



I. Summary of Program

The Professional Counseling Program's personnel at the end of academic year 2017-2018 totaled seven core faculty, one Coordinator of Programs, Labs and Accountability and one administrative assistant. Our adjunct faculty includes two CACREP trained counselor educators, and a doctor of pharmacy. The program accepted 44 students from an applicant pool of 47, and 40 of those began the program. The bi-annual New Student Orientation, sponsored by Simmons First Bank, commemorated the students' entrance into the profession of clinical mental health and professional school counseling. We had 104 students in seats this year. Our student body is currently 75% female and 25% male, 87% white with African American, Asian, Hispanic, and other making up the remaining 13%.

II. Faculty Achievements

Faculty in the program made over 60 presentations, attended over 25 professional meetings, served on 1 national professional committee. A faculty member's student team was awarded ACA National Graduate Ethics Competition 3rd place. One faculty member applied to be a CACREP site visitor.

Faculty Presentations Included:

- "SUPERvision: Essentials of Supervision from Beginning to End"
- "Establishing a Counseling Ministry in a Church Context"
- "Marriage Mentoring Training"
- "Professional Ethics and Your Personal Values – Part I"
- "Professional Ethics and Your Personal Values – Part 2"
- "Navigating Senior Journeys Through the Power of Stories: Empty Nesting, Caregiving, and Grief"
- "Common Theories of Psychotherapy"
- "Cognitive Behavioral Therapy: An Introduction"

- “Meeting the Needs of Children and Foster Dads”
- “The Voice of Truth”
- “What is your Why? Living Your Mission”
- “Don’t Stress about Stress”
- "Reducing Anxiety/ Building your team"
- “Suicide Prevention/ Cyber Bullying”
- “Current Trends in Technology Assisted Counseling”
- “Ethical Implications of Using Apps in Therapeutic Settings”
- “Ethical and Cultural Adaptations of Trauma Interventions”
- “Legal and Ethical Supervision of Interns with Mental Health Issues”
- “Utilizing Yoga in Counseling”
- “Interpreting and using MBTI for Health Professionals”
- “A Therapeutic View: The Mental Health Component of Treatment/Delivering Distressing News”
- “Violence and Mental Illness: Myths, lies and misunderstandings”
- "Defining Codes of Ethics"
- “Theology of Sex”
- “The Purpose of Sex”
- “The History of Sex”
- “Sex in the Media and Pornography”
- “Marital Intensives: A Guide for Practitioners”
- “Counselor’s Choice: Intimacy in Marriage”
- “Intimacy with your Spouse”
- “Intimacy: Knowing Yourself”
- “Self-Care for Helping Professional”
- “The Relational Style of Jesus”
- “Keeping the Spark Alive: Panel Discussion”
- “Parenting Difficult Teens”
- ““7 Secrets to Happiness: that you probably already know”
- “Read A Book Day”
- “Single Moms”
- “Talk Like A Pirate/ Humor is Healthy”
- “Understanding Opposite Gender”

- “Fright Month Pt 1/ Preschoolers”
- “Fright Month Pt 2/ School Aged Kids”
- “Fright Month Pt 3/Fear of Tornados”
- “Fright Month Pt 4/ American’s Top Fears”
- “Fright Month Pt 5/ Overcoming Phobias”
- “When Friends Fight”
- “Automobile Accidents”
- “Fear About Mass Shootings”
- “Genograms”
- “Kids and Diversity”
- “Old-fashion Relationship Tips”
- “Dissociative Identity Disorder”
- “Long-distance Relationships”
- “Counseling is About Gaining Tools”
- “Counseling is for Everyday People”
- “Short Term Counseling Works”
- “Therapists Help You Set Goals”
- “Therapy is Affordable”
- “Going to Counseling is a Sign of Strength”
- “Dealing with People with a Huge Ego”
- “Dealing With Loss”
- “The Value of Introverts”
- “Learning How to Mentor”
- “How Much Does Heredity Effect Us?”
- “How to Fight for Equal Pay”
- “The Importance of Play Throughout Life”
- “The Value of Rescue”

