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The Program

The Counseling Program has successfully trained Professional School Counselors for 46 years, and is accredited by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. Our Counseling Program trains only school counselors, which sets it apart from others in the area, and our graduates have an 88% job placement rate for the past five years. Ranked in the top 20% of UWRF programs following a 2010 university prioritization review, the Counseling Program offers small class sizes, customizable graduation plans, and frequent interaction with faculty members. Upon graduation, students will have a Masters of Science in Education (M.S.E.), which contributes to their professional license qualifications.

Mission

The mission of the UWRF Counseling Program 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. Additionally, program learning outcomes require that upon graduation from the UWRF counseling program, students will be able to:

- Identify as professional school counselors through language and behaviors
- Implement and advocate for comprehensive school counseling programs
- Support student success by incorporating best practices through research, scholarly literature, and technology
- Consult, collaborate, and establish partnerships with stakeholders
- Apply ethical, developmental, and cultural practices in school counseling

Program Goals

- CACREP Accreditation
  - Submit application in Spring 2015
- Continuous growth and improvement in
  - Student Recruitment
  - Student Retention
  - Curriculum design
  - Connections with stakeholders

Program Statistics

- **Average Program Size:** 52 Students  
  (We admit between 10 and 12 students per semester)
- **Average number of graduates per cycle:** December: 9; May: 14; August: 1
- **Acceptance Rate:** 44%
- **Retention Rate:** 89%
- **Praxis Pass Rate (Since 2010):** 97%
Emily Rose has multiple publications this year including co-authoring a peer reviewed practice brief on working with conduct disorder clients for the American Counseling Association. She also wrote an article for the WSCA graduate student newsletter. Emily has served the UWRF School counseling student group in many ways including professional representative. She has also contributed to the Spring 2014 WSCA Graduate Student Newsletter.

JoAnna Schwarze has multiple publications this year including co-authoring a peer reviewed practice brief on working with conduct disorder clients for the American Counseling Association. She also wrote an article for the WSCA graduate student newsletter. In addition to serving the UWRF School counseling student group as the professional representative, JoAnna also served on the UWRF School counseling stakeholder group as a student representative and contributed to the Spring 2014 WSCA Graduate Student Newsletter.
Community Connections and Outreach

Over the last year Professor Laurie Moyer provided vital support to the UWRF school counseling program by teaching two courses in Fall 2013, COUN 770-K-12 Curriculum for School Counselors, and COUN 732-Group Counseling with Professor Charlie Cicalelelo. In spring 2014 Professor Moyer jumped into two new courses, Counseling Internship Supervision (COUN 771, 772, 773) and our newest course, COUN 614-Practicum. Professor Moyer was a part of the initial group that developed the plan for Counseling Practicum and has added greatly to this service learning based practicum experience. Professor Moyer is a graduate of the UWRF counseling program, a successful elementary school counselor in River Falls, a founding member of the counseling stakeholder committee, and was recognized by the Wisconsin School Counselor Association as the Althea Brach Elementary School Counselor of the year in 2012-2013.
Recognition

Outstanding Student - Vang Lo
Vang Lo is the UWRF counseling program outstanding student of the year. Vang graduated in December 2013 and was immediately hired by the St Paul School District. In addition to being an excellent student and intern Vang served on the UWRF school counseling stakeholder group. Other interesting information about Vang....he received his undergraduate degree from URF, was a Chancellor award winner and for the last two years organized his family new year celebration, approximately 800 family members.

Outstanding Supervisor - Olin Morrison
Olin Morrison has been selected as the Outstanding Cooperating Professional for the UWRF school counseling program 2013-2014. Olin is a graduate of the UWRF school counseling program and the school counselor at Greenwood Elementary School is River Falls. In addition to the outstanding learning that Olin provides to interns and practicum students, he also collaborates with the practicum class and the after-school program to provide the unique service-learning practicum experience.
Scholarships

Crownhart Scholarship- Tina Proctor
Tina Proctor is recognized as the recipient of the Mary J. Crownhart Scholarship. This scholarship recognizes an outstanding school counseling or school psychology student.

