

IUP Counseling Department Newsletter

*"A semi-annual newsletter for the IUP Department of Counseling
alumni and students"*



Welcome to this edition of the Department of Counseling Newsletter. 1999 has brought important advancements within the Department and for Professional Counseling in PA. The University Senate approved all department curriculum revision proposals on May 4th. The December 1998 Newsletter outlined proposed changes to the M.Ed. & M.A. programs.

Both of the programs will increase to 48 credits, allowing students to meet the minimum credits required by PA licensing and national certification standards.

The Community Counseling program was approved for the Pittsburgh/Monroeville Center beginning January 2000 (see article on page 3). In addition, a "License Only" Admission option was approved. This is designed for master's level counselors needing additional credits to meet PA licensing standards (see article on page 3).

On December 21, 1998, Governor Ridge signed Senate Bill 619 into law, resulting in Act 136 of 1998. This act provides for licensing of professional counselors. While it may be some time before specific regulations are developed, licensing for counselors is finally a reality in PA. See article on page 2 for more on counselor licensing. We completed a nationwide search for a 6th faculty member. Nadene L'Amoreaux, completing her doctorate at Kent State University, will be joining our faculty this fall (see article in opposite column).

The 2nd Spinelli Scholarship was awarded to Nancy Chelgrin and the 1999 Outstanding Student award was received by Mindy Heher (see pg. 5 for further details). Twelve students were initiated into Iota Upsilon Pi, IUP's chapter of Chi Sigma Iota National Honor Society (see page 5). We hope you find this Newsletter issue informative and look forward to your reactions!

Dr. Bob Witchel



Nadene A. L'Amoreaux is joining our faculty in the Fall '99 semester. She was identified as a result of a nation-wide search, which involved 60 applicants. She is completing her doctoral dissertation at Kent State University from the Counseling & Human Development program.

Nadene's dissertation focuses on perceptions that preadolescents and adolescents, diagnosed with ADHD, have about interventions used by their parents. She was highlighted in the December 1998 Newsletter as she taught in our Department as an adjunct faculty member during the past year. Nadene has been a teaching fellow at Kent State, teaching and co-teaching practicum, introduction to community counseling, small group processes, introduction to counseling procedures, and couples theory and technique.

Nadene completed her BA from Hiram College, received her MA degree from Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, and she is a certified rehabilitation counselor. She has experience working with children in a partial hospitalization program, and counseling adolescents, couples, and families.

We welcome Nadene L'Amoreaux to the Department, and hope alumni get the opportunity to meet and interact with her.

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Career Works



Dr. Karen Rivosecchi and students enrolled in a career development class designed and implemented a "Career Works" workshop for the ARIN IU Pregnant & Parenting Teens Program. Forty-two teens from Indiana & Armstrong counties participated in the four-

hour workshop held at the Rustic Lodge located in Indiana.

The counseling students constructed a rating scale to determine what career-related topics were of interest to the teens. The list generated three areas: Life Skills, Job Readiness, and Positive Parenting.

Participants attended workshop sessions on two of the above topics and a panel discussion comprised of representatives from local schools. Representatives from IUP, Triangle Tech, and other post-secondary programs were available to provide information and respond to participants' needs.

Manda Fisher and Joy Sottile (Community Counseling students) shared their experience of working on the project. Manda said that "working on this project provided an opportunity to work with the different systems, such as the school, community, and counseling professionals. It was nice to have a class where we could apply what we were learning and see the results." Joy said "It was a good opportunity to help kids, if we made an impact or left an impression in a few of their minds, then the time and effort that we put into this project was well worth it."

Counselor Licensing

On December 21, 1998, Governor Tom Ridge signed Senate Bill 619 into law: Act 136 of 1998. This act provides for licensing of professional counselors, marriage and family therapists, social workers, and clinical social workers. In the December 1998 Newsletter we included major sections of the law related to qualifications for licensure and requirements for grandparenting. We have been receiving many inquiries from alumni and others about counselor licensure. All the information available is included on the Legisla-

Counselor Licensing (con't)

tion and Licensure page of the Pennsylvania Counseling Association. We encourage you to look there for the latest news and information. Here is the website:

<http://academic.uofs.edu/organization/pca/pcaleg.html>

Following are excerpts from this PCA website:

On May 11th the Governor announced his appointments for five of the six new members of the Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists, and Professional Counselors. The following individuals have been referred to the PA Senate for confirmation: Raymond Hoover of Camp Hill and J. Michael Wilkins of New Castle were nominated to fill two of the Professional Counseling positions.

