



Program Coordinator's Annual Report 2015-2016

Program Name: Clinical Mental Health Counseling (CMHC)
Program Coordinator: Heather Robertson, Ph.D., LPC, NCC, CRC, ACS
Coordinator Contact Info: (718) 990-2108
robertsh@stjohns.edu
 Sullivan Hall, Room G-06
 80-00 Utopia Pkwy, Jamaica, NY 11439

Clinical Mental Health Counseling (CMHC) Enrollment:

Fall 2013	Spring 2014	Fall 2014	Spring 2015	Fall 2015	Spring 2016
CMHC/Q/FT: 27	CMHC/Q/FT: 29	MSEd/Q: 66	MSEd/Q: 62	MSEd/Q: 71	MSEd/Q: 64
CMHC/Q/PT: 28	CMHC/Q/PT: 22	AdvCert/Q:0	AdvCert/Q: 1	AdvCert/Q:0	AdvCert/Q: 1
CMHC/SI/FT: 3	CMHC/SI/FT: 3	MSEd/S: 9	MSEd/S: 6	MSEd/S: 7	MSEd/S: 7
CMHC/SI/PT: 9	CMHC/SI/PT: 3	AdvCert/S: 0	AdvCert/S: 0	AdvCert/S: 1	AdvCert/S: 1
CMHC/Total: 67	CMHC/Total: 57	CMHC/Total: 75	CMHC/Total: 69	CMHC Total: 79	CMHC Total: 73

PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

The M.S. Ed. in Clinical Mental Health Counseling program has seen steadily increasing enrollments over the past three years. With the implementation and approval of our Advanced Certificate in Clinical Mental Health Counseling (ADV/CMHC) in 2015, we received a slight increase in enrollment for those completing the certificate. We continue to see interest and growth in Clinical Mental Health Counseling program, likely due to our Council on the Accreditation of Counseling and Related Education Programs (CACREP) accreditation and our approval as a license qualifying program in New York state.

PROGRAM RECRUITMENT

Word of mouth, the CACREP website, and School of Education Open Houses continue to be our primary recruitment sources. Our CACREP accreditation continues to be a significant deciding factor for students completing their CMHC degree at St. John's University, as opposed to competing institutions without accreditation. Graduation from a CACREP program allows graduates a significant advantage over non-CACREP graduates in the Clinical Mental Health Counseling field, particularly with reference to state licensing and federal employment options. Counselor Education programs tend to attract several students to School of Education Open Houses. As stated above, the Advanced Certificate in CMHC has attracted new students who hold a Master's degree in another counseling specialty, such as School Counseling. The CMHC program continues to receive a large number of applications for admission, although final enrollment numbers are dependent both on the candidate's qualifications and their financial status. Prospective students who attend Open Houses have been invited to sit in on graduate classes, and meet individually with faculty for information and discussion.

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

During the 2015 – 2016 academic year, students in the Clinical Mental Health Counseling program completed internships at a variety of diverse locations and settings in the NYC metro region. Students' field placement experiences included inpatient hospitals, outpatient agencies, community clinics, Hospice facilities, school-based mental health services, Personalized Recovery Outpatient Services (PROS) programs, substance use disorder clinics, and universities. A complete, alphabetical listing of placements during the 2015-2016 academic year is included below.

