

Welcome to *Counselion*



THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

Counselion

The Counselor Education Newsletter

Welcome to our first edition of the Counselor Education newsletter. There seem to be a million things to do as Professor-in-Charge of Counselor Education, Program Coordinator of Elementary School Counseling, oh yes, and as a faculty member. So, a newsletter has been an idea pasted on the bookshelf for two years with only ideas and a sense of guilt to show for it.

This year was different because of gaining a real partner in developing it, Azra Karajic. Azra is a doctoral student who took ideas and ran with them to design and provide content for this first edition. So now we have the first edition and are committed to being more regular about it.

Inside you will find information on faculty, students, programs, and the increasing problem of cyberbullying.

We hope you enjoy this first edition and encourage you to write and let us know your reactions or the special things you might be doing. We would love to have a section for graduates and that depends on you letting us know about your experiences.

Richard Hazler
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Cyberbullying

By Russell A. Sabella, Ph.D.

Cyberbullying involves the use of information and communication technologies such as e-mail, cell phone, text messaging, instant messaging, defamatory personal Web sites, and defamatory

online personal polling Web sites, to support deliberate, repeated, and hostile behavior by an individual or group, that is intended to harm others.”



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There is more to be learned on one day of discomfort, poverty and anxiety than in a lifetime of apparent happiness, security, richness and power. -Author unknown

Dr. Keith Wilson's hopes for the Africana Research Center (ARC)

Dr. Keith Wilson has been appointed as the new director of the Penn State Africana Research Center (ARC). He will still be teaching in the Counselor Education department part-time and agreed to share with us some of his hopes for the ARC.

In short, I am hoping to expand on existing programs offered within the ARC to increase the visibility of students and faculty conducting research to support the mission of the university and the ARC. We plan to do this in several ways: First, we want to

unite with organizations with a similar mission to give us more "bang for our buck." In this way, we are able to maximize the ARC's people and fiscal resources. Secondly, we want to start to publish a yearly volume that will highlight the work supported by the ARC to be consumed by people across the US. This is only part of my hopes for the ARC...

I look forward to working with the College of Education and the Department of Counselor Education, Counseling Psychology, and Rehabilita-

tion Services, to name a few stakeholders, to enhance what the ARC is already doing. It has been an excellent start!

- Mission of ARC– To promote research and scholarship conducted by Penn State faculty and students that will advance the historical and contemporary understanding and enhancement of the lives of people across the African Diaspora.
- To serve as catalyst for promoting and enabling environment where cultural production and discourse on diversity are nurtured to advance research, teaching, and outreach mission of Penn State.

Dr. Liza Conyers' work on Multiculturalism and HIV/AIDS

Dr. Conyers is currently involved in several interesting activities. Within the College, she is working on establishing a Multicultural Readers' Circle, providing the opportunity for faculty and graduate students to discuss issues related to teaching in a diverse context. She is looking forward to meeting other

faculty and students who have an interest in this area and exploring some of these issues in greater depth.

She is teaching two courses related to disability and has changed the format of the psychosocial class to a seminar format that students seem to enjoy. In addition, she is working with a number of students with disabilities

on campus to establish a disability organization. She was awarded a Mary Switzer Fellowship from the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research, which will allow her to complete a study exploring the employment-related needs of women and ethnic minorities who have HIV/AIDS while she is on sabbatical this Spring and next Fall. Then there is a book on HIV and Employment and traveling to Ireland, India, and around the United States. It is a lot for sure, but she is very excited about the opportunities and all that she can learn from them to share with students in the future.

The Department Leadership

- Spencer Niles –Department Head
- Kathy Bieschke –Professor-in-Charge Counseling Psychology.
- Richard Hazler– Professor-in-Charge Counselor Education and Coordinator of Elementary School Counseling.
- Jim Herbert– Professor-in-Charge Rehabilitation Service
- Brandon Hunt– Coordinator of Counselor Education Doctoral Program
- Elias Mpofu-Professor-in-Charge Rehabilitation Counseling.
- Jerry Trusty–Coordinator of Secondary School Counseling.
- JoLynn Carney– Chi Sigma Iota Advisor

Self-Support from a personal perspective by Dr. Jim Herbert

I continue to work on taking better care of myself. This task seems pretty basic, but I suspect like most of us in human service and related fields, we sometimes forget to make similar investments in our own lives as we attempt to make a difference in other people's lives. So, this year, I am taking guitar lessons and once in a while I get together with Dr. Niles and make "musical and singing noises."

I am also trying to take better care of myself physically (a never ending task) and am

actually working out at a local health club.

One more key to my self-support is continuing to work on my spirituality. One piece of this is being involved with a men's group for the past two years. I have come to realize over these past several years that spirituality is hardly addressed or discussed in our training with students. In my professional and personal life, I have come to realize that I would like to develop this aspect more fully.



