Accomplishments

• Mike Walker’s Call to Greatness
• Nominees for Outstanding Student of the Year

Spring 2016

Upcoming Dates

May 1-4  Minnesota School Counselor Association Annual Conference

Sun. May 15 UW-River Falls Spring Graduation Ceremony

Sat. April 23 School Counseling Program Stakeholder’s Meeting

July 9-12 ASCA National Conference in New Orleans, LA

WSCA School Counselor of the Year Awarded to UWRF Alum

Winning the award for School Counselor of the Year came as a big surprise to Steve Peterson of Prescott, WI. Steve and his wife, Penney and their four children value their close ties and relationships in the small town where they both live and work. He is quick to point out the role of school counselor at Prescott High School is, “Not just a career choice, it’s a life choice.”

Steve was nominated for the award by Dr. Mark Gillen, Director of the School Counseling program at UWRF.
The Journey to CACREP Accreditation
by Dr. Caroline Baker

The UWRF Counseling Program accomplished a major milestone this year in receiving the full 8-year CACREP accreditation (www.cacrep.org). This accreditation recognizes that our program meets nationally and professionally accepted standards for training school counselors. Over the past four years, many graduate assistants, Jerry Liddell, and program faculty, among others, worked consistently and diligently to conduct a program audit following the CACREP standards, to implement new courses and practices as we deemed to be a good fit for the program, and to finalize application materials that included a 52-page document with 692 links to supporting documents. In November, a site team visited UWRF to review our practices and application authenticity. Truly, this was a team effort from start to finish, and the quality of our program attests to this. A very special thank you to the many who were involved in the process—we did it!

National School Counseling Week Festivities Include Visit From Dr. Gregg Curtis

Speaking to a large crowd in the Fireside Room of the University Center, Dr. Curtis talked about the new Wisconsin guidelines for Academic and Career Planning. Dr. Curtis emphasized the importance of relationships, flexibility, and asked the audience to consider, “Significant milestones and path-changing events”, that led us down our own unique paths.

A key element of the new ACP is the movement from fragmented college and career planning services to structure and systems coordination. All of this has great potential to benefit students and their parents as they look with more certainty toward their future. –CA

Sam Hines
Mary J. Crownhart Scholarship
$1000 Award

Kelei Johnson
Vera and Clifford Brainerd Scholarship
$1000 Award

Carley Saravia
Vera and Clifford Brainerd Scholarship
$1000 Award

Stakeholders Strive for More Scholarships

On February 20th, Dr. Mark Gillen competed in the 43rd Annual Korteloper Classic ski race. Held in Hayward, Wisconsin, the race attracts upwards of 10,000 skiers and 20,000 spectators each year. The Kortelopet is just one of the three races held that day. Getting to the end is no small feat. The race, over hilly terrain, is one of the longest cross-country ski races in North America.

For Dr. Gillen, a avid cross-country skier, competing in the race is an opportunity to raise money for a cause close to his heart. His efforts are part of a larger vision of the UWRF School Counseling Stakeholders to increase graduate student scholarships. Dr. Gillen’s efforts earned $761 in pledges this year. The money goes directly to the “Counseling Program Alumni and Friends Scholarship”.

Dr. Mark Gillen completed the Kortelopet Race on Sat. February 20, 2016
Congratulations to Katerina Youngberg, our 2016 UW-RF School Counseling Student of the Year.

Before graduating in December, Katerina contributed to the program in a number of ways, including her work as a School Counseling graduate assistant, as a leader in the Student Group and as member of the Stakeholder Group. She was instrumental in securing our CACREP accreditation.

Katerina is currently working as a long-term school counseling substitute for the St. Paul School District. Unanimously nominated for this year’s award, she exemplifies the leadership and professional commitment necessary to be an outstanding school counselor. Congratulations, Katerina!

Diana Gulcheyen, Co-President of the School Counseling Student Group, at the New Student Orientation on April 9.
Mike Walker’s Call to Greatness

This graduate of UW-River Falls school counseling program invested in the successful journey of others. We are proud to announce he has now been nominated for the Outstanding Recent Alumnus Award from the College of Education and Professional Studies. Mike’s past is full of powerful contributions to the lives of students. He graduated as a Teddy and was happy to return after graduating from the school counseling program at UW-RF. He moved from his work as Coordinator of AchieveMpls, to Assistant Principal at the Minneapolis Public School System’s Davis Center, and from there stepped soundly into leadership at the MPS office of Black Male Achievement.