1. Aristotle's Psychological and Biofeedback Services, Astoria, NY*
2. Calvary Hospital, Bereavement and Hospice Services, Bronx, NY
3. Catholic Charities, Outpatient Clinic and PROS program, Flushing, NY*
4. Create Inc., Substance Use and Addiction Services, New York, NY
5. Creedmoor Psychiatric Center, Bernard Fineson Developmental Disabilities Services Office, Queens Village, NY *
6. Family & Children's Association, Geriatric Mental Health, Hicksville, NY
7. Gateway Counseling Center, PROS Program, Bronx, NY
8. Hamilton Madison House, Bilingual (English/Mandarin) Community Clinic, New York, NY
9. Kids Therapy Services, Early Intervention Center, Garden City, NY
10. Long Island Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (LICADD), Substance Use Education and Intervention, Mineola, NY
11. New York Psychotherapy and Counseling Services, Bilingual (English/Spanish) Community Clinic, Bronx, NY
12. PAC of Queens, Substance Use and Addiction Services, Elmhurst, NY
13. Pace University, OASIS Program, New York, NY
14. Partnership with Children/MS 534, school-based MH services; Brooklyn, NY
15. Pedersen Krag-PSCH, Residential Programs, Queens, NY
16. Psychotherapy & Counseling Center, Astoria, NY *
17. Queens Consultation Center, Mental Health Clinic, Rego Park, NY *
18. Queens Hospital Center, Inpatient and Partial Unit, Queens, NY
19. Seafield Center, Substance Use and Addiction Services, Mineola, NY *
20. Teenz in the City, Community Program for Adolescents with ASD, New York, NY
21. Western Queens Consultation, Bilingual Community Clinic, Jackson Heights, NY*
22. York College, SEEK Program, Jamaica, NY *
23. Zucker Hillside Hospital/Northwell Health, Inpatient, PROS, & Hillcare Unit, Glen Oaks, NY

*Indicated a new field placement site for 2015-2016

ALUMNI SUCCESSES: EMPLOYMENT, EXAMINATION, & EDUCATION

Employment

CMHC alumni continue to demonstrate excellence beyond the campus. CMHC alumni are surveyed once per year. We are pleased to report that of the alumni responses received, 90 reported working in a mental health counseling position within one month of graduation, with the majority of respondents' positions being offered immediately upon graduation from their internship sites. Recent CMHC graduates are currently working for organizations such as Zucker

Hillside Hospital/Northwell Health (3 graduates), Lutheran Social Services, York College, Family and Children's Association, and other community agencies and clinics.

Examinations

Our students have the option to take the National Counseling Examination (NCE) in the final semester of their program. While not every student opts to take the exam, we are pleased to report that of the alumni responses received, 100% of students who took the NCE, passed the NCE. These students are now able to use the Nationally Certified Counselor (NCC) credential upon graduation. Several states use the NCE for licensing purposes.

CMHC graduates must also take the National Clinical Mental Health Counselor Examination (NCMHCE) for New York state licensure at any point in approximately three years post-graduation. At the time of the survey, none of the 2015-2016 students had taken the NCMHCE. We have received notification from several of our 2014 graduates that they have taken the NCMHCE and past on their first attempt.

FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS (In alphabetical order):

Dr. James Bethea

Grants

July 2015- 1 year contract renewal- Pathways to Excellence Achievement and Knowledge (PEAK) Grant- Amount awarded: \$480,000

Conference Attended

National Council on Juvenile Justice Annual Conference; March 2016- Las Vegas, Nevada

Professional Training & Development

International Institute for Restorative Practices- 4-Day Restorative Practices Training; October 2015- San Diego, CA

International Institute for Restorative Practices- Aggression Replacement Therapy (ART) Training; November 2015- Denver, CO

Dr. Gina Cicco

Presentations:

- 1. Relational Bullying in All Its Contexts: Family, School, and Workplace Conference, St. John's University, Queens, New York (October 2015).** Presenter, Panelist, and Panel Co-Moderator, "The Dignity for All Students Act (DASA) Curriculum: Highlights of a Comprehensive Initiative to Prevent Bullying, Cyberbullying, Harassment, and Discrimination."

