

Counselor's Corner



The College at
BROCKPORT
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Chair's Note	2
A Special Announcement from NYMHCA	3
Master's Capstone Research Project Topics	4
EDC 606 Action Research Topics	4
WNYSCC Celebrates 25th Conference	5
Upcoming Conferences and Counselor Education Events	5
Faculty Profiles	6
Faculty Profiles Continued	7
Student Profile	7
Alumnus Profile	8
Integration Information	9
Internship Site Placements	9
Nu Chapter News	10
Student Profile	11
Student Profile	12

First Annual EDC Alumni Reception

By Stephanie Borrelli

On February 3rd, the Counselor Education department had its first annual alumni reception following the WNYSCC conference. The reception was sponsored by The College at Brockport's Department of Counselor Education and the Offices of Alumni Relations & Undergraduate Admissions.

Alumni, faculty and current students enjoyed refreshments and hors d'oeuvres at the RIT Inn and Conference Center. Alumni were able to reconnect with faculty and other alumni, as well as share experiences and advice with current students. Similarly, it was a unique opportunity for current Counselor

Education students to get to know faculty outside of the classroom and to network with alumni working in the field.

The alumni who were present at the event came from a variety of schools, colleges and mental health organizations in the community. Several of the alumni also serve or have served as adjunct professors or site supervisors in the Counselor Education department.

The reception allowed all guests to relax and to build relationships outside of the classroom. The event had a strong turnout and the hope is for it to continue to grow in the coming years!



Chair's Note



Dr. Susan Seem
Department Chair

I hope you are all having a wonderful Spring 2016 semester. While there is snow on the ground as I write this, I know that spring is coming. I view spring as a time of rejuvenation. For me it is a reminder that life is precious. I hope you all take time to take care of yourselves and enjoy time with family, friends and significant others while you are busy studying. I know finding a balance among the many roles in your life can be a challenge. But the adage "don't forget to stop and smell the roses" is a time honored one because taking time in the moment to just "be" is so important to living life fully.

I am so please to officially announce that the department's three masters programs received 8 more years of CACREP accreditation until 10/30 2024! This was the department's fourth cycle of accreditation. Our programs received initial accreditation in 1986 and were the first programs in the state of New York to receive such distinction.

The CACREP site team visited our department and campus in early November. They met with faculty, students, administrators, alumni and site supervisors. We received a letter from CACREP in late January announcing that we have received accreditation for a full 8 years. This means that we meet all the CACREP standards. This is no small feat and one of which I am extremely proud. The faculty worked diligently for several years to change our curriculum to meet the CACREP standards and to develop a robust assessment system regarding student learning outcomes.

I want to thank everyone who had a part in our successful accreditation visit. It seems trite to say but we wouldn't have been successful without everyone's help.

Our next major task is to look at the new CACREP 2016 standards and adjust our curriculum. We are starting this process this spring 2016 semester. This process will provide us with the opportunity to review again our Program Mission statement and Objectives to see if they still resonate with our values and beliefs. From there we can then begin to discuss how we will align standards with our mission and objectives and identify key student learning outcomes.

I will be on a sabbatical this fall. I am examining the psychology of evil. I want to understand how we "other" other humans so that we can do horrible things to them. Good people can do bad things and I want to understand the systems and structures that must be in place for that to happen. I think it is important as counselors that we understand the psychology of evil because we will be working with victims of evil and also the perpetrators. We also need to understand the structures and systems that support evil behavior so we can intervene at those levels. During my sabbatical, Pat Goodspeed Grant will be interim chair.

I am so proud of our department – the faculty, our students, our curriculum, our graduates and all of our involvement in professional organizations and conferences. I am humble to be a part of such a wonderful group of people.

I hope you have a wonderful spring semester.
Peace,
Susan

EDC Library

As a Counselor Ed student, you have access to the department's library of books on topics such as multicultural counseling, substance abuse counseling, group counseling, research and assessment, family therapy, human development, and more. Stop by the Counselor Ed library (153 Brown) at any time or email Kate Mahar at edcga@brockport.edu for information.

