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WELCOME NEW FACULTY AND STAFF

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Support CECP
The 2011-2012 year has seen many changes impacting the Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology. The new Sangren Hall was completed in August of 2012, just in time for the move to the new building immediately prior to the start of the fall semester. On the south side of the new Sangren Hall there is a new green space with a new water feature and pedestrian mall between Sangren and the Waldo Library area that serves as a gathering place for the University community. A community celebration and open house for the new Sangren Hall took place September 28, 2012 with community guests, students, faculty and public officials initially gathering together in the new pedestrian mall area while the WMU marching band played, followed by guests entering the new building for welcoming remarks by President Dunn, distinguished guests and legislators; and tours of featured areas in the new building. The department’s Center for Counseling and Psychological Services (CCPS) was one of the main showcased points on tours of the new building. We are delighted with the new CCPS clinic and believe the clinic is among the finest counseling training facilities in the nation.

The 2011-2012 year also marked Board of Trustee approval of a new WMU Strategic Plan. The plan features a clearly identified vision for WMU as a nationally and internationally recognized University aspiring to distinguish itself in terms of three pillars of the University: Learner Centered, Discovery Driven and Globally Engaged with five broad goals:

(1) Ensure a distinctive learning experience and foster the success of students;
(2) Promote innovative learning, discovery and service;
(3) Advance WMU as a major research university;
(4) Ensure a diverse, inclusive and healthy community; and
(5) Advance social, economic and environmental sustainability practices and policies.

The Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology shares the strategic vision of the University as Learner Centered, Discovery Driven and Globally Engaged. The current issue of the newsletter shares some of the important highlights of the last year and features some of the ways in which Department students, staff, faculty and alumni strive to support these three central pillars of the University values and vision.

We are very proud of the work being done by our students, staff, faculty and alumni. I wish to thank all of our students, faculty, friends and alumni who have continued to provide support for the Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology during the past year. Your involvement, enthusiasm and support are vital to the continued success of CECP.

Warmest regards,

Pat Munley
CENTER FOR COUNSELING AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES

Shaping the future of training for Counseling Professionals

The Center for Counseling and Psychological Services in Kalamazoo has a new home! We are centrally located on the third floor of the new Sangren Hall adjoining the main department office area, near the elevators. The clinic includes 8 individual/couple session rooms; 2 dedicated assessment/testing rooms; a family therapy room, a group therapy room, and a child therapy room. Several of the session rooms adjoin observation rooms that afford supervisors and counseling students wireless in-ear communication during live sessions.

The clinic has a new state of the art digital recording learning system, Meti Learning Space, which is currently in use by several medical schools around the country. We are one of the first counseling training clinics to implement the system for mental health training. It features the ability to annotate the video recording with comments and observations during live viewing of counseling sessions as well as when the counselor reviews his or her sessions and meets with a supervisor. Annotations are typed-in comments that attach to the recording at the point of entry. This means that supervisors can tailor feedback to an individual students’ needs and level of skill development. Students reviewing their own recordings can annotate to indicate assessment of their own development as counselors or supervisors in training and identify critical moments to bring to supervision. The clinic and the digital video system are set-up in a manner that allows session rooms to be used for individual/triadic supervision when not in use for counseling. This offers maximum flexibility and adequate space for the variety of training needs. Currently, the CECP 6040 Counseling Techniques course has been using the clinic space for their microskills practice sessions and for recording and reviewing mini role-play sessions for basic pre-practicum counseling skills training and development.

The clinic also includes a primary seminar room where the practa meet for group supervision and live viewing of sessions; and a multipurpose training room with individual computer stations for counseling students and doctoral students training as supervisors to review and annotate their session recordings.

The new CCPS-KZ clinic is among the finest counselor education and counseling psychology department training facilities in the nation. The clinic provides an outstanding resource to serve clients and is an excellent training setting for CECP students at various levels of professional development.
ACCREDITATION

In August of 2012 the Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology was informed that the Commission on Accreditation of the American Psychological Association (APA) has reaccredited the doctoral program (Ph.D.) in Counseling Psychology at Western Michigan University through 2019. Reaccreditation for the maximum seven year period indicates full compliance with the profession’s accepted standards for the highest level of psychology training. Continuously accredited by APA since 1993, the program offers doctoral training in Counseling Psychology, and embraces a scientist-practitioner model of training; preparing students for the scientific and professional practice of Counseling Psychology. Emphasizing the importance of addressing the needs of an increasingly diverse society, the program creates an atmosphere where a broad range of values and concerns receive attention and respect. Racial minority and diversity concerns are integrated into coursework, practica and supervision. Many faculty and students maintain active professional and research interests concerning various aspects of multicultural and diversity studies. The program at WMU is the only APA Accredited doctoral program in Counseling Psychology in the state of Michigan. The Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology is one of six departments in the College of Education and Human Development at WMU. Dr. Lonnie Duncan and Dr. Eric Sauer serve as Co-Directors of Training for the doctoral program in Counseling Psychology.

DOCTORAL RISING STAR

The Doctoral Rising Star award recognizes a College of Education and Human Development doctoral student who has demonstrated outstanding potential in scholarship, teaching, and/or professional leadership. The recipient demonstrates a quality of performance that indicates that they will continue to develop into a distinguished member of their profession. This year’s award was presented to doctoral student, Sheryl Kelly.

Sheryl is a full-time counseling psychology doctoral student. In addition to being an outstanding doctoral student, Sheryl has been actively engaged as a graduate assistant to department training directors, holding responsibilities such as coordinating the doctoral program admissions and interview processes. Her responsibilities also include helping with an important core course, Counseling Techniques, working under the supervision of faculty to help master’s students develop their counseling skills. In her graduate assistantship and teaching roles, Sheryl has exemplified maturity, conscientiousness, and good organizational and communication skills. Sheryl is a Thurgood Marshal Doctoral Fellowship recipient and has been very active in research and presentations at professional conferences. Her research is grounded in improving the lives of African Americans and covers topics that range from counselor preparedness and willingness to work with African American clients to research on working with African American women who experience racism in the workplace. Other meaningful endeavors for Sheryl include reaching out and touching the lives of many in the community. She is an active member of her church which has a community outreach focus. Sheryl is a rising star; her accomplishments and potential for future contributions are evident in her professionalism, positive attitude, and boundless passion for the field of Counseling Psychology.
Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology Annual Awards

April 12, 2012

Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology Graduate Teaching Effectiveness Award
Garrett Brookmyer
Raymond Leone Sheets, Jr.

Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology Graduate Research and Creative Scholars Award
Angela Marotta Garrison—Doctoral Level, All University
Brian Doane—Doctoral Level, Department

Robert and Diane Betz Award for Doctoral Studies in Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology
Reuben Maina Mwangi, Doctoral Studies in Counselor Education
Lindsey Dollar, Doctoral Studies in Counseling Psychology

Robert O. Brinkerhoff Scholarship for Human Resources Development
Mauricio Nuno Muzevuca

Kenneth Bullmer Scholarship for Doctoral Students in Counseling Psychology
Branson Lamar Boykins

Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology Alumni Scholarship
Raymond Leone Sheets, Jr., Doctoral student
Jasmin McKinney, Master’s student

Alan and Kristin Hovestadt Outstanding Student in Marriage and Family Therapy Award
Lauren D. Cooper

Arthur and Margaret Manske Outstanding Master’s Student in School Counseling
Chelsey M. McConn

Outstanding Master’s Student in Counselor Education & Counseling Psychology
LeAnne Jansen

Thelma M. Urbick Outstanding Doctoral Student in Counselor Education Award
Allison E. Buller

Outstanding Doctoral Student in Counseling Psychology
Sheryl Kelly

Outstanding Alumni Award
David K. Duys

Robert and Diane Betz Award for Doctoral Studies in Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology
Reuben Maina Mwangi, Doctoral Studies in Counselor Education
Pictured left to right Dr. Suzanne Hedstrom, Reuben Mwangi, Caroline Betz, Nick Betz, Dr. John Geisler

Robert and Diane Betz Award for Doctoral Studies in Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology
Lindsey Dollar, Doctoral Studies in Counseling Psychology. Pictured left to right Lindsey Dollar, Dr. Mary Z. Anderson, Dr. John Geisler

Kenneth Bullmer Scholarship for Doctoral Students in Counseling Psychology
Branson Boykins
Pictured left to right: Branson Boykins, Dr. Lonnie Duncan

Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology Alumni Scholarship
Raymond Leone Sheets, Jr., Doctoral student pictured left to right: Dr. James Croteau, Raymond Sheets

Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology Alumni Scholarship
Jasmin McKinney, Master’s student pictured left to right: Dr. Suzanne Hedstrom, Jasmin McKinney, Dr. Merry Carson
PROFESSOR EMERITUS RECEIVES LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The Michigan Counseling Association, founded in 1965, presented professor emeritus Dr. John Geisler with its first ever Lifetime Achievement Award. Dr. Geisler was a faculty member in the Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology at Western from 1976-2005. He taught at Central Michigan University from 1968-1976. Dr. Geisler received his bachelor’s degree from Adrian College, Adrian, MI and his master’s and doctorate from the University of Toledo, OH.

Dr. Geisler has been a member of the Michigan Counseling Association for 44 years serving as President for one year, the Governing Council for 25 years, the By-laws chair for 20 years, and the licensure committee chair for 8 years. In addition he has been President of the following professional organizations: the Michigan Association for Counselor Education and Supervision, the Kalamazoo Counseling Association and the North Central Association for Counselor Education and Supervision. He was the chairperson of the Midwest Branch Assembly of the American Counseling Association and the national Secretary of the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision. He has also served on several accreditation teams for the Council for the Accreditation of Counseling and Related Education Programs.

Dr. Geisler was instrumental in the writing and passage of the Michigan licensed professional counselor law. He testified 23 times before legislative committees, boards and councils and also served on the Michigan Board of Counseling for 8 years and was Chair of the Board for 2 years.

In addition to receiving the first Lifetime Achievement Award the Michigan Counseling Association also initiated the first ever scholarship award in his honor—the Dr. John Geisler Membership Scholarship. The Association said “Dr. Geisler’s efforts and dedication to the field of professional counseling in the State of Michigan should never be forgotten.”

These awards were presented at the Michigan Counseling Association annual conference this fall. During his career Dr. Geisler has also received awards from the Michigan Counseling Association, the Michigan Mental Health Counselors Association and the Kalamazoo Counseling Association. His alma mater, Adrian College, also honored him with a Distinguished Alumni Award as did his high school in Morenci, Michigan.
Academic Achievements
Congratulations to the following students on their recent graduation.

