Old Dominion University's brand-new Education Building hosted the Virginia Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (VACES) Graduate Student Conference on Saturday, Feb. 25. More than 140 graduate students in counseling, counselor educators, and school counselors from across the Commonwealth learned about research taking place in the field of Counselor Education and Supervision.

The conference offered an opportunity to showcase the state-of-the-art 120,000-square-foot Education Building, which opened to students this semester.

"The Darden College of Education is committed to research, which creates new knowledge, supports our communities and provides professional learning opportunities for students," said Dean Jane Bray. "We are thrilled to host this annual counseling conference in the newest academic building on Old Dominion's campus."
VACES Highlights

Nineteen students from Old Dominion's Department of Counseling and Human Services participated in the all-day conference, presenting during breakout sessions or displaying their research during the morning and afternoon poster sessions. Their presentation topics ranged from promoting multicultural competencies in counselor education to mental health counseling for college student-athletes to social media's influence on the mental health of new mothers.

Jeff Moe, assistant professor of counseling and human services in ODU’s Darden College of Education served as conference coordinator, along with Agatha Parks-Savage, current president of VACES. Other faculty members from ODU’s Department of Counseling and Human Services serving as mentors and conference facilitators include Jennifer Del Corso, Emily Goodman-Scott, Kaprea Johnson Hoquee, Gulsah Kemer, Garrett McAuliffe, Ed Neukrug and Chris Sink.

Jeff Moe noted that “it was a great conference, and a valuable professional development experience for everyone involved. The Provost made it a point to note the diversity of experience and topics represented in the presentations, and in the presenters themselves. I feel it was an excellent showcase of the values of our program, and a microcosm for the field as a whole.”
Undergraduate Symposium
February 18, 2017

There were three Human Services’ students presenting at this year’s event. Dr. Sparkman-Key mentored Erin Cuff, Cheyenne James and Laura Schoenborn to participate by sharing a poster presentation.

These students completed program evaluations at local agencies. Each utilized different theoretical approaches and methodologies to complete their evaluations. Each student individually outlined their methods, findings and recommendations in poster format.
Dr. Jeffrey Moe
2017 Old Dominion University John R. Broderick Diversity Champion

Twelve members of the Old Dominion University community were recently presented with President John R. Broderick Diversity Champion Awards, for the spring 2017 semester, in recognition of their commitment to advancing the University's values of diversity, inclusion and equity. From the fall 2016 and spring 2017 recipients, the University's Champion of Diversity Award was presented to Jeffrey Moe, assistant professor in the Department of Counseling and Human Services.

“...Dr. Jeffry Moe was selected as the 2017 Old Dominion University John R. Broderick Diversity Champion. He received this award today at the President’s Diversity Champion luncheon. His hard work and dedication was shared with and admired by all in attendance and he is most deserving of this prestigious award. I was proud to see him receive this award today and ask that you join me in sharing our sincere congratulations for this recognition and great success! Congratulations Jeffry!”
Dr. Alan Schwitzer received the Lifetime Achievement Award (ACPA 2017) from the Commission for Counseling & Psychological Services (CCAPS) of the American College Personnel Association.

Dr. Schwitzer is the winner of the 2016-2017 American College Personnel Association’s Commission for Counseling and Psychological Services Lifetime Achievement Award. This annual award is given to honor and reward the exemplary achievements of an individual’s career contributions to the field of college and university counseling and psychological services.

Also at the meeting, Dr. Schwitzer received the 2016-2017 American College Personnel Association (ACPA) Commission Award for Excellence in Research & Scholarship.

His previous awards include:
- the American College Counseling Association's (ACCA): Meritorious Service Award, the association's highest honor;
- the ACCA Research Award;
- the ACCA Contributions to Professional Knowledge Award;
Dr. Sparkman-Key presented a public lecture at the University of West Indies-Western Jamaica Campus in Montego Bay, Jamaica on March 9, 2017 at 6pm. There were approximately 100 faculty, students and community representatives in attendance. The presentation was titled Service Learning: A Catalyst for Cultural Competence.

Dr. Sparkman-Key motivated a group of pregnant teens to “Be Bold for Change” in celebration of International Women’s Day on March 8, 2017 in Montego Bay, Jamaica. There were approximately 40 teens and parents present. All participants took a pledge to do their part to support women and it was captured in a photo with participants hands. In addition she held a group session on highly effective families for the mothers of the pregnant teens. During this session, participants learned new skills to empower and put their families on a healthy and effective path.
Dr. Sparkman-Key led a group of ten students to Jamaica for spring break. During this travel, the students spent 4 days at the Women’s Center empowering and motivating pregnant teens through presentations and activities. Students creatively captured the students attention through pictures, workbooks, letter writing and journal entries. In addition, students spent time being lectured by University West Indies faculty on culture, social services, counseling skills and substance misuse.

Erika Pratte has been accepted at the University of Northampton in England to pursue a PhD in Transpersonal and Positive Psychology.

Her PhD will be fully funded under a teaching assistantship and her research will be funded under a grant via the Parapsychological Association.

