Hello Again !!!

Thank you for all the great comments received from the past edition of the Rehab Newsletter, I hope that everybody enjoyed reading it and I hope you enjoy this edition too. Remember you can send any comments or recommendations to lesley-irizarry-fonseca@uiowa.edu

Happy Holidays !!!
Lesley

The University of Iowa
The Rehab Newsletter

Editor’s Corner

Newsletter of the Graduate Programs in Rehabilitation
The University of Iowa
Program Web Page: http://www.education.uiowa.edu/rehab/
Program Vision
To be the premier graduate rehabilitation counselor education program recognized for its diversity, and known for excellence in teaching, learning and research.

SAVE THE DATE
February 12 – Valentines Day Party, LifeSkills Evening Club
April 6-9 – National Council on Rehabilitation Education
April 16-17 – Relay for Life Walk
April 23 – Advisory Board meeting and Spring Colloquium
May 8 – NAMI Walk
From the Coordinator Desk

Greetings! I hope you all enjoyed a wonderful holiday and had an opportunity to spend time with those who mean the most to you. The program faculty, students and advisory board have all been very active this past semester and that continues as we prepare for 2010.

“Preparation” is instrumental in many of the updates I wish to give you. We are preparing to bring you an exciting colloquium this spring on assistive technology and accommodations in the workplace with a special emphasis on working with employers. Please be watching for the “Save the Date” notice on the colloquium.

We are also preparing for CACREP re-accreditation which will begin in full force next semester as well. We have begun reviewing the new standards and are implementing a plan for the necessary documentation for re-accreditation.

Perhaps the most difficult of preparations is that of preparing to have our relationships with Reta and Ginny change. As of June 2010 both will be retiring and we cannot imagine life without them in the front office. Many of you are also very fond of them and I encourage you to stop by or give them a call prior to their departure. As you will note, we have featured them in this newsletter and hope you enjoy the article and photos!

Happy 2010!

Jodi Saunders

In this Edition

- Congratulations on your Retirement
- Getting to know the Advisory Board
- Take a look
- Community
- Big 3 / On With Life
- Congratulations / Students in the Community
Congratulations on your Retirement !!!

Even though we know they are irreplaceable we are happy (for them) to announce the retirement of Loretta Litton and Virginia Travis (Reta and Ginny). These two amazing people have dedicated more than 40 years to the University of Iowa and to many of us who have benefitted from their expertise and their wonderful sense of humor! For that reason this edition of the newsletter will be dedicated to honor them and the ways in which they have made our lives easier and more enjoyable here at UI! Though they will be missed we are happy to know that this retirement, which will become effective June, 2010, will provide new and exciting opportunities for them both.

Irish Retirement Blessing
May you always have work for your hands to do.
May your pockets hold always a coin or two.
May the sun shine bright on your windowpane.
May the rainbow be certain to follow each rain.
May the hand of a friend always be near you.
And may your heart be filled with gladness to cheer you.
Best Wishes for your Retirement !!!

Now is the time to enjoy all the things you never had time to do when you worked...

It's time for you to look back with pride and satisfaction on years well lived and look forward to all the things you're yet to enjoy...!
Getting to Know the Advisory Board

The advisory Board members are truly committed to the success and improvement of our program. We are going to be interviewing two members in every edition of the Rehab Newsletter. We began with Ms. Eda Holt the chair of the board and Ms. Gillian Fox the secretary.

Eda Holt
How did I become involved in Rehab?
My involvement in the field of Rehabilitation Counseling was due to who I knew on my return to the state seeking employment. In late 1974 I was hired by an educational consulting firm to work with the Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification to develop its operating policies/procedures. This exposure lead to a full time position with the Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification, the credentialing body for the certification of Rehabilitation Counselors. I was employed as its CEO for 22 years until my retirement in January 2000.

Motivation to become a board member: I believe I bring a different perspective to the board table that of not being a service provider or educator but providing a broader view of how the credentialed professional serves the public across varied employment settings and with many federal and state regulatory agencies.

Important role for the advisory body: To support and improve the delivery of rehabilitation services through working with the university in future planning to maintain and improve in the provision of educational and training opportunities for rehabilitation counselors.

Recommendation for future professionals: Every professional needs to work to increase awareness of the importance of working to license/certify professionals in terms of service quality and health care cost containment in serving the needs of people with disabilities.

Gillian Fox
The field of Rehabilitation Counseling was a logical career move for me. I had an undergraduate degree in Secondary Special Education from Iowa and I had been working as a community based counselor for the previous 15 years. I always felt that I was more of an educator than a social worker, although I carry a BSW license for the state of Iowa. Teaching people to learn to solve their own problems is compelling and empowering to the individual using services.

The primary motivation to become a member of the Advisory Board I was a student representative while I was working on my masters degree. I was honored to receive the invitation to attend and believe that the Advisory Board is an integral part of the program. When I graduated, I applied to be a permanent member and my application was accepted. I believe that, as a professional, I have the opportunity to continue learning from some of the best experts in the field on an ongoing basis.