FALL 2011 MASTER’S DEGREES

Bassem Al Faraj  
Kalamazoo, MI  
Human Resources Development

Kelli Cryer  
Hazel Crest, IL  
Counseling Psychology

Jarrett Cupp  
Mendon, MI  
Counseling Psychology

Harkiran Dhaliwal  
Rochester Hills, MI  
Cnslr Ed:Marriage, Cpl & Fam

Rachel Duhon  
Grand Rapids, MI  
Counseling Psychology

Janis Duwe  
Glen Arbor, MI  
Cnslr Ed:School Counseling

Julie Edwards  
Wyoming, MI  
Counseling Psychology

Kathrin Elenbaas  
Lake Orion, MI  
Cnslr Ed:School Counseling

Darlene Ellis-Compeau  
Muskegon, MI  
Human Resources Development

William Evans  
Byron Center, MI  
Counseling Psychology

Melissa Fuller  
Kalamazoo, MI  
Cnslr Ed:School Counseling

Megan Gleason  
Clawson, MI  
Human Resources Development

Steven Greenman  
Traverse City, MI  
Cnslr Ed:Community Counseling

Amanda Greig  
Grandville, MI  
Cnslr Ed: Clinical Mental Hlth

Jennifer Halder  
Benton Harbor, MI  
Cnslr Ed: School Counseling

Zita Hardenberg  
Grand Rapids, MI  
Counseling Psychology

Andre Hicks  
Battle Creek, MI  
Cnslr Ed:School Counseling

Guy Jacobson  
Grand Rapids, MI  
Cnslr Ed:Community Counseling

Timothy Kanaan  
Mattawan, MI  
Counseling Psychology

Donna Khoury  
Warren, MI  
Counseling Psychology

Tyschorna Lowers  
Kalamazoo, MI  
Cnslr Ed: School Counseling

Bryan Maxwell  
Portage, MI  
Counseling Psychology

Maari Morris  
Kentwood, MI  
Counseling Psychology

Shana Murphy  
Rapid City, MI  
Cnslr Ed:Community Counseling

Ann Proulx  
South Pasadena, CA  
Cnslr Ed: Clinical Mental Hlth

Jordan Ramirez  
Vass, NC  
Counseling Psychology

Jessica Sharry  
Empire, MI  
Cnslr Ed:Community Counseling

Sarah Simons  
Grand Rapids, MI  
Cnslr Ed:School Counseling

Sarah Slamer  
Albion, MI  
Cnslr Ed:Community Counseling

Tina Snyder  
Williamsport, PA  
Cnslr Ed:Rehab’n Counseling

Gloria Warren  
Grand Rapids, MI  
Cnslr Ed: Clinical Mental Hlth

LaSondra Wayne  
Portage, MI  
Counseling Psychology

Amanda White-Jensen  
Randolph, NJ  
Counseling Psychology


SPRING 2012 MASTER’S DEGREES

Elizabeth Cary  
Kalamazoo, MI  
Counseling Psychology

Marilyn Davidson-Booker  
Grand Rapids, MI  
Cnslr Ed:School Counseling

Heather Estill  
Traverse City, MI  
Cnslr Ed:Community Counseling
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2011 - 2012 DOCTORAL DEGREES

December 2011
Elizabeth Sue Bradshaw
Decatur, Georgia
Counseling Psychology
“A Qualitative Study of the Lived Experiences of Adults with African American and Korean Heritages”
Chair of Doctoral Committee: Patrick Munley, Ph.D.

Leatrice Renee Brooks
Kalamazoo, Michigan
Counseling Psychology
“Comparing First Generation and Non-First Generation African American Students at Predominantly White Institutions”
Chair of Doctoral Committee: Lonnie Duncan, Ph.D.

Stephaney Stacian Carter
Bronx, New York
Counselor Education
“Jamaican American Child Disciplinary Practices”
Chair of Doctoral Committee: Gary Bischof, Ph.D.

LaShonda B. Fuller
Muskegon, Michigan
Counselor Education
“The Impact of Structured Group Counseling on Resiliency, Self-Efficacy, and Racial Identity among African American Female Teenagers”
Chair of Doctoral Committee: Joseph Morris, Ph.D.

Patrick Mugi Kamau
Grand Rapids, Michigan
Counselor Education
“A Study of the Experiences of Infertility among Married Kenyan Women”
Chair of Doctoral Committee: Suzanne Hedstrom, Ph.D.

Kimberly Christine Koessel
Grand Rapids, Michigan
Counseling Psychology
“The Relationship between Spirituality and Personality”
Chair of Doctoral Committee: Joseph Morris, Ph.D.

Brandi L. Pritchett-Johnson
Gainsville, Florida
Counseling Psychology
“African American Experiences of Race Relations in the Supervision Dyad”
Chair of Doctoral Committee: Lonnie Duncan, Ph.D.

April 2012
Kenlana Rose Ferguson
Portage, Michigan
Counseling Psychology
“In Their Own Words: The Lived Experiences of Unemployed African American Men”
Chair of Doctoral Committee: Lonnie Duncan, Ph.D.

June 2012
Bonnie MacBean Benson
Dublin, Ohio
Counseling Psychology
“Lesbian/Queer/Same-Gender-Loving Women Graduate Students in Mental Health Related Fields: A Grounded Theory of Attitudes toward Transgender Individuals”
Chair of Doctoral Committee: Patrick Munley, Ph.D.

August 2012
Lacretia T. Dye
Muskegon, Michigan
Counselor Education
“School Counselors’ Activities in Predominately African American Urban Schools”
Chair of Doctoral Committee: Suzanne Hedstrom, Ed.D.

Rebecca A. Kott
Grand Rapids, Michigan
Counseling Psychology
“What Psychotherapists Have to Teach us about Childhood Developmental Trauma: The Roles of Attachment Orientation Coping Strategy”
Chair of Doctoral Committee: Eric Sauer, Ph.D.

Candy Shawndelle McCorkle
Concord, Michigan
Counselor Education
“First-Generation, African American Students’ Experiences of Persisting at a Predominantly White Liberal Arts College”
Chair of Doctoral Committee: Donna Talbot, Ph.D.

Regina Lynn Meyers
Niles, Michigan
Counseling Psychology
“Predictors of Counselor Self-Efficacy among Master’s Level Counselor Trainees: Impact of Cohort versus Non-Cohort Educational Programs”
Chair of Doctoral Committee: Eric Sauer, Ph.D.

Sara Rebecca Streufert
Wausau, Wisconsin
Counseling Psychology
“Social Justice, White Racial Identity, and Multicultural Competency among Master Level Trainees in Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology”
Chair of Doctoral Committee: Joseph Morris, Ph.D.
DISCOVERY DRIVEN

RESEARCH, GRANTS, AWARDS AND PUBLICATIONS

2012 Barbara A. Kirk Award
Angela Garrison, doctoral student in counseling psychology, received the 2012 Barbara A. Kirk Award from Division 17, The Society of Counseling Psychology of the American Psychological Association. This award is presented in recognition of outstanding student-initiated research, and may include dissertation or other research. The award, which includes a cash presentation, was established to honor the late Barbara A. Kirk. To be eligible, the research must have been produced by a graduate student conducting independent research while enrolled in a counseling psychology doctoral program. Pictured right, Angela receives the award from Dr. Barry Chung, President of Division 17 of APA at this year’s annual meeting.

Inclusive LGBT Psychology of Working
Drs. Mary Z. Anderson and James M. Croteau recently co-authored a chapter for an edited volume of vocational psychology. The chapter, Toward an Inclusive LGBT Psychology of Working, brings together LGBT focused literature from vocational psychology with recent scholarship in LGBT psychology and the emerging psychology of working perspective to develop recommendations for advancing understanding of the experiences and improving the work lives of LGBT workers across the spectrum of work roles and diverse racial and cultural identities. The chapter will be published in The Handbook of the Psychology of Working: An Inclusive Psychology for the 21st Century, edited by David Blustein of Boston College. The handbook will be published simultaneously as a bound book and in electronic format as part of a broader electronic handbook library being published by Oxford University Press.