A Special Announcement From NYMHCA

By Mike Morde

Dear Students and Faculty,

The Mental Health Counselors of Greater Rochester--a chapter of the New York State Mental Health Counselors Association--was established in 2003 to support the needs of local counselors, mental health providers and graduate students. We host monthly trainings to support the professional development of our members on topics such as Domestic Violence, Disasters and Mental Health Implications, Diagnosis and State Licensure, LGBT Issues, Mental Illness, Sexual Addictions, Veterans' Mental Health Issues, and more.

In February we launched our revamped website MentalHealthCounselors.org! There are 32 changes and additions to our website, which were done for a number of reasons, including:

- Greater website access on portable devices
- Interactive resources and information for students and area professionals
- Greater outreach to mental health counselors and consumers
- Interaction between the chapter website and social media
- Increased presence on the Internet and popular search engines

We addressed all of these issues by investing in better software that will allow us to be more interactive with you and your needs as a developing counselor. Check out our **President's Blog** for regular updates and articles on professional issues, get up to date on current events

through our **live Facebook feed** on the homepage, or visit our **Counselor's Forum** to look for answers to questions you may have about anything related to our profession.

Join us every second Saturday at 10am at the University of Rochester, or stop by and drink a hot beverage with us at one of our networking events. The dates and times of those meetings and events can be found on our new **interactive calendar** webpage. Not sure where we hold chapter meetings? Plug in your address into our **Google Map**.

We hope you join our chapter—if you're not a member already—to help stay current with the local and state advocacy efforts as well as policy issues affecting our profession. If you'd like more information or if you would like to contact us, please visit us at MentalHealthCounselors.org.

Thank you very much. We'll see you at the next meeting!

Joshua E. Maldonado, LMHC, NCC
 Class of 2009
 Chapter President
 Mental Health Counselors of Greater Rochester
president@mentalhealthcounselors.org
 Facebook-Twitter-LinkedIn

Mike Morde
 Class of 2016
 Chapter Webmaster
 Co-Chair of Public Relations
webmaster@mentalhealthcounselors.org



Master's Capstone Research Project Topics

Charlene Linzy- Who is My Brothers' Keeper? Stressors That African American Males Encounter During Their College Experience

Sarah Moore- The Prevalence of Anxiety and Perfectionism in High School Students

Ray Manioci- Determining the Impact of a Psychoeducational Group on Student-Athlete Identity

Colleen Halbohn- The relationship between cyberbullying and health-risk behaviors among high school students

Jillian Malley- Addressing Absenteeism Through a Positive Reinforcement Intervention

Ebonesha Graham- Perceived Barriers to African American Male Education Completion

Lisa D. Jones- Students' Thoughts and Beliefs on the Impact of the Educational Opportunity Program on Their Retention and Degree Pursuance

Amanda Crowley- Psychoeducational Group Counseling to Enhance Self-Control within Middle School Students

Kara Hiltz- The Effectiveness of Mindfulness Techniques for Decreasing Anxiety Symptoms in Adolescents

Amy Levermore- Managing Stress in 8th Grade: A Combination of CBT and Relaxation Techniques in Small Group Therapy

Kelsey James- Clients' Perceived Barriers of Treatment in a Suburban Outpatient Mental Health Clinic: The Connection to Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs

EDC Scholars Night

Students in EDC 606 and Implementation II presented their research at the EDC Scholarly Conference on April 6th, 2016 from 5:30-7pm. This event was held in the Golden Eagle Room at the downtown MetroCenter Campus. Congratulations to all those who presented!

