Counseling Program Highlights

By Julia Forman, PhD Candidate

Welcome to another issue of Reflections! Since the last issue published in the Fall, our program has had a great many successes. The Counseling and Human Services Department is fortunate to have two new tenure track faculty members on board. Dr. Tara Hill will be placed at the Martinsville, VA campus in the Master’s Counseling program, and Dr. Christine Ward will be here at the Norfolk campus. The two search committees were led by Dr. Danica Hays with Dr. Vivian McCollum, Dr. Tim Grothaus, Dr. Laurie Criagen, and Dr. Jill Dustin as members. Doctoral students Hannah Bayne, Risi Green, Amy Upton, and Elizabeth Prosek also participated in the hiring process in various ways, from administrative needs to taking the candidates out to lunch. Please make sure to warmly welcome both Dr. Ward and Dr. Hill to our ODU community! In addition, our program has been well represented by some of our award winning students. Hannah Bayne has received the ACCA Emerging Leader Grant which entitles her to a waived ACA conference registration fee, while Kelly Emelianchik received the Glen E. Hubele National Graduate Student of the Year Award. Anita Neuer, Becky Michel, Joe Davis, and Jodi Slaughter won 1st place in the Doctoral level Ethics Case Study contest! Sonya Lorelle received the Virginia Association of Clinical Counselors Fellowship Award, and Stephanie Crockett received a grant for $500 to help fund her research on supervisory relationships. Hannah Bayne, Anita Neuer, and Becky Michel also received a grant for research concerning supervision. Anita Neuer wrote the winning essay for ACA Foundation Graduate Student Contest and will be featured in Counseling Today. Rebekah Byrd and Cheryl Neale-McFall received a grant funding research on growth groups, and finally, Master’s student Kara Snider won the Hampton Roads Counseling Association Outstanding Scholarship Award. Please review page 8 for even more student accomplishments, and congratulations to all of our students!

Constructing our Narratives in New York City

By: Becky Michel & Hannah Bayne, Doctoral Students

In February, several members of Old Dominion University's Counseling program took a trip to the Big Apple for the 27th Annual Winter Roundtable on Cultural Psychology and Education, hosted by Teachers’ College of Columbia University. The team, led by Dr. Garrett McFall and Dr. Tim Grothaus, consisted of Hannah Bayne, Becky Michel, Anita Neuer and Syreeta Shaw-Stateman.

The team’s interactive symposia presentation “Applying Narrative Therapy to Multicultural Counseling” focused on the narratives or stories, influenced by culture, that can impact an individual. When stories become “problem saturated” counselors can use principles of narrative therapy to help clients externalize the problem and “re-author” a new narrative that better fits their goals.

The team provided examples of questions used to encourage client reflection and renewal. Narrative counselors might ask, “How did you get recruited into this way of thinking?” or “How does this problem have you act against your better judgment?” In this approach, clients are encouraged to reflect on sequences of their thoughts and behaviors, and how problem-saturated stories interfere with their lives. Narrative counselors also challenge clients to focus on the times they did not think or behave in the problematic way. Finally, clients are helped to externalize their stories by answering questions such as, “How did the story trick you into thinking you were inferior?” Questions like these help the client understand his/her problem story and provide the impetus for re-authoring a more productive narrative.

The presentation drew a crowd of approximately 50 people and was well received. Several attendees thanked the team after the presentation and continued the discussion of narrative techniques. Participants especially appreciated the opportunity to reflect upon their own cultural narratives. The team hopes to continue to collaborate to enhance counselors’ knowledge of narrative approaches to multicultural counseling.

Of course, no trip to New York would be complete without taking in the sights and sounds of the city! In addition to the conference, the group enjoyed Broadway shows, New York restaurants, and navigating the subway. Attending and presenting at conferences can be a great way to visit new places and experience the world through a different cultural lens. Whether you are a Masters student, Doctoral student, or Professional Counselor, take advantage of opportunities to give presentations, promote your own professional development, and explore the world. As the scholars who have come before have taught us, “Life is a journey, not a destination.”
Dr. Remley’s Job Search Dinner

This semester, Dr. Remley is hosting two Supper & Seminar events for counseling doctoral students. The first supper was held in March and provided doctoral students who are seeking faculty tenure track positions, with tips for their future job search. Several doctoral students attended this event and listened as Drs. Remley, McAuliffe, Hays, Thompson, and Grothaus shared personal job search stories. Faculty members also provided tips for networking and interviewing as well as answered student questions. Doctoral students interested in pursuing clinical, leadership counseling positions in the community after graduation are encouraged to Dr. Remley’s second Supper & Seminar event on April 2, 2010. Please contact Amy Upton at suppo001@odu.edu if you are interested in attending.

