the advancement of knowledge, the pursuit of truth, and responsible citizenship.



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## A Writing Opportunity for Students

The Association for Assessment in Counseling and Education (AACE) invites educators, practitioners and students to contribute to its quarterly newsletter, *NewsNotes*. Individuals are encouraged to submit a variety of articles related to assessment and evaluation. Two new sections featured in *NewsNotes* are "Student Perspectives" and "Technology and Innovation". The "Student Perspectives" section is a publication opportunity specific to students that want to share their knowledge around topics such as training, research, dissertation/thesis writing tips, practice, and evaluation. The "Technology and Innovation" section is designed to promote discussion of implementing technology into the areas of testing and assessment. Submissions might include the use of technology in assessment practice, reviews of computerized assessment protocols, and introductions to new software. Interested authors are encouraged to submit their original manuscripts of 500 words or less to Dr. Joshua Watson, *NewsNotes* Editor ([jwatson@meridian.msstate.edu](mailto:jwatson@meridian.msstate.edu)). Initial questions may also be addressed to Dr. Danica Hays, AACE Member-at-Large, Publications ([dhays@odu.edu](mailto:dhays@odu.edu)).



## Study Counseling in Italy! May 10-26, 2007 in Gorgeous Tuscany

Join counseling grad students, counselors, and faculty members in a rich experience comparing international counseling practices, as mental health professionals meet in this 14<sup>th</sup> Century villa on a magnificent Tuscan hillside.

Visit small Italian villages and Florence, and taste the true flavor of rural Italy.

Receive 3 graduate or undergraduate credit hours, or 45 CE Units.  
Estimated Cost: \$1850 to \$2381 (not including airfare)

Visit [http://education.odu.edu/pcl/italy\\_conf/](http://education.odu.edu/pcl/italy_conf/) for more information, or Contact Dr. Ted Remley at 757-683-6695 or [tremley@odu.edu](mailto:tremley@odu.edu).

## Academic Deadlines

### INTERNSHIPS:

Fall 2007 Internship: Apply by Jan. 15, 2007  
Spr. 2008 Internship: Apply by May 15, 2007  
Sum. 2008 Internship: Apply by Sep. 15, 2007

For School and Community Agency Counseling Internship info, see [Dr. Suzan Thompson](#).

### COMPREHENSIVE EXAMS:

March 16, 2007 exam: Apply by Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>  
June 1, 2007 exam: Apply by March 30<sup>th</sup>

For Comprehensive Exam applications and information, see [Dawn Hall](#) in the main office, ED 110.



# Our Graduate Counseling Faculty:

## “A Very Strong Team”

**Dr. Nina Brown** is a prolific author, specialist, and sought-out conference presenter on the topics of Group Therapy and Narcissism. She was invited to write the “Psychoeducational Groups” curriculum for the National Registry of Group Psychotherapists, which she has completed. She has written many books, including *Coping with Infuriating, Mean, Critical People* and *Children of the Self-Absorbed*, which has been translated into Korean.

**Dr. Teresa Christensen** is an assistant professor who came to ODU in the Fall of 2006. Prior to this she was an associate professor at the University of New Orleans for seven years. Among other projects, Dr. Christensen is very excited about the development of a new play therapy training program at ODU.

**Dr. Danica Hays** is presently co-editing a text entitled, *Multicultural Counseling Competency: A Systems Approach* (Publisher: Pearson Merrill Prentice Hall). Her current research projects include a mixed-methods study on social justice attitudes and activities, three qualitative studies on resilience and trauma, and one quantitative study on coping behaviors of GLB individuals.

**Dr. Radha Horton-Parker** has been invited to serve on a national panel, sponsored by the Association for Spiritual, Ethical, Religious, and Values Issues in Counseling (ASERVIC), to discuss the integration of spirituality into counseling at the 2007 Convention of the American Counseling Association in Detroit. She is also presenting two additional programs at the convention.

**Dr. Tim Grothaus** is currently working on articles covering multicultural counseling and consultation skills and also the use of supervision for the professional development of school counselors. He'll be presenting at ACA and ASCA on multicultural skills and at VSCA on principal-school counselor collaboration.

**Dr. Garrett McAuliffe** is producing a counseling training video entitled *Key Practices in Culturally Alert Counseling: A Demonstration of Skills* and an accompanying guide. He has also just completed a book called *Culturally Alert Counseling: A Comprehensive Introduction*. In the area of research, he is conducting a study of how students change as a result of a course in social and cultural issues.

**Dr. Ed Neukrug** has most recently been working on a series of twelve counseling theories video clips that will be uploaded to the web for Brooks/Cole Publishing as demonstration clips for use in counseling theories and other classes. He is also about to begin writing a counseling theories text for Brooks/Cole.

**Dr. Ted Remley** has co-authored two editions of books that have recently been published by Prentice-Hall Publishers: *Ethical, Legal, and Professional Issues in Counseling*, and *Ethical, Legal, and Professional Issues in Marriage and Family Therapy*. Manuscripts he is currently writing include *Counseling in Italy*, *Private Counseling Practices of Ministers who are not Licensed*, and *A Comparison of Graduate Program Standards in Counseling, Psychology, and Social Work*.

**Dr. Alan “Woody” Schwitzer** is currently Interim Editor of the *Journal of College Counseling*, the national scholarly publication of the American College Counseling Association (ACCA), a division of ACA, and serving on ACA's Council of Journal Editors. Earlier in the year he received ACCA's Outstanding Contribution to Knowledge Award for college counseling research. Most recently he has had articles in the *Journal of American College Health*, *Journal of Creativity in Mental Health*, and *Human Service Education*.

**Dr. Suzan Thompson** is working on a collaborative project between our program and the Norfolk Community Services Board to create a clinic that will serve the community. The clinic will use master's-level practicum and internship students as well as doctoral students to provide individual and group counseling. They're aiming to open this summer!