Counseling Program Highlights

Greetings, and welcome to the Spring 2011 edition of Reflections. Under the leadership of Dr. Danica Hays, counseling faculty and students have had a productive semester, contributing to the counseling profession at local, regional, state, and national levels. We are pleased to announce ODU’s MSEd, EdS, and PhD Counseling programs in Norfolk and Martinsville have received a 2010 NBCC Professional Identity Award. This national distinction is given by the National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC), the credentialing board for over 44,000 counselors that promotes quality counseling through certification. This is a great honor and speaks to the program’s commitment to promoting the counseling profession through training. Thank you to the Counseling faculty and students for their continued excellence, and I would especially like to thank Hannah Bayne, Counseling doctoral candidate, for compiling information for the award. Additionally, the first group of NCI/Martinsville students took the CPCE and had a 100% pass rate; we are very proud of the NCI students! ODU had a strong showing at both the VACES and ACA annual conferences this spring. Many of our master’s and doctoral students presented on counseling related topics at these conferences. Lastly, Dr. Radha Horton-Parker was elected to serve president of the Association for Adult Development and Aging for 2012-13. Hannah Bayne was elected to serve as Graduate Student Member-at-Large, American College Counseling Association and Stephanie Crockett will serve as treasurer of the Association for Assessment in Counseling and Education.

Student Leadership Opportunities

Compiled by Jayne E. Smith & LaShauna Dean-Nanga, Ph.D. Students
Association for Assessment in Counseling & Education Emerging Scholars Program
AACE strives to facilitate the professional growth and excellence of graduate students and new professionals in counseling and education. Emerging scholars will be featured in NewsNotes and recognized at the AACE business luncheon at the 2011 AACE National Research and Assessment Conference in Fort Worth, TX. Two Emerging Scholars will be selected for 2011 and will receive a complimentary AACE Conference registration and an invitation to participate in board meeting activities. Recipients must be an AACE member at the time of nomination. Interested applicants should submit electronically to dhays@odu.edu no later than May 1, 2011, a cover letter verifying active AACE membership, a curriculum vitae, contact information for two professional references, and 500-word essay on how AACE’s mission is congruent with their professional goals and how and/or why they would like to participate in AACE activities. The selection committee will notify applicants by May 25, 2011.

CSI Exemplar Publishing Opportunity
The CSI Exemplar staff are preparing for the Summer 2011 issue. They are seeking articles that would be of interest to members and readers. Please forward Exemplar ideas and contributions to Dana Heller Levitt, Exemplar Editor, at levittd@mail.montclair.edu. The deadline is May 8.

ACA Ethics Code Revision Task Force Grad Student Rep
The American Counseling Association is initiating the process of revising the ACA Code of Ethics and invites interested members to submit an application to serve on the Ethics Revision Task Force. The deadline is May 15th. The task force will be comprised of 8-10 individuals who will spend approximately three years revising the code with input from a variety of sources. It is anticipated that the draft will be completed in 2014.

The following qualifications are desired:
• 3+ years of post-graduate experience.*
• Experience with the application of the ACA Code of Ethics from a practitioner’s perspective and/or participation in scholarly activities pertaining to the ACA Code of Ethics (teaching, publications, presentations, etc.).

*Doctoral students enrolled in a Counseling or Counselor Education and Supervision program are eligible to apply for one designated slot reserved for a student member.

ACA wishes to develop an Ethics Revision Task Force rich in diversity.

