

Counseling Connection

Keeping connected with students

IMPORTANT DATES

March 18-22, 2010

ACA National Convention
Pittsburg, PA

April 2, 2010

Good Friday break

April 9, 2010

ICA Convention
Indianapolis, IN
Downtown Sheraton Hotel

April 15-17, 2010

CAPS
Kansas City, MO
Overland Park Hotel

April 23, 2010

IAMFT
Indianapolis West
IWU campus

April 26-28, 2010

Finals week

May 1, 2010

Graduation at 6p
Counseling Celebration
Ceremony at 3p

May 5, 2010

May Term classes begin

July 15-17, 2010

AMHCA Conference
Boston, MA
Westin Waterfront Hotel

September 23-25, 2010

AACC Conference

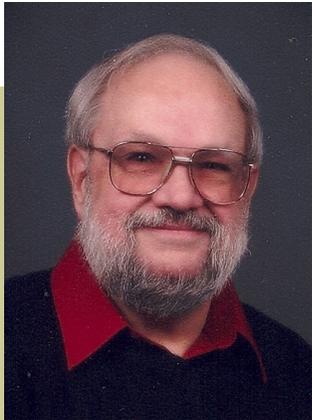
Forgiveness Blitz: **An Undergraduate Event** **Sponsored by Division of** **Graduate Counseling**

The Division of Graduate Counseling, along with the support of IWU Undergraduate Activities Committee, implemented a "Forgiveness Blitz" on the IWU campus. This event was part of a large research project in which Dr. Mark Gerig and Caroline Poland, Graduate Counseling Research Assistant, sought to determine the extent to which a campus/community-wide forgiveness awareness intervention could directly influence undergraduate student behavior. The event included mall banners in the Student Center, articles in the campus newspaper, Forgiveness Facebook site, a Post Secret, special showing of *Forgiveness: Stories for our Lives*, along with a special chapel and afternoon workshop presented by Dr. David Stoop, a well-known Christian author, family therapist, and presenter. It was hypothesized that students would exhibit a decrease in stress-related presenting issues at the university health center, decreased interpersonal conflict among students at the dorm, and decreased relational issues presented at the university counseling center. Dr. Gerig and Ms. Poland are collaborating with Dr. Everett Worthington and his colleagues.

The project is of interest to members of the counseling professions, who routinely develop and implement community intervention and public awareness campaigns as prevention

programs. However, and more importantly, it is hoped that IWU undergraduate students and staff gain a better understanding of the process and significance of forgiveness. As was emphasized throughout the blitz, granting forgiveness .

to another person actually frees the forgiving person from the burden and tension that are consequences of unresolved issues in interpersonal relationships



Clinic Coordinator's Corner

A friendly message to all students as spring break approaches let me offer a few things to keep in mind when you return from Florida. Please make sure you are scheduling on the hour and that you are notating your appointments on the clinic electronic calendar.

Remember you are required to tape all

sessions in the Clinic. One last reminder about CIPPS: Check it periodically for announcements concerning the Clinic like when the Clinic is going to be closed for spring break, graduation, or between semesters. Hope you had a rip roaring SPRING BREAK!!

— Dr. Budd

IAMFT Spring Conference Student Poster Sessions

For students interested in preparing a poster for the IAMFT Spring Conference, here are important guidelines to follow:

- Space limitations permit only freestanding posters on tri-folding poster boards.
- IAMFT will provide you with a table on which to place the poster board.
- **Proposals and acceptances will be communicated by email only.**
- Email the information below to: barbara.riggs@indwes.edu
-

Name (You will be the contact person)
Your address
Your email
Poster title

University
Your phone
Additional presenters/email addresses
Abstract of approximately 100 words

Deadline for submissions is **Monday, March 22**.
Submitters will be notified of the decision by email.

Dr. Gerig Explores Development of Collaborative Relationship with Caribbean Graduate School of Theology (CGST)

Dr. Gerig has initiated a Skype discussion with Dr. Antony Oliver, Vice President of Academic Affairs at the Caribbean Graduate School of Theology to develop some sort of collaborative relationship. CGST currently offers Master of Arts degrees in Counseling Psychology and Holistic Child Development and operates a large clinic, which offers individual, group, and family therapy. These services are offered under the supervision of Program Chair, Dr. McDermott, who is a fully licensed psychologist (Ph.D., University of Michigan).

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between the schools that is mutually beneficial to the academic pursuits of the students at each institution. For example, CGST is very interested in exploring the possibility of offering specific Addictions and Clinical Mental Health Counseling courses, in particular, those containing disaster response and emergency preparedness. In addition, the potential for student and faculty exchanges and the placement of advanced internship students in international settings is being considered. These discussions are in the beginning stages. Please email Dr. Gerig if you have any questions or ideas for collaboration between our program and CGST.