Her dissertation will focus on how people cope with and integrate near death experiences. She embarked on this endeavor in March.
The first ever inter-professional poster conference was held on April 7, 2017. The conference was funded through a small grant that Dr. Kaprea Johnson’s group received from the College of Health Science’s Dean of Inter-professional education.

Students who participated were in a counseling inter-professional course, nursing research course, and dental hygiene research course.

The faculty members included Dr. Kaprea Johnson, Jamela Martin from nursing, Janice Hawkins from nursing and Ms. Sharon Stull from dental hygiene.
Mr. Ronnie Nelson Sidney, II, MSW, Supervisee in Social work, is a therapist, entrepreneur, author, app developer, and workshop presenter. He received a Master of Science and Social Work from Virginia Commonwealth University in 2014, and a Bachelor of Science in Human Services in 2006 from Old Dominion University.

He is also the founder of Creative Medicine: Healing through Words LLC, which published “Nelson Beats The Odds”, an inspiring graphic novel that celebrates friendship, resilience and empowerment. This book has been #1 on the Amazon Best-Seller list in the learning disability category.

He has appeared on Fox and Friends Weekend, and has been interviewed by NBC 12’s Karla Redditte during which he spoke candidly about growing up with an ADHD and learning disabled diagnosis. He also wrote “Tameka’s New Dress”, which explores childhood trauma, parental substance abuse, bullying, and kinship care. His most recent book is about the accidental shooting of a young Black man by police, “Rest in Peace, Rashawn.”
Melanie Burgess, Dr. Emily Goodman-Scott and Dr. Simone Lambert conducted a presentation on Tips and Tools for Counseling Youth with Sensory Processing Disorder.

Melanie reflects: “We outlined Sensory Processing Disorder, discussed the sub-types, and provided screening tools for counselors. There was a wonderful turn-out for our presentation and meaningful discussion that followed. We were very encouraged by the number of counselors committed to working with and advocating for children and adolescents with Sensory Processing Disorder.”

ODU Department of Counseling and Human Services was represented by Eric Brown, Melanie Burgess, Dr. Emily Goodman-Scott, Sonia Ramrakhiani, Dr. Gulsah Kemer, Dr. Jude Austin, Dr. Christine Berger, Dr. Jeffry Moe, and Nicole Snyder.

Eric Brown presented on Cross-Ethnic Trust Factors between Black Counselors with White Mentors and Frankl and Yalom's Existential Therapies: Paradigms for Both the Atheist and Religious.
Congratulations to all of the Darden College of Education 2017 Student Award Winners!

Outstanding Masters Student in Counseling: Stephanie Smith-Durkin
Outstanding Doctoral Student in Counseling: Sonia Ramrakhiani
Outstanding Human Services Student: Cheyenne James
Jill C. Dustin Excellence in Service and Leadership Award: Aiyanne Payne
ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT
Barb Van Doorn (M.S. Ed. ’93)

Barb is a 1993 graduate of ODU, receiving a Masters in Guidance and Counseling (M.S. Ed). She was recently named 2017 Wisconsin Special Services Teacher of the Year. Barb has been a 4K-12 guidance counselor at Lake Holcombe, Holcombe, Wisconsin for the past 23 years. Prior to that she was an elementary counselor in Emporia, Virginia.

Barb’s work is rooted in showing respect, demonstrating caring, and recognizing the intelligence of individuals. She organizes campus visits for students to explore post-secondary education, especially helpful for students who would be the first in their family to attend college. Through her certification as a Mental Health First Aid Instructor, Van Doorn hopes to make helpful mental health skills as common as CPR training.
Student Accomplishments

Congratulations on successful dissertation defenses
to our counseling doctoral students!

Kristy Carlisle (January 13, 2017) Personality, Motivation, and Internet Gaming Disorder: Understanding the Addiction

Mike Kalkbrenner (March 20, 2017) Establishing the Psychometric Properties of the Understanding Mental Health Scale (UMHS)

Eric Brown (March 31, 2017) Cross-Racial Trust Factors: Exploring the Experience of Blacks who have Had White Mentors in the Counseling Profession

Traci Richards (April 4, 2017) The Role of Self-Care and Hardiness in Moderating for Burnout in Mental Health Counselors

Sonia Ramrakhiani (April 6, 2017) Exploratory Factor Analysis Examining Experiences and Perceptions of Campus Safety for International Students


Successful defense of a dissertation proposal:

Marina Kuzmina (April, 2017) Attitudes and Actions that Adoptive Parents Perceive as Helpful in the Process of Raising their Internationally Adopted Adolescents.

Successfully passed written and oral Candidacy Exams:

Zachary Scully—Spring 2017; Vanessa O’Hare

Accepted Positions:

Mike Kalkbrenner—Assistant Professor of Counseling and Educational Psychology Position at New Mexico State University

Sonia Ramrakhiani—Assistant Professor in Counseling and Guidance Program at California Polytechnic State University

Eric Brown—Assistant Professor of Counseling and Director of Clinical Mental Health Counseling Position at Wheaton Illinois College.
Student Accomplishments

Presentations:


Kalkbrenner, M.T. (March, 2017). The Development and Validation of the Understanding Mental Health Scale (UMHS). The annual convention of the American Counseling Association (ACA), Moscone West Convention Center, San Francisco, CA.