To Apply: Send an e-mail stating your desire to be considered for the ACA Ethics Revision Task Force to ethics@counselor.org. Please see ACA’s website for more information: http://www.counseling.org/
New Counseling Institutes in Italy

By Stephanie A. Crockett, PhD Candidate

The ODU counseling program is proud to offer three additional Institutes in Italy for 2011. In March, ODU co-sponsored a Play Therapy Italy Institute in Tuscany, Italy. Counseling graduate students, practitioners, and counselor educators from across the United States and Europe attended the institute to explore play therapy. In July, ODU will offer a school counseling institute that will explore schools in Italy and the United States. Specifically, the institute will focus on meeting the mental health needs of students. The application deadline to attend this institute is April 11, 2011. In September, ODU will offer an institute for complementary, alternative, and integrative therapies in Tuscany, Italy. All of the institutes offer the opportunity to receive graduate credits in counseling, undergraduate credits in human services, and/or continuing education hours. For more information please visit http://www.augustunger.com/ODU/

Summer Institutes

**Diversity and Counseling Institute in Ireland** is held in August for 7 to 10 days in historic Dublin, Ireland. $3145

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. 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. Please visit http://education.odu.edu/pcl/counselor/Ireland/index.shtml or email Dr. Ted Remley (tremley@odu.edu) or Dr. Garrett McAuliffe (gmcaulif@odu.edu)

**A Counselor’s View of Italy** is held in May 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! There is limited space, so apply soon! For more information about this institute, please contact Dr. Ted Remley (tremley@odu.edu) or visit http://education.odu.edu/pcl/counselor/italy_conf/
New Doctoral Students

Carlita L. Coley, MSEd, NCC, is a doctoral student in Counselor Education and Supervision. She has provided leadership as a graduate teaching assistant and has been a Healthy Relationships facilitator on ODU’s campus for the past 2 years. Carlita has several years of experience providing counseling and support services to survivors of domestic violence and at risk youth in Maryland and Virginia. Currently, she works as a clinical therapist at a local residential treatment facility providing mental health services to emotionally and behaviorally disturbed youth. Carlita has been married to a former naval officer for 15 years and is the proud mother of “three of the brightest, most beautiful and intelligent young people the world has yet to experience.” Carlita’s personal and professional mission is to educate, empower and inspire through acts of service, counsel and articulation.

Upon graduating from college with a double major in English and Theology, Katherine M. Bender taught for four years at an independent Catholic secondary school for girls in Philadelphia. While teaching, she became increasingly interested in the social concerns of young women and decided to pursue a degree in community counseling with a focus on women’s issues. In the fall of 2004, Kate joined The University of Scranton community as a full time employee and part time student. Her role as a University minister involved coordinating international volunteer trips for undergraduate students to Ecuador, El Salvador, Guyana, Jamaica, Kenya and Mexico. After completing an internship providing individual counseling to undergraduate students at a residential college, and getting her Masters in community counseling, Kate decided to leave snowy Pennsylvania and begin work in Daytona Beach, Florida as a full time mental health counselor for college students. In January, she left the Florida sun to become a full time doctoral student here at ODU.
American College Counseling Association (ACCA) Emerging Leader Recipient

By Stephanie A. Crockett, PhD Candidate

The ACCA Emerging Leader award is an annual award for ACCA graduate students and new professionals that provides professional development opportunities for recipients. Recipients are selected by the ACCA Graduate Student Committee based on financial need, scholarship and activities that contribute to the future of the college counseling profession, and endorsement by a faculty member.

Tamekia Bell, a second year doctoral student, received this prestigious award this year. As an Emerging Leader, she attended the ACA annual conference, where she was recognized at the ACCA division meeting breakfast. She also received leadership training and volunteered at the ACCA booth during ACA, as well as wrote an article for the ACCA newsletter, VISIONS, that will be published later this year. Tamekia is the third student from ODU’s counseling program to receive the award. Hayne Bayne received the award in 2010 and Stephanie Crockett in 2009. Congratulations Tamekia!

Upcoming Conferences

*Call For Proposals


*Association for Assessment in Counseling & Education in Fort Worth, TX from September 8-10, 2011. Please visit: [www.theaaceonline.com/conference](http://www.theaaceonline.com/conference). Conference proposal deadline: June 1, 2011.