The Counseling Department will also hold a CV writing workshop for doctoral students on April 6, 2010 from 12-1pm in ED 118. This workshop will include advice and tips for formatting a CV and writing an effective cover letter. Faculty and fellow peers, who have participated in faculty search commit-

Summer Institutes

Diversity and Counseling Institute in Ireland scheduled for August 8-19, 2010 in historic Dublin, Ireland. $2875

A ten-day institute set in the beautiful city of Dublin at the mouth of the river Liffey. The institute will be located at a college campus in Dublin, with on-site housing. Those in attendance will learn about the counseling profession in Ireland from local mental health professionals while studying with nationally known counseling professors. Places of interest will include some of the following: Belfast sectarian neighborhoods, Northern Ireland school integration project, the Books of Kells, Dublin Castle, Hill of Tara, Passage Graves at Loughrea, Glendalough monastery ruins, Guinness Brewery, and Trim Castle. Registration for the 2010 institute will begin in November. Participants may receive 3 Graduate credits in counseling (multicultural counseling or elective), 3 Undergraduate credits in human services, or 45 continuing education hours. The four-week on-line dimension of the course begins in July, followed by the trip and post-trip assignments. For more information contact Dr. Ted Remley or Dr. Garrett McAuliffe. Website at http://education.odu.edu/pcl/counselor/Ireland/index.shtml

A Counselor’s View of Italy scheduled for May 13-28, 2010 in the beautiful mountains of Tuscany. $2745

Experience sessions run by an Italian counselor, social worker, high school teacher, psychiatrist, and juvenile court judge. Earn 3 graduate credit hours or 45 continuing education hours. Day trips to Lucca, Pisa, Siena, Assisi, Greve, San Gimignano, Vallambrosa, and Florence! Down payment for this trip must be made by January 15th, 2010. There is limited space, so apply soon! For more information about this institute, please contact Dr. Ted Remley or visit http://education.odu.edu/pcl/counselor/italy_conf/

Upcoming Conferences

Call For Proposals


American School Counseling Association’s 2010 Annual Conference in Boston, MA to be held July 3-6, 2010. Please visit http://www.schoolcounselor.org/content.asp?pl=325&sl=129&contentid=182 for more information.

NARACES 2010 Conference in New Brunswick, NJ to be held September 23-26, 2010. Please visit http://www.naraces.org/ to register for the conference and submit a proposal.

ASERVIC 2010 Conference in Myrtle Beach, SC to be held August 1-3, 2010. Please visit http://www.aservic.org/ to register for the conference and submit a proposal.


“...If the day and the night are such that you greet them with joy, and life emits a fragrance like flowers and sweet-scented herbs, is more elastic, more starry, more immortal, - that is your success.”

- Thoreau
This is **Tamekia Bell**. She hails from Johnson City, Tennessee, where she has lived since 2004. She is originally from South Carolina and moved to Tennessee for graduate school. She received her master’s degree in Counseling with a concentration in Marriage and Family Therapy at East Tennessee State University in August 2006. After completion of this degree, she worked for three years in residence life and undergraduate admissions at East Tennessee State University. She decided to pursue a doctorate to expand her knowledge in a field she is passionate about. She is really excited to be at Old Dominion University! Her current areas of interest are LGBTQ issues in counseling, college student development, and working with persons with severe developmental disabilities. She looks forward to meeting and working with faculty and students in the program!

**Aaron Gabriel Shames** is a Hampton Roads native now living in Norfolk, VA and has been employed with The Psychotherapy Center since 2009. Aaron received a B.S. at Washington and Jefferson College in Washington, PA in 2003 majoring in psychology. He earned a M.A. in the field of community agency counseling at East Tennessee State University in 2006 and gained his LPC license in 2008 while working in Portsmouth, VA. Aaron’s academic pursuits at Old Dominion University will be aligned with both multiculturalism and adjustment/stress disorders. His goals are to earn a Ph.D. while continuing his clinical practice. Besides psychotherapy Aaron enjoys reading, watching movies, listening to music, and traveling.

