From the Editor's Corner

Hello Rehab Family,

It’s Eva again. Thank you for all the encouragements that I received from the last issue. I hope you enjoyed reading it and will enjoy this issue as well. If you have any comments or ideas for future issues of The Rehab Review, please don’t hesitate to send an email to yi-hua-tsai@uiowa.edu.

I hope you enjoyed this semester and with you all Happy Holidays!!

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From the Coordinator’s Desk

Welcome to the Fall 2001 edition of the University of Iowa Rehabilitation and Mental Health Program newsletter. The strengths of our program reflect the efforts of faculty, students, alumni, and the advisory board. There are a number of areas in which the program has received recognition.

The Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling Program was recently recognized by US News and World Report as the 2nd ranked rehabilitation counseling program in the United States. The ranking recognizes the success of the program in preparing counselors and educators, as well as faculty commitment to research productivity and leadership at the national level. The ranking boosts the national visibility of the program and graduates.

The Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling Program has received from the Council for the Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) an 8 year accreditation in the area of Mental Health Counseling. The Program was previously accredited by CACREP as a Community Counseling Program. The Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling Program is now accredited by both CACREP and the Council on Rehabilitation Education (CORE). The dual accreditation continues to provide graduates with opportunity to obtain licensure as a Mental Health Counselor, obtain Certification as a Rehabilitation Counselor, and become employed in a variety of health care, human resources, and advocacy occupations.

We are fortunate that the Rehabilitation Services Administration has awarded Long-Term Training Scholarship Grants for both the Doctoral and Masters programs. These grants provide forgivable loans to qualified scholars who have a commitment to public service. Thirteen graduate students receive full tuition and a living allowance each semester with the stipulation that the scholar repay the award through one year employment in public service. The grant award recognizes the excellence of the training provided by the University of Iowa and assists us in meeting our goal of providing support to as many students as possible.
Faculty recently welcomed the addition of Dr. Volker Thomas, PhD, to the faculty of Counselor Education. Dr. Thomas is re-starting admissions to the Couples and Family Counseling Doctoral Program. Admissions to the Doctoral program in marriage family were suspended a number of years ago due to faculty changes. We are pleased that Dr. Thomas, who previously taught at Iowa, has returned to lead the program. Graduate admission to the PhD program in Couples and Family Counseling are being accepted with a Fall, 2012 start date.

Finally, Dr. John Wadsworth, PhD, CRC has assumed the role of Program Coordinator. The changes in leadership are a planned part of the rotation of duties among faculty. Dr. Wadsworth teaches Micro Counseling, Assessment, and Career Counseling and Job Development. His research interests focus on employment of older adults. In addition to teaching and research activities, Dr. Wadsworth is Co-Chair of the University of Iowa Institutional Review Board for Bio Behavioral and Social Science Research.

Academic programs are examined at many levels for their value to graduates and to taxpayers. The Rehabilitation and Mental Health Program enjoys a national reputation of excellence that has firmly established the value of the program. While faculty are the face of the program, it is the hard work of students, graduates, and the community that provide us with the opportunity to offer an exemplary program.

James F. Jakobsen Graduate Conference

The James F. Jakobsen Graduate Conference is a local conference run by the graduate student members in Graduate Student Senate at the University of Iowa. The conference is held every Spring semester and is opened for studies in various areas, including: Art & Research; Biological & Health Sciences; Creative Works; Humanities; Math, Physical, & Engineering Sciences; and Social Sciences & Education. Students can apply for either oral or poster presentations.

The Jakobsen Conference is a great opportunity for graduate students at the UI to present their research and graduate work. Submission for the Spring 2012 conference will open on January 4, 2012 and the deadline is February 3, 2012.

For more information about application and guidelines, please visit the GSS website.
Professor Dennis C. Harper earned his doctorate from the University of Iowa College of Education in 1972 and has been impacting the lives of people with disabilities at the UI and all over the world ever since. He is retiring this year after 39 years on the UI faculty at multiple departments and Colleges.

Harper’s first appointment was as head of the Psychology Department at CDD in Pediatrics at UIHC, College of Medicine, in 1972. He took on a secondary appointment with the College of Education in 1984 with Rehabilitation Counseling and in 1990 also joined the College of Public Health.

As part of his UI career, Harper was the head of the Division of Developmental and Behavioral Medicine and also served as the clinical director of the University Hospital’s Center for Disabilities and Development, which began in 1947 as a hospital school for people with physical disabilities and has grown to also serve those with intellectual disabilities as well. Harper actually started at the CDD, in a unit called Pine School as teaching assistant for children with disabilities, in 1964 before completing his Ph.D. J.B Stroud Professor of Education offered him this graduate assistantship which changed his life goals.

“It was the most amazing opportunity for anybody to understand how children grow up with disabilities,” he said.

Glen Aylward, a professor of pediatrics and psychiatry at The Southern Illinois University School of Medicine who has collaborated with Harper on research projects, said Harper’s ability to be a leader in multiple fields makes him unique. He was the first non-medical President of the American Academy for Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine in 1998.