Rebekah Byrd, PhD was unanimously selected by our faculty to be awarded the Counseling Program Alumni Spotlight this year. A graduate from last year’s class, Rebekah is a counselor educator at East Tennessee State University. I had the honor of sitting down with Rebekah at the ACA Conference in New Orleans last week. My initial impression of Rebekah stemmed from her nametag, which included stickers, words and pictures showing who she is, what she stands for and her open, supportive nature. A gentle, yet strong person, I got the sense that she has genuine passion for the field and sincere compassion for the person.

Rebekah’s weekly activities include teaching three courses in the master’s program and spending time at the local middle school where she supervises practicum students and utilizes her recently completed play therapy certification. She also spends one day in the university clinic working with clients and training counselors. When asked where most of her time is spent: “Class prep. Class prep. Class prep. That is my life right now.” While she wishes there was more time for writing, she knows from her own experience and through conversations with her fellow faculty that she is right on track.

How did Old Dominion University prepare Rebekah to be successful in her career? She shared “I got involved, immersed in everything possible. Research, CSI, associations at the state and national levels, clinical experience in the schools w/ play therapy. This helps to figure out what you want to be involved in. You know ‘This is what fits for me’ and ‘This is where I can contribute the most.’ You understand what works and what you like. It helped in doing interviews and identifying schools where I want to be. For me play therapy, teaching, research and service are important, so I found a school that does that for me. To someone else, maybe they want to be a clinical coordinator, so they look for a place with that position. Or maybe they want to do just research, so they look for that focus.”

Ireland, Care Now, and lasting relationships. These two experiences were most memorable for Rebekah while she was an ODU student. “Ireland because I had never travelled like that before, even though I wanted to as an undergrad but couldn’t because I had to work full time.” Recalling Care Now drew a big smile on her face. “That was just such a great experience.” Rebekah said it was difficult to select specific experiences and described time spent with other doc students: “Piling in rooms because we were all broke…you know how many can sleep on the floor? Hanging out at someone’s house for CSI events, writing together. All of it was so memorable.” Lasting relationships are of utmost importance - both with ODU faculty and other doc students. “I will cherish these friendships for life.”

Rebekah emphasized the importance of balance, setting boundaries and self-care while acknowledging that this is one of the most challenging aspects of being a doc student and a new faculty. “I think it is important to model wellness for our students. We can’t expect them to be well and teach it if we aren’t able to do it. This helps to avoid burn out. I don’t check my email at night and I don’t respond to student emails on the weekends unless it is an emergency. I set specific time for work on the weekends, so there is a limit. Then I run, hike, take my dogs and kitties on walks, listen to music, climb mountains.”

Rebekah recalled wanting to be a veterinarian and a teacher when she was younger because she loves animals and kids. Her career is focused on helping kids and her animals are a large part of her personal life. Remembering that she is actively doing what she has always wanted to do helps her stay focused and connected. Rebekah also offered these pearls of wisdom:

- Don’t stop. It’s worth it.
- It gets better if you want it to. It is your choice to let the pressure pile up, to take on all of the activities. If you don’t want to, you don’t have to keep up that pace.
- Find the fit in your first job. The environment that you want is out there.
- Be present. We are naturally future focused as doc students...many of us anyway had to plan for this. And then once we are in school, we are future focused on where the job will be. Be in the moment. Ask yourself- what can I do today? How can I be well now? Take it in.

Rebekah’s message of mindfulness reflected a similar message from Dr. Gerald Corey at ACA, Dr. McAuliffe in COUN 820 this week and the Italians who recently visited us. Her commitment to living her dream as a young child through dedication to her students, clients, the profession and self illustrate the faculty’s unanimous selection as this year’s Alumni Spotlight.
This year, the American Counseling Association’s annual conference was held in New Orleans, LA. Old Dominion University’s counseling program was well represented at the conference with several counseling faculty, doctoral students, and master’s students in attendance. Several ODU counseling alumni also attended and presented at the conference. Many of our students and faculty presented in educational and poster sessions on counseling related topics. In addition, Tamekia Bell was awarded the ACCA Emerging Leader Award. Elizabeth Prosek and Stephanie Crockett accepted national CSI awards for Service to the Chapter and Outstanding Doctoral Student, respectively. Last, several ODU students were recognized at ACA’s National Awards Ceremony. The ODU ethics team, LaShauna Dean-Nganga, Jayne Smith, Lorie Bonjo, and Tiffinee Hamilton, were recognized for their honorable mention in the ACA Ethics Contest. And, Stephanie Crockett received the Glen E. Hubele National Graduate Student Award.
Regional and National Presentations


McAuliffe, G. (September, 2010). "The Impact of a Study Abroad Experience in Ireland on Counselor Trainees: A Qualitative Study." NARACES, New Brunswick, NJ.