EDC 606 Action Research Topics

Cynthia Hansen, Jenna Mollura, and Daniel Waldbillig "Employer Satisfaction with Brockport Counselor Education Graduates"

Jillian Flanagan, Jessica Pelz, and Tamara Sheppard "Exploring Racial/Ethnic Diversity at The College at Brockport: EOP Students"

Claire Fahy, Meaghan Hazen, and Anna LaDelfa Reynolds "Exploring Racial/Ethnic Diversity at The College at Brockport: Student Residents"

Katherine Rogers and Colin Sivers "Exploring Racial/Ethnic Diversity at The College at Brockport: Community Development Students"

Allison Parry-Gurak and Alicia Starks "Exploring Racial/Ethnic Diversity at The College at Brockport: Student Residents"

Upcoming Conferences and Counselor Education Events

Nu Chapter Initiation & Department
Graduation
Brockport Campus
Friday, May 13, 2016
1:00pm

American School Counselors Association
(ASCA) Annual Conference
July 9-12, 2016
New Orleans Ernest N. Morial
Convention Center
New Orleans, LA

Association for Adult Development and
Aging
(AADA) Conference 2016
July 14-15, 2016
The Roosevelt Hotel
New York, NY 10017

WNYSCC Celebrates 25th Conference

By Jenna Mollura

On February 3, 2016, the Western New York School Counselor Consortium (WNYSCC) celebrated their 25th annual conference, "25 Years and Reaching Higher". WNYSCC provides counselors and counselor education students in the Western New York region an opportunity for professional development workshops regarding recent advances in the counseling profession. The full-day conference took place at the RIT Inn & Conference Center in Henrietta.

After an opening keynote speaker from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, attendees were able to learn about topics such as eating disorders, youth drug culture, work with transgender students, special education graduation requirements, and ASCA's new mindsets and behaviors.

Karen Bailey, a retired counselor from Dansville Central School District, received the Lifetime Achievement Award for her service and dedication to her students and to the counseling profession as a whole.

Jenna Mollura and Ray Manioci shared poster presentations of research they have done throughout the program. Ray won a prize for his informative and well thought out poster titled "Determining the Impact of a Psychoeducational Group on Student-Athlete Identity". Congratulations, Ray!

We were also happy to see many of our school counseling students attend including, Allison Parry-Gurak, Amanda Crowley, Cara Johnson, Jenna Eason, Jillian Malley, Joe Feeny, Kara Hiltz, Kate Mahar, Shelly Infantolino, Stephanie Borrelli, and Stephanie Specht.



Faculty Profiles

Dr. Susan Seem

Dr. Susan Seem is settling into her new role as Department Chair, developing course schedules and answering questions about the department's programs. Dr. Seem recently presented "Two for the price of one: Experiential approach to teaching research through department assessment" at the Association of Counselor Education and Supervision (ACES) Conference with Summer, Bob, and two students— Beth Cenci and Terri Clark. Dr. Seem is currently serving as an Expert Consultant for the NY State Office of Professional Discipline. In this role, she consults and testifies in hearings regarding ethical charges against LMHCs.



Dr. Patricia Goodspeed

Dr. Patricia Goodspeed has more than twelve years of combined experience working as an employee assistance counselor in Connecticut, as a counselor with adults in career transition, substance abuse counselor, and as a college counselor in New York. She has consulted for business and industry, and has been an invited speaker for local businesses and women's groups. In addition, she has worked extensively with individuals who have issues of grief and loss of all types, as well as issues related to food and eating behavior. She currently maintains a small private counseling practice. Dr. Goodspeed's more recent research includes the lived experiences of those who are obese. She received a research fellowship at the University of Hertfordshire, UK, where she furthered her research knowledge of treatments for obesity. A current project involves the experiences of alumni of color in a counselor education program. Writing and presentation topics include issues of social class and the counseling process, creativity and its relationship to both counseling process and counselor education, and work-family issues. She has presented in the international counseling community, including Switzerland, the UK, and Jamaica.



Rafael Outland

Rafael Outland is a native of College Park, GA. He received a bachelor's degree in Psychology from Clark Atlanta University and a master's degree in Education (Specialization in School Counseling, K-12) from Boston University. He is pursuing a PhD in Counseling and Counselor Education at the University of Rochester. His dissertation is titled "The Meaning and Experiences of Violence among Urban African-American adolescent males (UAAM)." This qualitative study explores the experiences of UAAM that influence their attitudes, perceptions, and beliefs of violence. Utilizing interviews and a focus group, the aim of the study is to provide UAAM a voice regarding individual, social, and institutional factors influencing these youth's meaning and perceptions of violence. Mr. Outland's research interests include exploring the developmental trajectory of violence, primarily of marginalized youth, as well as program evaluation and counselor supervision. He also remains engaged in youth outreach and social activism in the local Rochester community, through his affiliation with grassroots organizations, such as Teen Empowerment Incorporated (TE) and The Gandhi Institute for Nonviolence. Mr. Outland's primary aim as a counselor educator is to empower his students, in hopes that they can empower their clients, in "becoming" agents of individual, social, and institutional change.