Faculty Development

- Dr. Carney can be seen on a WPSU TV interview on bullying at <http://streams.wpsu.edu/bullying11082.html>
- Dr. Liza Conyers has been promoted to associate professor.
- Dr. Jim Herbert is the new Professor-in-Charge for the

Rehabilitation Services program. He was selected the editor of *Rehabilitation Education*, the journal of the National Council on Rehabilitation Education. Herbert's term runs from January 2007 to January 2010.

- Dr. Elizabeth Mellin is the newest addition to our

faculty. She graduated from Ohio University and previously worked in Atlanta, Georgia.

- Dr. Jerry Trusty has been selected the editor of *Career Development Quarterly*.
- Dr. Keith Wilson occupies a new position as the Director of the Africana Research Center (ARC).

Congratulations to Degree Recipients Spring/ Summer 2006

Doctoral Graduates

Counselor Ed doctoral students that graduated in Spring and Summer semesters of 2006: Garbette "Montie" Garraway, Tammy Russell, and Daniel Boutin.

Master's Graduates

Masters students graduated from following programs:

Elementary: Lisa DiBernardo, Erick Elder, Heather Kelly, Andrew Masters, Shannon Rockwell, Linsey Rydbom-Covert, Lori Seaton.

Rehab: Ruth Cowher, Christie DeMorat, Anita Johnson, Jennifer Knuth, Precious Parham, Ronda Renosky, Megan Sooy, Sneha Viratia, Joy Wiegand.

Secondary: Lauren Elliott, Andrea Houser, Daniel Logue, Ebony Meyers, Michelle Vittorio, Tara Wainwright, Krista Wible, Richard Yahner.



Penn State Counselor Education

Always looking for the right students

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- Maybe you have a high school student looking for a career in counseling?

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- The CACREP accredited PhD Program in Counselor Education leads to Faculty, research, and supervision position as a leader in the field.
- The Master's program with specialization in Elementary and Secondary school counseling (both CACREP accredited) or Rehabilitation counseling (CORE accredited) places people in school counseling and agency positions.
- For undergraduates, the Rehabilitation Services Program is looking for students interested in a wide variety of human services positions.

Program Updates

Program Ranking

You should be proud to be a Counselor Education graduate. Recognition of the Counselor Education program continues to grow. Early in the year, *US News and World Report* ranked our program as #9 in the USA this year. Later in the year, the *Chronicle of Higher Education* ranked the program #2 in the country! Rehabilitation was ranked #5. While we are more proud of our graduates who serve people and the profession so well, this additional recognition is also appreciated.

New faculty

The faculty is very happy to welcome Dr. Elizabeth Mellin to Penn State. She is a graduate of Ohio University and was a counselor, supervisor, and grant writer as the Child and Adolescent Coordinator for Cobb County Community Services Board. There is a wealth of information and enthusiasm that Dr. Mellin brings with her that has already translated into new projects for faculty and student involvement.

PhD program

The doctoral program continues to grow stronger. Our CES students are clearly committed to the counseling profession, as evidenced by their involvement giving presentations at state and national conferences and working on various research projects. We accepted a new class of six students in fall of 2006, and all of the third year students successfully passed their comprehensive exams.

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Cyberbullying

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It seems to be even worse than live bullying because the perpetrators are not bound by time or space, and the audience can be much, much bigger. With the power of technology, the offenses can be much more cruel as they can incorporate a rich array of media (sounds, altered graphics, text, video, slide shows, and photos) to deliver the attacks.

Studies about the frequency of cyberbullying suggest that cyberbullying is affecting a significant minority of school-age children, with nearly 25 to 35 percent of respondents claiming to have been bul-

rooms, e-mail, and via text messages. Some of these are examples of high-tech bullying:

- Exclusion: the process of designating who is a member of the “in-group” and who is an outcast.”
- Flaming: is a heated argument, frequently including offensive or vulgar language, that occur in public communication environments, such as discussion boards or groups, chat, or news-groups.
- Outing: this includes the public display, posting, or forwarding of personal communication or

or images, especially communication that contains sensitive personal information or images that are sexual in nature.

To read more on this topic, and more please visit *SchoolCounselor.com eNewsletter Issue #70, October 4th, 2006*



nvtech.com



Program Updates *Continued from page 4.*

They are now in various stages of writing their dissertation proposals, so send them good thoughts. Four people have graduated in the past year and have at least nine students are in the final stages of their program and should be graduating in the next year. As much as we miss students when they leave, the goal is to graduate so we are always very proud when people complete their programs to become leaders in the profession.

Master’s Program

The master’s programs in school and rehabilitation counseling have had excellent groups of students and those qualities have continued. Students are successfully graduating and going on to school and agency counseling positions where they are doing very well.

There is never enough time in the program to get to every topic, but grads keep informing us of additional things that would have helped and we keep trying to integrate them.

The course lists may look similar, but we’re not the same program we were even 3 years ago. The updates are the things that keep things moving in positive directions.