McAuliffe, G. (October, 2010). "Cultural Decentering and Students of Counseling: Testing a Model." SACES, Williamsburg, VA.


Books and Book Chapters


Journal Articles


Grants


Awards

Dr. Edward Neukrug, Dr. Tammi Milliken, Dr. Jill Dustin, and Dr. Laurie Craig were awarded the President’s Award for services to the Journal of Human Services, the flagship journal of NOHHS.

Dr. Danica G. Hays received the Article of the Year Award from the Association for the Specialists in Group Work for the article entitled, “Integrating Social Justice in Group Work: The Next Decade.” She co-authored the article with three national leaders in group work and social advocacy, Drs. Patricia Arredondo, Rebecca Toporek, and Sam Gladding. She was honored at the ASGW luncheon at the ACA National Conference in New Orleans, LA in March 2011.
Due to the vast talent of our Master’s and Doctoral students, the student accomplishments showcase.

**SELECTED WORKS.**

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**Conference Presentations:**

- **Neuer, A.** (2011, March). Counselor education expert consensus of supervision competencies for doctoral graduates. To be presented at the ODU Graduate Studies Graduate Research Appreciation Day in Norfolk, VA.

- **Bell, T. & Michel, R. E.** (2011, February). Establishing a research agenda: Strategies for graduate students. Presentation at the VACES Graduate Student Conference, Williamsburg, VA.

- **Braun, E.** (2011, February). How mental health professionals experience trauma at residential agencies: a heuristic inquiry. Poster presentation presented at the VACES Graduate Student Conference, Williamsburg, VA.


- **Cole, C., & Richeson, B.** (2011, March). Perspectives on staff members’ responsiveness to peer aggression in our schools: Interest or ignorance? Presented at Virginia School Counselor’s Association conference in Richmond, VA.

- **Dean-Nganga, L.** (2011, March). The fight within: exploring the internal struggle African-American students face in obtaining higher education. Poster presentation presented at the VACES Graduate Student Conference, Williamsburg, VA.

- **Jackson, T.** (2011, April). Academic and career planning with vertical teaming: A school division’s journey. To be presented at National Office for School Counselor Advocacy (HOSCA) conference in Rosemont, IL.

- **Lester, S., Horton-Parker, R., & Koivisto, B.** (2011, March). When aging loved ones need our care: An adlerian approach for preserving everyone’s sanity. Presented at the American Counseling Association’s conference.

- **Maweu, J., & Michel, R.** (2011, February). Navigating the Ph.D. Admissions Process. Presentation at the VACES Graduate Student Conference, Williamsburg, VA.

- **Metzger C., & Billings, K.** (2011, February). Teen Cultures. Session presented at the VACES Graduate Conference, Williamsburg, VA.


- **Runyan, H.** (2011, February). Building a RAMP Between Professors and Professionals. Presented at the annual VACES Graduate Student Conference, Williamsburg, VA.


- **Smith, J. E.** (2011). Training counselors to use the advocacy competencies through participatory action research. Presented at the VACES Graduate Student Conference, Williamsburg, VA.


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**Awards:**

- **Crockett, S.** (2011). ACA Glen E. Hubele National Graduate Student Award.

- **Crockett, S.** (2011). CSI National Outstanding Doctoral Student Award and CSI Leadership Fellow Award.

- **Mertzger, C.** (2011). Outstanding Masters Student of the Year., NCI/Martinsville.