**Melody Moreno** is a graduate of Old Dominion University with a bachelor’s degree in Psychology and Human Services and Regent University with a Master’s in Community Counseling with an emphasis in marriage and family therapy. She started out as an assistant coordinator and mentor for a mentorship program serving at-risk youth in 1998 and volunteered as a financial counselor serving military service members. At Regent, Melody was actively involved in the international counseling honor society, Chi Sigma Iota and served as President-Elect. She was also a research assistant. Currently, Melody volunteers for a mental health program in a local public school system and does outpatient counseling. Her research and counseling interests include the Filipino culture, the military, marriage and family therapy, narrative therapy, trauma and suicidality, and using expressive techniques in therapy. In her free time she enjoys experiencing new places, playing or listening to music, and spending time with loved ones.

“Character is like a tree, and reputation like its shadow. The shadow is what we think of it; the tree is the real thing.”

*Lincoln*
Dr. Remley hosted Dott. Davide Mariotti, an Italian counselor educator, the last week in February, 2010. While he was at ODU, Dott. Mariotti visited master’s and doctoral counseling classes at ODU, interviewed counseling faculty members, participated in the Big Splash workshop on Play Therapy conducted by Dr. Terry Christensen, and visited a number of counseling agency sites in the Norfolk area. Dr. Remley will present at a conference Dott. Mariotti’s counselor preparation school, Associazione Culturale Komidê, will sponsor on May 29, 2010 in Pesaro, Italy. Dott. Mariotti’s visit to ODU and Dr. Remley’s visit to Pesaro mark the beginning of an exchange between ODU’s counseling graduate program and the Associazione Culturale Komidê school of counseling in Pesaro, Italy.
Most of the full-time graduate students who begin the Ph.D. Counselor Education program are fortunate to receive assistantships. These assistantships provide graduate students with a tuition waiver, a stipend, and invaluable work experience. The roles and responsibilities of the assistantship vary based on the department in which the graduate student works and the type of assistantship (e.g., research, teaching, administrative, or other). However, if a graduate student has an administrative or research assistantship, she can still teach or serve as a teaching assistant. This article will highlight important tips that will increase your chances of having a successful TA experience. Part-time doctoral students and full-time doctoral students, who do not receive assistantships, will find most of these tips helpful as well.

Assess. Do you have the time? Have you adjusted to the program yet? Why do you want to teach? These are just a few of the questions you will need to seriously consider before you make your final decision. Talk to your advisor, mentor, peers, and your supervisor about your career goals and training needs. They can give you input that will inform your decision. Will your immediate supervisor allow you to volunteer as a teaching assistant in lieu of a few office hours or certain tasks? This latter option is a stretch, but it won’t hurt to ask.

Interesting Courses. Which course topics interest you? Are there course topics you would like to know more about? Perhaps you took a marriage and family course during your master’s program and would like to see how a different professor teaches this course. Remember, once you become a counselor educator, you may not have the luxury of choosing the courses you want to teach. Therefore, it would be in your best interest to explore various teaching styles and even courses you did not particularly like or enjoy.

Model Professors. In developing your own style of teaching, it is good to have examples, good and bad. Is there a professor who has impressed you? If so, in what ways? Answering these two questions alone, will give you some insight about what your values and beliefs are about teaching and learning. The goal here is not to emulate your professor, but to learn from them. Sometimes, you learn what not to do, but you still learn. Many professors process how the class went with their teaching assistants and will be transparent with you about their perceptions of their own teaching and your assistance.

The Meeting. It can be intimidating for some graduate students to initiate contact with professors. If so, this has probably been an issue for many years. Now is a great time to get over that fear! Engage in various coping and desensitization techniques such as role plays, positive self-talk, and envisioning the meeting with positive outcomes. Many counselor educators like having teaching assistants and mentoring graduate students. However, they are extremely busy. Therefore, make an appointment and at the meeting, be prepared to briefly discuss previous work experiences, interests, strengths, and expectations. If a professor offers you a volunteer TA position, do not feel obligated to accept it. If you don’t believe you can meet the professor’s requirements or that it won’t be a good fit, then don’t commit! You can respectfully decline and provide a reasonable explanation. Professors will likely appreciate your decision at this point, rather than address needless problems that may arise later. You may also be able to negotiate the duties and time requirements or ask that you be considered for other opportunities that better align with your interests, in the future.