Summer and Fall Course Schedules Released

The Schedule of Courses for the 2010 Summer and Fall semesters have been released. These can be found on the Division's webpage. In addition, we have included them as attachments to this newsletter. Please schedule appointments with your program coordinator if you desire to review progress in your programs of study or set up your schedules for next semester

Division of Graduate Counseling Expresses Thanks for Bramsen Endowment

The Division of Graduate Counseling wishes to express its deepest appreciation to Bryan Bramsen for his generous bequest to our Marriage and Family Therapy program and Graduate Clinic. It is especially an honor that this was given in memory of Bryan's mother, Janet Mary Bramsen, who did so much work to support families in the area. She left a legacy that few in society match. There are many persons that serve as testimonies of changed lives influenced by her energy, compassion and tireless effort. Given the unique focus of our programs, it is wonderful to receive this bequest in memory of one who made such an impact on the lives of individuals, families, and the community.

In keeping with the expressed desires of Janet Bramsen, the Division of Graduate Counseling has established the Bramsen Endowment for Family Counseling. The scholar-

ship will be awarded to well qualified students in the Marriage and Family Therapy program who demonstrate a high level of skill and an underlying mission to work toward the betterment of families in the community. In addition, current students, staff, faculty, alumni, and persons from the community will be given the opportunity to make contributions to the fund. Scholarship awards will be based on the interest accrued from the principal.

It is the intention of the Division to continue its practice of offering free family counseling to members of the community. During these tough economic times, we believe it is one way the Division of Graduate Counseling can make a positive difference as we seek to demonstrate the grace and compassion of Christ to families in need of professional counseling services. This endowment will enhance our ability to do so.

Booklists to be Posted

Lists of required and recommended texts for the summer semester are in the process of development. The construction and posting of these lists is in response to a variety of problems that have occurred in recent semesters. Texts will continue to be available through the Campus Bookstore. However, the availability of booklists at the offices of the administrative assistants will enable students to purchase texts well in advance of the beginning of the upcoming semester. Linda Sweany is currently working with faculty to construct the list. It is anticipated that the booklists will be posted by the end of this month.

REGISTRATION NIGHTS ANNOUNCED

Indianapolis campus:

Wednesday, Mar. 24th, 4:30-6:00pm
Student Lounge
Pizza (donation requested)

Marion campus:

Tuesday, Mar. 23rd, 4:30-6:00pm
Location??
Pizza (donation requested)

Please remember to **bring your entire registration packet**. Without it, you will *not* be able to register on this night.

LMHC-A Awaits Governor's Signature

An amendment in the Indiana legislature was recently passed that creates an Associate License for Mental Health Counselors in Indiana. This license, which will go by the designation of LMHC-A, creates a two-tier system of licensure for mental health counselors in the state, with the LMHC remaining unchanged. Criteria for associate license eligibility includes: master's degree in mental health counseling or its equivalent; minimum of 60 semester hours of graduate study; and successful passage of the entry-level exam (most likely the National Counselor Exam – NCE). As graduates from a CACREP-approved program, students in the IWU programs may sit for the NCE during the final semester of their academic program. Thus, to be eligible for the Indiana LMHC-A, students in the IWU counseling program will simply need to successfully complete their academic program, pass the NCE, and apply for the LMHC-A.

The LMHC-A benefits both the profession and consumers. It is expected that post-graduate job placement will increase since new graduates will have a recognized state license and be regulated by the state board. Consumers benefit in having the assurance that newly graduated counselors are regulated by the state, practice under the professional code of ethics, and work under qualified supervision.

For additional information regarding the LMHC-A, please contact Dr. Gerig.

Group Plans Being Made for Attending ACA Annual National Conference

The annual American Counseling Association national conference will be held March 18 – 22, 2010. If you are interested in attending, please contact Dr. Hudson for transportation details. The cost for students and new professionals is \$275.00. This includes the Educational Sessions held Friday – Monday and opening night activities. The American Counseling Association offers sessions for all majors (addictions, clinical mental health, school counseling, marriage and family counseling, and student development). It is truly a conference that can meet the needs of all students. The conference also offers the opportunity to attend workshops and presentations especially designed for graduate students and new professionals. These workshops feature authors of several of your textbooks (i.e. Gerald Corey) and information on finding employment and advance degree programs. Please check out the ACA website www.counseling.org and click on Conference at the top right hand corner.