Dr. Claudette Brown-Smythe

Claudette Brown-Smythe is one of the department's newer faculty members. This semester, she is teaching EDC 614: Contemporary Issues and EDC 722, 723 & 724: Implementation I. She also supervises EDC 735 Implementation I students and teaches the bridge program. Claudette recently successfully defended her doctoral dissertation, titled "The relationship of spirituality and depression on the subjective well-being of Jamaican college students: A cross sectional study of teacher training institutions in Jamaica."



Faculty Profiles Continued

Dr. Robert Dobmeier

Dr. Robert Dobmeier has written a chapter on "Assessment and Diagnosis" with Dr. Claudette Brown-Smythe that will be published in *Substance Abuse Counseling: Theory and Practice*, Stevens, 6th edition. He has also written another chapter, "Retaining Sobriety: Relapse Prevention Strategies" that will be published in the same book. Bob has also had a chapter published, "Formerly Incarcerated Individuals" in *Career Counseling Interventions: Practice with Diverse Clients*, Killam, Degges-White, & Michel. Bob has three scheduled education sessions for this spring: "Adults Need to Use Medicare for Mental Health Counseling: Counselor Advocacy" with Matthew Fullen at the ACA Conference in Montreal, April, 2016; "From Surviving to Thriving: How Older Adults Use Resilience to Navigate Adversity in Later Life" with Marcela Kopicova and Matthew Fullen in Montreal, April, 2016; and "Teaching Leadership and Advocacy for Professional Counseling Practice" with Dr. Summer Reiner and College at Brockport students Elizabeth Cenci, Megan Dingler, Amanda Horth, and Kelsey James at the NYMHCA Conference in Albany, April, 2016. As Past President of AADA Bob is chairing a task force on Counseling Services for Older Adults. He will submit a manuscript with Dr. Kumar Kornj (Criminal Justice), Craig Johnson (Monroe Correctional Facility), Counselor Education alumni Robyn Broomfield, Cassie Fleck, and Lauren Giglia and students Elizabeth Cenci and Michael Morde on reentry of inmates to the community.



Dr. Summer Reiner

Dr. Summer Reiner was recently elected as the ACES (Association for Counselor Education and Supervision) President-Elect and as an American Counseling Association (ACA) Governing Council Representative. She will serve on both positions for three years. Dr. Reiner co-presented in March at the ACA Conference in Montreal. She spoke about work addiction at an ACA learning institute on process addictions. Dr. Reiner co-presented with Mr. Kerry Gotham from Alumni Engagement about life balance at the CASE II District Conference in Philadelphia in February. They will be presenting at the SUNYCUAD Conference this summer. Finally, she currently serves as a reviewer for the JCD (ACA's Journal) and Adultspan (AADA's Journal).



Student Spotlight, Mental Health Specialization: Latrina Green

Emphasis (college, school, mental health): Mental Health

What brought you to the field of counseling? I came to the counseling field simply because I have the desire to help others to help themselves.

Specific areas of interest? I hope to eventually work with families, and my latest interest of population is teen girls and young women.

What do you plan to do after you graduate? I'm not sure of the setting I'd like to work in yet, but whatever it ends up being, it will be in a new city or even new state.

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time? I love to travel! Other than that, I'm watching Law and Order, enjoying family and friends, and surfing YouTube.

Anything personal about you that makes you who you are! I'm just as talkative as I am reserved, depending on the setting!