Know your role. You are the teaching assistant NOT the instructor on record! Make sure you know exactly what your duties and responsibilities entail. Will you lead discussions? Will you teach any classes? How many? On which topic/chapter? Will you design the handouts and powerpoints? Or will you use materials provided by the professor? Will you keep the grade book? Do not make decisions without discussing it with the professor FIRST. Do not take anything personally. Remember, you are there to assist!

I have volunteered as a teaching assistant for four different courses and with three different instructors. My experience has been rewarding. I appreciate the professors’ willingness to provide me with these opportunities. I compiled the tips noted above because they proved to be useful for me. I trust they will be beneficial for you as well.
ODU at ACA 2010 Conference

By Stephanie Crockett, Doctoral Student

This year, the American Counseling Association’s annual conference was held in Pittsburgh, PA. Old Dominion’s counseling program was well represented at the conference with several counseling faculty, nearly 15 doctoral students, and several master’s students in attendance. Several ODU counseling alumni also attended and presented at the conference. Conference highlights included keynote speakers Patti Digh and Gerald Cory. Patti Digh officially opened the conference with a session concerning mindfulness and living intentionally. Gerald Cory spoke on Sunday morning about counselor self-care, awareness of ethics, counselor values, and personal therapy in a session entitled “The Counselor as a Person and as a Professional.” Many of our students and faculty presented in educational and poster sessions on topics that included ethics, school counseling, adolescent healthy relationships and intimate partner violence, self-injury, homeless families, and safe spaces training. In addition, Kelly Emelianchik-Key received the Glen E. Hubele National Graduate Student Award and Dr. Woody Schwitzer received the 2010 Meritorious Service Award of the American College Counseling Association (ACCA), ACCA’s highest recognition for contributions to the field of college counseling. Dr. Schwitzer was recognized for his editorial work advancing the Journal of College Counseling. Anita Neuer and the ODU ethics team (Joe Davis, Becky Michele, Anita Neuer, Jodi Slaughter) were also recognized at the ACA awards ceremony for receiving first place in the graduate student essay competition and ethics competition, respectively. The next ACA conference will be held in New Orleans, LA.

“The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.”

Eleanor Roosevelt
Faculty Accolades

Regional and National Presentations


McAuliffe, G. (2009). Dialectical Thinking as a Means to Increase Social Respect,” Biennial Conference of the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision, San Diego, CA.

Books Chapters


Schwitzer, A. M., & Rubin, L. Case conceptualization, diagnosis and treatment planning: A popular culture approach. Sage. [contract signed]

Journal Articles


Awards and Grants

Neukrug, E. (2009). University Professor

Schwitzer, A.M. (2010) Shining Star Faculty Award, Old Dominion University Division of Student Affairs Award for Outstanding Faculty Contributions to Students


New Service Positions

Hays, D.G., President-Elect, AACE. Will serve as AACE president from July 2011-June 2012.

Hays, D.G., Guest Reviewer, Violence Against Women Journal

Hays, D.G., Guest Reviewer, The Clinical Supervisor Journal

Remley, T., Served on National Institute of Medicine TRICARE panel.

Conference Presentations:
Byrd, R. (February, 2010). LGBTQ competencies and why we need them. Presented at the North Carolina Counseling Association (NCCA), in Concord, NC.
Byrd, R. (November, 2009). Allies for all: Creating awareness among college and university students. Presented at the Old Dominion University Diversity Institute in Norfolk, VA.
Byrd, R. (March, 2010). Evaluating the effects of a Safe Space training on professional school counselors and school counseling trainees. ACES sponsored to be presented at the ACA conference in Pittsburg, PA.
Michel, R. & Makris, P. (2010, February). Living life to the fullest: Exploring the positive aging phenomenon throughout the lifespan. Session proposal accepted for the VACES Graduate Student Conference, Williamsburg, VA.
Awards:
Davis, J., Michel, B., Neuer, A. & Slaughter, J. American Counseling Association Ethics Doctoral Level Case Study Competition, 1st Place.
Emelianchik, K. (2009). Chi Sigma Iota, Omega Delta Chapter Outstanding Service to Chapter.
Emelianchik, K. (2010). American Counseling Association - Glen E. Hubele National Graduate Student of the Year Award $450 honorarium.
Emelianchik, K. (2010). AACE’s Hood Grant ($600)
Stateman, S. (2010). VSICA Graduate Student Scholarship
Publications:
Program Information and Upcoming Events

For information on supervision, practicum, and internship contact Hannah Bayne at hbayne@odu.edu.

