



I. Summary of Program

The Professional Counseling Program's personnel at the end of academic year 2020-2021 totaled seven core faculty, one Program Coordinator, and one administrative assistant. Our adjunct faculty includes two CACREP trained counselor educators, and a doctor of pharmacy. The program accepted 74 students from an applicant pool of 78, and 57 of those began the program. We had 111 students in seats this year. Our student body is currently 67% female and 33% male, 84% white with African American, Asian, Hispanic, American Indian, Foreign National, and other making up the remaining 16%.

II. Faculty Achievements

Faculty in the program made 81 presentations, attended 14 professional meetings, served on 14 University committees, and served on 4 state committees. A faculty member served as President of Arkansas Association for Counselor Education and Supervision and is now President Elect-Elect of Arkansas Counseling Association. A faculty member Coordinated and acted as Master of Ceremony for Arkansas Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Midwinter Conference and coordinated CACREP Self-Study for Reaccreditation. One faculty received the Blair Olson Distinguished Professional Service Award by AR Counseling Association. One faculty member served as Vice Chair for Sparrow's Promise, Board Member/Faculty Haitian Christian Foundation, and Avanti Italia Advisory Committee Member and Counselor.

Faculty Presentations Included:

- "Counselor Education and Supervision in the COVID Era"
- "Back to School Tips Pt 1"
- "Back to School Tips Pt 2"
- "How to Get Emotionally UnStuck"

- “Maximize On-Line Learning”
- “Suicide Prevention Month”
- “Dealing w/ Tornado Fears”
- “Dealing With Your Own Monsters”
- “Fright Month Pt 1”
- “Fright Month Pt 2”
- “National Adoption Month”
- “Benefits of Hiking”
- “Importance of Voting”
- “Health Reasons for Giving Thanks
- “Christmas Movies: Leave no one Alone”
- “Christmas Movies: Nothing Goes as Planned”
- “Christmas Movies: Hard Times Bring Growth”
- “Christmas Movies: People Matter More Than \$”
- “Complicated Grief”
- “Figure out Your Best Career”
- “Affirmation and Correction”
- “Introverts and Extroverts”
- “Being a Good Winner”
- “Lessons from the Little Things”
- “Romantic Movies: Compromise”
- “Romantic Movies: Commitment”
- “Celebrate Your Heritage”
- “National Reading Month”
- “Optimism”
- “Dealing w/ Personal Monsters”
- “Getting More Involved in Life”
- “Unwanted Ministries”
- “Autism Awareness pt 1”
- “Autism Awareness pt 2”
- “Non-verbal Communication”
- “Kids Fear Tornados”
- “Military Appreciation Month: How to Say THANK YOU”
- “Benefits of Theater Participation”
- “Dealing w/ a Big Ego”
- “Father’s Day Dad Jokes”

- “How Not to Exasperate Your Kids”
- “How to Empower Your Kids”
- “Planning Ahead”
- “Positive Power of Nostalgia”
- “Growing Old Gracefully”
- “Handling Awkward Family Reunions”
- “Family Vacation Strategies”
- “Helping Someone w/ Suicidal Thoughts”
- “Power of Narrative Therapy”
- “Treating Others w/ Respect”
- “Intimacy: A Model for Change and Healing”
- “Created for Connection”
- “Stress Pathways: Anxiety or Resilience”
- “Catastrophic News Delivered”
- “Comfort Zones for Provider Growth and Patient Care”
- “Reducing Stress while in Graduate Training”
- Lunch and Learn with Searcy Industrial Products
- Lunch and learn for counselors for the New Life Church Organization
- “Dealing with Anxiety”
- “Counseling Microskills”
- “Self Care for Actors”
- "From Darkness to Light"
- "Anxiety and Depression"

Workshops, Professional Meetings, and CEs attended Included:

- ArCA Online State Conference
- ArACES Online State Conference
- ACA Conference
- ArCA Conference
- TLPCA Counseling and Therapy Summit annual conference
- Assessing Memory in a School Setting
- Understandable and Legally Defensible Psychoeducational Reports Arkansas School Psychology
- Autism and Emotional Disturbance Arkansas School Psychology Association
- MOCA Cognitive Assessment
- COAMFTE site visitor training

III. Program Achievements

The program was once more involved with community events, recognitions, and trainings. The program continued to see growth in the 2020-2021 school year. The counseling program's Advisory Committee, which is comprised of representatives from Unity Hospital, Prime Care, Cabot and Searcy schools, Arisa Health, Child Safety Center, and several private practice therapists met in October and were given an update on all that had been accomplished across the year. Discussion included topics such as addressing the mental health needs across the state, creating mental health first aid/training for classroom teachers, providing self-care workshops and support groups, working to bring diversity to the program/areas of counseling, and enhancing telehealth law and ethics training material.

Due to COVID 19, there were no physical events or presentations sponsored by our Chi Sigma Iota chapter. A virtual induction ceremony was held. There were virtual meetings, monthly newsletters, and social media engagement. As of Fall 2021, things have been getting back to normal and more events being organized.

The Rogers site of the Professional Counseling program offered or sponsored several trainings for the community in conjunction with community agencies including "Helping Someone w/ Suicidal Thoughts", "Power of Narrative Therapy", "Treating Others w/ Respect", "Maximize On-Line Learning", "Figure out Your Best Career", and "Affirmation and Correction."

The Memphis site of the Professional Counseling program continued offering monthly CE meetings are held for counseling professionals on that site as a part of collaborative work and outreach in the Memphis community. Some of these training were entitled "Professional Boundaries: Managing Dual Relationships", "An Introduction to Emotionally Focused Therapy", "Helping Clients with Sleep", and "Preventing Burn-out"

Inter-professional experiences were provided. Students and faculty participated in an ongoing inter-professional experiential (IPE) collaboration with the Health Sciences programs on campus for collaborative case studies. The Professional Counseling program was active in leadership in both fall and spring IPE activities with faculty acting as emcees and discussion leaders and multiple students serving as round table facilitators.

The Professional Counseling program teamed with the Health Sciences, Public Safety, local law enforcement, paramedics, and the hospital in April for the annual Disaster Drill on campus. This year's simulation focused on tornado drill.

Academically, the program has continued to prepare for reaccreditation and preparation for adherence to the new 2016 standards. The marriage and family therapy program has begun to be integrated with the clinical mental health and school counseling entry level specialty areas as it prepares for initial accreditation. The self-study was completed and submitted in November 2021!

It is important to note that the COVID 19 pandemic still created some challenges for the program and its students during the 2020-2021 year.

IV. Counseling program/student outcomes

In 2020-2021 academic year, 100% of Professional School Counseling candidates from the Professional Counseling program who took the Praxis II School Counseling Exam 0421 (which measures knowledge and skills and is required for licensing in School Counseling) made a passing score. In the 2020-2021 academic year, 100% of Clinical Mental Health Counseling candidates from the Professional Counseling program who took the National Counselor Exam (NCE) or comprehensive exam assessing knowledge, skills, and abilities made a passing score (which is determined using the Angoff formula) on first attempt.

The program had 4 students graduate in December 2020, 7 students graduate in May 2021, and 5 students graduated in July 2021. Completion rates are currently at 88% for clinical mental health students and 82% for school counseling students. Current program job placement rate for the last year, defined as the number of students who, within six months of receiving their degree have obtained employment in the field they were trained or a related field, is 83% for clinical mental health and 100% for school counseling. Note that jobs in school counseling were depressed due to COVID-19 and the shift to online education. It has also impacted clinical counseling jobs.