“One of his biggest achievements is his ability to function across disciplines,” Aylward said. “He has gained respect from both the psychology world and the medical world. There are not a lot of people around who can claim that. He has established the stature of psychology in medicine.”

Harper has been President of all (4) of his national professional organizations and his state (Iowa) association. He is Past President of Division of Rehabilitation Psychology and the Division of Pediatric Psychology of the American Psychological Association and past President (2006-08) of Section 1 Pediatric Rehabilitation Psychology of the Division of Rehabilitation Psychology of APA.

Another thing that makes Harper special is his ability to view disability through multiple lenses. He visited 11 countries throughout his career to study disability and gained new perspectives and ideas.
“I call my first trip out of the country my Indiana Jones adventure,” Harper said. “John Wadsworth and I lived in Katmandu, Nepal for three months and was exposed to a nonwestern view of growing up with disabilities that had a very significant impact on my thinking.” John and I tracked ‘rhinos’ rode elephants and interviewed children about disabilities in their country. Getting a non-western view of differences was a life changing experience.

Closer to home, Harper has impacted UI students through his teaching, innovations for students with disabilities, and through serving on 60 dissertation committees in six colleges and mentoring 60 Post-Doctoral students at the UIHC.

Dytisha Davis, a PhD student in Rehabilitation Counselor Education who plans to complete her studies this fall, chose Harper to chair her dissertation committee. She describes him as “accessible and student oriented. “

“He is very interested in your topic. He helps you develop your idea and he’s just as excited about it as you are,” she said. “I’m blessed to have met him. When I look back on people throughout my college experience, he will always stand out.”

One of Harper’s proudest professional accomplishments was creating the REACH program. REACH, named by Harper is an acronym for Realizing Academic and Career Hopes and provides a college-life experience to students with multiple cognitive and learning disabilities. REACH students live in the dorms, attend college courses, interact with UI students, and obtain career and community involvement training. University of Iowa is now a leader in colligate education for students with disabilities.

Harper worked with former UI President David Skorton and former Iowa Lieutenant Governor Sally Pederson to create the REACH program, the first of its kind in the Big Ten. The program accepted its first students in 2008.

“Now we have close to 60 young people living in the residence halls, taking courses, and experiencing a college reality that they never could have before,” Harper said.

Harper earned the College’s Audrey Qualls Diversity Award for his pioneering work on the REACH program, which he counts as his most rewarding personal accomplishment. He was also selected as the Carver College of Medicine recipient for the Regents Award for Faculty Excellence for 2006 for the University of Iowa.

In his retirement June 2011, Harper said he will continue to volunteer for organizations that partner with people with disabilities. He’s also taking on a new challenge: cello lessons —“It’s one of the hardest things I’ve ever done,” he said. He is teaching a parenting course at the Iowa Medical Classification Center, has a part-time clinical practice, and has an office in Lindquist in Rehabilitation Counseling.
Mr. Peter Teahen is the president of the Teahen Funeral Home, and he is also an author, a mental health professional and disaster responder, and an adjunct faculty in our program. He has recently been awarded the credential of Diplomate by the National Center for Crisis Management and the American Academy of Experts in Traumatic Stress for his distinct contribution in crisis management and/or working with survivors of traumatic events, knowledge, training and level of education.

Q: How did you decide to be involved in this field?

PT: I first became involved with grief counseling in my professional role as a funeral director. As my career expanded to responding to disasters around the world I became acutely aware of the need for disaster mental health and crisis intervention providers to be specifically trained in disaster and trauma response. As I witnessed the suffering of victims and responders of combat, natural and manmade disasters, and terrorism I became determined that I would help further the training opportunities and programs that could mitigate the emotional impact of trauma on victims and responders.

Q: What was your motivation to become a member of the Advisory Board and continue through the years?

PT: When I was asked by Vilia Tarvydas if I would consider serving on the Advisory Board I was excited by the opportunity to work with her and the College to develop curriculum that would prepare students for the demands of counseling in the aftermath of a disaster. We discussed how my personal experience in disaster and trauma intervention would provide a unique perspective to the program. For me, the opportunity of serving on the Advisory Board and lecturing in the classroom has exceeded my expectations. I look forward to additional opportunities of curriculum development, classroom lecture, and participating on the Advisory Board to ensure our students are given every opportunity to excel in their field.
UI-ARCA Updates

By Emily Brust, President of UI-ARCA

With new officers and a new school year UI-ARCA has been keeping busy this semester. New officers include President Emily Brust, Vice President Hilary Synder, Secretary Kathleen Ker-ness, and Treasurer Ashley McBurney. First year representatives include Britt & Amanda.

Over the summer the 2nd year students, doctoral students, faculty and staff hosted a welcome party for the new Rehabilitation Counseling students. The BBQ was hosted at Dr. Estrada’s home. Faculty and students alike had a great time, and are looking forward to the 2nd Annual Spring BBQ to celebrate graduation of the 2nd year Masters and Doctoral students.