2. **E-Learn 2015 – World Conference on E-Learning**, Kona, Hawaii (October 2015). “Creating Effective Supervisory Relationships in Online Courses: Faculty and Student Responsibilities.
3. **FOUNDERS Education**, Washington Crossing, Pennsylvania (August 2015). Invited Speaker, “Dignity for All Students Act (DASA) Part 2, In-Person Trainings.”
4. **EDULEARN15 International Conference on Education and New Learning Technologies**, Barcelona, Spain (July 2015). “Student Success in the Online Environment: A Matter of Structure.”
5. **Theresa Paplin School**, Briarwood, Queens, New York (May 2015). Invited Speaker, “Dignity for All Students Act (DASA) Part 2, In-Person Trainings.”
6. **Assessment Ideas from The School of Education**, Center for Teaching and Learning, St. John’s University, Queens, New York (March 2015). “Assessment in Online Courses: How Are Counseling Skills Evaluated?”

Publications:

Cicco, G. (2015). Creating effective supervisory relationships in online courses: Faculty and student responsibilities. In *Education & Information Technology Digital Library, Proceedings of E-Learn 2015 World Conference on E-Learning*. Chesapeake, VA: AACE.

Cicco, G. (2015). Virtual learning and instructional tools: Perfecting the weekly roadmap. *i-manager’s Journal of Educational Technology*, 12(2), 1-6.

Cicco, G. (2015). Student success in the online environment: A matter of structure. In *EDULEARN15 Digital Library, EDULEARN15 Publications*.

Continuing Education:

Completed **Advanced Certificate, Clinical Mental Health Counseling**, Medaille College, Buffalo, New York (2016)

Dr. Robert Eschenauer, Program Director

2015-2016 Faculty Accomplishments, Dr. Robert Eschenauer

Presentations

- **Eschenauer, R.** (September 28, 2015). *The use of behavior rating scales as an accountability tool*. This was half-day presentation for the New York City Department of Education Psychologists-In-Training, Brooklyn, NY.
- **Eschenauer, R. & Persaud, V.** (October, 2015). *Achievement Tests*. This was half-day presentation for the New York City Department of Education Psychologists-In- Training, Brooklyn, NY.
- **Eschenauer, R. & Doran, E.** (June, 2015). *Balance: Priest as counselor. Acculturation seminar for international priests* sponsored by the Vincentian Center and held at St. John’s

University.

- **Eschenauer, R. & Li, M.** (April 10, 2016) *Between avoidance and problem solving; What roles do resilience efficacy, and social support-seeking behavior play?* American Education Research Association Annual Meeting, Poster Session 7 – 2.

Grants:

- **New York City Department of Education Bilingual School Counseling Scholarship**
Tuition for bilingual students awarded grant.

Doctoral Dissertation Committees (2015 – 2016):

- Jennifer Pecorella (defended)
- Kruti Paten (defended)
- Lydia Bellino (defended)
- Sophia Halikias (defended)
- Marisa Gonzales Hart (defended)
- Mary Szabo (defended)
- Joy Anne D’Anca
- Paula Walters
- Mordechai Striks

Service in the University

- **Faculty Research Consortium**
- **University Institutional Review Board**
- **Academic and Administrative Assembly**
- **Graduate Council**
- **School of Education Academic Fairness Committee (Chair)**
- **School of Education Scholarship Committee**

Service in Professional Societies & Organizations

- New York State Office of Professions – State Education Department
Serves as a Board and Panel Member
- New York Mental Health Counseling Association – State Chapter of AMHCA
Serves as President

Professional Development:

- CACREP – Writing a Self-Study Using 2016 Standards (7 CE hours)
- Home Study Courses to Maintain NCC Certification (over 50 CE hours)
 - Cannabis and cannabis disorders
 - You might as well face it, There's addiction among your clients: Treatment Planning

- Might as well face it, there's addition among your clients: assessing for substance abuse
- Sexual Addiction
- Medical and Illicit Use of Anabolic Steroids
- Human Trafficking and Exploitation
- Post-traumatic Stress Disorder
- Smoking and Secondhand Smoke
- Alcohol and Alcohol Use Disorders
- Methamphetamine Abuse and Dependence
- Clinical Care of Transgender Patient

Dr. Andrew Ferdinandi, School Counseling Program Coordinator

Publications

Submitted Article:

Ferdinandi, A. (2015). Student and faculty engagement: A model for increasing freshman retention.