An Evening of Achievement will be held in honor of our May and August master’s and doctoral graduates on Friday, May 7th from 6pm-9pm in the Big Blue room of the Ted Constant Convocation Center RSVP by April 20, 2010 through doctoral student coordinator and CSI chapter president-elect, Stephanie Crockett at scrocket@odu.edu.

Counseling Master’s students please note that beginning fall, 2010, the course COUN 635 will be discontinued and FOUN 611 will take its place.

CONGRATULATIONS TO
Rebekah Byrd for accepting an assistant professor position for Fall 2010 at East Tennessee State University.
Amanda Healey for accepting an assistant professor position for Fall 2010 at Sam Houston State University.
Jasmine Knight for accepting an assistant professor position at Roosevelt University for Fall 2010.
Susan Preston for taking a part time paid research position through University of Virginia (locally) administering the Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test to 4 year olds and doing other data collection as part of a Quality Childcare Initiative Project.
Brantley Willett for being accepted into Florida State University’s Higher Education doctoral program.
Amanda Healey, Sonya Lorelle, and Anita Neuer for having their work and expertise highlighted in recent issues of Counseling Today.

If you would like to contribute to the Fall Newsletter, please contact Editor Stephanie Crockett scrocket@odu.edu for more information.

Student Announcements

Complied by Stephanie A. Crockett, Doctoral Student

REMEMBER to check your ODU e-mail regularly for program opportunities and announcements.

Doctoral Written and Oral Candidacy:
Stephanie Crockett, Rebecca McBride
Christine Currie, Elizabeth Prosek
Julia Forman, Brian Shaw
Justin Luaka, Syreeta Shaw-Stateman

Proposal Defenses:
Julia Forman, Rebecca McBride
Nicole Kyser, Sophia Tailor
Sonya Lorelle

Dissertation Defenses:
Rick Cicchetti, Sherri Todd
Amanda Healey, Jasmine Knight

Good Luck to Upcoming Dissertation Defenses!
Rebekah Byrd, Nicole Kyser
Rebekah Cole, Susanne Preston
Kelly Emelianich, Sophia Tailor
Ularisi Green, Sharon Wisinger
Rebecca McBride

Master’s Students
Sarah Allbright, Autumn Fuller
Jeanette Bland, Britany Gauthier
Gina Bondi, Deborah Gentilini
Patrice Brown, Joshua Holloway
Takesha Briggs, Miranda Johnson-Parries
Christina Brooks, Jesse Mitchell
Carlita Coley, Nancy Monteith
Erin Colwell, Victoria Morgan
Africa Costa, Jennifer Moser
Stephanie Cox, Linna Dai
Jennifer Davis, Paul Dearman
Katelyn Dodge, Sherry Duncan
Megan Fenton, Mary Carter Fivesh
Rebecca Pierre-Louis, Heather Pigott
Amanda Smith, Kara Snider
Crystal Stafford, Katie Tucker
Brantley Willett, Rebecca McBride

Doctoral Students
Rebekah Byrd, Jasmine Knight
Rick Cicchetti, Nicole Kyser
Rebekah Cole, Susanne Preston
Kelly Emelianich, Sophia Tailor
Ularisi Green, Sharon Wisinger

Congratulations to our May and August 2010 Counseling Graduates

Congratulations to our May and August 2010 Counseling Graduates
The Virginia Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (VACES) held their annual Graduate Student Conference on Saturday 2/13/10 at The College of William and Mary. Dr. Danica Hays participated in the leadership presentation, along with Dr. Gerald Lawson from Virginia Tech, Dr. Victoria Foster from William & Mary, and Dr. Mark Rehfuss from Regent University.