- **Michel, R.** (2011). CSI Leadership Essay Contest Winner- Student Member Category.


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**Publications:**


Program Information and Upcoming Events

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Admissions applications deadline for the spring 2012 semester are October 1st for the PhD program and November 1st for the master’s program. Interviews of the PhD applicants will take place in October and November.

Dr. Ted Remley will lead a delegation of 12 counseling professors and counselors from throughout the United States to Bhutan for an institute in October, 2011. The group will provide counseling services to citizens of Bhutan in schools, a mental hospital, and a women’s center. In addition, the group will plan the establishment of student counseling centers in two locations of the Royal University of Bhutan. The institute is being sponsored and funded by the government of Bhutan and the National Board of Certified Counselors. For more information please contact Dr. Ted Remley (tremley@odu.edu).

Thanks to all of Dr. Vivian McCollum’s hard work, the OCU Counseling Program at NCI/Martinsville has submitted the CACREP self-study. Thank you Dr. Ted Remley for all of your guidance and support.

The Diversity and Counseling Institute in Ireland filled up in record time with the highest number of participants, 30, ever. Participants will be coming from all over the U.S. to learn about counseling and social services from an international perspective, including seminars given by Irish counseling leaders and visits to Irish counseling settings.

Student Announcements

Compiled by Stephanie A. Crockett, PhD Candidate

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

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- Caron Coles
- Joe Davis
- Bonnie Erb
- Ryan Hancock
- Sean Hall

Proposal Defenses:
- Hannah Bayne
- Elizabeth Prosek

Dissertation Defenses:
- Stephanie Crockett
- Julia Forman
- Sonya Lorelle

Good Luck to Upcoming Dissertation Defenses!
- Hannah Bayne
- Christine Curry
- Claudia Hines
- Peg Jensen
- Justin Lauka

If you would like to contribute to the Fall Newsletter, please contact Editors LaShauna Dean (ldean008@odu.edu) or Jayne Smith (jsmith@odu.edu) for more information.

Congratulations to our May and August 2011 Counseling Graduates

Master’s Students
- Thomas Alexander
- Kerry Ambrosino
- Beth Bauswell
- Christiana Bias
- Karissa Billings
- Shannon Brehm
- Darcel Catlett
- Katelyn Connors
- Tan Dang
- Kara Dencklau
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VACES Through the Eyes of a Master’s Student

By Dana Woerner

This past February I had the opportunity to present at the 2011 VACES conference at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, VA. When I first received the email regarding a call for proposals I knew that I was interested in presenting; however, I was also aware that I would be in competition with numerous doctoral and master’s level students which was intimidating. With the encouragement of my university supervisor, I carefully composed a proposal and hoped for the best. Not long after, I was informed that my proposal was accepted and I would be presenting alongside both novice and veteran presenters from ODU, William and Mary, Regent, and James Madison University to name a few.

This would be my second time presenting at a professional conference, as I had co-presented with a doctoral student at the VCA conference in the fall. Although I had one presentation under my belt, I was still anxious at the thought of presenting in front of faculty and peers from around the state. I immediately recruited the help of a peer not only to help with putting together the presentation but also for moral support. The topic I chose, Dialectical Behavior Therapy and Suicide, highlighted strategies that beginning counselors could utilize in session with clients presenting with suicidal ideation. The biggest obstacle was paring down the information so as not to overwhelm the audience, yet providing enough detail to satisfy session attendees.

