This note has been a long, long time coming – it seems like this semester is crawling at a snail’s pace AND racing along like a cheetah, both at the same time. I don’t know how that works, but I know that is how the world is going right now. Since the beginning of the calendar year, we have experienced the usual stressors of doctoral and masters program admissions, the celebration of pre-doctoral and masters internship acceptances, and impending departures for doctoral programs and new jobs. Now add to that the 2009 Great Lakes regional counseling psychology conference we hosted in March, and the Peace Center’s Paint 4 Peace project in April. Oh, and how could I forget - interviewing candidates to fill our vacant tenure-track position in February? And also the impending interviews of candidates for the Dean of Teachers College. I am sure there are several other projects I have forgotten, things that are or were vitally important to one person or another, but who can keep up with it?

Keeping up – that is the whole point here. I am exhausted with it all. Not just whiny exhausted, but really exhausted. I look at almost everyone else through my own haze, and they all look exhausted, too. I know some of it is work related, and I can truly feel their pain. There is so much to do, so many fun (and not-so-fun) projects available, and so little time. People are stressed and sometimes at a breaking point. Yet we keep smiling, as much as we can, and continue plugging along. We all believe there is a light at the end of the tunnel, if we can only last that long. Here’s the thing, though – all of that focus on the public work face sometimes ignores the personal, internal turmoil in play. Many of us have fought personal demons this year, demons that have made coming to campus our safe haven (yeah, I said it – school/work is a safe haven!). It is much easier to focus on this public face, and ignore the private world until (or unless) it uncontrollably leaks into the safe haven. We struggle with talking about it, or we struggle with HEARING it, because we are too busy or too afraid that facing YOUR problem will force us to acknowledge our own fears.

As I look at this morning’s paper, I see the aftermath of so many other troubled people whose private hell has leaked into the public domain, people who have murdered groups of people in a rampage of terror and pain. The headlines report 53 deaths in the past month. Not so very long ago we could all name the individuals who made the news in such a manner. Such an event was once so unusual that those few names were burned into our brains. Now, we may not remember the incident itself, much less the name of the killer du jour. I don’t mean to be flip – I take senseless murder more seriously than many of you know. However, in the past few weeks multiple causalities have occurred: police officers in Oakland and Pittsburgh; visitors to an immigrant center in Binghamton; nursing home residents in North Carolina; and immediate family members across Alabama, California and Washington. In almost every case, friends, family and neighbors tell the tale of men in despair, loss of jobs, loss of dignity, anger, depression, certainty that they could not turn their worlds around; so, they found guns. I am not predicting that one of us will follow this pattern (although there is nothing that makes us exempt). I am asking, what are we, with our social psychology, counseling and counseling psychology training, doing to stem the tide of despair? What are we doing to prevent more bloodshed, to help identify and support those in crisis?

Continued on page 2
Letter from the Chair, continued

Sometimes we get drafted into service, whether we like it or not. Your training in the study of group behavior, in career barriers and stressors, on relationship dynamics, abuse, and hopelessness, gives you a role in changing the cycle. Last month, I heard from an alumnus who was inspired by President Obama’s call to the public to get educated and provide service to the country. This person wanted to know how he could update his skills and answer that urgent call. I was mightily impressed with his desire to help; I hope more of us can get on board with that idea.

Departmental Achievements

Dr. Nicholas was recently appointed to the Editorial Board for The Counseling Psychologist. Both Dr. Nicholas and Dr. Ægisdóttir are now on the Editorial Board. The current issue of The Counseling Psychologist also features a major contribution from Dr. Spengler and colleagues on clinical judgment.

Mona Ghosheh, Jerry Novack, Kory Jordan (Ph.D. students), and Gunnar Ingolfsson (M.A. student) presented a symposium at the Southeastern Regional Counseling Psychology Conference in Athens, GA, entitled “Counseling Psychology Seeks (Social) Justice,” in April 2009. Dr. Gerstein was the keynote speaker for the conference.