ALUMNUS SPOTLIGHT

Lindsay Rachow
Class of 2009



Were you in the school, college or mental health emphasis? Mental Health

Where are you currently employed? I am the Practice Manager of Easter Seals. I currently oversee the Diagnostic and Treatment Center. The Center includes Primary Care, Mental Health Counseling, and Medication Management. The clinic primarily serves adults and children with Intellectual Disabilities, but we are growing our clinic and serve adults who are struggling with other mental health concerns. We are licensed through the Department of Health and Office of Mental Health.

How did the Brockport Counselor Education program prepare you for your work at this site? The Brockport Counselor Ed program helped me to understand myself and how I can effect others around me. The program prepared me to be an effective counselor. I use those skills in my leadership role everyday - as my employees are my clients.

Any words of wisdom or a quote that inspires you? A saying that keeps me grounded - "There are no stressful situations, only stressful responses" - this has helped me in all aspects of my life. It helps me to remember that I am the one that chooses how I want to respond to a situation.

Is there anything you would recommend to current students? Remember that what you are doing and applying yourself to is a selfless act. Our culture is changing and the need for mental health counselors is drastically increasing. Stay focused and apply yourself to different trainings and classes as much as possible. When you start to feel yourself becoming "numb" - take a break and next time, recognize it before getting to that place. This is an emotionally and physically draining career, take time for yourself - often.

Bridge and CAS Programs

CASAC-T

By taking HLS 509: Introduction to Alcohol and Drugs and 545: Psychopharmacology, you can pursue credentialing as a NYS Credentialed Alcohol and Substance Abuse Counselor.

There are several programs available to students who are seeking to further their clinical and practical knowledge/expertise.

The Online/Hybrid Certificate of Advanced Study (CAS) in School Counseling helps the student to develop diagnostic and family systems consultation skills.

The CAS in School Counselor Supervision helps practicing counselors to learn supervision skills.

Both CAS programs allow the knowledge and experience required to apply for permanent certification in school counseling in New York State and consist of 12 credit hours.

A School Counseling Bridge Program is also available.

The Mental Health Counseling Bridge Program offers practicing counselors to develop the knowledge and experience necessary to apply for licensure in the State of New York . It

consists of 12-15 credit hours in counseling in mental health settings, diagnosis, and internship.

The College Counseling Bridge Program focuses on assisting practicing counselors to develop the knowledge and experience to practice college and student affairs counseling and requires 12 credit hours.

Students in Integration

Andrea Burns
 Erin Coffey
 Michelle Contestable
 Kayleigh Dumigan
 Amanda Dunn
 Gianna Grosser
 Ellie Hilling
 Carina Ingoglia
 Cara Johnson
 Frank Noll
 Michael Pernot
 Sarah Perri
 Cameron Scharf
 Christine Wilson

Preparing to Integrate?

Students must apply for EDC 720 during the semester prior to enrolling. Faculty will then review the application and notify students of their decision during a mandatory meeting.

Prior to entering Integration, each student must complete the following:

- Child Abuse Reporting training: the New York State Mandated Reporter Training is available at <http://nysmandatedreporter.org/>

- Six documented counseling sessions.
- For students in the school counseling emphasis: Schools Against Violence in Education (SAVE) training
- For students in the school counseling emphasis: Harassment and Bullying Prevention Certification Training (DASA)

Implementation I Internship Site Placements

Stephanie Borrelli: Victor Junior High School	Genesis Fillmore: Durand Eastman Intermediate School	John McIntyre: Unity Park Ridge Campus
Kayla Cercone: The College at Brockport	Elizabeth Fleche: Monroe County Correctional Facility	Michael Morde: Department of Veterans Affairs
Diane Drake: Endeavor Health Services	Erin Hagan: Greece Arcadia High School	Stephanie Specht: Webster Schroeder High School
Jenna Eason: Caledonia-Mumford Middle School	Cathryn Hugunine: Batavia Middle/High School	Nathaniel Van Hall: Hilton Central High School
Joseph Feeney: Batavia Middle/High School	Kate Mahar: Indian Landing Elementary School	