My co-presenter and I were scheduled to present in the second to last time slot for the day, which unfortunately allowed plenty of time for my anxiety to build. I worried that we wouldn’t be able to effectively communicate the information we had researched over the previous weeks and wondered if people would question my knowledge on our topic. As I sat in on my peers’ presentations throughout the day I realized how supportive and encouraging the other attendees were, and I couldn’t wait for our chance to present. Our session attracted attendees including master’s and doctoral level students, professionals in the field, and a well-known faculty member at William and Mary whom had years of experience and research related to suicide. At the conclusion of our presentation we were greeted by positive feedback and encouragement to modify our PowerPoint and present at future conferences. I am thankful to have had the opportunity to present at a conference geared towards graduate students in a supportive and cooperative environment. VACES allowed me to meet students with similar interests, network with faculty members and professionals in the field, and gain valuable knowledge about hot topics in counseling. I look forward to attending professional conferences in the future, and I know this will not be the last time I present!
Several counseling faculty and students have taken on new service and leadership positions in the counseling field. These new opportunities include:

**Bayne, H.** (2011). Graduate Student Member-at-Large, America College Counseling Association

**Nina Brown** serves as president-elect of the American Psychological Association Division 49: The Society of Group Psychology and Group Psychotherapy.

**Stephanie Crockett** (2011). Elected Treasurer, Association for Assessment in Counseling and Education.

**Danica G. Hays** served as a guest reviewer for the *Journal of Homosexuality*.

**Rahda Horton-Parker** has been elected president of the Association for Adult Development and Aging for 2012-13. She will be president-elect in 2011-12 and currently serves as chair of the AADA Awards Committee and co-chair of the AADA Research Committee.

**Tracy Jackson** (2011). Graduate Assistant for the Awards Committee, Southern Association for Counselor Education and Supervision.

**Jayne Smith.** (2011). Graduate student representative, Association for Assessment in Counseling and Education.

**Woody Schwitzer** served as guest editor for an upcoming special issue of the *Journal of College Counseling*.

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**Volunteering at the ACA 2011 Conference**

By: LaShauna Dean-Nganga

March Madness was not the most exciting event happening in the month of March! During the week of March 24-27th, the American Counseling Association hosted over 4,300 counselors in New Orleans, LA for their annual conference. As a first time attendee, I wanted to get the most out of my experience so I decided to volunteer to work for the conference. I was also able to receive a discounted conference registration fee in exchange for volunteering up to 12 hours at the conference. The process was relatively easy- I responded to a call for volunteers and was periodically updated by the volunteer chairperson, Ryan Gruber. Upon arrival to the conference venue, I was provided a volunteer schedule and required to attend a 30 minute orientation training.

Unlike many local and regional conferences, ACA’s conference was on a large scale and included over 1.1 million square feet of space in the Ernest N. Memorial Convention Center as well as the Hilton Hotel located a short walk away. One of the immediate benefits of volunteering was having the opportunity to help the presenters set up, which you can imagine included some of the biggest names in counseling- Gerald Corey, Patricia Arredondo, Cortland Lee, and a host of others. I also had the opportunity to work directly with Dr. Judith Beck after her Keynote presentation during her book signing which was a humbling chance to talk to a leader in counseling theory.

Being in the helping profession, volunteering came natural to me. I enjoyed assisting presenters in getting organized and ready for the talk, helping conference attendees find their chosen destinations, and networking with so many professionals in the field who I may not have had the chance to meet otherwise. Throughout the conference, I was greeted with smiles and “you are everywhere” encouragers that really made this conference memorable. The conference was also a time of networking and interfacing with so many inspiring doctoral and master-level students.

Next year’s conference will be held in San Francisco, CA and I will be attending for free thanks to this wonderful volunteer experience! I encourage all of you to consider volunteering at the next conference. Hope to see you all there next year.
When I applied to doctoral programs, I knew I wanted to attend a school that demonstrated strong support for diversity. I wanted to see women in positions of power, and I wanted to see people of different races, ethnicities, ability status, ages, and socioeconomic statuses engaging with and learning from one another. I also wanted to be part of a program with a collegial atmosphere—where students could count on guidance and support from faculty members and could find support for their research goals.

Many people offered me advice about where I should go; I heard more than a few times that programs admitting more than 6 or 7 doc students at a time are “farms” where grad students are left to struggle and find their way with little attention from the faculty. I heard negative stories about students who had no support for their research and other stories about students (particularly those with non-traditional cultural characteristics) feeling lost and isolated. I was more than a little afraid of all of that when I chose to apply.