During Disability Awareness Month, in October, UI-ARCA held its 1st Annual Disability Awareness Day in the Old Capital Mall. UI-ARCA teamed up with ICATER to inform people about disabilities. The Awareness Day had fliers from local agencies like MECCA, the Crisis Center, and Vocational Rehabilitation, as well as an obstacle course where people had the chance to experience what it is like to have a disability. UI-ARCA attended the Advisory Board Meeting and provided input about the program and its future goals.

In December, UI-ARCA will work with the Salvation Army to help raise money for people in need during the holiday season by participating in the Ring the Bell campaign. Volunteers are welcome to join us at Sycamore Mall on December 1st from 1pm-5pm.

Next semester UI-ARCA members will look forward to taking part in the NAMI Walk while partnering up with Chi Sigma Iota and other UI student groups, elect new officers, and organize a graduation celebration for the second year Masters and Doctoral students.
Students' Poster Presentation in NCRE Fall 2011 Conference

Using Foreign Language Interpreters in Counseling Session

• Leslie M. Santos, MA, University of Iowa

At this historic moment, there is a dramatic increase in immigration to the United States. Non-English speaking clients in need of counseling sessions usually are evaluated with the help of an interpreter. Working with interpreter was associated with a new factor in the counseling field; the counselor probably could be confronting some difficulties and ethical dilemmas providing counseling services. However, few counselors receive formal training in providing interpreter-aided counseling service.

Keywords: Mental health, counselor, interpreter, foreign language

Applications for the Rehabilitation Workplace

University of Technology
University of Technology

plague rehabilitation service provision, workplace mentoring aiming in addition to its documented benefits of promoting reviews theoretical approaches and best practices for specific recommendations for designing and implementing work settings.

3rd ANNUAL POSTER PRESENTATIONS
MONDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2011 - POSTER PRESENTATION

Using Quick Response (QR) Codes in Teaching

• Richard D. Helling, M.Ed., CRC, Aub.

Response (QR) codes use a two-dimensional method of encoding data found in advertising, entertainment, and transportation. The scanned code automatically opens an email and have tremendous potential for accessibility (e.g. syllabi, PowerPoints, business cards, etc.).

Bridging the Gap between Ex-Offenders with Disabilities and Employment

• Frances R. Barnes, BA, MS, University of Iowa

The purpose of this post presentation is to provide knowledge and insight of, best practices being used to assist ex-offenders with disability in gaining employment in the post-modern workforce. Attention will be given to employment statistics, crimogenic needs that affect the success of gainful employment and practices that are useful in assisting Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors and offender’s with disabilities, in successful outcomes.
Snapshots from Conferences

This year’s attendees of the On With Life 2011 Fall Annual Conference
Photo Courtesy of Leslie Santos

Frances Barnes presented her poster to a conference attendee at NCRE Fall Conference

Leslie Santos with her poster at NCRE Fall Conference

Dr. Estrada-Hernandez with conference attendees and Dr. LaKeisha Harris (second left) and Dr. Almaz Getachew (third right), who both are UI graduates.
Snapshots from Big 3 Conference

Dr. Tarvydas presented on the new CRCC Code of Ethics

Social time. Dr. Herbert from Penn State (red shirt with a guitar), Dr. Leahy from Michigan State (white shirt), and Dr. Tarvydas with other conference attendees.
Save the Date

These are some activities that will take place during the Spring 2012 semester. You can start marking your calendar now!

January 27, 2012  Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Research Symposium, Jones Commons, The University of Iowa
March 24, 2012  The 14th Annual James F. Jakobsen Graduate Conference, IMU, The University of Iowa
April 11-13, 2012  National Council on Rehabilitation Education, San Francisco, California
April 20, 2012  Advisory Board Meeting, S104 Lindquist Center, The University of Iowa
April 28, 2012  NAMI Walk, Iowa City Park (by the pond), Iowa City

Community News

Are you planning on taking the CRC exam in 2012 and becoming a certified rehabilitation counselor? The next application deadline is February 15, 2012 and the exam dates are July 13-21. The following application deadline is May 15, 2012, and testing dates for this round are October 5-13, 2012. Please check http://www.crccertification.com for more detailed information regarding application, preparation for the exam, and testing locations.

Our program has funding resources for CRC examination. If you are interested in applying for the funding for your examination fee, please contact Dr. Wadsworth for more information.
The Mission of the Graduate Programs in Rehabilitation (GPR) at the University of Iowa is to prepare qualified rehabilitation counseling professionals who will assist persons with disabilities and other individuals who have barriers in meeting their functional needs in the areas of employment independent living, and personal or economic development. The Graduate Programs in Rehabilitation prepare these professionals to provide quality rehabilitation counseling services within an interdisciplinary and community-based context, serve as change agents and advocates for their clients, and sources of specialized knowledge and consultants for professionals, employers and others in the communities that they serve.

**Program Vision**

To be the premier graduate rehabilitation counselor education program recognized for its diversity, and known for excellence in teaching, learning and research.

For more information about the program or previous issues of newsletters, please check the program website:

- Program
- Newsletter

Please update your contact information

It is always pleasant and exciting for us to hear what happened and what have changed in your life. In addition, we will be able to provide you with recent news of the department and program. Please fill out the Online Personal Information Form and keep us and you posted.