ODU Counseling students participated actively in the conference, taking advantage of the opportunity to build their vitas, contribute to the profession, network, and practice presenting to a friendly audience (other grad students). ODU students led the following sessions:

- Living Life to the Fullest: Exploring the Positive Aging Phenomenon throughout the lifespan – Becky Michel and Penny Makris
- The Effective Use of Transcripts in Supervision – Syreeta Shaw-State and Jodi Slaughter
- Get a Job: Job Search Strategies for Counselors – Hannah Bayne
- Integrating Technology into Counselor Supervision – Caron Coles and Claudia Hines
- Resilience and Community Needs of the Homeless Population – Rebecca McBride and Anita Neuer
- Caring for Caregivers: Can Yoga and Support Groups Reduce Stress? – Becky Michel
- Any Time, Any Place, Every Client: Critical Elements of Conducting Mental Status Assessments – Sharon Silverberg and Sean Hall
- The Role of Culturally Responsive Classroom Management in School Counselor Preparation Programs – Helen Runyan
- Todos Incluidos: Counseling Spanish-Speaking Clients – Hannah Bayne and Jim McMullen
- Safe Dates: A Program to Decrease Dating Violence on College Campuses – Becky Michel, Anita Neuer, Hannah Bayne, and Gina Bondi
- Using Creative and Collaborative Approaches to Address Grief and Loss in Students – Jodi Slaughter and Syreeta Shaw-State
- Identifying and Meeting the Challenges of Triadic Supervision – Hannah Bayne, Becky Michel, and Anita Neuer

Other content sessions were presented by students from James Madison University, Lynchburg College, Regent University, William & Mary, Eastern Menonite University, Virginia Commonwealth University, and Virginia Tech.

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"I will not have my life narrowed down. I will not bow down to somebody else's whim or to someone else's ignorance."

- bell hooks
Meet ODU’s New Counseling Faculty Members

By: Julia Forman, PhD Candidate

As mentioned in the Highlights section on page 1, the Counseling and Human Services department is fortunate enough to welcome two new members to our faculty: Dr. Christine Ward and Dr. Tara Hill. Dr. Christine Ward received her Ph.D. in Counselor Education from Texas A & M University, which is located in Corpus Christi, Texas and her Master’s in Counseling Education from the University of North Florida in Jacksonville. In addition to her faculty responsibilities, Dr. Ward also works for the Darden College of Education as a Research Scientist. In this role, she participates in grant writing, outreach to the community, professional development, and program evaluation. Dr. Ward has also worked as a school counselor and has taught courses on play therapy and an introduction to the counseling field. Her recent publications include an article entitled An Adlerian Alliance Supervisory Model for School Counseling published in the Journal of School Counseling and Site Supervision for Social Justice published in Association for Counselor Education and Supervision SPECTRUM.

Dr. Tara Hill attended the CACREP accredited University of Toledo and received her Ph.D. in Counseling in May of 2009. She is also pursuing a second doctoral degree from the same university in the Foundations of Education, Research, and Measurement. The Norfolk Marriot was fortunate to be the chosen site of the annual conference. The Norfolk Merriot was fortunate to be the chosen site for the conference. Furthermore, I was able to attend this particular conference at no cost because I was a volunteer at the conference. This is the benefit of many local conferences because they will typically need student volunteers for various activities and these volunteers will be rewarded with a free pass to the conference and typically free food. Considering that this conference was very expensive, I had no problem becoming a volunteer.

Many people have asked why a counseling major would attend a conference for psychiatric rehabilitation. The answer is that the conference was truly dedicated to all mental health helping professionals. In fact, most of the attendees of the conference were connected to a community service board, club house program, or rehabilitation program. This experience gave me insight to the many different aspects of the helping profession. I learned about the most prevalent issues when it comes to those with serious mental disorders. I also learned about the different specializations in this field like AIDS, schizophrenia, Down Syndrome and many more. One of the best parts of this experience was the fact that there was such a wide variety of lectures that one could attend each day. I had the privilege of going to a diversity lecture that had designed exercises and readings which pertained to working with diverse clients. I think the most beneficial part of this conference was the fact that it allowed me to do some serious networking. I met doctors, community service board directors, therapists, and many more different types of mental health care professionals. I was able to make connections with several people that could possibly help me find a job or help me with references when I graduate. Additionally, these are professionals whom I have developed a relationship with at the conference and whom I still communicate with every week. The most important lesson that I learned from this experience is that an associations name can’t tell you if that association may be relevant to your needs and to your career goals. Most counseling majors hear the words “psychiatric rehabilitation”, and they automatically assume that the association can’t possibly relate to them as a professional. I found out first hand that this is not true. I have met so many professionals at this conference that have a career that I am interested in which shows me that this organization is a good fit for counseling majors as well as psychology majors. I urge to keep an open mind when you hear the word psychology or psychiatric used in the organizations name.