Journal of the First Year Experience and Students in Transition.

Service to the University

2010 – Present

Director of Student and Faculty Engagement program (SAFE) to support freshman satisfaction and their returning to St. John's for sophomore year

2013 - Present

Our Lady of the Snows, Glen Oaks, N.Y.

Implemented a pro-bono school counseling and mental health counseling program

Summer 2014 Freshman Orientation Speaker

2014 – 2015

Multiple trips to Dallas and Houston Texas at the request of SJU Admission Office to be a guest speaker at "Accepted Students' Seminar."

Dr. Ming-hui Li, Bilingual School Counseling Program Coordinator

Publications:

1. Articles

Li, M. H., & Yang, Y. (in press). A Cross-Cultural Study on a Resilience-Stress Path Model for College Students. *Journal of Counseling & Development*. (SSCI journal; Cabell's Directories acceptance rate < 10%)

Li, M. H. (2015). The Relationship among Sense of Coherence, Coping Strategies, and Interpersonal Patterns: A Cross-Cultural Study. In G. R. Walz, J. C. Bleuer, & R. K. Yep (Eds.), *Ideas and research you can use: VISTAS 2015* (summer).

Submitted:

Li, M. H. (submitted). *Stress Coping in a Globalized World: Similarities and Differences*

between American and Taiwanese College Students. Submitted to Journal of Multicultural Counseling and Development. (SSCI journal)

2. Proceeding papers:

Li, M. H., & Chen, X. (2015). East versus West: The Relationships among Life Experiences-Learning, Trait Resilience, Self-efficacy, and Sense of Coherence. Conference proceeding scheduled to be published at the 24th international conference of Global Awareness Society International.

Chen, X., & Li, M. H. (2015). Does "Learning from Life Experiences" Mean Similarly for U.S. and Chinese College Students? Conference proceeding scheduled to be published at the 24th international conference of Global Awareness Society International.

Presentations:

Presentations at Conferences:

1. Li, M. H., & Yu, Y. (scheduled for May 27, 2016). Personality and Social Relationships as Predictors of Subjective Well-Being in the U.S. and China. Scheduled to be presented at the 25th international conference of the Global Awareness Society International, Budapest, Hungary.
2. Eschenauer, R., & Li, M. H., (April 10, 2016). Between Avoidance and Problem-Solving: What Roles Do Resilience, Efficacy, and Social Support-Seeking Play? Presented at the 2016 annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Washington, DC.
3. Li, M. H. (April 1, 2016). Enhancing Life Experience-Learning to Promote Resilience. Presented at the 2016 annual meeting of the American Counseling Association, Montreal, Canada.
4. Li, M. H. (April 2, 2016). Globalization V.S. Localization in Stress Coping Patterns. Presented at the 2016 annual meeting of the American Counseling Association, Montreal, Canada.
5. Li, M. H., & Chen, X. (November 4, 2015). Life Experience-Learning Scale: Development and Validation. Presented at the 2015 annual meeting of the Association for Educational Communications and Technology, November 4-7, 2015 in Indianapolis, IN.
6. Chen, X., & Li, M. H. (November 5, 2015). Using Virtual Worlds to Investigate Learning from Life Experiences. Presented at the 2015 annual meeting of the Association for Educational Communications and Technology, November 4-7, 2015 in Indianapolis, IN.
7. Chen, X., & Li, M. H. (May 22, 2015). Does "Learning from Life Experiences" Mean Similarly for U.S. and Chinese College Students? Presented at the 24th international conference of the Global Awareness Society International, Philadelphia, PA.
8. Li, M. H., & Chen, X. (May 22, 2015). East versus West: The Relationships among Life Experiences-Learning, Trait Resilience, Self-efficacy, and Sense of Coherence. Presented at the 24th international conference of the Global Awareness Society International, Philadelphia, PA.