National Honors
Dr. Stephanie Tursic Burns was honored in 2012 by the American Counseling Association (ACA) as winner of the Glen Hubele National Graduate Student Award; the National Career Development Association (NCDA) as winner of the Graduate Student Research Grant Award; the Association for Humanistic Counseling (AHC) as winner of the Doctoral Level Emerging Leader Award; and the College of Education, Health, and Human Services (EHHS) at Kent State University’s (KSU) Doctoral Level Graduate Student Research Award. The ACA’s Glen Hubele National Graduate Student Award recognizes outstanding dissertation research by an ACA student member. Dr. Burns’ dissertation research determined and recommended empirically-based criteria for performing person matching as a psychometric scoring methodology to predict specialty selection for a profession. The Award was presented at ACA’s annual conference in San Francisco, CA. Dr. Burns also has a chapter on “Person Match” in press for the upcoming two-volume publication, “The APA Handbook of Career Intervention.” The handbook will be published by American Psychological Association (APA) Books within their highly successful and widely regarded APA Handbooks in Psychology Series. The chapter includes historical background, description of an intervention, a case study example, and resources for using person matching in career interest assessment.
Most Popular Paper WMU Scholarworks
Counseling psychology doctoral student Mark S. Barajas’ paper titled Academic Achievement of Children in Single Parent Homes: A Critical Review was published in the fall 2011 issue of The Hilltop Review. The Hilltop Review: A Journal of Western Michigan University Graduate Student Research is a publication of the Graduate Student Advisory Committee. Every paper receives a peer review by a representative faculty member and a graduate student. Issues of the Hilltop Review are published in print and published electronically in open access by Scholarworks at WMU. Since June of 2012 Mark’s paper has been the most popular paper on the WMU Scholarworks repository of over 5100 papers. This means that his paper is the most popular in terms of full-text downloads. Since the paper was published on-line his article has been downloaded over 7000 times. The full citation and link to Mark’s paper is: Barajas, Mark S. (2011) “Academic Achievement of Children in Single Parent Homes: A Critical Review,” The Hilltop Review: Vol. 5: Iss. 1, Article 4. Available at: http://scholarworks.wmich.edu/hilltopreview/vol5/iss1/4.

APA Dissertation Grant Awards
Angela Garrison and Brian Littleton, doctoral students in Counseling Psychology in the CECP department, have been selected as recipients of the 2012 American Psychological Association Dissertation Research Award. The APA Dissertation Research Award Program is intended to encourage excellence in dissertation research in psychological science by assisting science-oriented doctoral students with research costs. The award of $1,000 is to be used to help offset their dissertation research costs. Brian’s dissertation is titled “Emotional Disclosure, Emotion Regulation Strategies, and Depressive Symptoms: The Roles of Emotional Disclosure, Emotion Regulation Strategies, Adult Attachment, and Shame.”

Faculty Scholars Grants
Dr. Carla Adkinson-Bradley received a Support for Faculty Scholars Award (SFSA) which will provide funding support for her research investigation on “Perceived Severity of Parent Discipline Practices: A Study of Professional Counselors”. Specifically, the purpose of this national study will be to examine the child disciplinary perspectives of 1000 professional counselors. This investigation is part of a larger research project that focuses on the context of child discipline in African American families. Bradley also had a paper published in the October 2012 issue of The Family Journal on Postadoption Services Utilization Among African American, Transracial, and White American Parents: Counseling and Legal Implications. The study explored the extent of the use of nonfinancial support services (e.g., participation in support groups or individual/family counseling) by African American, transracial, and White American adoptive families. Implications for family counselors are discussed.

Dr. Jennifer Foster was awarded a Support for Faculty Scholars Grant (SFSA) which will provide funding support for her study on: “The World of Sexually Abused Boys: A Thematic Analysis of Trauma Narratives”. To date, the vast majority of child sexual abuse research has been conducted with adult survivors, resulting in a lack of children’s perspectives of the abuse experience. Of the previous studies with adults, many were limited to female participants. Boys’ perceptions about their lives during and after sexual abuse are largely unknown. The study of narratives written solely by boys about their sexual abuse will address the gap in the literature and inform treatment and prevention efforts.

Transition to Retirement
Mary L. Anderson and her co-author Jane Goodman have written an article (in press) for the Career Planning and Adult Development Journal. The focus of this article is the transition to retirement, and the authors discuss theoretical and practical applications targeted for this life/career transition utilizing Schlossberg’s 4-S Model. Schlossberg’s model is also discussed in Anderson & Goodman’s recently published book, Counseling Adults in Transition: Applying Schlossberg’s Theory in a Diverse World (2012).
Clinical Mental Health Counseling Addiction Competencies

Dr. Tiffany K. Lee (Assistant Professor, Specialty Program in Alcohol and Drug Abuse, WMU), Dr. Stephen E. Craig (Associate Professor in CECP and Unit Director, Counselor Education Program at WMU), Dr. Bianca T. Fetherson (Psychologist at G. Werber Bryan Psychiatric Hospital in Columbia, SC), and Dr. C. Dennis Simpson (Professor and Director, Specialty Program in Alcohol and Drug Abuse, WMU) have a manuscript that was recently accepted for publication in the Journal of Addictions and Offender Counseling. The article is scheduled to be published in the April, 2013 edition. In 2009, the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs developed addictions competencies for Clinical Mental Health Counseling students. The article by Lee et al. (in press) highlights these competencies, provides an overview of current addiction training, and describes methods to integrate addiction education into curricula. Dr. Lee is a graduate of the doctoral program in Counselor Education and Supervision at WMU and Dr. Fetherson is a graduate of the Counseling Psychology program, also at WMU.

APA Presentations

Counseling Psychology faculty and doctoral students presenting at the American Psychological Association (APA) Convention in August 2012 included:


NCACES Presentations

Counselor education students and faculty that presented at the 2012 North Central Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Conference included:


Great Lakes Regional Counseling Psychology

Conference Presentations

Students and faculty in the Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology (CECP) presented at the Great Lakes Regional Counseling Psychology Conference held March 22-23, 2012 at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana. The conference theme was Searching for Cultural Understanding: An Intentional Focus on Diversity, Social Justice, and Internationalization. The Great Lakes Conference is the longest running yearly regional conference (25 years) associated with Division 17 (Counseling Psychology) of the American Psychological Association. The WMU Counseling Psychology program, in the Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology (CECP), has been proud to host the conference in 1991, 1997, 2003 and 2008.

