

DEPARTMENT OF COUNSELING

The Communicator | September 2016

coe.unomaha.edu/coun



A Message from the Chair

Welcome (back)! The Fall 2016 semester is quickly taking shape and we hope you're adjusting quickly. Our first newsletter of the 2016-2017 academic year is full of useful information, so please take some time and enjoy—and let us know if you have suggestions for new sections.

For starters, we are pleased to welcome over 40 new students—be sure to introduce yourselves and get to know your future colleagues (and perhaps next best friends). Next, take some time to review our revised and updated department website, particularly the “student resources” link for info regarding key department issues/forms and professional content (advising forms, curriculum guides, practicum/internship manuals, professional organizations, etc.).

While we don't use a formal “cohort” model, our department's Chi Sigma Iota chapter, Upsilon Nu Omicron, offers a great way to meet and engage with your peers, faculty, and the profession. Our first social event will be the CSI cookout on October 1st (page 6). We invite you to join as soon as you're eligible—and we hope you'll stop by the cookout and enjoy the food and socializing—you don't have to be an active member yet to join us at the cookout!!



On the academic front, this fall several faculty and students will be presenting at the Nebraska Counseling Association in Omaha, Southern Association of Counselor Education and Supervision in New Orleans, and across campus. Even if you can't attend or present at conference this semester, we encourage you to engage with other counseling/mental health professionals at every opportunity. To assist, each *Communicator* will provide info on upcoming conferences, seminars, and other opportunities for professional advocacy and leadership.

Finally, I'd like to remind all students that our Fall 2017 curriculum changes are on target for implementation. This involves several changes to courses, so please discuss your plan of study in detail w/ your advisor. This change also involves purchasing a subscription Livetext our new web-based assessment platform, for Spring 2016. For now, we hope your semester continues to progress smoothly. Please feel free to stop in my office or email at any time with questions, concerns, or suggestions (dkissinger@unomaha.edu).

Sincerely,
Dr. Kissinger

Announcements

- Join **Chi Sigma Iota!** See page 5 for information on how to join.
- A second **Group Experience** is being set-notice of the new session will go over the COUN listserv. Please note, the cost is \$125.
- **NCA Fall Conference** is Oct 5-7th, register online here: <http://www.necounseling.org/event-2234365>
- Participate in the **Culture Walks** going on around Omaha on Sept. 30th.



Generation Hope's Annual Domestic Violence March & Rally

Tuesday, September, 27, 2016

March begins promptly at 6:30pm with rally to follow

For More Information Please Visit Our Events Page
<https://www.facebook.com/events/520800454785636/>

FACULTY 411

Dr. Blount...

- Her study, **Helping Professional Wellness Discrepancy Scale: Development and Validation**, was accepted by *Measurement and Evaluation in Counseling and Development*.
- Her article, **Transforming your Classroom: Encouraging Student Involvement and Promoting Active Participation in Assessment**, was published in the *International Journal for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning*.
- Her article, **The Counseling Competencies Scale: Validation and Refinement**, was accepted in *Measurement and Evaluation in Counseling and Development*.
- Her article, **A Phenomenological investigation of Supervisors' Perceptions of their Supervisees' Wellness**, was accepted by/published in *The Professional Counselor*.

Dr. Bjornsen...

- Presented a poster titled **Transition experiences of D-1 student-athletes: Coach perspectives** at the annual convention for the American Psychological Association in August 2016.
- Her article, **Use of tablet technology: A pilot program for graduate students in speech-language pathology** was accepted for publication in *Teaching and Learning in Communication Sciences & Disorders*.

