

Official Report
Professional School Counseling

MEMO TO: Current PSC Students, PSC Program Faculty, Administrators, Personnel in Cooperating Schools and the Public

FROM: Lee Baruth

DATE: April 4, 2012

SUBJECT: PSC Official Report

This Official Report of the Professional School Counseling Program (PSC) is being distributed in compliance with CACREP Standard I.AA.6. The PSC Program has fully implemented a Comprehensive Assessment Plan (CAP). The CAP details both the continuous systematic PSC Program Evaluation as well as the assessment of student learning outcome processes.

The continuous systematic program evaluation collects data from follow-up studies of PSC graduates, PSC employers and site supervisors. Also, results are collected from the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Examination (CPCE), the Praxis and an Exit Interview with students completing their Internship. TracDat is utilized in monitoring measurable PSC program goals and objectives.

The assessment of student learning involves collecting data on each individual student and includes the learning demonstrated in each course, scores on the comprehensive examination and learning assessed in Internship where the knowledge/skills needed to become a successful school counselor are evaluated using the Internship Checklist.

In the Fall of 2011 on the CPCE, 11 of 11 students received a passing score and the PSC average score was above the national average in each category. In 2011-12 on the Praxis, 15 of 15 students passed with scores at or above that required by North Carolina (570).

Based on the outcome of the systematic PSC program evaluations, the following program modifications have been made:

- Added Classroom Management to HPC 6452 Seminar in Professional School Counseling
- Added Crisis Prevention and Intervention to HPC 5754 Legal and Ethical Issues in Professional School Counseling
- Added studying DSM classifications to HPC 6290 Child and Adolescent Therapy

Results of the follow-up studies and the CPCE are attached to this Official Report. Additional information about the PSC program can be found at <http://hpcsc.appstate.edu/>

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND PSYCHOLOGICAL COUNSELING
Professional School Counseling Alumni Questionnaire

HPC is conducting a self-study and is very interested in obtaining your opinions. Please answer the following questions using the rating key given below.

Professional School Counseling (5 of 62 graduates responded)

Circle one number for each statement.

- 1 = Strongly disagree
- 2 = Disagree with reservations
- 3 = Agree with reservations
- 4 = Agree strongly
- N/A = Not applicable

	Average
1. The academic demands upon students in my graduate program were appropriate.....	3.4
2. Students were allowed to express divergent points of view.....	3.8
3. I believe that I received fair and equitable grades in this department.....	4.0
4. If I could choose my graduate school again, I would choose ASU.	4.0
5. My graduate program provided me with good preparation for my professional work.....	3.1
6. HPC had a humanistic/wholistic environment characterized by mutual respect and concern between students and faculty.....	3.8
7. I would advise a friend with similar interests to come into this program.....	4.0
8. My program offered an appropriate balance between theory and practice.....	3.3
9. I learned a great deal as a student in my program.....	4.0
10. My program provided sufficient opportunities for my personal growth and development.....	3.8
11. Faculty members generally were well prepared for their courses.....	3.2
12. My program provided stimulating and exciting study.....	3.6

13. My program provided an appropriate balance between experiential and academic learning..... 3.6
14. Faculty availability to students outside of class was adequate..... 3.6
15. Requirements for my degree were clearly stated..... 4.0

Please provide the following information regarding your employment:

16. The type of position I currently hold _____

- Homemaker (worked as a public school counselor for five years)
- School counselor @ an early college
- Elementary school counselor
- School counselor
- K-12 school counselor

17. Which of the following statements best describes your satisfaction with your current position? (check only one):

- 3 I am pleased with this position and plan to remain in it for several years.
- 1 I am somewhat satisfied and will probably remain in this position for several years.
- 1 I am somewhat satisfied but will seek a better position in the near future.
- I am completely dissatisfied and will leave this position as soon as possible.
- Other (specify): _____

18. Which of the following best describes your experience in seeking your first position after graduating from this program (check only one):

- 1 I was already in a position in the field or had one offered to me prior to graduation.
- 4 I found work closely related to my graduate training within six months after graduating from this program.
- I did not find work closely related to my graduate training though I tried.
- I might have found a position had I been willing to relocate.
- I did not seek work compatible with my training.

Other comments:

Response #1: My only critique of the program is the absence of information on 504s, IEPs, LEP process, student assistance team process/procedures, etc. Many school counselors become the “owners” of these very important programs and I felt ASU did not adequately prepare me for LE.

Response #2: I was offered the position at the school I did my internship at after graduation.

19. Please comment on the one or two aspects that you consider the greatest strengths of your graduate program.

Response #1: School counseling faculty were great & knowledgeable. Coursework was practical.

Response #2: Practicum and ethics; ability to take courses outside of school counseling realm-i.e. electives

Response #3: I like that we were required to take a course in special education. The staff was very knowledgeable and went above & beyond for students.