Workshops and Professional Meetings Included:

- ACA National Conference
- ArCA Conference
- ArACES Mid-Winter Conference

- TCA Conference
- EMDR Training
- TLPCA/TNMFT Counseling Summit
- Law and Ethics in Counseling Conference
- Seed Digging
- Self-Care for Helping Professionals
- Studies in Ethics: Interprofessional Experiences
- The “One Thing”: Becoming Better Counselors by Harnessing the Key
- Essentials of Supervision
- Chi Sigma Iota Induction Ceremony and Business Meeting
- Inter Professional Experiences with Health Sciences at Harding University
- American Military & Government Counseling

III. Program Achievements

Multiple events, recognitions, trainings, and program growth were achieved across the 2017-18 year. The counseling program’s Advisory Committee (comprised of members representing Unity Hospital, Searcy Children’s Homes, public and private school administrators, a county judge, and clinical mental health agencies) met in October. Actions taken this year on previous committee suggestions included community outreach through the newly established Compassion Clinic, establishing internship opportunities to work with military clients including, but not limited to, Harding University undergraduate and graduate students, working in collaboration with Searcy Children’s Home and DHS to see children who often have parents in prison or rehabilitation facilities.

Trainings completed during this cycle aiding the clinics’ military and trauma work included the training of four faculty members in Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR). Military, children, community families, and individuals are being served on a consistent basis; and EMDR training has now been completed by 7 counselor educators who have full time assignments in the Professional Counseling program. The unit provided accommodations for the EMDR trainers and multiple professionals in the area attended training sessions in the spring 2018 semester. Programs and trainings designed for parents and teens in the community were

presented in partnership with Professional Counseling and Criminal Justice departments resulting in positive feedback and growth of services. In November, all core faculty presented at the annual Arkansas Counseling Conference and several program counseling graduate students presented poster sessions of their research or worked as conference volunteers. In February, 2018, four faculty members attended and participated in Arkansas Counselor Education and Supervision training. The unit director remained president of the Arkansas Military and Government Counseling Association for this year and was involved on the national level as a state leader.

Successful collaborations in the community included a Professional Counseling partnership with The Elliott Foundation to offer depression screenings on campus and in the Searcy community. A service outreach for the community was provided on the NWAR site in Rogers through CE presentations for practicing therapists in that region of the state and the Memphis site began offering a similar service in spring of 2018 for their community. 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 unit's Chi Sigma Iota chapter sponsored a community program for mental health professionals and brought in a trainer for community providers in a mental health "seed digging" seminar. Additionally, training was provided to professionals and caregivers in the foster system on use of the ACES screening and therapeutic response to crisis as identified in the screenings.

The Professional Counseling program again teamed with the Health Sciences, Public Safety, local law enforcement, paramedics, and the hospital in April for the annual Disaster Drill on campus which focused and trained on a tornado disaster. Counseling graduate students served as mental health first responders in the drill and were available for students involved in the disaster as well as community first responders. An academic high light occurred when the unit's Chi Sigma Iota chapter student team achieved a 3rd place award in the ACA National Graduate Ethics Competition. Additionally, the program has two graduates who applied for and were accepted into

doctoral programs in CACREP accredited counselor education programs. In matters of additional growth, in 2017 the University asked the Professional Counseling program to consider submitting another site for accreditation and time and logistics of that move were reported in last year's annual report. In the July CACREP board meeting, a site in Memphis, Tennessee was accredited for offering the Professional Counseling program. There are two counseling faculty assigned to that site. Since, all faculty collaborate and assist in teaching students at all locations regardless of primary location, both faculty quickly became fully involved in program meetings, interviews, other program or student responsibilities, and have added valued expertise and experience to program faculty.

In 2017-2018 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 2017-2018 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.

IV. Graduates

The program had 16 students graduate in December 2017, 15 students graduate in May 2018, and 1 student graduate in July 2018. Current program job placement rate for the last year, 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 100% clinical mental health and 100% school.