

DEPARTMENT OF COUNSELING

The Communicator | December 2015

coe.unomaha.edu/coun



A Message from the Chair

Greetings from all of us in the department! The final hectic weeks of the semester are upon us, so remember to stay committed to (or maybe recommit to!) your own wellness as you study for finals and prepare for the semester break and holiday season. I've outlined some of the key semester items here, but be sure to see more detailed items throughout this issue.

Perhaps the biggest event this semester was our CACREP site-team re-accreditation visit in September. This was the culmination of several busy months and significant effort on everyone in the department-and we send a special thanks to the current students, alumni, and site supervisors who volunteered their time to meet with the site team. We are awaiting the CACREP board's decision in January!

This fall also saw the initial meetings of the new Department Chair's Committee. The committee, consisting of students from school, CMHC, and student affairs concentrations, serves as a "voice" for students within the department and provides opportunities for students to gain advocacy and leadership experience. Current representatives include Patrick Miranda (CMHC), Margo Lorimer (CMHC), Nicolette Rogers (CMHC), Bethany Seehusen (School), Kristy Schweitz (Student Affairs), and Dalia Ruvalcaba (CMHC). Please contact a representative at any time!

The department website continues to be updated. Recent updates include the new *background check procedures* and *group experience evaluation* documents that are found under "forms and documents" pm the department website. Several new features will be forthcoming, including faculty bios and updated/new documents.

We also send our congratulations to our many upcoming graduates – a full list of Fall graduates is found in this issue. We also extend a special thanks to fall graduate Leslie Walker for all her hard work as a graduate assistant!

Finally, my message wouldn't be complete without a note encouraging you to seek out your advisors and to keep checking the listserv for important upcoming events such as group experience times, comprehensive exam dates, and other important department information and events. Again, on behalf of the entire faculty, we wish you a safe and productive end of the semester and relaxing semester break and holiday season!!

Sincerely,

Dr. Kissinger
Department Chair

Announcements

- **Practicum Students!** — Be sure to get your liability insurance, a background check, and forms turned in to Barb Newell and Dr. Carter. Don't forget to make copies of everything for your own records!
- **REGISTER FOR SPRING COMPS EXAM**—For students planning to graduate Spr/Sum '16, you need to sign up for the CPCE and Written Exams. The CPCE will be Feb. 5, cost is \$60, and the Written Exam will be Feb. 19. **Registration deadline is Jan. 6th.**
- Check out the **Forms and Documents** page on the website for links to updated department documents. <http://www.unomaha.edu/college-of-education/counseling/graduate/forms-documents.php>
- We have just hired Nathan Hayward as our **new graduate assistant!** See biography in next issue.
- **Spring Group Experience** dates will be announced early next semester.

CONGRATS TO FALL GRADS!



**Amanda Brichacek
Lance Burwell
Mary Clarys
Chase Ehlers
Kathleen Good
Tiffany Gormley
Arick Grinberg
Justin Hoefling**

**Trent Jensen
Jenifer Manstedt
Shayla Newell
Rebecca Ristow
Nicholas Russell
Abby Saunders
Britni Scott
Leslie Walker**

FACULTY 411

Dr. Kissinger....

Presented at the Site Supervisor Seminar on "Supervision Ethics" as well as "Supervising Theory to Practice."

Presented twice at the Association of Counselor Education and Supervision Conference in Philadelphia on "Culture Shift: the transition from counselor education to department chair," and "Use of the communications lecture as a means of enhancing culturally relevant counselor education pedagogy and practice."

Presented at a Nebraska Intelligence / Crime Analyst Group Training Conference on "Mental health, suicide, and a path to wellness."

Presented at the Ted E. Bear Hollow Grief Awareness Conference on "Recognizing and treating and complicated and disenfranchised grief with children."

Dr. Bjornsen...

Received grant funding (\$35,000) for a collaborative project with colleagues in Special

Education and Speech Pathology: Receptively Delayed Late Talkers' Characteristics, Processing Skills, and Outcomes: Pilot Study

Submitted a manuscript for publication that was written in collaboration with colleagues from Special Education called iPad Pilot Program: Graduate Student Tablet Technology Use in Clinical and Classroom Settings

Presented findings of qualitative research project at the annual convention of the Nebraska Counseling Association in Kearney, Nebraska: Are You Ready to Rumble: Coach Perspectives of the Transition Experiences of Division-I Collegiate Student Athletes

Dr. Blount...

Published an article, "Tailoring supervision to the supervisee's developmental level," published in *The Couple, Marriage, and Family Therapy Supervision* journal this fall.

Presented 3 different papers at the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Conference in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in

September – (1) "Transforming your classroom: Encouraging student involvement and promoting active participation in assessment," (2) "The Counseling Competencies Scale – Revised (CCS-R): New research and practical implications," and (3) "The Oxygen Mask Analogy: How parent wellness impacts child well-being."

Mr. Richards...

Presented two sessions entitled "Helping Students Solve Problems: Back to the Basics of Individuals Counseling" at the Nebraska School Counselor Association academy on November 13, 2015 here in Omaha.

Dr. Carter...

Reviewed text *Weddings, Current Psychotherapies*.

Presented "Techniques to promote critical reasoning and writing in counselor education graduate classes" at the Nebraska Counseling Association conference in Kearney, NE.

Meet Some of Your Faculty and Fellow Students!