Dr. Gerstein and Dr. Bowman, current Fellows of the American Psychological Association and proud professors in the department, would like to welcome the newest member of the very selective Fellows group: Dr. Paul Spengler. Dr. Spengler was recently informed that his nomination for Fellow has been approved through the highest ranks of APA, and his Fellow status will be announced during the August 2009 convention in Toronto.

Congratulations, Aarika!

Our own Aarika VanNatter has been awarded the very prestigious, and very selective, ACT Summer Internship in Assessment for Summer 2009. She will complete an eight-week internship for selected doctoral students at our national headquarters in Iowa City, Iowa. The Summer Internship Program provides interns with practical experience through completion of a project, participation in seminars, and direct interaction with professional staff. An additional program objective is to increase representation of women and minority professionals in measurement and related fields. Aarika’s internship is in career and vocational psychology and will focus on analyses related to career interest, values, and skill assessments, evaluation of career intervention, computer-assisted career guidance, and college and career readiness. Needless to say, we are incredibly proud of her achievement, and look forward to hearing all about the process upon her return to Indiana later this summer!
**Student Interviews**

**Thomas Kixmiller (M.A., Mental Health Counseling)**

**What is your hometown?**
Vincennes, IN.

**What led you to select the mental health counseling program?**
I've always liked something Dr. Perrone said my first semester...we're all here for a reason. Some thing or things guided us into this program, this pursuit, this profession. I fear where and how my life would have ended if not been for the counselors whose hands were there when I reached out for help. This program, this department, and this school were the most feasible option for becoming a licensed counselor and beginning to give back some of what I received.

**How has your experience been with the department so far?**
I see it as a facilitative mutual ecosymiosis that will become limited after first summer session 2009.

**You are currently doing an internship with Meridian Services. What has your experience there been like?**
I've enjoyed my internship so much that it has made focusing on my last few classes difficult. A wide array of clients and conditions comes through the doors every day. From hospital admittances, to substance abuse groups, to Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) team, the variety of learning opportunities is hard to beat. Bill (my supervisor) is great. Becky and the Access Center team have taught me a lot. I recommend it. It is different from practicum because there is such a broad range of client experiences and you will have dozens of them...every week! I dig it.

**What are your future career goals?**
I like the idea of working in community mental health. At some point, I would like to work to set up community outreach men's groups to start bringing counseling and peer support to a population that often shies away from it. (This is all contingent on whether or not they raise the audition age on American Idol, of course.)

**Mona Ghosheh (Ph.D., Counseling Psychology)**

**What is your hometown/home country?**
I was born in Kuwait, but my parents are Palestinian. After the occupation of Israel, my grandparents left Palestine to get away from the conflict and went to Kuwait, and my parents, my siblings, and I were all born in Kuwait. When the Gulf War started, my family moved to Houston, TX to wait until things calmed down. We ended up staying there, so I grew up in Houston, but I went to college in Dallas, TX, so now I consider that my hometown.

**What was your educational background prior to joining our department?**
I went into school wanting to be a doctor and doing pre-med. Then I started to second guess myself. Every time I took a career assessment in high school, it would tell me I should become a “counselor” and I’d get mad because I wanted to be a doctor. Later, when I was contemplating what I wanted to do, a light bulb went on in my head and I realized that I did want to be a counselor. I wanted to become a school counselor, and in Texas you have to teach for several years in order to do that, so I got a degree in teaching biology. I never got a chance to teach though, because I went straight into a master’s program in school counseling, which happened to be housed within a counseling psychology department. A month into my program, the world of counseling psychology opened up to me!

**What are some of your hobbies and interests outside of counseling?**
Even when I wanted to become a school counselor, I was more interested in adolescents. As I started to learn more about counseling, it wasn’t the specific age group I was interested in, but rather the counseling aspect itself.

**What is your hometown?**
Vincennes, IN.

**What led you to select the mental health counseling program?**
I've always liked something Dr. Perrone said my first semester...we're all here for a reason. Some thing or things guided us into this program, this pursuit, this profession. I fear where and how my life would have ended if not been for the counselors whose hands were there when I reached out for help. This program, this department, and this school were the most feasible option for becoming a licensed counselor and beginning to give back some of what I received.