Response #4: Attitudes, professionalism of most staff created a wonderful environment. Courses were well aligned to pertinent information to field of study & were interesting.

20. Please comment on the one or two least satisfactory aspects of your graduate program.

Response #1: It was difficult taking practicum with a professor outside of school counseling.

Response #2: See other comments on previous page. Also, psych & edu testing course was not beneficial at all. I don't know if it was the teacher or the curriculum or both.

Response #3: More courses in special education. I was unaware of how much I would work with this population.

Response #4: Office hours of faculty and not being here due to living elsewhere.

Please add any other comments or suggestions regarding the following:

a. Faculty:

Response #1: + (for three professors)

Response #2: Very professional. I was happy with all my professors.

Response #3: Have more office hours or at least better response through email; make sure you keep same standards/expectations for all students.

b. Curriculum:

Response #1: +ethics; change absence of “school” processes & knowledge-IEP, 504, safety, NCWISE, cfnc.org, etc.

Response #2: More experiential work (hard to provide, but the more, the better)

Response #3: It would have been nice to have one theories class and one techniques class & not combined together. Also, keeping weekend classes in summer was very helpful to me.

c. Other comments:

No response

**SURVEY OF EMPLOYERS SUMMARY
PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELING**

At Appalachian State University we conduct periodic follow-up studies of program graduate employers that assess their perceptions and evaluations of major aspects of the program. Please take a few minutes and rate the employee who gave you this form and return it to the address provided at the end of the form. Your help with this follow-up study is greatly appreciated.

	Out-standing	Above Average	Average	Below Average	Poor	N/A
Family therapy skills		2	1			1
Individual therapy skills	1	2				1
Group therapy skills	1	1	1			1
Consulting skills	2	2				
Insight into client's problems	3		1			
Concern for client's welfare	3	1				
Ethical conduct	2	2				
Appropriate level of diagnostic/ assessment skills	1	2	1			
Record maintenance	2	1	1			
Ability to keep material confidential	2	2				
Appropriate referral making	2		2			
Personal integrity	3	1				
Demonstrate professional boundaries	1	3				
Reliability (on time, follows through)	1	2	1			
Recognition of own limits	1	3				
Ability to relate to others	3	1				
Response to supervision	2	2				
Addictions counseling skills		1	2			1

(4 responses; frequency counts listed above)

How does your evaluation of our graduates compare with your evaluation of employees who graduated from other universities?

Response #1: I have not had that opportunity as this is my first assignment that could evaluate this person

Response #2: He has done a very good job. I rate his training on the counseling skills favorably.

Response #3: My experience with counseling grads is very limited and skewed-of the three hired before the current candidate, all were from New York and received a different preparation than required in N.C.

Response#4: I have only had one graduate from your program. If _____knowledge, disposition, and skills are indicative of your graduates, please send me more.

Is there any growth/room for improvement in our graduates that could be addressed in our courses?

Response #1: No answer

Response #2: I would suggest more practical training on skills like using NCWISE, scheduling students and graduation requirements.

Response #3: I think the internship process is what could be beefed up. More time and more variety of exposure and experiences cannot hurt!

Response #4: Time management, punctuality

General comments:

Response #1: No answer

Response #2: No answer

Response #3: No answer

Response #4: We are extremely fortunate to have _____on our staff. _____ is an outstanding representative of your program.

**SITE SUPERVISOR SURVEY SUMMARY
PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELING**

At Appalachian State University we conduct periodic follow-up studies that assess site supervisor’s perceptions and evaluations of major aspects of the program. Please take a few minutes and rate the HPC student(s) you have supervised and return this form to the address provided at the end of the form. If you have supervised several HPC students, think in terms of a composite of all your HPC supervisees when completing the form. Your help with this follow-up study is greatly appreciated.

	Out-standing	Above Average	Average	Below Average	Poor	N/A
Family therapy skills	1	1	5			5
Individual therapy skills	2	6	3			1
Group therapy skills	2	5	3			2
Consulting skills	2	5	4	1		
Insight into client’s problems	4	6	2			
Concern for client’s welfare	7	5				
Ethical conduct	8	1	3			
Appropriate level of diagnostic/ assessment skills	2	1	8			1
Record maintenance	2	5	4			1
Ability to keep material confidential	5	6	1			
Appropriate referral making	2	7	3			
Personal integrity	7	4	1			
Demonstrate professional boundaries	6	3	2			1
Reliability (on time, follows through)	5	4	3			
Recognition of own limits	3	6	3			
Ability to relate to others	5	5	2			
Response to supervision	4	6	2			
Addictions counseling skills			4			8

(12 responses; frequency counts listed above)

How does your evaluation of our graduates compare with your evaluation of employees who graduated from other universities?

Response #1: I have not supervised anyone else from any other universities. I have been very impressed with the HPC students and their willingness to jump right in!

Response #2: N/A-I have only supervised ASU graduates.