Career Decision-making Needs of Sexual Minority College Students: Implications for Career Counselors: Amber Larson, Mark St. Martin, Rommel Johnson, Glinda Rawls, & Hartini Rahman

The Changing Understanding of Racial Categorization: Mark S. Barajas, & James Jobe

Creating a Culture of Success for African American Counseling Psychology Doctoral Students: Ricky Pope, Vanessa Laurent, Shaakira Jones, Walter Malone, & Erin Jenkins

Cross-Cultural Replication and Validation of a School-Based Resiliency Measure: Mark S. Barajas, & Brian R. Stewart

Do the Right Thing: Challenging Hegemony and Praxis of Counseling Training: Lonnie Duncan, & Beverly Vandiver

Exploring Client and Therapist Attachment within the Counseling Process: Kathryn Wierda

Fostering Resilience as a Protective Factor in a Campus-wide Suicide Prevention Program: Hartini Abdul Rahman

Help-Seeking Attitudes among African American & Latino Communities: Implications for Mental Health Professionals: Krystelle Jean-Michele, & Laura A. Pacheco

Heterosexist Microaggressions in the World of Work: Implications for Sexual Minority Individuals: Lindsey Dollar, & Raymond L Sheets, Jr.

Impact of Attachment Experiences on Psychological Resilience: Laura Pacheco, & Brian Doane

Supervisory Working Alliance and Nature of Supervision as Predictors of Counselor Burnout: Garrett V. Weatherhead, Lindsey N. Dollar, & Angela M. Garrison

The Impact of Institutional Racism and White Supremacy on Help-Seeking Attitudes: A Look at Stigma and Cultural Mistrust: Krystelle Jean-Michel, Katherine Colles, & Deidre Begay

Women of Color and Racial Microaggressions in the Workplace: An Intersection Between Racism and Sexism: Deidre Begay, Erin Jenkins, & Sophia Rath-Targowski

Working with your bicultural clients: Beyond “Where are you from?”: Hartini Abdul Rahman

Aging and Mental Health

Dr. Jody Tomko and Dr. Patrick Munley, Professor and Chair of the Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology, have published a research paper in Aging & Mental Health. The article is on predicting counseling psychologists attitudes and clinical judgments with respect to older adults. Dr. Tomko is a graduate of the counseling psychology doctoral program and the research is based on her dissertation under the supervision of Dr. Munley. Currently Dr. Tomko is employed as a psychologist with the VA Pittsburg Health Care System.

White Racial Consciousness, Feminist Identity Development and Family Environment

Dr. Kara Wolff and Dr. Patrick Munley have published an article on “Exploring the relationships between White racial consciousness, feminist identity development and family environment for White undergraduate women” in the College Student Journal. Kara is a graduate of the counseling psychology doctoral program and the research is based on her dissertation under the direction of Dr. Munley. Dr. Wolff is currently an Assistant Professor of Psychology at Trinity Christian College in Palos Heights, IL.

Cognitive Behavioral Training Guidelines

Dr. Eric Sauer is co-author of a special report by Robert K. Klepac, et al., on Guidelines for Cognitive Behavioral Training within Doctoral Psychology Programs in the United States: Report of the Inter-Organizational Task Force on Cognitive Behavior Therapy (2012), 10.1016/j.beth.2012.05.002 The Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies initiated an inter-organizational task force to develop guidelines for integrated education and training in cognitive and behavioral psychology at the doctoral level in the United States. Fifteen task force members representing 16 professional associations participated in a yearlong series of conferences, and developed a consensus on optimal doctoral education and training in cognitive and behavioral psychology. The recommendations assume solid foundational training that is typical within applied psychology areas such as clinical and counseling psychology programs located in the United States. This article details the background, assumptions, and resulting recommendations specific to doctoral education and training in cognitive and behavioral psychology, including competencies expected in the areas of ethics, research, and practice.
Diversity Awards
The University Diversity Awards Committee presented the Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology the University Diversity Award in the College/Department Category for 2012 at Western Michigan University’s second annual Excellence in Diversity Awards program on April 11, 2012. The Department received the Award for outstanding contributions toward diversity and inclusion at Western Michigan University; and was recognized for dedication to creating an atmosphere where unique values and concerns receive attention and respect and for efforts to recruit and retain a diverse student and faculty population to address the needs of an increasingly diverse society.

International Students
We would like to highlight a few of the international students currently studying in the CECP Department, each of whom plays a vital role in contributing to the diversity of the department’s learning community. Each international student will make important contributions around the globe as they complete their training and return home to provide professional services in counselor education and counseling psychology. This year we were very pleased to welcome two Fulbright Fellows to the department for master’s studies in school counseling: Oyundelger “Oyuna” Enkhtur from Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia; and Mahana Dolores Lugo from Nicaragua. In addition, we were also very pleased to welcome Father Jean Robert Rubayita from Rwanda to our counseling psychology master’s program, and Emel Genc from Turkey to our Marriage, Couple and Family Counseling master’s program.

Emel Genc, Turkey

Emel is an International student from Turkey, currently studying in the Marriage, Couple and Family Counseling program. Prior to coming to the United States, she was employed in Turkey as a rehab counselor working with students with disabilities and their families. She also worked as a counselor at a community center, where she worked with adopted children and families who had academic, social and psychological concerns. Emel shared that in her work, she realized the skills she had were not enough and she needed more training to help the families and children she was working with. Emel shared that there are no master’s programs in counseling in Turkey, so with the help of her professors she began researching master’s programs in the U.S. and in England. Emel stated that education in the U.S. was expensive, compared to the free education system in Turkey, so she knew financial aid might be an issue. She applied for a scholarship from the Minister of Turkish Education and received the scholarship. The scholarship not only provides financial means for her to attend school in the U.S but also ensures that when she returns to Turkey she has a job waiting for her. For every year she is funded by the scholarship, she will provide a year of paid service to the Minister of Education.

Emel does not mind that she is required to work for the Turkish Minister of Education, in fact she disclosed it aligns with her professional goals. Emel hopes to complete a Ph.D program in Counseling Psychology and return to Turkey to work as a University professor. She hopes that she can share her experiences in the U.S and help build graduate programs in counseling for others who would like to gain more knowledge and skills to become better counselors. She shared that because Marriage, Couple and Family Counseling is a new field in Turkey, there are currently no programs for counselors who wish to specialize in this area in Turkey and that further training is limited to certification programs.

Emel shared that although language barriers have made the transition to the U.S. difficult, especially when native English speakers use idioms and slang, she has found CECP staff and faculty to be helpful, supportive and welcoming.

Mahana Lugo, Nicaragua

Mahana Lugo is from Nicaragua, and she is not shy to tell you how much she loves her country and her heritage. She shared she will work hard to help her country and community in any way she can. One of the ways she is trying to help her country is by pursuing a Master’s degree in School Counseling in WMU’s CECP department. Mahana is one of two Fulbright Scholar’s admitted this fall to the CECP program.
Prior to coming to WMU, Mahana studied Psychology at Universidad Centroamericana (UCA) in Nicaragua. After completing her studies at UCA, she worked in Human Resource and Education. For three years, she worked for the Ministry of Education of Nicaragua where she supported and led national strategies in School Counseling. She also worked at Victoria Foundation, a Technical Educational Institution for talented economically disadvantaged students where she worked to promote student retention and success.