One of those students, Raqiya Mohamed, who herself is about to graduate from the school counseling program, had this to say about Mike, “I am honored to have met such a wonderful person. Mr. Walker was my career counselor at Roosevelt High School in south Minneapolis and one of the few adults who helped me accomplish my educational goal in becoming a school counselor.”

With his role as a student leader in the school counseling program, and his efforts to empower diverse students to raise their own sails, Mike demonstrates the impact an effective school counselor can make. Mike’s impact reaches well outside the walls of any institution. His current work as Director for the Office of Black Male Achievement, is aimed at improving the lives of Minneapolis’ largest demographic, and most likely to fail.

But to institute change requires someone willing to first listen. And listen he has. In his first year of this new position, he’s reached out to the young men themselves, determined not to design a program without the youth he’s focused on helping.

On April 28, Mike will recount the successes and future goals for the Office of Black Male Achievement at the annual, “Believe and Achieve Celebration” on Thursday, April 28. It will be held at the St. Mary’s University Event Center and will feature student performances, an award ceremony and year-end presentation from Mike himself. Information about attending the event can be found at Eventbrite.com, the Minneapolis Public Schools website, or by calling Andria at 612-290-6295.

The UW-RF award for Outstanding Recent Alumnus, given by the College of Education and Professional Studies, will be presented May 5th. We wish Mike all our best and congratulate him on a career that has embodied the spirited advocacy all school counseling professionals aspire to. Thank you, Mike, for your contributions.

Emily Rose
School Counselor
Greenwood Elementary

UWRF Counseling program alumni Emily Rose was nominated by her principal Nate Schurman at Greenwood Elementary school for the Early Career Educator Award. This award is made through the Wisconsin Association of Colleges for Teacher Education. This award is presented to an outstanding educator within the first three years of her/his professional career. The award recipient will be selected based on any combination of the following: positive impact individual has on schools or communities; innovation in designing learning experiences, and advocacy for students.

Thank you Emily, for your continued dedication to students.

- TM

School Counseling Graduate Student to Present at 2016 MSCA Conference

Jennifer Poole-Stout along with Nicole Pierce will give a presentation titled, “Expand your superhero toolkit with sexuality resources.”

The presentation will offer new resources to school counselors who broach this sometimes-sensitive topic with their students. Jennifer will discuss issues around sexuality including relationships, pregnancy, identity, body image, gender roles, puberty, intimacy and much more. As the Community Education Manager & Health Educator at myHealth for Teens and Adults, Jennifer has this to say about the topic of sexuality, “As comprehensive school counselors who ensure the success of all students, addressing sexual health is a key component of healthy student’s social and emotional well-being and development.” She encourages everyone attending the conference to take part in this empowering break out session.

The 2016 MSCA Conference will be held in Brainerd, Minnesota on May 1-2. Registration is ongoing and both students and alum of the UWRF School Counseling Program are encouraged to attend.
**Student Research**

**Breaks New Ground**

*Kate Hanten* is a current UWRF counseling student and she is fulfilling her research requirement for the program doing research with River Falls High School looking at their sophomore conferencing and seeing if there is a connection between the students who attend sophomore conferences and students who enroll in post-secondary options.

Sophomore conference are 45 minute sessions each counselor has with a student and their parents to discuss post-secondary options and different fields student might be interested in and what class they might want to take in high school. Kate had to get approval for this research by writing to the Institutional Review Board. Kate is the first student doing this type of research but this is likely to be worked into the program for all future students.

Kate’s study is designed to determine if students that attended sophomore conferences, with their counselor and parent, are more likely to attend post secondary options than students who did not attend sophomore conferences. This information will be gathered by working with the school-counseling department at River Falls High School. Sophomore conferences are held with students in the spring of their sophomore year, where the student, parent(s) and counselor discuss the student’s academic achievement thus far and in the future as well as post secondary options that interest the students.

