

COUNSELOR EDUCATION UPDATE

Official Newsletter of the Counselor Education Program at WCSU



WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE

Welcome Back

PAGE 1

New Faculty

PAGE 2

CSI News

PAGE 2

HRSA Grant Update
and Important Dates

PAGE 3

Student Spotlight

PAGE 4

Spring 2022 Schedule

PAGE 4

WELCOME BACK STUDENTS

As WCSU students and faculty began to return to campus after enduring many months of quarantine, I was struck by how many changes have occurred in the Counselor Education Program since last spring. Some of the changes have been a long time coming such as our move to our newly renovated digs on the Midtown Campus to join the rest of our Education & Educational Psychology Department colleagues. We have also changed our technology from Livetext to Typhon to better meet student needs in fieldwork, in measuring accomplishments in meeting CACREP standards and in the job search.

Other changes were bittersweet. As we said good-bye to our former colleagues, we also welcomed new faces to our program. Dr. Diana Naddeo is filling a Special Appointment position while a faculty search is ongoing to replace Dr. Lomas who left to join the faculty at Gallaudet University. Dr. Lomas' departure placed some faculty in additional roles creating more change. Dr. Monte is now coordinating the HRSA Grant, and I have added coordination of the Clinical Mental Health track to my responsibilities. We also welcome our new University Assistant, Chris Davis, who is replacing Hannah Sanchez, who moved out of state during the pandemic.

We have changes to look forward to as well! We have been given approval by the Board of Regents to move to hybrid model of learning beginning this coming summer. Our faculty are working on finalizing the details on how this model will look. Stay tuned for more details in the coming weeks. Further, we are awaiting approval on a total revamping of the school counseling program for implementation in May 2023 to meet changing CACREP standards. We have even changed our application deadline to January 1, so that we can be more aggressive in our recruitment efforts on par with other regional universities offering Counselor Education programs.

It is fitting to note that change is a driver of our profession. We teach and learn about change every day. We help people navigate major life events, and alter their behaviors and current way of thinking in our practice. While change is never easy, one thing is for sure, change is necessary for growth and improvement. The trick is how we adjust. We can lament each change with negativity and defeat, or we can chose to tackle change with grace and alacrity anticipating that something good is about to happen. There is a lot of good about to happen in the WCSU Counselor Education Program.

Dr. Nicole G. DeRonck
Counselor Education & CACREP Coordinator

INTRODUCING DR. DIANA NADDEO



Diana Naddeo, Psy.D. is pleased to join the Education and Education Psychology Department as an assistant professor. She is a licensed clinical psychologist. For the last several years, Dr. Naddeo taught concurrently in the WCSU Psychology Department, creating the undergraduate Internship in Applied Psychology program, and was an adjunct professor for WCSU's Clinical Mental Health Counseling program, helping to train the next generation of graduate students entering the counseling field.

In addition to her work at WCSU, Dr. Naddeo also ran the Pediatric Assessment program within the Department of Neuropsychology at Associated Neurologists/Nuvance Hospital in Danbury, CT. She has broad clinical experience working with children, adolescents, and adults doing individual and group therapy. She recently opened a private group practice in Newtown, CT, Center for Assessment and Psychotherapy, <https://newtowncap.com/>, specializing in child, adolescent, and young adult mental health.

Dr. Naddeo gained specialty training in college mental health through her pre-doctoral internship at Brooklyn College Counseling Center and post-doctoral fellowship at Sarah Lawrence College Health Clinic. Her research interests in emerging adulthood led to a dissertation that focused on treatment approaches for self-injurious behaviors in high-functioning female college students. She earned her BA from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst; M.S. in Counseling from Fordham University; and Psy.D. in Clinical Psychology with specialty in Psychological Assessment from Chestnut Hill College.

Diana Naddeo is happy to speak to students at any time; feel free to contact her at naddeod@wcsu.edu.

CHI SIGMA IOTA

Dr. Davide Mariotti, Faculty Advisor

CSI is an international honor society that values academic and professional excellence in counseling. We promote a strong professional identity through members (professional counselors, counselor educators, and students) who contribute to the realization of a healthy society by fostering wellness and human dignity.

Our members are affiliated with campus-based chapters contributing to their counselor education programs and communities.

Membership is by invitation to qualified students who have completed at least 9 credit hours in an approved counseling program and have a GPA of 3.5 or more. Invitations for membership will be emailed to eligible students soon.

CHI SIGMA IOTA ...WE ARE NOT JUST A LINE ON YOUR CURRICULUM VITAE!



IMPORTANT DATES

HRSA GRANT UPDATES

Drs. Gabriel Lomas and Lorrie-Anne Monte

January 14, 21, 28, 2022: PREPaRE Training workshops led by National Assn of School Psychologists (NASP)-certified trainer Dr. Paula Gill Lopez. PREPaRE is a School Crisis Prevention and Intervention training curriculum created by NASP.

