There have been multiple exciting changes this year in the Professional Counseling program. We have been busy opening the Compassion Clinic; participating in inter-professional experiences with health science majors; offering a training through Chi Sigma Iota that brought in professionals and foster parents for continuing education; participating in the disaster drill on the Searcy campus; traveling to Haiti to serve there; and participating in multiple other events and acts of service. One of the biggest and most exciting changes is adding Memphis as an accredited site for Professional Counseling. You may now take courses in Searcy (on the main campus with some courses available on the North Little Rock campus as well), in Rogers (in Northwest AR) or in Memphis (on the HST campus) and graduate with a CACREP degree from Harding University.

In the spring and early summer of 2017 we wrote a substantive report which was submitted to CACREP in May. The report requested expanding the accredited program in Professional Counseling to a new site for the program in Memphis, Tennessee. We received a letter granting that request and accrediting the site just as school was starting this semester.

There has been an excellent Master of Arts in Counseling at the Harding Theological School with two respected counselor educators as professors there who now are a part of the Professional Counseling faculty. Dr. Ed Gray and Dr. Kevin Shelby are wonderful resources for all of you and they will be teaching classes you may have opportunity to take. You will hear much more about them soon. There are also several students from Memphis who are now a part of Professional Counseling and we will be together in classes, Chi Sigma Iota inductions, and graduation. Some of you have already seen each other at the orientation for new students in counseling for fall semester!

As is our custom, we will meet as a faculty each Wednesday morning to make sure there is consistency across settings, make plans for our future, take care of tasks, and most especially pray for each of you. Your Professional Counseling program has been very blessed. From its beginning, we made a commitment to remember this was the Lord’s program, not ours, and that we train to serve. We are truly blessed to be able to walk a journey with those we see in counseling. It is a privilege to do that as our profession and to train in the knowledge and skills that can make us effective counselors who use best practices in the field. Your program being accredited allows freedom of more portability across states and licensing boards, ability to work with the military, and even work overseas in many places. We have graduates who are already accomplishing these things. Recognizing this, we are very thankful and excited for all that is ahead.

It seems appropriate to say “Welcome to all who are a part of Professional Counseling in Memphis!” We celebrate that our family has enlarged and feel blessed to be one program working together. I also want to take a moment to honor Dr. Todd Patten of our faculty. He not only received an outstanding teacher award from his peers at Harding University, but was also named the outstanding counselor educator in Arkansas by the Arkansas Association for Counselor Education and Supervision. Congratulations Dr. Patten!
1) Where were you born? Borger, Texas

2) When you were a child, what did you want to be when you grew up? Medical doctor

3) Siblings: Two sisters and one brother

4) Where did you attend college? Oklahoma Christian College for my bachelors, West Texas State University for my masters, and Texas Tech University for my doctorate

5) Spouse and how long you have been married: Invisible and perfect

6) Children: Enough to keep me entertained

7) Somewhere you would like to visit and why? Always open to travel anywhere in the world. I just like seeing new places.

8) If you could have dinner with anyone, who would it be and why? My dad. There are so many things I still need to learn from him.

9) Something not many people know about you: Growing up I loved to sew and piece quilts with my grandma.

10) Favorite color: I love deep, rich colors.

11) Favorite movie: The Trouble With Angels

12) Favorite sport and/or team: Basketball

13) Favorite thing about Searcy: Having great conversations with good friends.

14) Favorite book (other than the Bible): The Spirituality of Imperfection

15) How long have you been teaching at Harding? I’ve been an adjunct since 2002.

16) Biggest challenge or obstacle: I love piano music and have always wanted to play the piano. I took several years of lessons and never learned to play more than scales and very basic songs.

17) Proudest moment or accomplishment: I can’t think of a proud moment. I just try to let God use me where he wants to use me.

18) Person who had the biggest impact on your life and why? Teata Lehew. She is a living demonstration of being the hands and feet of Jesus in caring for widows and orphans. When she was over seventy years old, she adopted a special needs baby that was not supposed to live. That special needs baby is six years old now. Teata has spent her life serving others as a house parent and foster parent.

19) Favorite scriptures: James 1:27 Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

20) Words of wisdom for our students: The greatest tool you bring to the counseling relationship is who you are as a person. Be a reflection of God makes you an effective tool in the counseling relationship.
As the daughter of a retired Colonel in the Air Force, I have moved a lot and have met a lot of people. Learning about how God created people, how we communicate, how we relate, how we cope, how we love, how we hurt, and how we grow has always been fascinating to me. I think that is what made me feel called to pursue an education in counseling. I was born in England, moved to Ohio, then to Panama, then to Virginia, then to Japan, then to Illinois, then to South Carolina, then to Alaska, then back to South Carolina, and now I’ve been in Arkansas for the past 6 years (weird!!) I am married to my teammate, Austin, and we have the cutest corgi ever, Fitz. My hobbies include: reading, hiking, game nights, exercising, and playing with my pup. I am excited and a little stressed (in a healthy way) about graduating in December. Until that time, I am waiting expectantly for my internship to start at Ward Central Elementary School and to continue as a clinical resident at the Compassion Clinic.

Hi, my name is Anide Francis-Duval and I am entering my last semester in Professional Counseling program. I am 28 and in my free time I enjoy quilting, being outdoors, and spending time with friends. After graduating from college, I moved to Central Arkansas to work at a children’s home. I also met and married my husband, Aaron Francis, there. I was fortunate to serve as a mental health paraprofessional at the home and then later to work with children at an emergency shelter. Working with these children helped me realize that I needed a counseling degree and the tools to better help them.

My teachers and professors have always been my biggest influences. I love learning from their life experience and seeing their passion in different fields. This past summer I took my first online course “Childhood Traumatic Grief.” This course provided me with insight concerning behaviors I have seen in children I worked with in the past. I will look forward to using what I learned from Harding in my profession.
Spring 2017 Photos...

CSI Induction Ceremony

Interprofessional Experiences
Fall 2017 Calendar

New Student Orientation.................................................................August 17
Classes Begin............................................................................August 21
Fall Break Day (no classes) ..........................................................October 13
Homecoming Alumni Breakfast & CE.........................................October 20
ArCA Conference & Poster Session..........................................November 8 - 10
Final Exams................................................................................December 11 – 14

Interprofessional Experiences

The Interprofessional Experience, or IPE, is always one of my favorite events of the semester. This semester did not disappoint. The goal of each IPE is to help students see the importance and the benefits of working with other health-related professionals. Aside from the benefits of collaborating with professionals from other fields, the IPE strengthens ones development in his or her field. This was my second IPE, and it by far my favorite. The client was an avid high school basketball player who, because of his concussion, was told he might not be able to play ever again. There was another counselor at my table, and we discussed with the group that this client may have a difficult time coming to terms with the reality of never playing again. We also considered that he might be at risk for depression, and how we would treat it. The main reason why the IPE is my favorite event of the semester is because everybody that is involved has the opportunity to learn about different health-related fields and how they would treat a client from their perspective. By doing this, we are able to work together for the benefit of the client. “Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love” (Ephesians 4:15-16).

By: Tyler White

Keep in Touch

Have You:

☐ Married?
☐ Moved?
☐ Added to your family?
☐ Received an award?
☐ Got an idea for a story?

Tell Us!

Name____________________
Address__________________
_________________________
Email____________________

Bruce McLarty, D.Min.
President, Harding University
Donny Lee, Ed.D.
Dean, College of Education
Jenene Alexander , Ed.D.
Director, Professional Counseling Program
Angela English
Newsletter Editor/Designer