There are conferences that are coming up that students may be able to attend for a low fee or volunteer for. I encourage every counseling student to review the core goals of the organization before attending the conference and explore if the organization is a good fit, regardless of the organization’s name.

“A counseling student’s perspective on a psychiatric conference”

By: Cory Gerwe, Master’s Student

This summer was a time for many exciting events in the counseling and psychology community. One of which was the USPRA’s (United States Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association) 34th annual conference. The Norfolk Marriot was fortunate to be the chosen site for the conference. Furthermore, I was able to attend this particular conference at no cost because I was a volunteer at the conference. This is the benefit of many local conferences because they will typically need student volunteers for various activities and these volunteers will be rewarded with a free pass to the conference and typically free food. Considering that this conference was very expensive, I had no problem becoming a volunteer.

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“No bird soars too high, if he soars with his own wings.”

- Blake
Neurofeedback

By: Christine Currie, PhD Student

I became interested in neurofeedback several years ago, when my supervisor told me about the rapid therapeutic gains that several clients with depression and/or anxiety symptoms were demonstrating—clients who, in addition to therapy, were also receiving neurofeedback treatments once or twice weekly at another location. Inspired by her incorporation of neurofeedback as one piece of her counseling practice, I also began my journey into the research and practice of neurofeedback. The modern practice of neurofeedback actually dates back thousands of years, to the idea that there is a connection between a person’s head and behavior. In the late 1800s, researchers proposed that every type of behavior could be traced back to a specific region of the brain—the first theory of localized functioning. Later came discoveries concerning the electrical nature of the brain, and how these electrical impulses allow the various sections of the brain to communicate with each other in split-second time, so that the brain functions, not in separate sections, but in countless networks that operate as a symphony. Many of the more modern developments in neurofeedback can be traced to the recognition that we can actually teach the brain to produce certain frequencies, thereby training the brain to regulate itself.

So what exactly is neurofeedback? Using the symphony metaphor, problems arise when the sections of the symphony are out of balance, and neurofeedback sets the conductor in place to oversee the parts of the orchestra, so that each part is playing at the appropriate speed, and communicating in an effective manner. Neurofeedback is brain exercise that teaches the brain to produce certain frequencies, thereby training the brain to regulate itself. The brain’s self-regulation is the basis for neurofeedback, or biofeedback applied to the brain.

How does neurofeedback work? Neurofeedback provides the brain with information about its functioning by reading brainwaves through electrodes pasted on the scalp, and then feeding that information through a computer program and giving it back to the person in the form of a computer game that responds to the person’s brainwave activity. The process corresponds to the brain watching itself and then making the necessary adjustments to regulate itself. The neurofeedback practitioner works with the client to find the brain state where the client feels most comfortable—mentally and emotionally calm and physically relaxed, while still being alert—and the computer game reinforces that state. Researchers have studied the effectiveness of neurofeedback on a wide variety of conditions, including migraine headaches, seizure disorders, chronic fatigue syndrome, attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder, autism spectrum, and the depression and anxiety disorder spectrum, including obsessive compulsive disorder, and posttraumatic stress disorder. To date, several studies have indicated that neurofeedback may be as effective as medication in alleviating symptoms, but more empirically based studies to substantiate its effectiveness are needed. I hope to add to the body of research on neurofeedback in my dissertation, which will focus on the effectiveness of neurofeedback on trauma symptoms.

The Big Splash counseling seminar series is back in full swing this year with a great new lineup of topics and presenters. The series features three seminars each fall and spring semester and two seminars in the summer. The mission of the series is to provide high quality, affordable continuing education events that benefit students, faculty, and professionals in the community. This Spring, we had a visit from Dr. Teresa Christensen, who led a workshop on the play therapy and reality therapy perspective. The workshop provided attendees with awareness, knowledge and skills for improving their ability in working with children and adolescents. In March, Dr. Paul Cesaro will visit and present on the topic of Coping with and Integrating Life Cycle and Life Changes.