Tim Hron, an LIMPH graduate of our program, has been an adjunct instructor teaching our CMHC internship (COUN 8250/8260) and multicultural counseling (COUN 8520) courses. Tim brings a wealth of experience to the classroom. As an employee of CHI Health for over 12 years, Tim has worked primarily with the child/adolescent population. These experiences cover a range of clinical settings, including inpatient and partial hospitalization programs and as the clinical supervisor of Immanuel's Outpatient Psychiatric Associates and Integrated School Based Mental Health Program. Prior to joining the CHI Health team, Tim worked for Boys Town National Research Hospital for ten years in the Residential Treatment Center and Treatment Group Home levels of care as well as in Psychological Services – Child, Abuse, & Neglect Research. Tim's clinical experience also includes time as an In-Home Therapist with Schumacher, Inc. in Council Bluffs, IA and practice with The Attachment & Trauma Center of Nebraska in Omaha. During my clinical practice he has also served as an Adjunct Professor at University of Nebraska at Omaha, College of Education – Clinical Counseling Graduate Program instructing the courses of Internship and Multicultural Counseling for the past five years. A dedicated advocate and leader in the professional mental health community, Tim currently serves or has served in several leadership roles within CHI Health and community organizations, including, including Voices for Children of Nebraska, Magellan Behavioral Health of Nebraska, Inc., Collaborating for Kids Committee Member, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Behavioral Health Education Center of Nebraska – Educational Advisory Group Committee, Building Health Futures – School Based Health Center. We're very pleased to have such an outstanding counseling professional with us!



Chelsey Harvey is in her 4th semester of the CMHC program and will be completing her practicum at ENCAP. Chelsey is from Goldfield, IA and is a 2014 graduate of Morningside College. While at Morningside, she competed on the varsity volleyball team and participated in several research projects. Her senior thesis on the importance of psychosocial treatment in schizophrenia resulted in a poster presentation at the Palmer Symposium. She also collaborated with professor Jessica Pleuss on a project involving note-taking and academic achievement in college students, which they presented at the APS conference in San Francisco. More recently, Chelsey presented at the 2015 Nebraska Counseling Association Conference on the topic of Advocacy and Evidence-based practice post master's degree and helped with Dr. Carter's presentation on critical thinking. Upon graduation, Chelsey intends to pursue a Ph.D. in Counselor Education. Currently, Chelsey is working at Horizon Therapy Group in Council Bluffs Iowa where she works in the front office. Her duties include answering phones, making appointments, working with insurance companies, and any office support the counselors may need. Chelsey is the daughter of Mark and Joni Harvey. She has two brothers, Adam and Jacob, and one sister-in-law, Angela.

Group Experience

- A 10 hour group experience is facilitated by the department several times each year. The cost is \$115 Please contact Barb Newell (402-554-2727) to sign up.
- **Successful completion of the group is a pre-requisite for COUN 8270/8370.**
- Your spot is reserved when full payment is made.
- Please complete and turn in the “**Group Experience Consent Form**” with your payment. This form is found under the “forms & documents” on the department website.
- **Spring 2015 10 Hour Group Dates will be announced soon via the department [listserv](#).**

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.
- Begin looking for your internship a few months in advance. Some popular sites are competitive and require applications and interviews.

UNO Community Counseling Clinic

Clinic hours:

the clinic will now be open Monday-Thursday, 2-7 pm, with last session beginning at 6 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). Service is free to current UNO students.

Appointments are available to community members and UNO students during hours of operation.

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.

Fall 2015 Clinic Staff:

Dr. Dan Kissinger, Clinic Director

Dani Bojanski, Clinic Coordinator

Dr. Bjornsen, Practicum Instructor

Mr. Alex Grey, Practicum Instructor (ENCAP)

Student Counselors:

Heather Doll

Stephanie Gana

Maddie Moore

Mary Hronek

Dalia Ruvalcaba

ENCAP:

Grace Chu

Chelsea Harvey

Josh Michael

Amanda Vigen

Advocacy Corner

Funding for Graduate Student Research & Travel Support

- Welcome to **advocacy corner!** Going forward, the Communicator will include tidbits of relevant news in the field as well as opportunities for advocacy involvement.
- ACA encourages its members to engage in different kinds of outreach and advocacy efforts so they can better assist communities in need. In the process of doing so, authors of the following articles have deepened their own understanding of different cultures and client populations. Article: <http://ct.counseling.org/2015/11/extending-the-reach-of-counseling/>
- THIS IS A BIG DEAL! - U.S. Senator Michael Bennet has agreed to co-sponsor a bill that would allow professional counselors to be reimbursed for care of clients who have Medicare health insurance, an issue the American Counseling Association has long advocated for. Find article here: <http://ct.counseling.org/2015/11/medicare-bill-gains-critical-co-sponsor/>

An essential part of every graduate program is learning to use the tools of research, both scholarly and applied. Students seeking funding for a research project should first inquire whether their department or college has funds available for that purpose. 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), 203 Eppley Administration Building.

*Please note all proposals should be submitted electronically as a single document in PDF format 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.

GRACA grants support faculty-mentored graduate student research and creative activity. Grants of up to \$5,000 per student are available to UNO graduate students. Learn more about ORCA/GRACA

Faculty Advisor:

Dr. Blount

Chi Sigma Iota

Join us next semester!



Once you have completed nine (9) semester hours with a GPA of 3.5 or higher, complete the following steps to officially 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.
- Submit the form online and pay initial dues online via credit card.
- Lastly, write a check to chapter Upsilon Nu Omicron for \$10.00 (chapter fee) and turn the check into Dr. Blount in Roskens Hall Room 101. When she receives your certificate and pin, she will notify you by phone and set up a time for initiation.

Department of Counseling | 402-554-2727 | coe.unomaha.edu/coun



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