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News from Counseling Psychology

Delaware Valley College

Spring 2012

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2012 Graduates

Catherine Boyer, Kyla Dannelke, Michael Rosenthal, Wendy Wakefield, Shay Watson and Hannah Williams participated in the Commencement ceremonies on May 19, 2012.

Lt. Gov. Jim Cawley served as the main speaker. Cawley is the 32nd lieutenant governor of PA and a former Bucks County commis-

sioner. He told the students to “dream big”; they have already started!

Dannelke has been accepted to graduate school at the Adler School of Professional Psychology in Chicago, IL. Rosenthal and Wakefield will participate in City Year, part of the AmeriCorps program.

We know all our graduates will attain success. We wish them much luck!



Bucks Resiliency Conference

Counseling Psychology students attended the Bucks County Behavioral Health conference on March 21 held at the Spring Mill Country Club in Ivyland, PA.

This is the 8th annual Resiliency conference; the second attended by our students.

The students enjoyed participating in the event as attendees; six students volunteered to be greeters and worked the community resources and art room exhibits.

Students networked with area mental health agencies and

established a variety of internship positions.

Key note speakers focused on resiliency in families. Children and families who have thrived after receiving mental health services shared their stories.

A psychologist demonstrated laughing yoga techniques. Students reported that it was a “goldmine” for internships.



International Experiences

Our program is proud of our commitment to ensuring our students gain a global perspective as part of their educational experiences.

One way in which we accomplish this goal is through faculty participation in international conferences.

Dr. Allison Buskirk-Cohen participated in the Oxford Round Table Childhood Education Conference held at the University of Oxford March 11-15.

Dr. Cohen presented a paper and led a discussion on how adolescents engage in problem talk, and

the ways in which this talk may contribute to feelings of anxiety and depression. Dr. Cohen is excited to integrate what she learned at the conference with our students.

Another way the Counseling Psychology program connects students to the rest of the world is through travel. Dr. Audrey Ervin regularly serves as a psychologist with Semester At Sea and encourages our students to join a voyage.

Del Val students Ashley Grove and Michael Rosenthal have sailed on past voyages; Barb Krier is sailing Summer 2012.

Students Present at AWP Conference



Barb Krier, Catherine Boyer, Mike Rosenthal, Wendy Wakefield and Jackie Shunkwiler co-presented with Dr. Ervin at the

37th Annual Association for Women in Psychology Conference. The conference was held in California this past March.

Their session was entitled, "Hearing Our Voices: Using the Empowerment Process Model to Advance Social Justice Initiatives on Campus and Beyond." Dr. Ervin also presented, "Addressing Students' Sexist, Racist and Heterosexist Microaggressions in the Classroom: Strategies, Struggles & Support."

Students attended a variety of presentations and talked one-on-one with noted social rights activists bell hooks and Paula Caplan.

Alumni Linda Dalton (Del Val 2010), who is now attending UC San Diego for graduate school, attended the AWP conference for the third year in a row. She noted that AWP is now part of her professional identity.

A group of students are planning to attend the 2013 conference in Salt Lake City.

New Dean in July

Dr. Kim Martin Long from Shippensburg University will be the founding dean of the School of Business and Humanities at Del Val.

The other areas at Del Val will include the Schools of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences; Life and Physical Sciences; and The Division of Graduate Professional and Entrepreneurial Studies.

Dr. Long will begin at Del Val on July 16th.

Log College Middle School Outreach

The Bucks Chamber of Commerce Parenting and Family Council participated in a panel discussion with 6th, 7th and 8th grade youth at Log College Middle School in Warminster, PA.

The panelists fielded questions from the students on topics that ranged from smoking and drug use to combating rumors/gossip to dealing with family stress.

Dr. Allison Buskirk-Cohen of Del Val served as

an expert on the panel along with one of our students, Raphael Alfaro.

Alfaro said, "it was a really eye opening experience. It allowed me to interact one-on-one with people that I some day hope to help."

The event was organized by Robin Boger, one of the school counselors. She noted that the panelists provided excellent feedback and insight. Having a college student seemed to make a special impact on the middle school students.

Local Therapy Expert Visits Classes

Dr. Barry Ginsberg, a child and family psychologist, visited two of our classes this semester. Dr. Ginsberg became familiar with the Counseling Psychology program through our Networking for Youth conference in October 2011.

Dr. Ginsberg visited the Couples and Family Counseling in the morning. He had been mentored and worked with many of the family system theorists students read about in class. He led two guest lecturers on family systems and play therapy. Students did a role

play (see photo) and Dr. Ginsberg engaged in a mock therapy session illustrating how couples counseling works. He brought toys and explained some strategies about how to facilitate play therapy.

Dr. Ginsberg then spoke with the Senior Seminar class about his career path. He offered advice to our graduating seniors, and encouraged them to maintain the friendships they had formed. The students also engaged in an active discussion with Dr. Ginsberg about the role of relationships

in today's society, especially with technologies such as Facebook.

Dr. Ginsberg heads the Center of Relationship Enhancement in Doylestown, PA.