I believe that all of the roles of the Advisory Board are important. If I had to choose one, it would be listening to the students comments and concerns. Students need to have a voice and the opportunity for input. It is, after all their nickel, that pays the tuition. I wish that more students would take the opportunity to attend the Advisory Board meetings because ultimately, we meet to make recommendations to improve the program that they are enrolled in.

My recommendations for future professionals are to become involved in the community in which you work. The provision of services to people who have disabilities is community driven. Providers must work together to ensure that individuals are being treated with respect and not discriminated against. Advocacy is extremely important if we wish to break through the wall of stigma which people who have disabilities face on a daily basis. Future professionals must live the philosophy of people first if they truly wish to be successful.
Take a Look 😊

The College of Education at the University of Iowa is committed to the teaching excellence of their students and the development of their competencies in research through their recent programs the Graduate Teaching Certificate and the i-fellows program. Now the students have two new programs that provided them with the opportunity for growth and development as future professionals. Take a look at these programs and most importantly, become part of them by registering or talking to others about them.

“The college of education is in a position to become the first in the nation to offer a cohort group to chance to redefine and elevate the graduate student experience”

The I-fellows program is a new program for first year doctoral students that provide the opportunity for peer-to-peer and faculty mentoring, work with faculty and staff to create a professional development plan, teaching portfolio, and grant opportunities and social networking and community building opportunities among others. Find more information about the i-fellows in the following link and get to know all the great experiences that the students …
The Graduate Certificate in College Teaching

The Graduate Certificate in College Teaching is a three-part program (coursework, teaching experience, and a teaching portfolio) leading to a graduate teaching certificate requiring 12 semester hours of coursework. As the Graduate Certificate is available to all doctoral students at the University of Iowa, it is critical to register for the program. This is so the Office of Teaching Excellence can best assure there are sufficient sections and seating in the classes during the semester in which you plan to enroll. Look at the website and you will have the opportunity to hear about other students experiences and the great benefits that the teaching certificate provided to them. [http://www.education.uiowa.edu/gte/certificate/index.htm](http://www.education.uiowa.edu/gte/certificate/index.htm)

If you know someone that you think can benefit from this program talk to them about it or send him/her to find more information in their website or the office in N222 Lindquist Center

Some of the services provided by the Office of Graduate Teaching Excellence enrolled in the certificate are:

- Outreach, recruitment and application processing for the Graduate Certificate in College Teaching.
- Ongoing monitoring and consulting through to completion of the Graduate Certificate in College Teaching.
- Coordinate practica in college teaching placements on and off UI campus.
- Coordinate future faculty development programming.
- Provide coursework in graduate teaching.
- Evaluate the Graduate Certificate in College Teaching, and recommend modifications when necessary.

Enroll Today in this Great Adventure Full of Opportunities !!!
Community News

The Writing Center, located in N372 LC, is a service available to any student, faculty member or professional in the CRSD Department who desires assistance with academic or professional writing. Marjorie Carlson Davis staffs the Writing Center. She has an MA in English from the University of Iowa and has taught college writing for over 15 years. She is also a freelance writer.

For more information you can send her an e-mail to Marjorie-davis@uiowa.edu

Please Update your Contact Information

It’s exciting to hear about the big changes in graduates’ lives—marriage, children, relocation, job changes and promotions. And it’s easy to keep your records up to date. Just follow the link to the Online Personal Information Form and keep us posted!

Students: Are you planning to sit for the CRC examination in 2009/2010, the following link will provide you with information on application dates, application forms, and study materials.

http://www.crcecertification.com/
Big 3 Conference 2009

During the month of October the UI Rehabilitation Counselor Education program doctoral students attend the 14th Annual Retreat and Conference of the Big 3 Consortium at the Kellogg Biological Field Station, in Michigan together with our colleagues from Michigan State University and Pennsylvania State University. Our group of students was composed of Leslie Santos, Ruth Mercado, Junfei Lu, Cory James, Dwaine Turner, Lesley Irizarry, and Erin Barnes.

Dr. Crewe discussed the actual revision process of the CORE standards, Dr. James T Herbert from Penn State talked about publications and Dr. O'Sullivan discussed the importance of the faculty search process.

Also some of the students of the three universities developed an idea for a research project which will be presented at the NCRE Conference in April 2010 in California. The group of students will be exploring the Issues Facing Rehabilitation Counseling: Perspectives of Future Leaders.

In general the experience this year was described by the students as great and we encourage the other students that did not have the opportunity of participating this year to go next year. This is a great opportunity of professional development and form professional relationships that hopefully will last forever.

On With Life 9th Conference

Once again during the month of September our program had the opportunity to co-sponsor the 9th Annual Education Conference, “Helping Brain Injury Survivors Thrive”, with On With Life. The individuals that participated in this workshop had the opportunity to learn more about brain injury and the improvements for managing the condition.
Congratulations !!!

Congratulations to Dr. Estrada
Dr Estrada and his wife Isandra had their first child, a beautiful baby girl name Viviana on November 2009

Students in the Community