Once the new board members are confirmed they are required to meet within 30 days to set up operating procedures and develop licensing application forms. They are then required to adopt rules and regulations necessary to carry the Act into effect. There is no statutory deadline for the board to develop rules and regulations, and it is difficult to predict how long it will take.

The process of implementing the Act could take 18 months to two years, but it is difficult to predict. The Board will be deciding a variety of issues that will be very important to potential licensees, graduate programs, and agencies, which hire counselors. Issues relating to what degrees and training are considered appropriate; what national credentials (which require a masters degree or above and a test) may excuse someone from having to take another test; and, what test will potential licensees have to take, are among the decisions the Board will make.

Based on the information stated in the Act, the recent revisions made to IUP counseling programs would meet the 48-credit degree program requirement. As new information becomes available we will include it in the Newsletter and on our dept. web page: <http://www.iup.edu/ce>

We will do our best to advise individuals on how to proceed with licensure issues, but the Licensing Board will have the final authority on all licensing decisions. So, though we will be happy to help, the faculty cannot be held accountable for the subsequent decisions of the Board, especially as many procedures are still to be decided by the Board.

Monroeville Program

The Community Counseling Program (MA) has been approved by the University Senate and administration to be offered at the IUP Monroeville Graduate and Professional Center located at 470 Mall Circle Drive, Monroeville. Bob Witchel will be coordinating the program, which plans to admit about 25 students into the first cohort to begin classes in January 2000. A second cohort is planned to be recruited for September 2000. If successful, we anticipate admitting a new cohort each September. Students will enroll in 2 courses each semester (including summers) allowing the program to be completed in two and a half years.

We have been exploring offering a counseling program in the Greater Pittsburgh area for more than ten years. A review of counseling, mental health, and human services agencies in the Pittsburgh Metropolitan area indicates a substantial number of Bachelor's level professionals providing counseling-related services. The recent Counselor License creates an incentive for Bachelor's level counseling professionals to pursue a graduate counseling degree. In order to qualify for a license they will need to obtain a 48-credit master's degree in counseling.

As alumni often recruit and refer prospective students, we encourage you to share this new program location with persons in the Greater Pittsburgh area interested in exploring a master's degree in community counseling.

Further information can be obtained by contacting:

Dr. Witchel at (724) 357-2306, or
email: Bwitchel@grove.iup.edu

School of Continuing Education at:
Telephone: (800) 845-0131.
website: <http://www.iup.edu/contin/>
email: ce-ocp@grove.iup.edu

Applications can be obtained by contacting the Graduate School and Research at:

Telephone : (724)357-2222
Email: graduate-admissions@iup.edu
Website: <http://www.iup.edu/gradua/>

Licensure-Only Admission Option

The University Senate approved our proposal to develop a "License Only" option for admission. This admission option is designed to help a counselor licensure applicant meet graduate credit requirements. A license applicant has to successfully complete a graduate program of sixty semester hours in counseling, including a 48-semester hour master's degree in counseling, from an accredited educational institution.

This License Only option is designed for individuals who already have a minimum of a 36-credit hour Master's Degree and need additional credits to meet licensure standards. Alumni, who need additional credits (beyond 36) to meet the licensing requirements, should contact the department to have their transcript(s) evaluated to determine which courses they could enroll in for credit beyond their master's degree.

The final determination of courses acceptable for licensure would be made by the state licensing board. If a student had a question about a course being accepted for licensure, they should contact the Licensing Board. Applicants for the "License Only" status must meet similar admission requirements as degree-seeking applicants, which include a minimum 3.5 graduate grade point average.

Alumni interested in applying for the license only option, in order to obtain additional graduate credit to meet licensing requirements, may want to consider enrolling in courses, such as:

Summer Session Two (July 12 – Aug. 12)

- CE 636 Career Development T/R 5:30 - 9:30 p.m.
- CE 730 Ethical, & Legal Cons. M/W 5:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Fall Semester 1999 (Sept. 1 - Dec. 9)

- CE 636 Career Development Weds. 8:00-10:30
- CE 681 Human Sexuality Issues in Counseling
Mon. 8 - 10:30
- CE 730 Ethical & Legal Cons. Weds. 5:20-7:50

Spring Semester 2000 (tentative schedule)

- CE 636 Career Development
- CE 740 Diversity Issues in Counseling
- CE 730 Ethical & Legal Considerations
- CE 659 Group Counseling Practicum

Faculty News

Drs. Fontaine and Dandeneau co-presented a workshop at the PA School Counselor's Association entitled, "How do I supervise interns when no one taught me?" A similar presentation/discussion was made at the Hot Topics in Counselor Education Conference in Slippery Rock.