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**What are some of your hobbies and interests outside of counseling?**
As soon as I can afford it, I want to start playing golf again. I enjoy home improvement projects and would like to find a "fixer-upper" and fix'er up. I would also really like to get back into acting.

**Do you have any advice for incoming students or students who are preparing for internship?**
OK...here's what I would like to have known: 1) Your internship year is not going to be like your first year. YOU ARE GOING TO BE EVEN BUSIER! It's doable, just be prepared...you are going to learn, learn, learn and then learn some more! 2) Take as many of Dr. Stef’s classes as you can prior to starting internship! (I swear...it's like she wants you to act like you're in grad school or something!) 3) Keep Breathing...you can do it...you are here for a reason!

**Do you have a specific population you want to work with now?**
I'm still working that out, but I think I’m more interested in older individuals now.
Dr. Maugherman, a graduate of our own Ph.D. program in counseling psychology (‘99), joined our department this spring as a contract faculty member. What is your hometown? I grew up in Griffith, IN, which is near Gary.

Can you describe your work outside the department? After I completed my predoctoral internship, I came back to Ball State to finish my dissertation. During that process, I started seeing clients at two different practices, and by the time I finished my dissertation I had a full case load at one of the practices. I moved to a bigger office with that practice and worked there for 8 years. By then I was a little tired of full-time counseling, so I took 2 years off and taught in the Educational Psychology department as a contract faculty member. What are some of your research interests? I’m still trying to hone it down but I’m interested in program development and evaluation. Right now I am working on a psychoeducational outreach program with Tae Sun, another student in our department, and Pei Yi, an intern at the BSU Counseling Center. The outreach program is designed to address culture shock/adjustment issues for students who are either planning to study abroad or returning from a study abroad experience. The whole process has been very exciting for me, and the outreach itself will begin next month.

What are some of your outside interests and activities? I really like to just be around people and hang out with people I care about; it doesn’t really matter what I’m doing. I used to like to work out when I had time. I also like to paint, but I don’t have time for that either!

Where would you most like to visit? There an island off of Puerto Rico called Mona Island that I’d like to visit!

Interview with Dr. Alan Maugherman

Dr. Maugherman, a graduate of our own Ph.D. program in counseling psychology (‘99), joined our department this spring as a contract faculty member.

What is your hometown? I grew up in Griffith, IN, which is near Gary.

Can you describe your work outside the department? After I completed my predoctoral internship, I came back to Ball State to finish my dissertation. During that process, I started seeing clients at two different practices, and by the time I finished my dissertation I had a full case load at one of the practices. I moved to a bigger office with that practice and worked there for 8 years. By then I was a little tired of full-time counseling, so I took 2 years off and taught in the Educational Psychology department as a contract faculty member. I’ve always wanted to open a private practice, however, so I actually started my own practice in October 2008, and then I got the offer to teach in the Counseling Psychology department part time. Now I have the flexibility to teach and practice.

What types of clients do you see? I mainly specialize in adolescents and testing. Actually, my Ph.D. cognate was in assessment, and I had a clinical background. With the new practice I’m also focusing on consultation. I still see clients 2 days a week, but I get a lot of referrals from physicians.

How did you decide between academia and practice? I love teaching and I like research, but I’m a big picture person and not detail oriented. I love planning research and writing the discussion sections, but I don’t like to do all of the stuff in between. I also love practice too much to give it up, and as a new faculty member, you don’t really have time to practice for the first few years because of the importance of conducting research.

Have you noticed any changes in the department since you were a student here? There is definitely more emphasis on doing outcome and process research than there was before. We didn’t have outcome rating scales or anything of that nature when I was a student. The training in play therapy is also new.

