**Official Report**

**Professional School Counseling**

MEMO: Summary Data

FROM: Dr. Jill Van Horne, Director, Professional School Counseling Program

DATES INCLUDED: August 2017 - June 2018

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, Focus Groups, PSC Alumni and site supervisors. Also, results from the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Examination (CPCE) are analyzed. XiTracs 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 Professional School Counselor are evaluated using the Internship Checklist and Counselor Competencies Scale-Revised (CCS-R).

In the Fall of 2017 and Spring of 2018 on the comprehensive examination, all PSC students received a passing score.

In the Fall of 2017 and Spring of 2018 on the National Counselor Exam (NCE), all PSC students who took the NCE received a passing score.

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

Modification of Program Orientation to include Alpine Tower, group initiatives, and picnic. The Field Placement process has been streamlined to meet the local districts needs and requirements of students.

Results of the Spring 2018 Alumni Survey are below and CPCE score reports are attached to this Official Report. Additional information about the PSC program can be found at https://hpcsc.appstate.edu

**2017-2018 Academic Year Testing Report Appalachian State University Human Development and Psychological Counseling**

**Test Date: October 2017 CPCE**

N= 29 (CMHC= 18, PSC= 11) Maximum passing score= 114 National mean total score (Exit Exam)= 87.13 HPC mean total score= 96.25 CMHC average total score= 101.4 PSC average total score= 91.09

**Test Date: April 2018 CPCE**

N= 15 (CMHC= 12, PSC=3) Maximum passing score =124 National mean total score (Exit Exam)= 85.67 HPC mean total score= 97.79 CMHC average total score= 105.25 PSC average total score= 90.33

**Exit Interview**

**Q1 - What did you like about the program - In other words, what worked well for you in**

**your learning about the school counseling profession, and how to be successful in it?**

What did you like about the program - In other words, what worked well for...

small cohort size, class content, relevant assignments, experiential learning process.

I liked the cohort model, the overlap with the other programs in the department, and the fact that we could prepare for our LPC while obtaining our school counseling license.

Role playing counseling skills; learning school-lingo (i.e. acronyms frequently used in schools), having academic advising every semester; triadic supervision in practicum.

The thoroughness and rigor of this program prepared me for internship and the start of my school counseling profession. Legal and ethical, intro and consultation stand out as courses that helped me become fluent in the role of a school counselor.

There were many aspects and concepts that I've liked about this program. Specifically, the various elective courses that are offered. I feel that many of them are unique, like Equine Assisted Therapy, which gave me more insight and opportunities to expand my counseling knowledge. I also liked many of the professors in the program because I felt that they had a sincere investment in me as a student and as a person in general.

cohort model, class sizes, variety of topics covered

I appreciated the cohort model. It helped us to learn from each other in a small group.

I think the thing that I liked most about the program was the cohort model. Being able to go through this experience with my cohort members was the most helpful, not only did they turn into friends, but also professionals I will be able to collaborate with in the future. I also thought that the speakers that we had in classes was really beneficial. I feel they brought us really helpful information when we are thinking about our future.

Practicum and Internship are where it all came together. As a currently employed public school teacher, there is a lot about schools that I already understand. It has been really beneficial taking on school counselor duties as part of practicum and internship and seeing what they do that is so different from what teachers do. Being around knowledgeable professors who have experience in the field has also been helpful. The classes I got the most out of were the ones that dealt directly with what school counselors do such as actual counseling classes that teach counseling skills, career counseling/development, consultation, getting an overview off the profession in intro., and delving into the legal and ethical aspects of the profession.

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**Q2 - What do you feel could use some strengthening/improving about the program -- In**

**other words, what would have helped you better meet your professional goal of becoming a**

**PSC?**

What do you feel could use some strengthening/improving about the program -...

more front loading upon acceptance: more information about applying for licensure, outline of course requirements and recommendations on when they should be taken and over load expectations, outline of future major expenditures (exams, memberships fees ect.).

More contact with advisors would have been helpful. I think now that there are three professors in the department, things have probably improved.

Learn more about IEPs and 504s; Practice interviewing questions and skills; learn more about classroom management skills and role play classroom guidance.

Having more classes about techniques to use in individual counseling.

Making students aware of what eight core classes are covered on the CPCE from the time they start the program so that they can plan ahead better. Also, making students aware of the extra financial responsibilities that come with some of the courses in the program and with the licensing exams.

More instruction time spent on 504 & IEP, clearer explanations of applying for licensure

More information on completing specific paperwork (i.e. 504s).

I think the one thing that could improve the program would be if possibly adding a more school counselor touch on some of the core classes. In a lot of the classes (the helping relationship, DSM) it seemed to be as if we were all going into clinical mental health counseling, the information is great but it would have been nice to hear coming from a school counseling perspective. Also maybe trying to make it to where the first years can present their poster at the conference or somewhere so that when they are in practicum with actual students, they can go and benefit a lot from the conference. I know we discussed that in our last focus group, just a reminder.

As a full time teacher it would have been great to have a few more online courses. Research methods and the "Testing" class could both have been fully online. It would have been great to have had a little more flexibility regarding my particular set of classes. It seemed as though I was repeating at least three classes because I already have a Masters in Special Education. I really just wanted to learn about counseling children/school counseling. (This is not a school counseling thing but a general university thing.) It was also hard to pay all the fees that go with tuition each semester when I never spent any time on campus and barely used any of the facilities/services. I would drive up for my one class in the evening and drive straight home again afterwards. It would have been great for that to have somehow been noted and the fees waived for things I didn't ever use.

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