Dr. Fontaine was invited to be part of a work group for PA Dept. of Ed. to revise the education standards for school counselors. Dr. Fontaine is serving as a career counselor consultant for USA Today's Career Center on-line. She was invited to present at Penn State's annual conference on gay/lesbian/bi-sexual youth in Oct. She is a reviewer for the Mental Measurements Yearbook and is in the process of reviewing two new career tests for the next edition. She has also reviewed two books for the Psychology of Women Quarterly.

Dr. Dandeneau has been serving as Interim Dean of the Graduate School and Research and will be returning to the Department in the Fall. Claire received two College of Education Technology Mini Grants. One was for Use of College Server Technology: Development of Counseling Graduate Curriculum Proposal, and the other for Use of Internet/World Wide Web Technology: CE 636 Graduate Course in Career Development. Further information about these projects can be found on the web at: http://www.iup.edu/educol/mini_grants.htm

Dr. Guth recently had a new addition to her family; Alexander was born on April 16, 1999.

Dr. Guth served on a search committee to select a new faculty member for the IUP Counseling and Student Development Center. She was the Awards Co-Chair for the Association for Specialists in Group Work (ASGW). She was involved in selecting recipients for several group work awards presented at the 1999 American Counseling Association Convention in San Diego.

In addition, Dr. Guth has completed training and data collection for her grant-funded study examining the effects of traditional in-person versus Internet training in lesbian and gay issues. Over 84 IUP students participated in the project. Dr. Guth was awarded a Technology Mini-Grant from the College of Education for the use of Chat Room Technology in the Internet workshop. Manda Fisher and Lori Mondock, counseling students, were active members of the research team. If you have an interest in joining this team, please contact Dr. Guth at (724) 357-5509 or e-mail her: lguth@grove.iup.edu.

Dr. Guth's recent publications & presentations include:

Faculty News

Counseling students' perspectives on training in diversity issues. The Journal for the Professional Counselor, 13 69-79. (co-authored with J. M. Tyler, K. McDonnell, and D. Lingle).

Guth, L. J., Hewitt-Gervais, C., Smith, S., Fisher, M. & Nitza, A. (1999, April). Student attitudes toward HIV/AIDS and homosexuality: The effects of an HIV positive speaker. Poster presentation at the 1999 World Conference of the American Counseling Association, San Diego, CA. (Manda Fisher, M.A. student, collaborated with Dr. Guth on this poster)

Clements, K.D., & Guth, L. J., (April). Addressing children's test anxiety: A psychoeducational group. Poster presented at the 7th Florida Conference on Child Health Psychology, Gainesville, FL.

Serrell, K.K., & Guth, L. J., (1999, March). Developing effective communication with children. Presentation at the Southern Early Childhood Association annual meeting, Nashville, TN.

Dr. Witchel has been busy serving as department chair & providing leadership for moving four program revision proposals through the curriculum approval process. He chaired the recent search for a 6th faculty member and has begun to develop the Monroeville Program, which he will coordinate.

Dr. Witchel and Dr. Jay Mills (IUP Counseling Center) had a program entitled, Engaging One's Own Life Forces as a Developing Therapist accepted to the American Academy of Psychotherapists (AAP) Institute and Conference to be held in Chicago (Oct., 1999). In June, he will be attending the AAP Summer Workshop, and a PA Mental Health and the Law 1999 workshop.

Dr. Worzbyt continues to promote the *Caring Children Make Caring Choices* curriculum throughout the state. The program is designed to teach children the value of making caring life decisions. The project is sponsored by the PA Departments of Transportation and Education, and the IUP Highway Safety Program.

If your school district is interested in this program, please contact Dr. Worzbyt, Program Director and Trainer, 206 Stouffer Hall, IUP, Indiana, PA 15705; phone: (724-357-4537) or FAX: (724) 357-7821. Working closely with Dr. Worzbyt has been his graduate assistant, Jana Hardee.