Invited Presentations:

1. Growing Up in a Globalized World. An invited panelist in the panel discussion about “growing up in a globalized world” at the annual meeting of the Global Awareness Society International, Budapest, Hungary (scheduled for 5/28/2016).
2. Cultural Differences in the Relationships among Personality, Social Relationships, and Subjective Well-Being. Presented at the 2016 St. John’s University’s Research Month Presentations (04/07/2016).
3. Fostering Resilience in Children. Presented at the Tzu-Chi Academy New York, Queens, NY (1/16/2016).
4. Issues in International Education. Conference session chaired by Ming-hui Li at the 2015 conference of the Global Awareness Society International, Philadelphia, PA (5/23/2015).
5. Taiwanese culture. Presented at West Philadelphia High School in Philadelphia, PA (5/21/2015).

Grant:

Seed Grant (funded \$5,000, St. John's University, 2015): Investigating the Relationship between Life Experience-Learning and Education Resilience

Dr. Heather Robertson, Clinical Mental Health Program Coordinator

Credentials Earned

- Approved Clinical Supervisor (ACS #2231); Center for Credentialing and Education (CCE), February 2016

Grant Applications

- March 2016; Richard & Camille Sinatra Endowment Grant Application, \$5,000, award **not** granted
- May 2016; Faculty Growth Grant, \$1,500, award granted

Publications

Hayden, S. W. C., Robertson, H., and Kennelly, E. (2015). Military culture in counselor education: Assessing educators’ perceptions of inclusion. *Manuscript submitted for review*

Robertson, H. C. (2016). Substance misuse and career development: Exploring the intersection of substance use disorder and career concepts. *Journal of Career Planning and Adult Development*, 32(1). 32-42. ISSN: 0736-1920

Robertson, H. C. (2015). Narrative and peer-to-peer approaches in counseling military and veterans: A review of current literature and practices. *Journal of Military and Government Counseling*, 3, 66-78. ISSN: 2165-7726

Conference Presentations

American Counseling Association (ACA) and the Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association (CCPA) Conference
March 2016 – Montreal, Canada

Presentation Title: Spirituality, Substance Abuse, and Veterans

**Co-presenter with Seth C.W. Hayden, PhD, Assistant Professor, Wake Forest University*

American Counseling Association (ACA) and the Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association (CCPA) Conference
 March 2016 – Montreal, Canada
Presentation Title: Narrative & Peer-to-Peer Approaches in Counseling Military & Veterans

New York State School Counselors Association (NYSSCA) Annual Conference
 November 2015 – Lake George, NY
Presentation Title: Post-Secondary Planning for Students that are Non-College Bound
**Lead presenter with graduate students from St. John's University School Counseling Program as co-presenters*

Association for Counselor Education & Supervision (ACES)
 October 2015 – Philadelphia, PA
Poster Session Title: Preparing Counselors to Assist Military Service Members and Veterans
**Co-presenter with Seth C.W. Hayden, PhD, Assistant Professor, Wake Forest University*

American Mental Health Counseling Association (AMHCA) National Conference
 July 2015 – Philadelphia, PA
Presentation Title: Narrative & Peer-to-Peer Approaches in Counseling Military & Veterans

National Career Development Association (NCDA) National Conference
 July 2015 – Denver, CO
Presentation Title: Comparing Career Transitions of Midlife and College Student Veterans

Service to the Profession

American Counseling Association of New York (ACA-NY), Website Editor, 2015-2016

New York State Career Development Association (NYSCDA), Recording and Records Management Officer, 2014-2016

National Career Development Association (NCDA), Veterans Committee, Research Subcommittee, 2012 – present

Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (ACES), 2015 Annual Conference Planning Committee, 2014 – 2016

Respectfully submitted,

Heather C. Robertson, Ph.D.

June 3, 2016