The following are a couple of our upcoming events:

**Saturday, June 26, 2010**
Groups That Work: Effective Strategies for Leaders and Members
Diana Hulse, Ed. D.
Fairfield University, Fairfield, Connecticut

**Saturday, July 24, 2010**
Developing Effective Counselors: Process and Interventions in Counseling Supervision
James Benshoff, Ph.D.
University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Greensboro, North Carolina

Preregister rates for the seminars are $59 for professionals and $29 for students. Rates for registration at the event are $69 for professionals and $34 for students. All events this year will be held in Constant Hall. For more information visit our web site at [http://education.odu.edu/pcl/counselor/BigSplash/index.shtml](http://education.odu.edu/pcl/counselor/BigSplash/index.shtml) or contact the event coordinator, Brian Shaw, at bshaw@odu.edu.
CSI Excellence in Counseling Research Grants

The mission of Chi Sigma Iota is to promote scholarship, research, professionalism, leadership, and excellence in counseling; to encourage the pursuit of personal excellence by members; and to recognize high attainment in the pursuit of academic and clinical excellence in the profession of counseling. To fulfill this mission, CSI introduces the CSI Excellence in Counseling Research Grants Program intended to support and enhance the counseling profession through targeted support of research by CSI members. **Outcome-based studies and best practices will receive priority consideration for funding.**

A limited number of awards are available in 2010 with amounts ranging from $250 to $750 with a total of grants not to exceed $2000 per category, 1) Developmental Counseling, 2) Wellness, and 3) Advocacy. Applicants must be current/active CSI student or professional members (faculty or alumni). For more information please visit: http://www.csi-net.org/

ACCA Research Grants

The American College Counseling Association (ACCA) announces two research grant opportunities for the 2009-2010 year! These grants can provide various financial support methods to you and your research team such as: pay yourself a salary, hire a research design or statistical consultant, compensate your participants, compensate secretaries, pay for web services, pay for professional production & copying of materials, and hire graduate students. Both of the research awards are open to all members of ACCA. Students are especially encouraged to apply. The deadline for both of the proposals is August 3rd, 2010. For more information and to apply please visit: http://www.collegecounseling.org/acca-grant-opportunities

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You and Your Family Are Invited

To
An Evening of Achievement

Come have a three course dinner with administrators, faculty and students as we take time to present awards, induct new Chi Sigma officers, and honor our Counseling Program May and August 2010 graduates. Spend time with the faculty and listen as they take time to acknowledge each graduate’s achievements as well as present national, departmental, and CSI chapter awards. Event sponsored by the Omega Delta chapter of Chi Sigma Iota.

**RSVP by April 20, 2010**

**DATE: MAY 7, 2010**
**TIME: 6 PM-9 PM**

The Big Blue Room
Ted Constant Convocation Center

Contact Stephanie Crockett for more Information:
scrockett@odu.edu

Please join us

As we honor our graduates, award winners, and CSI inductees!

Open to graduates, students, faculty and staff, CSI membership, CSI Board members and chair holders, friends and families.

Turn in or mail payment form to
ATTN: Stephanie Crockett, Old Dominion, Room 110 of the Education Building

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**Available Student Grants and Scholarships**

Compiled by Stephanie A. Crockett, Ph.D. Student

**BUY Tickets!**

Name: __________________________
E-mail: __________________________
Address: _________________________
Number of Family/Friends to Attend: _____
Price per person: $10.00
Amount Enclosed: $________
□ CHECK: Made out to CSI □ CASH
___ MEAT ___ VEGETARIAN

Must RSVP even if your ticket is free.
**FREE to all graduates, CSI inductees, and award winners.**

Money and/or RSVP form must be received before your name will be added to the guest list. No refunds after April 22nd.

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**Reflections**
**Schedule of Events**

- **A Counselors View of Italy:** Begins May 13th. (Total trip: 5/13-5/28)
- **Exams Being:** April 29th; Exams End: May 6th
- **An Evening of Achievement:** May 7th. RSVP by April 20th.
- **December 2010 Graduation:** Application due to the Office of the Registrar by June 30, 2010
- **Graduation:** May 8th.

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**December 2009 Graduation and Awards Brunch**