Continued on page 7
Great Lakes 2009

On March 27-28, the Counseling Psychology department hosted the 22nd annual Great Lakes Regional Counseling Psychology Conference for the Society of Counseling Psychology, Division 17 of the American Psychological Association. The theme of the conference was, “From Results to Action: Applying Research on Diversity,” and the keynote speaker was Dr. Janet Helms, the current President of Division 17. One hundred and thirty people attended the conference, and many of our M.A. and Ph.D. students presented symposiums, papers, and posters.

Dustin Shepler and John R. Wheatley from Ball State University were the recipients of the first Ball State University Great Lakes Counseling Psychology Conference Student Research Award for their paper entitled, “Giving the keys to the client: Working with transsexual individuals.” In addition to the certificate, they each received a small financial reward.

Right: CPSY faculty after the conference. From left: Dr. Kruczek, Dr. Bowman, Dr. Gerstein, Dr. Perrone, Dr. Dixon, Dr. Ægisdóttir, and Dr. Alexander.

Clockwise from top left: Ph.D. students Tricia Groff and Mona Ghosheh; M.A. students Laura Walker, Gunnar Ingolfsson, John McConnell, Kathleen Niegocki, and Erica Hurley; Ph.D. student Heather Wood; Dr. Gerstein, Dr. Janet Helms, and Dr. Bowman; Ph.D. students Tae Sun Kim and Kory Jordan.
Paint for Peace

Many individuals from the CPSY department participated in the “Paint 4 Peace” Project hosted by the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies on April 2 to 4. Faculty and students helped paint the dove for peace in academic communities in front of Bracken Library and they also assisted with the logistics of all the campus and community events. The CPSY Department served as a co-sponsor of the programs as well.
Upcoming Conferences & Workshops

Midwestern Psychological Association
2009 Annual Meeting
April 30–May 2, 2009
Chicago, IL
www.midwesternpsych.org/

American School Counselor Association
Annual Conference: Making a Difference
June 28–July 1, 2009
Dallas, TX
www.schoolcounselor.org/

American Mental Health Counselors Association
Annual Conference
July 23–25, 2009
Washington, DC
www.amhca.org/

American Psychological Association
Annual Conference
August 6–9, 2009
Toronto, Canada
www.apa.org/convention09/

Upcoming Opportunities

1st Summer Semester 2009 Courses:

CPSY 637-001
Psychopharmacology
Taught by Dr. Donald Nicholas
Time: 2:00-6:00 p.m. on T, R

CPSY 690-007
Counseling Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Clients
Taught by Gina Zanardelli
Time: 4:30 - 8:30 p.m. on T, R
Location: Lucina Hall, 327
Course Content:
- Affirmative therapy with LGBT clients
- Diversity within the LGBT community
- Resources and Advocacy
- Identity development
- Coming out and lifespan issues
- Spirituality
- Affirmative therapy and assessment
- Health and well being
- Group counseling
- Outreach and programming, including safe zones
- Other topic areas of interest to students in the course

For more information contact Gina Zanardelli at gzanardelli@bsu.edu

Interview with Dr. Maugherman, continued

Do you have any advice for current students, especially those who plan to go into private practice?
Take testing classes! If you can do assessment, you can find people that will employ you to do so. In particular, learn how to administer IQ/achievement tests. If you are a doctoral student, get an LMHC, so that you can actually see clients and be reimbursed by insurance companies while you are still a student.

Are you involved in any professional organizations?
For the past five years I’ve conducted a summer music program for adolescents. They are mentored by local musicians and they give a concert at the end of the summer. Some of the bands stay together even after the program is over; I manage one band that started during the program. They just finished producing their first real album, and I actually started my own record label for them.

Do you have any other special skills or hobbies?
I can play the guitar but I don’t have much time to do so. For the most part, I just mentor young musicians.