January 29, 2022: This Inter-Professional half-day of clinical training from experts in healthcare will address working with diverse clients. Speakers will emphasize diversity, the LGBTQ+ population, and recognizing domestic violence. The agenda is not completed, but this event should end approx. 12-1 pm.

January 31, 2022: We are working to develop a simulation program with counseling focus. This event will feature collaborative simulations as our students work with advanced nursing students to triage a patient seeing a provider for physical health issues, but the underlying reason is behavioral health. This event is both fun and challenging. Tentative schedule is being finalized. Light refreshments will be served.

February 7, 2022: Olivia Lynch, MS, LPC, EMDR Program Training & Development Manager for Newport Academy, will continue an advanced presentation to CMH students on EMDR.

February 28, 2022: Chi Sigma Iota initiation ceremony for new members.

TBA: John Crocker, Founder & Director MASMHC, Director of School Mental Health and Behavioral Services Methuen Public Schools MA, will address SC students on trauma-informed counseling in the schools.

April 22, 2022: This Earth Day Inter-Professional event is designed to examine the effects of the environment on healthcare. We are in the early stages of planning an interprofessional activity which will involve speakers who address the effects of the ecosystem on the health and behavioral health of people through the lifespan. More information will be coming soon!



Activities of the HRSA grant are underway and there is a sense of excitement in the air. Drs. Lomas and Monte have been meeting with the nursing faculty to develop collaborative events which will make your training experience the best in the state! These are tentative dates, but please save them and know more information is forthcoming. Additionally, we are excited to offer our grant funding to our partners in nursing. We are truly deepening our partnership with the Nursing Department.

We are working to develop a simulation program with counseling focus. Actors will portray patient/clients allowing counseling students to practice in a safe environment.

Finally, we have a number of other amazing training events including speakers on EMDR, trauma-informed school mental health, and a training for PREPaRE school safety programming.

Please see Ms. Chris Davis at davisc@wcsu.edu for more information.

PROFESSIONAL NETWORKING GROUPS

Western CT Counseling Association (WCCA) - upcoming workshops on substance misuse, overdose prevention, QPR suicide prevention

CT School Counselor Association - 1st Year counselors roundtable, middle school and high school roundtables, and other networking opportunities

CACES: CT ASSOCIATION OF COUNSELOR EDUCATION & SUPERVISION

Erika Daniels

The Connecticut Counseling Association is part of the American Counseling Association and CACES, a division of the CCA, is composed of school counselors, community, agency and mental health counselors as well as private practitioners and counselor educators who are “interested in enhancing the quality education and supervision for all counselors” (Connecticut Counseling Association).

My role is to serve as a student representative for Western Connecticut State University and to encourage other graduate students to become more involved in their professional organizations. Student representatives attend monthly meetings and learn more about the initiatives, legislation, trainings and conferences that our colleagues in the profession are working on.

As a graduate student it is important to have access to this information as well work with so many exceptional professionals who are in the field and have a wealth of knowledge that they are willing to share.

I am in my second year of the Counselor Education graduate program here at WestConn with School Counseling as my major in addition to the LPC bridge program. Being a member of CACES is beneficial to us as students as well as when we become professionals because of the resources, continuing education and networking opportunities available. I am especially grateful to represent Western and look forward to learning more about the profession.



COUNSELOR EDUCATION SPRING 2022

When registration opens, please make sure that you are enrolling in the correct section in both EPY 600 Assessment and EPY 606 Adv. Group*. There is one section each for School and CMH and content will be tailored to the corresponding program option. Please be sure to follow your program sheets! NOTE: Courses this spring will be on the ground unless otherwise noted.

Cohort Advisor	School	CMH
Year 1 Monte/Mariotti	ED 572 Career - Async *EPY 600 Assessment W 7:00-9:30 EPY 602 Interviewing across Lifespan W 4:30-7:00 OR M 4:30-7:00	*EPY 600 Assessment W 4:30-7:00 EPY 602 Interviewing across Lifespan W 7:00-9:30 OR M 4:30-7:00
Year 2 DeRonck/Mariotti	*EPY 606 SC Adv. Group T 4:30-7:00 EPY 610 SC Practicum - Synch, M 4:30-6:00, T 7:00-8:30 OR W 7:00-8:30	*EPY 606 CMH Adv Group M 7:00-9:30 EPY630 Intro Psychopathology M 4:30-7:00
Year 3 DeRonck/Naddeo	EPY 613 SC Internship T 4:30-6:00 - Synch	ED 572 Career - Async EPY 615 CMH Internship M 7:00-8:30 -- Synch
Elective	EPY 672 Play Therapy Theory and Assessment - Hybrid, Saturdays, 1/29, 2/26, 3/26 & 4/30 8:00 am-5:30 pm	