James, C., & Kalkbrenner, M.T. (February, 2017). The Psychometric Properties of the Understanding Mental Health Scale (UMHS). The Virginia Association of Counselor Education and Supervision (VACES) annual Graduate Counseling Student Conference, Norfolk, VA.

Publications:


Awards:

Zahide Sunal was awarded The Group Foundation for Advancing Mental Health tuition scholarship to attend the 2017 75th Anniversary Annual Meeting in New York City

Mike Kalkbrenner was awarded The 2017 CACREP Research Initiative for Graduate Students (CRIGS) research fellowship
Faculty Accolades

Presentations:


Winfield, C. (2017, April) Pre-Addiction Track Informational Session. Online and land based Informational Workshop presented at Old Dominion University. Norfolk, VA

Scaringello, F. (2017, April) Promoting wellness in our early adolescent girls through the use of physical activity-positive youth development programs. Presentation at the 2017 Annual Conference for the Southeastern School Behavioral Health. Myrtle Beach, SC.

Goodman-Scott, E. & Herman, E. (2016, July, September, October, November). Aligning comprehensive school counseling programs and positive behavioral interventions and supports. [Four-part, invited presentation for the Virginia Beach City Public Schools, school counselor training]. Virginia Beach, VA.


March 2017 Commission Outstanding Research Award, Commission on Counseling & Psychological Services (CCAPS), American College Personnel Association (ACPA)

Publications:


Service: Dr. Goodman-Scott was on the 2017 American School Counselor Association Annual Conference Planning Committee, began co-chairing the Qualitative Interest Network for the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision, and was elected to the board for the Association for Child and Adolescent Counseling (ACAC) as Secretary; ACAC is the newest division of ACA.
Congratulations CHS Spring 2017 Grads!

Amber Jolley
Eric Brown
Sonia Ramakhriani
Traci Richards
Kristy Carlisle
Mike Kalkbrenner
Marquis Norton
Davis, Haylee
Dechene, Jason
Hainsworth, Taylor
Ober, Alicia
Parry, Thomas
Polychronopoulos, Gina
Reiter, Alyssa
Santos-Bell, Mercedes
Scully, Dennis
Snead, Lauren
Yardley, Kelsey

Albright, Lisa
Altizer, Jamie
Arciniegas, Carmen
Arling, Brittany
Asare, Emelia
Barnett, Raven
Bennett, Sarah
Beyrodt, Alyssa
Borrall, Michelle
Bradley, Shadalia
Bryan, Denise
Campoverde, Susana
Carpenter, Brendalee
Cassidy, Camri
Class, Colleen
Corey, Sarah
Craighead, Tonya
Dassel, Tonya
Dickerson, Alia
Drew, Asha
Fallen, Olivia
Finnell, Monica
Fitzgerald, Judith
Fox, Ashley
Gallet, Christopher
Goad, Laura
Gottlieb, Darby
Greene-Hicks, Nadine
Griffin, Katie
Hamlett, Markeia
Harmes, Julia
Harper, Hayley
Harris, Samantha
Hash, Chesley

Hassell, Elizabeth
Henry, Erin
Hill, Amy
Hobbs, Keturah
Hodge, Jacqueline
Howell, Sheila
Huebner, Amanda
Hunter, Latonya
Ibrahim, Justin
James, Cheyenne
Jeffries, Kimberly
Jones, Eric P
Jones, Melody
Jongollee, Joanna Marie
King, Kristen
Knox, Sabrina
Lamere, Rachel
Landry, Michelle
Lane, Shannon
Lewis, Veronica
Lochart, Michelle
Lucas, Brianda
Lyons, Brittney
Malone, Barbara
Martinez, Mariana
Mendoza, Shanequa
Milligan, Samantha
Moore, Hannah
Morales, Sarah
Mosby, Ericka
Myers, Leslie
Noel, Victoria
Paige, Maria
Payne, Aiyanne
Pereira, Cristal
Pluta, Rhonda
Randall, Tangela
Reavis-Jefferson, Talia

Redden, Stacie
Reedy, Jarid
Rodriguez, Briana
Rucker, Rachelle
Ruffin, Yolanda
Sakyi, Ivy
Salmon, Kayla
Sanders, Jennifer
Sawyers, Hannah
Schoenborn, Laura
Scroggins, Justen
Seay, Gessille
Simmons, Chandler
Simmons, Stephanie
Skinner, Carl
Sorensen, Chloe
Speller, Surina
Spuill, Christina
St Clair, Sarah
Stegall, Ambreia
Taylor, Anne
Thomas, Ashley
Thomas, Caitlin
Thomas, Keya
Thompson, Kapriessa
Tracey, Jennifer
Trigueiro, Halle
Tyer, Taylor
Van Aartrijk, Alexa
Vasquez, Nadia
Viveros, Theresa
Ward, Saundra
Welch, Ashly
Wiebicke, Eve
Williams, Michelle
Winstead, Carlyssa
Wisener-Pierce, Amanda
Young, Tammy