Current News

Chi Sigma Iota held its second induction ceremony and dinner on May 2, 1999. Twelve students were initiated into the Iota Upsilon Pi Chapter. Dr. John Butzow, Dean of Education, was honored with a recognition award for his continuous support of the Counseling Department. Dr. Ruth Riesenman, Executive Assistant to the President, discussed the importance of honor societies in her keynote address to the new members. Chi Sigma Iota is a counseling academic and professional honor society designed to promote scholarship, research, professionalism, excellence in counseling, and to recognize high attainment in the pursuit of academic and clinical excellence in the counseling field. For further information, you can contact Dr. Dandeneau or view the Chi Sigma Iota website located at: <http://www.csi-net.org/>

Spinelli Memorial Scholarship



Nancy H Chelgrin is the second recipient of the Spinelli Memorial Scholarship, which recognizes outstanding scholarship & achievement. Nancy, a secondary school counseling major, resides in Punxsutawney and has been employed by Community Action since 1981. Nancy was also the

recipient of the first place award given at the PSCA conference, recognizing her academic achievement, & community involvement.

Dr. Spinelli Memorial Fund

If alumni wish to contribute to the Dr. Spinelli scholarship fund, they can contact the Annual Fund at (724) 357-5555 or write to the Office of Annual Giving, 313 Sutton Hall, IUP, Indiana, PA 15705. The annual award is \$400 and is given to a current M.A. or M.Ed. counseling student. Additional contributions will allow the award to be increased.

Helen Buggs - Department Librarian

We are sad to share that Helen Buggs passed away on March 3rd, 1999. Miss Buggs, under Aging Services, served as the Department librarian for over 15 years. She was deeply committed to students, served as a resource to faculty, and maintained the library in a professional manner. A plaque will be dedicated in her honor and displayed in the library. She will be greatly missed. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Diabetes or the American Heart Associations.

Current News

Outstanding Student Award



Melinda J Heher was selected by the faculty as the 1999 Outstanding Counseling Student. She will receive her M.A. in community counseling in August. She has maintained an outstanding record of scholarship. Mindy served in leadership positions in CESA & Chi Sigma Iota Honor Society, & served as CESA's representative to the Grad. Student Assembly. She worked in a G.A. position on the Punxsutawney campus. This is the 5th year the award has been presented. Mindy was among many outstanding graduates nominated.

Special Recognition Award



The faculty elected to recognize another student at Graduation. Jenny White has been a significant member of our dept. family for the past two years. As a G.A. this past year, Jenny, along with Laurie Khalouf, was significantly involved with the development of the major program proposals recently approved. She also coordinated the admission's process. She successfully completed her field placement at Altoona High School and maintained her commitment to fellow student, Kara Willow, to co-develop a poster for the PSCA Conference. The faculty recognized Jenny's courage and commitment to her professional responsibilities while remaining dedicated to her family as they experienced a difficult challenge.

John S. Rock Exceptional Leadership Award

Jana Hardee received the John S. Rock Exceptional Leadership Award presented by the African American Cultural Center. Jana worked on a number of projects as Dr. Worzbyt's G.A. including the coordination of a state-wide training program entitled Caring Children Make Caring Choices. Jana conducted a Caring Children Program at PSCA in April, developed a curriculum newsletter and a power point presentation. Jana has also assisted Dr. Worzbyt on revising a textbook, and developing a decision-making chapter for the new PA Driver Education Manual to be published in June. Jana was also recognized for her leadership in her church, involvement with Big Brother/Big Sister program, and for excelling in her internship at the IUP University School.

Student Presentations

Charlotte Manges (M.A. program) presented at The Annual Conference of the Association of Death Education and Counseling held in San Antonio, Texas in March 1999. Charlotte gave a poster presentation entitled "*When Grief Comes to Work: An Employee Grief Support Program*" which focused on how to initiate an employee education program for grief and loss in the workplace. She works in the OB/GYN unit at Indiana Hospital where she has been a nurse for the past 23 years. She graduated in May 1999.

Jenny White and Kara Willow had a poster presentation at the PA School Counselors' Association held in April at Lake Harmony, PA. "Exploring the Technology Frontier: Career Counseling on the Information Superhighway" focused on raising guidance counselors' awareness about how technology can aid in career counseling.

The world-wide web provides financial aid information, scholarships, military information, and even interest inventories for students. They also provided a list of helpful websites. If you are interested in learning more about these sites please contact the Counseling Department.