Of the seven programs to which I was accepted, I chose Old Dominion because of its rigorous research standards and because I sensed during my interviews a true commitment to feminist multicultural education. I saw confident women in positions of power, and the student body exhibiting a level of diversity that I found both exciting and comforting. I am so glad that I chose this school; I am growing as a result of my surroundings. I have found support for my research and I have developed strong relationships with faculty members and peers.

At Old Dominion I have the opportunity to learn from colleagues who have worked in diverse settings, and to observe my peers engaging in a wide range of opportunities for professional development. Each individual provides a unique contribution to the synergy of this learning environment, and I value the ecology of our interactions. For example, learning alongside part-time doctoral students who continue to work full-time in the field provides a particularly rich element to our cohort. I would have missed their insights and contributions if I had chosen a program that doesn’t accept part-time applicants.

First-generation college students like myself face challenges related to their lack of familiarity with the process of higher education; we may experience self-doubt related to our inexperience, and we may even question whether we are ‘meant’ to be in higher education at all. My faculty mentor, my professors and fellow students have been invaluable resources as well as sources of support and encouragement as I navigate this journey.

All of the cautions I heard about larger cohorts have been disproved at ODU. I have always been kind of a loner, but here at Old Dominion I feel empowered to create alliances with passionate scholars. I value the solidarity I experience with fellow students and faculty members at this school, and I am proud to be here.
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. Patricia Thomas, who led a workshop on wellness, balance, and self-care for counselors. In March, Dr. Rip McAdams visited and presented on the topic of counseling aggressive and violent children. ODU’s own Dr. Suzan Thompson presented in April on complementary, alternative, and integrative therapies.

Please check our website for information regarding the Fall 2011 Big Splash speakers and dates. http://education.odu.edu/pcl/counselor/BigSplash/index.shtm

Preregister rates for the seminars are $49 for professionals and $19 for students. Rates for registration at the event are $59 for professionals and $24 for students. ODU CSI members pay $14. For more information visit our web site at http://education.odu.edu/pcl/counselor/BigSplash/index.shtml or contact the event coordinator, Joe Davis, at jwdavis@odu.edu.
By Stephanie Crockett, PhD Candidate

At this year’s National Conference, ACA held a Day of Service at the Holt Cemetery. Over 160 counselors and counselor educators volunteered their time to clean up the cemetery. Several current and future ODU students participated in this beautification project.

You and Your Family Are Invited To The 2011 Evening of Achievement & Silent Auction

Come socialize with administrators, faculty and students as we present awards, induct new Chi Sigma members, and honor our May and August Counseling Program graduates. Spend time with the faculty and listen as each graduate’s achievements are announced. The national, departmental, and CSI chapter scholarships will also be presented. Event sponsored by the Omega Delta chapter of Chi Sigma Iota.

RSVP by April 22, 2011

DATE: MAY 6, 2011

RECEPTION FROM 5-6PM PROGRAM BEGINS AT 6PM

LOCATION: HAMPTON NEWPORT NEWS ROOM WEBB CENTER

COST: $15/PERSON*

*GRADUATES, INDUCTEES & AWARD WINNERS MAY ATTEND AT NO COST

Contact Becky Michel for more Information: rmichel@odu.edu

CSI SILENT AUCTION

We invite you to participate in the Silent Auction. 100% of the proceeds benefit the Chi Sigma Iota Student Scholarship Program.

Heavy hors d’oeuvres will be provided

A cash bar will be available

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: Becky Michel, Old Dominion, Room 110 of the Education Building
Schedule of Events

**Big Splash**: April 9th, Introductions to Complementary, Alternative, and Integrative Therapies

**CSI Yard Sale**: May 10th

**RSVP deadline for Evening of Achievement**: April 22nd

**April 26th**: Spring Classes End

**Evening of Achievement**: May 6th

**ODU Commencement**: May 7th

**Italy Institute**: May 12-17th

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### April/May 2011

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**December Graduation Brunch**