Implementation II Internship Site Placements

Amanda Crowley: Caledonia-Mumford Central School	Kara Hiltz: Wheatland- Chili Middle/High School	Charlene Linzy: Monroe Community College
Ebonessa Graham: Rochester City School District	Kelsey James: Catholic Family Center	Jillian Malley: Merton Williams Middle School
Colleen Halbohn: Webster Schroeder High School	Lisa Jones: The College at Brockport	Raymond Manioci: Merton Williams Middle School
	Amy Levermore: Honeoye Falls Middle School	Sarah Moore: Webster Thomas High School

Nu Chapter Fall Events

Counselor Awareness Month
Every Wednesday in April, 2016
Brockport Campus Student Union
12:00pm

Decompression End of the Semester
Celebration
Friday, May 6, 2016
Location TBA
7:00pm

Nu Chapter Initiation & Department
Graduation
Brockport Campus
May 13, 2016
1:00pm



Nu Chapter is part of Chi Sigma Iota,
the national honor society for
professional counselors.

Nu Chapter News

By Mike Pernot

Welcome back to our spring semester. As the calendar turns more and more and the temperature rises, I'm always energized by the resiliency of life following our deep thaw of winter. The stillness of our darker months, contrasted with the hustle and bustle of life waking up serves as a poignant reminder of an underlying drive of survival – life finds a way.

At Nu Chapter's trauma and crisis panel event these themes of resiliency and survival were in the forefront of conversation. Our esteemed and experienced panelists included the Director of Monroe County Office of Mental Health, Dave Putney, MS, CRC, LMHC; Consortium on Trauma, Illness, and Grief (TIG) Program Coordinator at Monroe County Office of Mental Health, Amy Scheel-Jones, MEd; and Arthur O. Eve Opportunity for Higher Education Program (EOP) Assistant Director and Senior Counselor, Sandra Vazquez, MEd., LMHC. Citing their experience at Brockport's counselor education program as integral to their professional identity, our panelists drew from different experiences of trauma and crisis ranging from rape and sexual assault, disaster mental health and trauma and crisis in childhood and adolescence. We

thank our panelists and the crowd that showed up to learn about how trauma and crisis can affect our lives and the lives of our clients.

Professional development events like our trauma and crisis panel and the *Courage to Love* movie screening last semester are an integral part of Nu Chapter's commitment to excellence in counseling. Additionally, Nu Chapter sponsors social events like our trip to the Buffalo Sabres' AHL affiliate, the Rochester Americans (Amerks). Nu Chapter also makes community service and advancement of the profession a priority with events like the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's Out of Darkness Walk at the College at Brockport, now in its third year. I encourage all of you to take part of this groundswell of local, national, and international focus on mental health and professional counseling through Chi Sigma Iota: Nu Chapter.

Please let me, or anyone else on the Nu Chapter leadership board know if you have any questions or suggestions for future events.

Wishing you all a sunny spring,

Mike P.

OPEN LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

If you're considering a leadership role in Nu Chapter, please consider applying for one of the open positions. For Fall 2016 positions, you have the opportunity to shadow the current member in the position so you can learn about what the role entails. Please contact Mike Pernot (mpern1@u.brockport.edu) for more information on any open leadership positions.

Student Spotlight, College Specialization: Erin Coffey

Emphasis (college, school, mental health): College

What brought you to the field of counseling?: For as long as I can remember, I have been drawn to the field of "helping professions". Due to my natural interest, I decided to pursue an undergraduate degree in Psychology and Health Science here at Brockport. During this time, I also began working in Brockport's Office of International Education. I began to experience what working within a college setting would look like and I loved being able to support students throughout their study abroad experience. I also got the opportunity to work directly with international students and aid in the process of cultural adjustment. However, I found myself wanting to connect more with students and be more effective in my role. I had an incredible supervisor that advised me about Brockport's Counselor Education program.

Specific areas of interest?: I'm especially interested in working with college students who may need additional support in adjusting and navigating through their college experience. I hope to work with first-generation college students, students with disabilities, and international students. I'm also interested in areas of student wellness such as, the psychoeducation of alcohol and other drugs, sexual health, and sexual violence.