Is there anything else you want to tell us?
My wonderful wife, Julie (M.A. ‘97), works at Burris Laboratory School as a school counselor.
Congratulations to the following doctoral students who were recently placed in internships for the 2007-2008 academic year!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Institution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ashley Boester</td>
<td>University of North Carolina-Charlotte Counseling Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jenelle Boo</td>
<td>Illinois State University Counseling Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mandy Cleveland</td>
<td>University of Memphis Counseling Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sera Gruszka</td>
<td>Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services, Grand Rapids, MI</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rebecca Hansen</td>
<td>University of Missouri Counseling Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tracy Ksiazak</td>
<td>University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana Counseling Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael O’Heron</td>
<td>University of Illinois-Chicago Counseling Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aimee Prater</td>
<td>Ball State University Counseling Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Sellers</td>
<td>University of North Carolina-Charlotte Counseling Center</td>
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Attention:
Graduating Master’s Students

In order to graduate you must apply for graduation at the Graduate School by the deadline in the semester you intend to graduate.

Graduation Application Deadline:
For Summer 2009       June 8, 2009

Deadline for Receipt of Research Papers, Creative Projects, Theses, and Dissertations:
For Summer 2009       July 13, 2009

Applications submitted after the deadline may be switched to the following semester for graduation (students do not have to reapply for graduation). Please see the Graduate School’s web site www.bsu.edu/gradschool for forms and more information.
**At A Glance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday, May 1</td>
<td>Last meeting day for regular classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, May 2</td>
<td>Final Exam Period for Saturday Classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday, May 4 - Friday, May 8</strong></td>
<td>Final Exams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, May 9</td>
<td>May Commencement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, May 11</td>
<td>Grades due by noon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday, May 18</strong></td>
<td>University classes for all-summer and first summer sessions begin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, May 20</td>
<td>Late registration and change-of-course ends for first summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, May 22</td>
<td>Late registration and change-of-course ends for all-summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, May 25</td>
<td>Memorial Day - No classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, June 8</td>
<td>Course withdrawal period ends for first summer session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, June 4</td>
<td>Application deadline for Summer Graduation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Friday, June 19</strong></td>
<td>First summer session ends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, June 22</td>
<td>Grades due at noon for first summer session</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Monday, June 22</strong></td>
<td>University classes and late registration for second summer session begin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, June 24</td>
<td>Late registration and change-of-course end</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, June 29</td>
<td>Course withdrawal period ends for all-summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, July 3</td>
<td>Independence Day Observance - No classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, July 13</td>
<td>Course withdrawal period ends for second summer session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, July 13</td>
<td>Application deadline for Research Papers, Creative Papers, Theses, and Dissertations</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday, July 24</strong></td>
<td>All-summer and second summer sessions end</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday, July 25</strong></td>
<td>July Commencement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, July 27</td>
<td>University classes begin for Fall Semester</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Monday, August 24</strong></td>
<td>Late registration and change-of course ends</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, August 28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, September 7</td>
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News from the Community and Mental Health Counseling Program

Spring Admissions and Orientation

As I write this we are finishing up the admissions process for the February admissions deadline. We had a great pool of applicants and are very excited to welcome the new class of future counselors for Fall 2009.

Internships

It is also an exciting time of year for students who will soon be making decisions about where they will be interning beginning this summer or fall. Our current master’s students are completing their internships at a variety of excellent sites including the Ball State Counseling Center, Meridian Services, the Youth Opportunities Center, the Indiana Academy, Anderson University Counseling Center, and the Union Chapel Counseling Center.

Content Exam

The content exam was scheduled for March 20. The next administration will be during the Fall semester of 2009. Students in the community and mental health tracks must pass the exam before graduation. You may take the exam once you have completed at least 30 semester hours of coursework in the program.

Professional Associations and Conferences

The CPSY department hosted the Great Lakes conference at Ball State on March 27-28. Many of our students gave presentations.

The American Counseling Association (ACA) Annual Convention was held on March 19-23 in Charlotte, North Carolina. Visit the ACA website: http://www.counseling.org/Students for helpful information for counseling students or to become a member.

Free Liability Insurance through A.C.A.

The American Counseling Association (ACA) just announced a new benefit for its master’s level student members: professional liability (“malpractice”) insurance. The ACA student membership fee of $89 now includes liability insurance to ACA student members enrolled and engaged in a master’s degree counseling curriculum at a post secondary institution. Coverage is solely while performing counseling services (e.g. practicum and internship) related to such curriculum. For additional questions regarding the program, visit http://www.counseling.org/Students/ACA_Student_Coverage_FAQs.pdf or contact ACA Member Services toll free at 1-800-347-6647, ext. 222 or 703-823-9800, ext. 222.