Mahana shared that her education will enhance opportunities for work when she returns to Nicaragua. She would like to work with micro level institution, which would be comparable to working in a small community setting, working with students. Additionally, she would like the opportunity to work with the Nicaraguan government as a national advisor. Most importantly to Mahana, she hopes that her education will provide the opportunities to be an agent of change.

Mahana is excited to be studying at WMU, especially in the CECP department. She shared that she was excited to hear that another Nicaraguan attended WMU with an USAID scholarship in the 1960’s and returned home and founded the Normal School of Esteli*. *Note: He did not found the entire Normal School in the country, just the one in Esteli. The Normal School is the public institution to train the teachers of the country. To see how one WMU graduate can impact the community, inspires and encourages Mahana to believe she too can bring positive change to her country upon her return. Mahana is not sure what opportunities await her when she returns, and shares she is happy to work in small micro-level institutions, larger macro-level institutions, or work to create counseling degree programs at universities to train new counselors.

Oyundelger Enkhtur, Mongolia

Oyundelger “Oyuna” Enkhtur, is from Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. Mongolia is a landlocked country, located between Russia and China. Though it looks small, Mongolia is 17th largest country in the world and has a long and rich history. Oyuna is one of two Fulbright Fellow students admitted this fall 2012 semester to the Counselor Education School Counseling Master’s program. Prior to studying School Counseling at WMU, Oyuna studied International Relations at the University of Arkansas.

After completing her Bachelor’s degree, Oyuna returned to Mongolia and worked at EducationUSA, a non-profit and non-governmental organization that assists students pursue academic study in the U.S. Not being fully satisfied with her major, she considered several options to further her education including medicine. She decided to pursue School Counseling and dedicate herself to helping future generations in Mongolia choose the right majors for post-secondary education. Oyuna explained that in Mongolia students are expected to choose a major prior to entering post-secondary education. She shared that there are not enough systems in place to assist students to make a decision on what to major in or what career path to choose. Oyuna would like to become an integral part of the process by collaborating with the Mongolian Ministry of Education and initiating a project for career planning for high school students. Oyuna recognizes the importance and benefits of career planning from the perspectives of the students and the country. She shared that money and time are wasted if the wrong major is chosen. Additionally, Oyuna shared that many students remain unemployed after graduation which increases overall unemployment rates in the country. Additionally, she is considering creating a new counseling program at a University in Mongolia to train new counselors. One of her goals is to bridge the gap between Eastern ideas, culture and values with psychology to create a more integrative understanding of counseling for individuals with an Eastern worldview. Another very important thing she has been learning from WMU is the idea of sustainability; therefore, she’s planning to integrate sustainability with psychology in the future.

Jean Robert Rubayita, Rwanda

Jean Robert Rubayita, a student in the Counseling Psychology Master’s program, is also a Diocesan Roman Catholic priest from Rwanda. Jean Robert indicated that Rwanda is one of the most populated countries in Africa, with an estimated population of 11 million in 10,169 square miles of territory. He describes the country as beautiful and nicknamed “the land of a thousand hills,” but is most remembered for the sad, horrific April-June 1994 genocide that killed one million people. Jean Robert is the fifth child of eleven. He shared that he comes from a loving family, with parents who worked hard to provide opportunities for their children. Jean Robert grew up in a remote village away from the conveniences and comforts of cities. In 2010 -11, St. Thomas More facilitated Trauma Recovery Program workshops in his home area and country. These workshops were part of the impetus for Jean Robert's interest in counseling. Additionally, the genocide that ravaged his country created social issues, and Jean Robert hoped that further training in counseling would help him become a vital part of helping his community and country heal from the atrocities his country has been devastated with. Jean Robert shared that another motivation to pursue counseling psychology is to bridge the fields of counseling and ministry. He shared that there are times parishioners need their priests to do more than they may feel qualified to do. Jean Robert realized this gap and also realized he wanted to be more resourceful as a priest by gaining training in counseling.

Upon his return to Rwanda, he would like to weave his counseling and ministry profession together to reach beyond his church and help people in his country who need counseling services. He hopes to work with his church, connect with other professionals and organize seminars to teach about counseling. Currently, his diocese is developing a program that includes counseling for areas bordering RD Congo and Burundi. Father Jean Robert sees his training as an opportunity to help the Rwandans cope with the devastating consequences of wars, genocide and the resulting social issues.
Multicultural Training
CECP students and graduates are everywhere! Counseling Psychology doctoral students, doctoral candidates and graduates were present at the Grand Valley State University's annual multicultural seminar. This year’s presenter Dr. Joy DeGruy, author of Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome: America's Legacy of Enduring Injury and Healing, presented: Be the Healing: Culture-Specific Models of Service Delivery and Practice. Dr. DeGruy recognized a table of WMU CECP students (pictured above with Dr. DeGruy) as the “United Nations table” declaring the table was the most diverse group of people she’s seen. Students proudly told Dr. DeGruy that the table included all current doctoral students and graduates of the CECP Counseling Psychology Doctoral Program.

University of Malaya Counselling Ph.D. Examinations
Dr. Patrick Munley has been invited to serve as an External Doctoral Ph.D. Examiner for the Ph.D. Thesis in Counselling by the Institute of Graduate Studies, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The University of Malaya is one of four research-designated Universities in Malaysia and offers the Master of Counselling (MCouns) and the Ph.D. in Counselling. For the final defense of the dissertation the University of Malaya requires external review of the Ph.D. Thesis by two reviewers external to the University, who may also participate in the viva voce session.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2013 Great Lakes Conference
Counseling Psychology Engaging the Community and the World Great Lakes Region and Beyond

The 26th annual Great Lakes Conference will be hosted by Western Michigan University at the WMU downtown campus in Grand Rapids, MI on April 12 and 13, 2013. This is the longest running regional conference that is associated with Division 17 of the American Psychological Association Counseling Psychology. The theme of the 2013 Great Lakes Counseling Psychology Conference is Counseling Psychology Engaging the Community and the World. The theme celebrates counseling psychology’s role in engaging the community and the world through scholarship and practice and the profession’s work towards bridging differences and developing effective interventions at the individual, professional, organizational and societal level.
Dr. Bonnie Benson

Bonnie Benson graduated from the counseling psychology Ph.D. program in the summer of 2012. She began her position as a Staff Counselor at Counseling and Consultation Services, University Health Services at University of Wisconsin-Madison in August of 2012. This center is one of 19 university counseling centers with an integrated model of medical and mental health services. The center is a multidisciplinary agency with psychologists, counselors, social workers, and psychiatrists as well as an APA-accredited internship. Dr. Benson is a member of the University Health Services Staff Activities Committee. She also serves as a Health Ambassador to the LGBT Campus Center and collaborates with the campus center staff and students to improve mental health services for LGBT students. Dr. Benson conducts interprofessional process groups, supervises doctoral practicum and post-doctoral trainee co-facilitators, and provides supervision for doctoral practicum students from the UW-Madison Counseling Psychology program.