What do you plan to do after you graduate?: I'm hoping to work in a college setting in a department tailored to student support services, student wellness, and/or career services. I'm interested in many different areas of student affairs so I'm excited to continue learning about what specialties would be the best fit for me.



What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?: I spend most of my free time with my close friends and family. I love getting caught up in stories- whether it's reading books or watching movies. I also enjoy being out in nature, especially with my dogs!

Anything personal about you that makes you who you are!: I love to explore. Whether it's nearby or traveling overseas, I thrive off of gaining new experiences and learning about new people, cultures, and ways of living.

DASA TRAINING

Genesee Valley BOCES offers DASA Trainings at the College at Brockport several times throughout the semester. This training is required for all students in the school counseling track.

Dates:

Wednesday, June 8, 2016; 5:30pm-9pm

If this option does not appeal to you, you may complete the DASA Training through a NY State Approved Provider. All of this information is available at:

<http://www.brockport.edu/certification/DASA.html>

**DASA Certification:
Training in Harassment,
Bullying, Cyberbullying,
and Discrimination in
Schools: Prevention
and Intervention**

Student Spotlight, School Specialization: Terri Allman-Clark

Emphasis (college, school, mental health): School

What brought you to the field of counseling?

Beginning at a very young age, I have been drawn to helping others. I completed my undergraduate studies in Elementary Special Education, but struggled to find a teaching position post-graduation. As a result, I accepted a position in the human services field and have spent the last ten years working with youth and families involved in the foster care, preventive, and juvenile justice system. While doing this work, I continued to hold a strong belief that the school environment has a very strong impact and influence on youth development (socially, emotionally, and educationally). In addition, my interest in the counseling profession developed as I collaborated with various mental health professionals. I reached a point in my life where I questioned where I was going with my career and, at age 30, decided to apply to the program. I have found it to be rewarding and challenging and believe that I am on the right path to meeting personal and professional goals.

Specific areas of interest? I am particularly interested in the rural high school population.

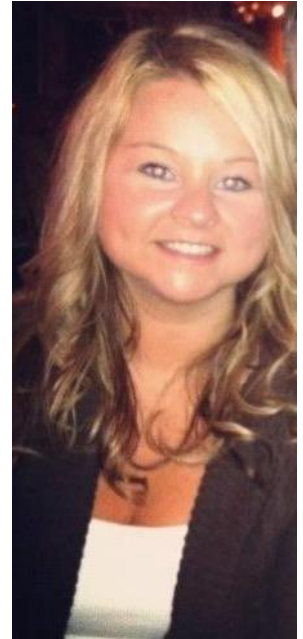
What do you plan to do after you graduate? Ideally, I would like to work in one of the small districts in the

Finger Lakes Region as a school counselor. My back up plan is to continue working at the voluntary agency where I am employed now, Glove House, Inc.

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time? In my free time I enjoy browsing Pinterest and completing various projects. I have a newly discovered interest in refinishing furniture and enjoy spending time working on renovating my home. I also enjoy hunting, shooting, and being outdoors.

Anything personal about you that makes you who you are!

I am very reflective about what life experiences have impacted the person that I am today. I think the thing that stands out most is the impact that growing up in a very small rural community has had on my life. This close-knit community offered a distinct culture that I believe strongly influences who I am and has instilled strong moral and spiritual values that I embrace today.



CSI SPRING WEBINAR SERIES

Understanding Grief Related to Pet Loss

Dr. June M. Williams
Tuesday, April 26, 2016
2:00 - 3:00 PM EDT

For more information on the CSI Webinar Series, please visit
http://www.csi-net.org/?page=Webinars_Scheduled

Editorial

Newsletter Editor: Kate Mahar

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Patricia Goodspeed

Contributors: Mike Morde, Dr. Summer Reiner, Dr. Susan Seem, Dr. Bob Dobmeier, Dr. Patricia Goodspeed, Rafael Outland, Dr. Claudette Brown-Smythe, Jenna Mollura, Stephanie Borrelli

Have questions about the department newsletter? Suggestions? Please email edcga@brockport.edu. This is *your* newsletter, and we welcome your contributions.