Brainerd Scholarship- Laura Favreau
Laura Favreau is being recognized as the recipient of the Vera and Clifford Brainerd Scholarship. This scholarship is only for school counseling students who have been in the program for more than one semester, and have participated in professional opportunities while in the counseling program. She is also presenting at the 2014 MSCA Conference: *The Step by Step Guide: A NACAC tool at your fingertips.*
School Counseling Student Association (2013-2014)

- **Presidents** – Caitlin Usset, Jack Pauly and Laura Favreau

- **Welcome Back socials** - Louise Usanase, LaVonne Murray, Kelsey Olin

- **National School Counseling Week Event Planners**- Emily Rose, JoAnna Schwarze, Kelsey Olin, Larissa Ruud

- **Treasurers** - Alyssa Belko and Jason Ferkinhoff

- **Professional Organization Reps**- Emily Rose and JoAnna Schwarze

- **Fall 2013 new student orientation panel members**: Justin Larson, Kara Berzelius, Laura Favreau, Patrice Fick

- **Spring 2014 new student orientation panel members**: Matt Marsolek, Ayoub Nigatu, Larissa Ruud, Aili Brom-Palkowski, Justin Larson, Jason Ferkinhoff

- **Comps study group organizers**- Fall 2013: Alyssa Belko, Spring 2014: Sara Prezslawski

**PHI Kappa Phi Members**

- Akudo Omeoga
- Stephanie Silvers

**Graduate Assistants**

- Emily Rose
- JoAnna Schwarze
- Matt Marsolek
- Jack Pauly
Dr. Caroline Baker

Presentations

- **Topic:** Theory-As-Anchor: Restructuring a Career Counseling Course.
  Office of Professional and Instructional Development Annual Conference

- **Topic:** Ethics Overview and Review (co-presented)
  Wisconsin School Counselor Association Annual Conference

- **Topic:** Affirming Diversity & Promoting Unity for Racially Diverse School Counselors: A Call to Allies (co-presented)
  Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Bi-Annual Conference

- **Topic:** Experiential Outcome-Based Learning Opportunities for Training School Counselors (co-presented with Dr. Gillen)
  Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Bi-Annual Conference

Publications

Exploring the work experiences of school counselors of color. *Professional School Counseling, 17* (1), 52-62. (co-authored)


Dr. Mark Gillen

Presentations

- Topic: **Experiential Outcome-Based Learning Opportunities for Training School Counselors** (co-presented with Dr. Baker)
  Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Bi-Annual Conference

- Topic: **What to do after the miracle question: School counseling and solution focused therapy.**
  Association for Counselor Educators and Supervisors National Conference

Publications


**Faculty Involvement & Awards**

**Dr. Caroline Baker**
- WSCA Post-Secondary Vice President
- Co-chair, Hiring Committee for Assistant Professor in Counseling Program
- CACREP Liaison
- Academic and Career Planning Task Force through DPI
- Wisconsin Teaching Fellow & Scholars Award
- Educational Technology Center Improvement ad hoc committee
- COUN 614: Practicum course design & implementation
- Editorial Board Member– *Journal of Humanistic Counseling*
- Committee member for Teacher Education students’ final projects

**Dr. Mark Gillen**
- WSCA Althea Brach Post-Secondary School Counselor Educator of the year 2014-15
- Nominated by peers for Wurth Teaching award 2014
- Academic and Career Planning Task Force through DPI
- Observer: River Falls School District Crisis Response exercise, 4/9/14
- Editorial Board Member-*Journal of Counseling and Development* 2013-2016
- Reviewer for ACA 2014 conference
- Invited Panel member: UWRF leadership series-Work/Life balance 3/25/14
Program Breakdown

Student Population by Race

- Students of Color: 25%
- White/Caucasian: 75%

Student Population by Gender

- Male: 26%
- Female: 74%
Based on the Student Exit Survey, how do graduating students (16 in 2013-2014 school year) feel the Program prepared them to…
CACREP

What do you need to know?

1. We have a rigorous and respected counseling program.

2. 48 credit hours are required to graduate, including 9 core courses and many electives.

3. A 100-hour Practicum is required early in the program. It involves a combination of after-school program and work during the school day.

4. A 600-hour Internship is the capstone experience. Students gain experience in elementary, middle, and high school settings.

5. Core and adjunct faculty members are active in their disciplines.

6. We use many types of data to inform our programmatic decisions.

7. Passing the Praxis II is required to successfully complete the program.