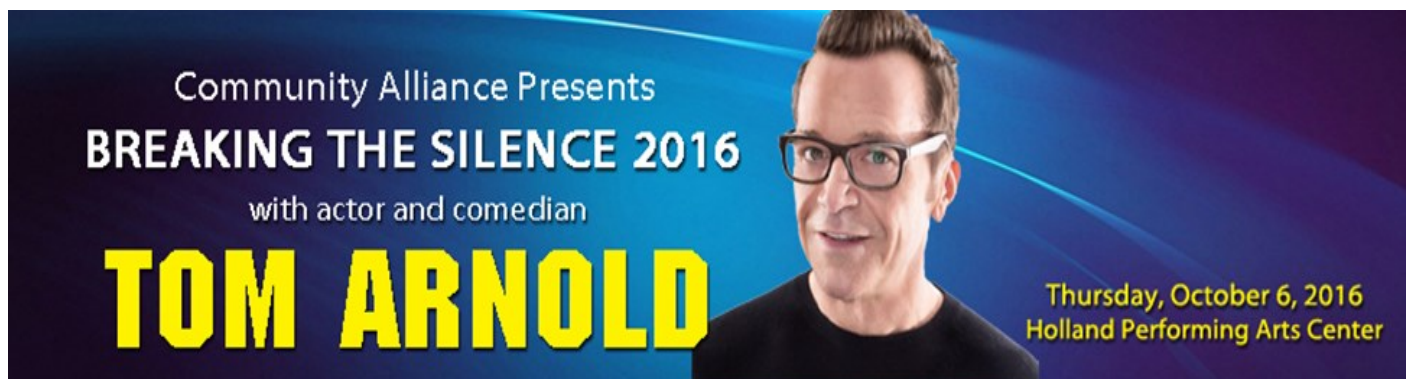
Dr. Carter...

- Facilitated a Book Club over the summer on the book, *The Doctor and the Soul*, by Viktor Frankl. The student participants evaluated the benefits of Frankl's Logo Therapy and its influence on counseling clients suffering from a mental illness in the community. Members of the club included Madeleine Moore, Nathan Hayward, Tom Seguin, Veronica Wolf, and Hanna Drabek.

Dr. Luther

- Attended, along with **Mr. Richards**, the American School Counseling Association conference in New Orleans.
- Presented two seminars at the ASCA conference: **"Four Steps to Group Success"** and **"Rediscover your passion"**.

Opportunities in Omaha



2016 Nebraska Counseling Association Annual State Conference

October 6th and 7th at Bellevue University

To register go to www.necounseling.org

Student Bio



Hannah Drabek began pursuing her masters in Clinical Mental Health Counseling in January of 2016. After graduating from UNL in 2014 with a Bachelor's in Business Administration, Hannah spent a year conducting research for the biomedical sciences department at Creighton University. Her interest in counseling started after volunteering in a local Alzheimer's facility where she became aware of the limited resources available for older adults. When Hannah isn't at school or

work, she enjoys playing violin for Orchestra Omaha, training for triathlons, snuggling with her cat Milo, and preparing to marry her wonderful fiancé Matthew.

Remember, October is...

- National Depression and Mental Health Screening Month
- Domestic Violence Awareness Month
- ADHD Awareness Month
- Bullying Prevention Month
- Communicate with Your Kids Month
- Computer Learning Month
- Crime Prevention Month
- Health Literacy Month
- LGBT History Month
- National Book Month

Funding for Research & Travel

Potential funding for students interested in attending a professional conference can seek support and can make travel requests in two locations. Students who will be presenting their research/projects are more likely to receive funding, than those who are only attending a conference. These requests should be made well in advance of the conference.

1. A proposal with a detailed budget (summary of presentation, conference name, registration fees, airfare, etc..) should be submitted directly to the Dean of the COE.
2. Information on other sources such as the University Committee on Research & Creative Activity (GRACA) and funding agencies exterior to the University can be obtained from the Office of Research and Creative Activity (ORCA).

*Please note all proposals should be submitted electronically as a document in PDF to: unosponpro@unomaha.edu.

For travel support, please fill out the Graduate Student Travel Proposal Form and submit it at EAB 203. For further questions contact Nicole Kersten, nkersten@unomaha.edu.

And, of course, Congrats to our Summer Graduates!!