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**Richard Moldenhauer: National Recognition**

Congratulations to Richard Moldenhauer who was recently announced as a recipient of the National Nyswander/Dole Award from the American Association for the Treatment of Opioid Dependence (AATOD)! If you don’t know what this means, here is a description from AATOD:

**NYSWANDER/DOLE “MARIE” AWARDS**

Please join us for the centerpiece of our Conference, a moving tribute to those individuals who have been nominated and selected by their peers for extraordinary service in the opioid treatment community. These successful Award recipients have devoted themselves to improving the lives of patients in our treatment system. Dr. Vincent Dole and Dr. Marie Nyswander were the first recipients of this Award in 1983. The Association has been responsible for bestowing this honor since the first Regional Conference of 1984 in New York.

Rick will be presented his award at the National AATOD Conference in Baltimore on October 30th in front of more than 1000 attendees. Congratulations Rick, this is a well-deserved award. Thank you for all your contributions to the field and for the thousands of lives you have saved through your commitment, expertise and leadership. -TM

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**“BE YOUR OWN YOU, DON’T FOLLOW WHAT EVERYONE ELSE IS DOING, YOU WILL FIND A DEEPER LOVE WHEN YOU EMBRACE WHO YOU ARE.”**

-ANONYMOUS
Students are getting the opportunity to experience new cultures while exploring the vast biomes of Scotland. School Counseling students will acquire more in-depth perspectives on global issues while visiting nature-based educational sites and excursions. Through this experience students will learn to communicate across cultures and make connections with the environment in order to enhance their counseling of students they come across in the future. While in Scotland counseling students will also be taking the group counseling class with Dr. Mark Gillen.

MSCA Student and Alumni Presentations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day/Time</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, May 2, 10:15-11:05</td>
<td>Mark Gillen &amp; Benjamin Herman</td>
<td>Increasing Group Counseling Effectiveness-School and University Collaboration</td>
<td>Governor Sibley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, May 2, 11:15-12:05</td>
<td>Dr. Breeanna Galuska &amp; Sue Arvidson</td>
<td>Effective Professional Learning communities (PLC’s ) for School Counselors</td>
<td>Governor Sibley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, May 3, 8:00-8:50</td>
<td>Jennifer Poule-Stout</td>
<td>Expand Your SuperHero Toolkit with Sexuality Resources (All)</td>
<td>Golf Villa B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, May 3, 9:00-9:50</td>
<td>Erin Kelly, Jason Ferkinhoff, Mark Gillen</td>
<td>Solution Focused Theory at Work In Middle School (M)</td>
<td>Golf Villa D</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, May 3, 9:00-9:50</td>
<td>Marlee Mollet</td>
<td>Help Engineer Your STEM Student’s Future! (S)</td>
<td>Northstar</td>
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Welcome New School Counseling Graduate Students

MAAP Staff of the Year Brandon Wait

MAAP presents awards in recognition of the many talented professionals and students within the Minnesota’s Association of Alternative Education Programs.

Criteria for Recipients

- The recipient must exemplify outstanding innovation and leadership in learning options education.
- The recipient has made a significant contribution to their students, their program, MAAP, and/or their communities.
- The recipient should reflect the vision and mission of MAAP.

UW-RF School Counseling Program Mission:
Our mission is to prepare school counselors who exhibit excellence in counseling practice and leadership, respect human dignity and cultural diversity in the broadest sense, and commit to lifelong personal and professional growth.
Faculty Accomplishments


Dr. Gillen

MSCA webinar- Solution focused therapy and school counseling, March 2016. Podcastable
MMSCA training-Implementing Solution Focused Therapy in Schools, March 2016

Dr. Rindone

ACA Institute for Leadership Training, Washington DC July 2015

Association for Counseling Education and Supervision Conference, Philadelphia, PA October 2015
- 1 Presentation on best practices for the university supervisor working with site supervisors who work with diverse individuals.
- 1 round table on completing a dissertation long distance

Wisconsin School Counseling Association Conference, Madison, WI February 2015
- Pre-conference learning on utilizing wellness and mindfulness in a comprehensive program.