Graduates/Alumni

I always enjoy hearing from our graduates. I recently heard from Kayte Kaminski, who is in China serving in the Peace Corps. She is teaching at a medical college in northwest China, Gansu province. She also runs a women’s group. She said, “It really opened my eyes to what it is like to be a woman in China- the struggles they face and the beauty within.” I also heard from Brooke Randolph, who has a private practice, and also works with Parenting Coordination where she helps those involved in cases of divorce or paternity to mediate high conflict parenting issues. She says, “I have found that this role fits my experience, training, and personality very well, and it allows me to make a tangible difference in the lives of children. I love hearing a child say that his or her parents are getting along better since I have been working with them.”

Please email me at kperrone@bsu.edu to let me know how you are doing in your careers and lives. Many thanks and best wishes to all of you,

- Dr. Perrone
News from the School Counseling Program

Program Recognition
At this year’s Transforming School Counseling conference in Austin, Texas, the school counseling program was recognized by the Education Trust as one of 20 “Trailblazer School Counseling Programs” around the country. Dr. Alexander was present to receive this award on behalf of the school counseling program. Additionally, at that meeting school counseling student Leah Hooper and Dr. Alexander presented a paper entitled, “Transformed School Counselors: Building Partnerships with Data, Facilitating Change.”

Student Recognition
Leah Hooper was recognized at the Graduate School reception on April 14 as one of the most recognizable graduate students.

Mentor Training: Online Course for School Counselors
The school counseling program is in the final stages of developing an online program for school counselor mentor training. School counselors can renew their licenses while completing the state-approved training. In addition to earning college credit, a certified mentor can earn 90 Professional Growth Plan points (45 for successfully completing the training and 45 for mentoring a beginning school counselor for 2 years). School counselors who are licensed in the state of Indiana and who have at least three years of school counseling experience are eligible to become school counselor mentors. This course will be offered during the second summer session. Contact the Online and Distance Education office for more information (800-872-0369).

School Counseling Student Workshop: Presented by Dr. Vivian Lee
On Friday, April 24, Dr. Vivian Lee with the National Office for School Counselor Advocacy - The College Board in Washington D.C. was on campus to conduct an all day workshop for students on college counseling. School counseling students from around the state were invited to attend this event. Dr. Lee is a former teacher, secondary school counselor, director of guidance and counseling, and full-time counselor educator; she continues to teach school counseling as a lecturer at the University of Maryland at College Park. Dr. Lee has published articles and book chapters in developing school counseling programs, conflict and violence resolution, and group counseling.

- Dr. Alexander
News from the Rehabilitation Counseling Program

Upcoming Conferences

3rd International Conference for Vocational Outcomes in TBI  
Thursday, May 7 – Saturday, May 9, 2009  
Vancouver, BC Canada  
http://www.tbicvancouver.com/Home.page

2009 RESNA (Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America) Conference  
Tuesday, June 23 – Saturday, June 27, 2009  
New Orleans, Louisiana  
http://www.resna.org/

2009 National Rehabilitation Association Annual Training Conference  
Thursday, September 10 – Sunday, September 13, 2009  
Louisville, Kentucky  
http://www.nationalrehab.org/

Understanding the Field of Rehabilitation

Introduction to the Disability Benefits Specialist Field

The Disability Benefits Specialist (DBS) is a very specialized position. They provide benefits counseling and advocacy to individuals who have a physical disability, developmental disability and/or mental illness, in order to assure that people with disabilities receive information about, and assistance in, accessing the public and private benefits for which they qualify. Three main functions are: 1) information about available benefits; 2) assistance to apply for benefits; and 3) advocacy for appealing benefits denial. The DBS must be knowledgeable in the areas of Medicare and Medicaid, Social Insurance, Economic Support Program (e.g., TANF: Temporary Assistance for Needy Family), Social Security Benefits (e.g., SSI and SSDI), Long-term Health Care options, housing, and consumer problems.

