The following information is our best effort to capture some of the program outcomes for the CACREP Accredited programs in the Department of Advanced Studies and Innovation at Augusta University. In this document, we report on the vital statistics of the program, on national recognition received by our students, and on program modifications.

Vital Statistics

Each program accredited by CACREP is required to complete the CACREP Vital Statistics Survey each year. This survey addresses information such as the number of credit hours required by each program, the fieldwork requirements of each program, the number of students enrolled in and graduating from each program, the completion rate for the program, the pass rate of students on licensure/certification exams, and the job placement rates for graduates from each program.

There are a variety of challenges in measuring program outcomes, including the size and scope of programs, the number of graduates from our programs, and the difficulties in maintaining current contact information with graduates who may have moved out of state or even out of the country. On a regular basis, the Counselor Education Program faculty surveys students, graduates, site supervisors, and employers to obtain useful information about our program. The following information is organized by CACREP Accredited program areas for the 2018-2019 year.

Clinical Mental Health Counseling—M.Ed.

- The Clinical Mental Health Counseling program is currently accredited by CACREP, with an 8 year accreditation status from 7/09/2015 to 10/31/2022.
- The program requires the completion of 60 credit hours, including a 100 hour practicum and 600 hour field practicum/internship.
- There are 34 students are currently enrolled in this program option
- There were 14 graduates from this program in the 2018-2019 year
- The completion rate for this program was 91%.
- The pass rate on the licensure/certification exam was 100%.
- Based on the number of returned surveys, the job placement rate for graduates from this program option was 85%.
School Counseling—M.Ed.

- The School Counseling program is currently accredited by CACREP, with an 8 year accreditation status from 7/09/2015 to 10/31/2022.
- The program requires the completion of 48 credit hours, including a 100 hour practicum and 600 hour field practicum/internship. Students who have not completed a course in special education before entering our program are advised that such a course is required for school counselor licensure in the state of Georgia.
- There are 17 students currently enrolled in this program option.
- There were 9 graduates from this program in the 2018-2019 year.
- The completion rate for this program was 90%.
- The pass rate on the licensure/certification exam was 100%.
- Based on the number of returned surveys, the job placement rate for graduates from this program option was 88%.

National Recognition

Another indication of program outcomes is the national recognition recently received by students in Augusta University’s counselor education programs. In April, 2018, the American Counseling Association selected Augusta University students for the First Place, Master’s Level award in the 2018-2019 Graduate Student Ethics Awards for Master’s Degree Students. The Augusta University team in this competition consisted of:

- Katy Towns, Graduate Student in Clinical Mental Health and School Counseling Programs
- Kellyn Brooks, Graduate Student in Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program
- Kate Crockett, Graduate Student in Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program
- Dr. Denise Lenares-Solomon, Counselor Education Faculty Sponsor

The competition for this award required students to submit an essay in response to an ethical dilemma presented by the awards committee. Dr. Denise Lenares-Solomon worked with these students to encourage and support their participation in this competition.

Program Modifications

This past year, two types of program modifications have occurred. First, we have expanded our faculty. Second, we have proposed new courses. Details are included below.

New Faculty Members

In fall 2018, we added Dr. Therese Newton to our counselor education faculty. Therese L. Newton, PhD, NCC, is an Assistant Professor of Counselor Education in the Department of Advanced Studies and
Innovation at Augusta University in Augusta, GA. She completed her doctoral studies at the University of South Carolina and has a background in clinical mental health counseling. Therese has worked as a mental health counselor in a variety of settings including, University counseling centers, residential treatment facilities, and partial hospitalization/intensive outpatient treatment centers. Clinically, Therese specializes in working with women and adolescent girls, bereavement counseling, and eating disorders. Her research interests include client outcomes, cultivating facilitative counselor dispositions, mindfulness, and the use of single-case research design in counseling research.

Also in fall 2018, Dr. Suzanne Dugger joined Augusta University as a counselor education faculty member and department chair. Although Dr. Dugger’s time in the 2018-2019 academic year was dedicated to department administration, she brings to us extensive experience as a counselor educator. She spent 18 years as a counselor educator at Eastern Michigan University where she taught master’s level students in clinical mental health counseling, college counseling, and school counseling programs and served as the school counseling program coordinator. She then spent 3 years at the University of Mississippi as Professor of Counselor Education and Program Coordinator, where she taught in and coordinated master’s programs in clinical mental health counseling and school counseling, an Ed.S. program in Play Therapy, and a Ph.D. program in counselor education. This past summer, she taught our career counseling course.

New Courses Proposed

During the 2018-2019 academic year, the counselor education faculty developed proposals for two new courses. Specifically, it proposed replacing EDUC 6040: Educational Tests and Measures with a new course COUN 6640: Comprehensive Assessment in Counseling and also proposed replacing EDUC 6021: Introduction to Educational Research with a new course COUN 6650: Research and Evaluation in Counseling. The proposals for these new courses have now been approved, and we look forward to offering them for the first time in Spring 2020 semester.

Questions

Questions about this report may be directed to:

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