

experience improve  
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**Counseling**  
advice customize focus help care  
encourage individualize comfort guidance  
**Psychology**  
therapy specialize advocate direction  
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# News from Counseling Psychology

Delaware Valley College

Fall 2011

## Networking for Youth Conference a Huge SUCCESS!

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On October 7, 2011, faculty and students in Counseling Psychology joined together for the Networking for Youth conference held at Del Val.

Over 200 area mental health professionals— school guidance counselors, agency workers, and private practitioners— met to discuss issues related to today's youth.

Dr. Jieun Kim, a child psychiatrist, offered the keynote address. It was entitled, "Psychiatric medications for youth: All your questions answered."

The group then broke into smaller sessions led by faculty and associates of the college.

Ms. Kristin Kwak, a nutrition therapist who works with the Del Val Counseling Center, led a session on disordered eating and eating disorders.

Mr. Reb Brooks, a long-time adjunct instructor and area psychologist, led a session on self-mutilation.

Dr. Audrey Ervin, Del Val faculty, led a session on lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer youth.

Dr. Allison Buskirk-Cohen, also Del Val faculty, led a session on the positive and negative factors of peer relationships.

In addition to having the opportunity to interact with others working with youth, the conference also provided the opportunity to earn professional credits. The event was co-sponsored by the PA Psychological Association and the Central Bucks Chamber of Commerce.

Conference attendees were very enthusiastic as well. Ratings for the sessions were positive. Many people also commented on the professionalism of our student volunteers.

"This was a phenomenal opportunity for our students to showcase our program to the community and network with area professionals. Students met with representatives from various mental health agencies and landed some great internship sites" noted Ervin.

## Students Present in San Diego

Kyla Dannelke (senior) Maggie Levicoff (junior) joined Dr. Buskirk-Cohen at the International Society for Exploring Teaching and Learning (ISETL) conference in San Diego, CA this past October.

Dannelke presented a research poster describing her experience designing a research project on emotional intelligence, technology and social media. Levicoff's interactive teaching session focused on incorporated popular culture in the classroom—specifically, the adventures of Charlie Sheen.

Levicoff described the conference as "one of the most life changing and eye opening experiences."

Dannelke added, "The learning experience was wonderful from beginning to end, and I'm excited to take what I have learned from this process and apply it to my future work."

Dannelke and Levicoff were invited to speak with college's Board of Trustees about their work in December. More about that meeting can be found on the next page.



## Students Present to Board of Trustees



On December 2nd, Kyla Dannelke (senior) and Maggie Levicoff (junior) presented to the Delaware Valley College Board of Trustees meeting.

The students discussed their roles at the 41st Annual Conference of the International Society for Exploring Teaching and Learning (ISETL) that was held in San Diego, CA this past October.

Their presentation took place in conjunction with highlights of student activities in other departments.

Dannelke and Levicoff described what an honor it was to represent the school in a professional capacity and how appreciative they were of Del Val's funding for the opportunity. They also talked about their individual backgrounds and college journeys.

## Two More Conferences

The counseling psychology department co-sponsored two conferences on campus in October and November.

Students volunteered at the Fourth Annual Advancing in Recovery Event put on by the Bucks County Behavioral Health System in collaboration with Magellan Behavioral Health, the Bucks County Department of Mental Health and the Bucks County Drug & Alcohol commission.

The keynote speaker was Dr. Michael Baime, Director of the University of Pennsylvania Penn Program for Stress

Management that focuses on mindfulness meditation for stress reduction. Students attended panel presentations that focused on recovery from mental illness.



Students also volunteered at the Celebration of Employment Conference put on by Bucks County Department of Mental Health and the Bucks County Commissioners.

This half-day conference focused on best practices in contemporary employment. Students helped with registration and networked with potential employers and internships sites.

Counseling Psychology looks forward to sponsoring additional conferences in the future.

## Master's Program On Its Way!

Drs. Allison Buskirk-Cohen and Audrey Ervin are pleased that their proposal for a Master's degree in Counseling Psychology has been approved by the Del Val community!

The program will feature two areas of specialization: Child and Adolescent Therapy and Social Justice Community Counseling.

The proposal will be sent to the PA Department of Education for approval, with hopes of offering class in Fall 2013.

## Another Student Heads Off to Semester at Sea

Ashley Grove (junior) is headed for an ocean adventure this coming Spring semester! Grove's Semester at Sea voyage will travel to Brazil, Ghana, Viet Nam, India, China and Japan (among many other places.)

It will incorporate work with children around the world. Grove says she "is most excited about...the unique learning experience I will get from working with children from many different cultures."

## Guest Speaker Discusses Maasai

Students in Dr. Ervin's Multicultural Issues in Psychology class had the opportunity to speak with Catharine Fewtrell, a British anthropologist, who lived with the Maasai tribe in Tanzania.

Catharine Fewtrell talked about different cultural practices, gender socialization, and family structure. Students were eager to hear about what it was like living in a cow-dung hut, having no access to running water and the challenges associated with integrating with a tribal community as an outsider.