Consider joining the National Association of Disability Benefits Specialists (NADBS) if you are interested in disability-related benefits. NADBS is a division of the National Rehabilitation Association (NRA). Its mission is to increase public understanding of the social and economic gain to individuals and communities through empowerment of persons with disabilities to become self-sufficient, self-supporting, and contributing members of the community.

Introduction to the Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America (RESNA)

Assistive technology (AT) counseling is one of the specialized areas of rehabilitation counseling. AT counselors help people with disabilities increase/maximize their potential to achieve their goals through the use of technology. RESNA is an interdisciplinary association of people with a common interest in technology and disability. Currently, RESNA has over 1000 members, the bulk of whom are concentrated in the US and Canada. There are 21 Special Interest Groups (SIGs) and seven Professional Specialty Groups (PSGs). Take a look at RESNA’s web page for more information: http://www.resna.org/content/index.php?pid=174.

- Dr. Kim
Recent Publications


Recent Presentations


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Recent Grants

Alumni News

Stacey Blankenbuehler, Ph.D. (‘06) passed the Ohio licensing exam and is now officially a licensed psychologist. She has accepted a position as a child psychologist at Children’s Safe Harbor in Toledo, OH, where she has been working for the past three and a half years, and she is already supervising a postdoctoral fellow. Stacey’s two children, Dawson (4) and Delaney (2) really keep them hopping!

Robert M. Bollet, Ed.D. (‘71) recently retired from the University of Central Florida’s Counselor Education Program, which he founded in 1973. He is currently practicing as a licensed psychologist in his own private practice, the Center for Counseling and Consulting (http://www.centerforcounseling.us), with 10 other licensed professional therapists.

Chris Carr, Ph.D. (‘92) is now the Sport and Performance Psychology Coordinator at the St. Vincent Sports Performance/Sports Medicine Center in Indianapolis. He attended the 2008 Summer Olympic Games in Beijing, China as the Sports Psychologist for the U.S. Olympic Diving Team. He is a past president of Division 47 (Sport & Exercise Psychology) of the A.P.A. and is currently chairing a divisional task force to develop practice guidelines for the application of sport and exercise psychology. He lives in Westfield with his wife, Kelli (M.A., ‘86), and daughter Rachel, age 13. He is also on the Board of Governors for the BSU Teachers College Alumni Board.

Kristy McNamee, M.A. (‘00) and her husband were blessed with a healthy baby boy, Logan Christopher, on June 20, 2007. He was welcomed home by his big sisters, Julia (7) and Kaitlyn (5).

Chris Owens, M.A. (‘00) has accepted a faculty position with the Department of Psychiatry at Drexel University in Philadelphia, PA. Carla Owens, M.A. (‘00, née Schriml) is now a school counselor in the Upper Merion school district in King of Prussia, PA. Chris and Carla welcomed their first child, Alexandra Marie, on June 22, 2008.

Gina Sandman, M.A. (‘02, née Thresher) and her husband, Benjamin Sandman, M.A. (‘05) had a beautiful baby boy, Grayson Benjamin, on April 26, 2008. Gina is currently a licensed mental health counselor and works at Damar Services, a residential treatment facility for children with developmental disabilities, as the clinical supervisor for the young boys program. Benjamin works with the community corrections program in Marion County. The couple lives in Indianapolis.

Joe Serrano, M.A. (‘08) passed the National Counseling Exam in Illinois in November of 2008 and became a licensed professional counselor (LPC). He would like to express his sincerest appreciation for the department’s support in helping with his career. He is now working as an outpatient therapist at Ada S. McKinley in South Chicago and plans to use the skills he has acquired to make the world a better place.

We appreciate your generous support of CPSY at Ball State University. If you have any questions regarding making a gift to the department, please feel free to contact the Development Office at 765-285-7056.

You can also go to our web page at www.bsu.edu/counselingpsychology