Dr. Shawn A. Bultsma

Since completing his doctoral work in counselor education at Western Michigan University (WMU), Shawn has earned tenure and continues to work as a counselor educator at Grand Valley State University (GVSU). He currently serves as the program coordinator for the school counseling program at GVSU. His teaching includes coursework to prepare students as professional school counselors and his research agenda includes school counselor supervision, multicultural issues in counselor education, and technology use in guidance and counseling programs. He has presented at various local, state, regional, and national counseling and counselor education and supervision conferences. In addition to his college and university service, Shawn has served the counseling profession through his leadership as the president of the West Michigan Counseling Association and the Michigan School Counselor Association. He continues to serve as the university representative to the Michigan Department of Education counselor educator advisory group. Shawn’s service to the community includes consultation work with several local school districts as it relates to the utilization and evaluation of school counselors. He has also served on the board of the Adoptive Family Support Network, and he continues to serve as the board president of Living Stones Academy, a small, multicultural faith based school that he helped to start three years ago.

Dr. Gerald A. Juhnke

A 1991 Ph.D. graduate of the Counselor Education and Supervision program, Dr. Juhnke has co-developed the Juhnke, Henderson, Juhnke Child Neglect Risk Assessment Scale. Dr. Juhnke, now a professor in the College of Education and Human Development at the 31,000 student, University of Texas at San Antonio, Kathryn L. Henderson, an assistant professor in the UTSA Department of Counseling; and Brenna A. Juhnke, a student at San Antonio-based Ronald Regan High School created the quantifiable assessment method. Counselors, social workers, and psychologists can use the assessment to measure child maltreatment risk factors. Dr. Juhnke has also been recently appointed Associate Editor for the Journal of Counseling & Development (JCD). Specifically, he has responsibilities for managing and overseeing the editorial process for JCD’s newest independent section, Assessment and Diagnosis in Counseling. JCD is the flagship journal of the 54,000 member, American Counseling Association.

Dr. Kimberly C. Koessel

Dr. Kimberly C. Koessel completed her predoctoral internship at Tripler Army Medical Center in Honolulu, Hawaii during the 2009-2010 year. She graduated from the doctoral program in Counseling Psychology in December 2011. She also served as a Psychology Resident at both Tripler Army Medical Center and William Beaumont Army Medical Center in Fort Bliss (El Paso), Texas. Following the completion of all licensure requirements for the psychology credential, Dr. Koessel was assigned to the 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, Fort Bliss (El Paso), Texas. She was personally selected by the 1st Armored Division psychiatrist (who oversees 25,000 soldiers) to serve as the behavioral health officer for her brigade (4800 soldiers). Dr. Koessel is the senior ranking behavioral health provider for the brigade which includes another behavioral health provider, a licensed clinical social worker, and two enlisted behavioral health specialists who she will supervise while they assist with triage, intake, crisis management, psychoeducational groups, and combat operational stress control. In December, Dr. Koessel will be deploying with 4200 soldiers from her brigade and the other three behavioral professionals, as noted above, to the southern region of Afghanistan. Her duties will include providing emergency and routine behavioral health services to her soldiers. Though it is hard to predict the exact activities she will be engaged in she anticipates focusing on building resilience, promoting good sleep hygiene, and helping soldiers and leaders adjust to the psychological demands of serving in a combat environment and being away from home and loved ones. After concluding this nine month assignment, she anticipates returning to service in the USA. Dr. Koessel currently serves at the rank of captain and will be considered for promotion to major while she is deployed in Afghanistan.
**Dr. David Duys**

Dr. David Duys graduated from CECP in 1998 and received the CECP 2012 Outstanding Alumni Award. Since graduating from WMU, Dr. Duys has distinguished himself on the faculty of two esteemed universities: Southern Illinois University and The University of Iowa. His excellence in teaching has been recognized by two awards: Excellence in Teaching Award given by the College of Education of the University of Iowa, and the Outstanding Professional Teaching Award presented by North Central Association for Counselor Education and Supervision.

Dr. Duys has been pursuing three lines of research: improving developmental approaches to school counseling, career counseling approaches with special populations, and exploring training conditions affecting counselor cognitive complexity. He has especially enjoyed engaging in interdisciplinary research related to these three lines of inquiry. Dr. Duys has presented at international, national, regional, and state conferences on topics related to counselor training, school counseling, and career counseling. He has published articles in Counselor Education and Supervision, the American Journal of Health Behavior, Career Development Quarterly, and the Journal of Humanistic Counseling, Education, and Development. Since fall of 2009 he has been serving as the Program Coordinator for both the PhD in Counselor Education and the master’s degree in School Counseling at the University of Iowa.

**Dr. LaShonda B. Fuller**

LaShonda B. Fuller, Ph.D., LLPC, SCL is an Assistant Professor of Counseling at Central Michigan University located in Mount Pleasant, Michigan. Dr. Fuller earned her Doctoral Degree in Counselor Education from Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, MI. She earned both her Master’s Degree in Guidance and Counseling with a focus in school counseling and Bachelor’s Degree in Journalism from Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, Ohio.

Dr. Fuller’s scholarly research interests include multicultural counseling and cultural competence, school counselor supervision, women and group counseling, and couples and family counseling of diverse groups. Her most recent multicultural experiences in advocacy include teaching multicultural counseling at the graduate level; co-authoring a chapter “Multicultural Counseling: Training Culturally Intentional, Competent, and Ethical Counselors for the 21st Century” in The Counselor Educator’s Survival Guide; and conducting group counseling with African American female teenagers.