Madeline Doerr, Gregg Marutzky, Carly Spring, Rachel Wesely



Chi Sigma Iota



Officer positions for CSI have now been filled for 2016. Please congratulate our newest Upsilon Nu Omicron leaders: **Chelsey Harvey** (President), **Carrie Hoesser** (Vice President), **Dalia Ruvalcaba** (Secretary), **Maddie Moore** (Treasurer), and **Alliea Miller** (Social Chair). If you want to get involved it's not too late! Chi Sigma Iota takes new members every semester. However, if you have an interest, but don't yet qualify with hours or GPA, you can still attend meetings and be involved informally prior to your acceptance. Please contact **Dr. Blount** at ablount@unomaha.edu for more information.

Once you have completed nine (9) semester hours with a GPA of 3.5 or higher, complete the following steps to join!


- Complete the online application process at csi-net.org.
- Click on Membership under Chapters and Members (in the left hand column).
- Enter our local chapter name: Upsilon Nu Omicron.



Join Us for a
CSI Cookout

What: Burgers, Brats, Yard Games
When: Saturday October 1st, 12:00pm to 4:00pm
Where: Dr. Kissinger's House
(Address will be sent out on listserv)

Student Affairs Opportunity



**IN
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**NASPA IV-WEST/EAST
REGIONAL CONFERENCE**
November 15-17, 2016
Historic Union Station: St. Louis, Missouri

Advocacy Corner

Advocacy is an important responsibility for professional counselors. It's how we gain professional recognition and identity, but is also central to how our licensing/certification is designed-which governs who/how we can serve our students and clients. There are opportunities to become advocates at all levels. In our department, CSI and the department chair committee are two examples. State organizations also offer a range of opportunities (NCA, NSCA, etc.).

You can also become knowledgeable about upcoming legislation that affects you as a future counselor by going to the websites of ACA, NBCC, and your respective specialization organizations (AMHCA, ASCA, NASPA, etc...).

CMH Internship Info

When it comes time for your internship experience, it is your responsibility to contact sites of interest and secure your internship. There are many opportunities available in the community. **If you are uncertain of where to begin your search, check out the department website for a site list to get you started (<http://www.unomaha.edu/college-of-education/counseling/graduate/forms-documents.php>).** Your advisor is available to speak with you about marketing yourself to site supervisors and to answer any questions you may have.

A few key points to remember:

- Plan to do your internship experience at the end of your program. It will best position you to transition into the job market.
- Aim to find a site that best suits your interests.

UNO Community Counseling Clinic

Clinic hours: Monday-Thursday, 2-7 pm

Our clinic is staffed by practicum students. Individual, couples, and family counseling are available for a small fee (\$10 per session, \$15 for couples and families).

Call 402-554-4882 to schedule an appointment.

We are working to expand our client base! We appreciate your referrals to this service and have cards and brochures available for local community distribution if you would like to help.

Clinic Staff:

Dr. Dan Kissinger, Clinic Director

Dani Bojanski, Clinic Coordinator

Dr. Bjornsen, Practicum Instructor

Policy Update: NCE

The NBCC, has recently changed the procedure for applying and registering for the National Counselor Exam:

1. Application and registration will now be an online process. Dr. Kissinger will send out a notice on the listserv.
2. Once each fall and spring, the department will submit a roster of students to the NBCC for students eligible to take the NCE exam through NBCC. Eligible students include:
 - Students who are/will be enrolled in COUN 8260 (Advanced Internship).
 - Students enrolled in COUN 8250 who plan to graduate the summer.
3. Students will request permission from Dr. Kissinger to be registered for the NCE through NBCC.
4. Dr. Kissinger will verify their enrollment status (COUN 8250/8260/summer graduation).
5. When verified, students will be placed on the roster and submitted to NBCC.
6. NBCC personnel will verify the roster and contact each student with official permission and directions for registering for the NCE.

****Note:** NBCC offers the NCE at UNO.

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