Response #3: I must say the enthusiasm for helping young people was much higher. The graduate I worked with from your institution was energetic, dedicated, knowledgeable and competent.

Response #4: I have one practicum student from ASU, two counseling interns from ASU, and one counseling intern from Lenoir-Rhyne. I felt that all of them were well trained in ethical conduct, individual and group skills.

Response #5: I will only take ASU HPC graduate students.

Response #6: Most of the counselors have graduated from your program.

Response #7: Only worked with Appalachian students.

Response #8: She was above average.

Response #9: Your student was eager to learn tools and strategies for counseling children individually.

Response #10: Better than average. Seems there is more attention and screening to gauge student's readiness for internships than other programs I have worked with.

Response #11: I cannot compare this graduate with graduates from other universities. I have not supervised any others. I have worked with recent graduates of ASU and Lenoir-Rhyne and observe all of them to be well-trained.

Response #12: N/A-This is my first mentee, so unable to compare.

Is there any growth/room for improvement in our graduates that could be addressed in our courses?

Response #1: None that I can think of at this time.

Response #2: For school counseling-classroom management. Also, I believe they could benefit from more individual counseling theory and more practice utilizing different individual counseling techniques, especially brief counseling which is useful in schools.

Response #3: None that I am aware of at this time.

Response #4: I think that elementary school counseling students need a little more exposure to working with classroom guidance materials prior to their internship. They also need more training in classroom management because in more elementary schools, classroom lessons are 40-50% of the counselor's schedule.

Response #5: They have little understanding of the inner workings of a school system. They are unaware of IEPs, 504, FBAs, etc. Their counseling skills are also a little behind. I believe internship should be a place to sharpen up, but I often feel like I'm starting from scratch. My current intern, however, is an exception. I've actually learned from her!

Response #6: Since teaching certification/experience is not required for your program, addressing classroom behavior management is helpful.

Response #7: In working with school age children, they would benefit from learning more about Individualized Education Plans, 504 plans, homebound services, and state testing. Counselors that are not responsible for testing still need to be able to interpret results for parents and teachers. Also, in working with children it is helpful to understand results of IQs and educational testing.

Response #8: I think you are on track.

Response #9: No answer

Response #10: Consideration for working in an agency, i.e. emphasize that communication is very important not only with client and family but also other professionals (teachers, foster parents, case managers, etc.)

Response #11: It could be helpful to address the counselor's role in RTI.

Response # 12: No answer

General comments:

Response #1: I have thoroughly enjoyed working with all of the HPC students I have supervised.

Response #2: Please update your records. This form was addressed to the former counselor. She is no longer employed here. I have been the counselor here for 3 years and I have supervised 2 of your students.

Response #3: Great program!

Response #4: Working with your graduate and institution/program was a very pleasant experience and I would be glad to do so again in the future.

Response #5: I have found the ASU students I have worked with to be very knowledgeable about all areas of counseling. They bring new ideas to my work setting and accept feedback in a positive way. I appreciate the opportunity to work with ASU students and look forward to working with others in the future.

Response #6: The last 3 or 4 counseling interns have been exceptional! Thank you!

Response #7: No answer

Response #8: I would prefer to have a student more than 1 time a week.

Response #9: Thank you for allowing our school to work with your intern. Our students benefit from this!

Response #10: Love working with ASU!

Response #11: Since the student with whom I worked had earned a degree in Family Therapy from ASU previously and came to the schools with mental health experience, I would not be able to fairly address her training specifically in school counseling. However, I can say that the Caldwell County School System is more rich to have her here with her well developed skills and diverse background.

Response #12: Strong commitment to the profession!

Appalachian State University
Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Examination (CPCE)
10/08/2011
Version 100211

University Descriptive Statistics

Content Area	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Dev.
Human Growth and Development	21	10	16	13.29	1.78
Social & Cultural Foundations	21	6	15	11.19	2.13
Helping Relationships	21	6	17	13.38	2.15
Group Work	21	9	17	12.86	2.53
Career & Life Development	21	8	16	12.67	1.94
Appraisal	21	8	15	11.67	2.1
Research & Program Evaluation	21	8	16	13.05	2.26
Professional Orientation & Ethics	21	12	17	13.95	1.21
Total	21	83	120	102.05	10.48

Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Examination (CPCE)
National Descriptive Statistics
100211
Exit Exam and Non-Exit Exam Combined

National Descriptive Statistics

Content Area	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Dev.
Human Growth and Development	1398	3	17	12.06	2.6
Social & Cultural Foundations	1398	3	16	10.94	2.35
Helping Relationships	1398	3	17	11.93	2.49
Group Work	1398	2	17	11.73	2.7
Career & Life Development	1398	2	17	11.34	2.49
Appraisal	1398	2	17	10.3	2.32
Research & Program Evaluation	1398	2	17	11.61	2.73
Professional Orientation & Ethics	1398	2	17	12.37	2.45
Total	1398	38	124	92.29	14.83