Previous experiences include working with diverse populations as a school counselor, Assistant Director of the Multicultural Center at Ball State University, academic advisor, scholarship recruiter and counselor for international students at Bowling Green State University. In working with students, Dr. Fuller incorporates a cognitive-behavioral and psychoanalytic counseling approach from a multicultural and multiple perspectives framework.

Dr. Fuller has presented at numerous state and national conferences as a member such as the Michigan Counseling Association/ Michigan School Counseling Association Annual Conference, American Counseling Association, North Central Association of Counselor Education and Supervision, and the Association of Counselor Education and Supervision National Conference. Currently, she participates with the Michigan Roundtable of Diversity and Inclusion forums of Detroit, Michigan, serves on the School Counselor Educators Group Discussion Committee representing Michigan Universities, and is also a member of the following organizations: Association of Multicultural Counseling and Development, Counselors for Social Justice and American School Counseling Association.

**Dr. Janet M. Glaes**

Dr. Janet M. Glaes, Ph.D., LPC has worked as a full-time assistant professor in the Master of Arts in Counseling (MAC) Program at Spring Arbor University (SAU) for four years. As Coordinator of the School Counseling Program for the MAC Department, she oversees issues related to school track students including school elective course design and student preparation for the State of Michigan school counselor licensure exam. Janet is a member of the Michigan School Counseling Association (MSCA) and currently serves on the MSCA Governing Board in the position of Counselor Educator VP. While on the MSCA Board, Janet has served as a co-chair for the Fall 2011 joint MCA/MSCA conference. She was also the Food and Entertainment chair and co-chair for both the 2011 and 2012 joint MCA/MSCA conferences respectively. Janet received the SAU Faculty Merit award in the Fall of 2011 for her contributions to the MAC department and to the university.

**Dr. Larry Beer**

Dr. Larry Beer, a 1987 graduate of the Counseling Psychology Doctoral Program recently volunteered for deployment with the American Red Cross disaster relief effort after Superstorm Sandy. Dr. Beer engaged in a variety of helping activities including providing mental health services in New Jersey for 10 days.
An article fully explaining his involvement, along with 4,000 other volunteers, appears in the Kalamazoo Gazette under rparker3@mlive.com on November 17th. Larry indicates that this was his fifth deployment for the American Red Cross over the past 20 years and he comes back energized by the experience and learning so much about people of the communities that he served. Dr. Beer is a psychologist and founder of Family and Child Psychological Services, a 25 year old group private practice in the Kalamazoo area. He also brings what he has learned from over two decades of practice as a psychologist back into the classroom occasionally teaching practicum and group counseling courses for CECP.

Dr. Candy S. McCorkle
Dr. Candy McCorkley is a recent summer II 2012 Ph.D. graduate of the Counselor Education and Supervision program in the CECP department. For the past 15 years she served as a faculty member and program director at Spring Arbor University in Spring Arbor, MI in the psychology department and Master of Arts in Counseling program respectively. This fall she was appointed as a tenure-track assistant professor in the Counseling and Special Education department at Central Michigan University (CMU) in Mt. Pleasant, MI. She is currently teaching courses in assessment, human development, career development, practicum, introduction to counseling and counseling with children. In addition to her teaching duties, she is developing a scholarship/research agenda in the areas of persistence and retention of first generation students, the role of personal counseling in student retention and the effectiveness of pre-college initiatives (e.g. Upward Bound) in student persistence. She also serves as the chairperson on the task force to redesign CMU’s Human Development Clinic and as the coordinator of assessment for CMU’s Counseling Education unit. Dr. McCorkle is Chair of the Michigan Counseling Association (MCA) Public Policy and Legislation committee.

Dr. Brandi Pritchett-Johnson
Dr. Brandi Pritchett-Johnson received her Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology in December of 2011. Currently she is serving as Counselor and Psychology Fellow for the Counseling and Wellness Center at the University of Florida. Her professional interests include multiculturalism and social justice, grief and loss, supervision, and outreach. Dr. Pritchett-Johnson’s approach to therapy can best be described as integrative, making sure to assess and provide culturally responsive care. She most often engages in interpersonal and humanistic frameworks and strategies to empower clients to greater health and well-being. Because Dr. Pritchett-Johnson believes in modeling wellness; she often enjoys grooving to music, singing, staying spiritually grounded, football season, and spending time with her family and friends. She encourages others to discover their sources of joy and rejuvenation. Dr. Pritchett-Johnson is the ASPIRE Coordinator. ASPIRE is a program to support the retention, academic success and time-to-degree of African American/Black, Hispanic/Latino, and First Generation Students. She also participates on committees such as CWC Outreach committee and the Diversity and Inclusion Campus Climate committee. She is the Founder and Executive Director of Future 4 Teens and participates on the national level with the American Psychological Association (APA) and the Association of Black Psychologist (ABPs).
Dr. Stephanie Burns
Dr. Stephanie Tursic Burns is a Professional Counselor (LPC) in Ohio and Michigan and a National Certified Counselor (NCC). She received her B.F.A from the University of Akron and her M.Ed. as well as her PhD from Kent State University. Her research interests have been in the area of developing empirically-based criteria for performing person matching as a psychometric scoring methodology to predict specialty selection for a profession. Before joining the faculty at WMU she served as an Adjunct Professor in the Graduate Studies in Counseling Department of Heidelberg University and Ohio. She has presented at local, state, regional, and national counseling association conferences, provided numerous CEU training workshops, and has served on local, state, regional, and national counseling association committees.

Dr. Jennifer Foster
Dr. Jennifer Foster, a licensed mental health counselor and professional school counselor in the state of Florida, received her Ph.D. in Counselor Education from the University of Central Florida in May of 2011. Dr. Foster’s dissertation, An Analysis of Trauma Narratives: Perceptions of Children on the Experience of Sexual Abuse, was awarded UCF’s College of Education Outstanding Dissertation Award. Dr. Foster is continuing her research in the area of childhood trauma. Her other research interests include spirituality, wellness, and use of creativity in counseling and supervision. Before joining the faculty at WMU she served as a Professional School Counselor in the Orange County Schools in Orlando Florida. Dr. Foster is currently serving as a board member for the Michigan Association of School Counselors.

Mara Van Niekerk
Mara Van Niekerk serves as the Office Assistant for the Center for Counseling and Psychological Services (CCPS) in Kalamazoo. Formerly she worked as Secretary at W.K. Kellogg Middle School and Office Manager at Battle Creek Christian School.
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