Upcoming Conferences

October 22 - 24, 1999 Holiday Inn Harrisburg East
Turning Points: Counseling in the 21st Century
PA Counseling Association 1999 Fall Conference

March 21-25, 2000 Washington, DC
Building Counseling Competencies for the New Millennium
American Counseling Association 2000 World Conference

Oct. 20 - 24, 1999 Arlington Park, Illinois
Life Forces Institute & Conference of the American Academy of Psychotherapists; contact Dr. Witchel for further information.

Our Department on the Web

Dr. Witchel maintains the departmental websites on the Internet. It contains information about the program, faculty, admission process, and IUP. It also has links to other counseling-related sites. If you have any suggestions, comments, or additional interesting sites to add, feel free to e-mail any faculty member.
<http://www.iup.edu/ce/>

Newsletter on the Web

You can view this newsletter and previous issues on the Web, as well as link to other sites identified in the Newsletter.

This **Spring/Summer 1999** issue is located at:
<http://www.iup.edu/ce/newslettersp99.htm>

Faculty email addresses

Dr. Dandeneau: Cdanden@grove.iup.edu
Dr. Fontaine: Fontaine@grove.iup.edu
Dr. Guth: Lguth@grove.iup.edu
Dr. Witchel: Bwitchel@grove.iup.edu
Dr. Worzbyt: JCWorz@grove.iup.edu

Alumni Updates

Thanks to all of you who responded to our Fall Newsletter. We were pleased to hear from so many alumni. See page eight for a feedback form to return to us.

- 1973** Christine Chemelli, Middle School Guidance Counselor, Armstrong School District
- 1987** James (Stoney) Stombach, teaching part-time for past 11 years; currently teaching at Butler Community College
- 1994** Leslie Hanley, Guidance Counselor, Purchase Line North Elementary
- 1996** Sheri W. Brooks, Elementary Guidance Counselor/gifted teacher, Glendale School District.
- Heidi A. (Klym) Speidel, Family therapist, Cambria County MH/MR, Ebensburg, PA

Notify Department of Job Openings

We are always interested in becoming aware of employment opportunities. About 25 students will graduate in either May or August and many are involved in searching for a school or community counseling position. If you become aware of open positions, please contact the Department at (724) 357-2306 or fax the job vacancy announcement to (724) 357-7821.

*Important information from ACA

The **100,000 New Counselor plan** is a reality in the U.S. Senate. The American Counseling Association's effort to educate members of Congress on the need for more counselors has paid off. This week Senator Paul Wellstone (D-MN), plans to offer an amendment to the Juvenile Justice bill, S. 254, that would provide matching grants to fund the "100,000 NEW COUNSELORS ACT".

The Act would provide \$3.7 billion for schools to hire 100,000 new counselors. The Act also provides funds to hire psychologists and social workers. The U.S. Conference of Mayors has endorsed the "100,000 New Counselor Act".

America's schools have a serious shortage of school counselors. The U.S. average student-to-counselor ratio is 513:1 --- 250:1 is the maximum recommended ratio. If we are to bring down the student-to-counselor ratio we need to hire 100,000+ new counselors.

Fund Elementary & Secondary School Counseling

Another amendment on the Juvenile Justice bill, S. 254, is the being offered by Senators Harkin (D-Iowa), Blanche Lincoln (D-AR), and Paul Wellstone (D-MN) that would authorize the Elementary School Counseling Demonstration Act for \$100 Million and extend the Act to provide services in secondary schools.

The Elementary School Counseling Demonstration Act will provide funding to schools so they may hire counselors, and expand counseling and pay for direct counseling services in the schools. The amendment targets \$60 million for elementary schools.

*Excerpted from ACA Website - for more information see: <http://www.counseling.org/>

Graduation May 15, 1999



Drs. Guth, Worzbyt, Fontaine, Witchel, Dandeneau

Mindy Heher receiving 1999 Outstanding Student Award From Dr. Fontaine

IUP Counseling Newsletter –

Published semi-annually by the Counseling Dept.

Professor:

Dr. Robert I. Witchel

Graduate Assistant:

Nikole A. Jackson

Alumni Feedback

We want to know what our alumni are doing – professional activities, publications, employment and so forth. We want to update our mailing list, and obtain e-mail addresses. We are interested in knowing about **employment** and internship opportunities for our current students, and feedback about starting a **Pittsburgh Program**. Please return this form (add additional sheet if needed):

Name _____ Year of Graduation _____ Degree _____
Address _____ Home phone _____



E-mail _____ work phone _____

Place of Employment _____ Job Title _____

Suggestions/Reactions:



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