Welcome to this edition of the Duquesne University Counselor Education Newsletter. I hope you find the articles and information in this newsletter useful as either a current student or alum of Duquesne University. If you graduated from our master’s program and have thought about applying to the doctoral program, now is the time. Applications are due in early February, but you will need to get started now in order to meet all the deadlines. If you would like more information, please feel free to contact me directly (delmonico@duq.edu). As you will see in this newsletter, the doctoral program has a vibrant group of individuals who are contributing to the field of professional counseling in a variety of ways. I hope you will consider joining us in the next doctoral cohort.

As director of the doctoral program, sometimes a master’s student will ask me why doctoral students are so involved in teaching and supervising in the master’s program. The answer is simple – master’s students are the key to the success of our doctoral students. Could you imagine graduating without ever having sat across from a client – no practicum – no internship? The real life experience is when it all comes together – theory meets practice. The same is true for our doctoral students. They are learning to be teachers, supervisors, researchers, and clinicians. In order to accomplish this goal, they need a place to teach, supervise, research, and counsel. The doctoral students often bring their years of clinical experience to the classroom and offer new perspectives to the master’s program – it is one way to keep our program fresh and alive.

So, on behalf of the entire doctoral program – its faculty and students – know that we have a great deal of gratitude for our master’s students willingness to help our doctoral students complete their professional journey and become the best teachers and supervisors possible. In the end, all Duquesne alumni benefit from this arrangement.

We are pleased to bring you the latest updates from the Counselor Education Program at Duquesne University. After having survived a year away from Canevin Hall due to renovations, we are happy to be back and stronger than ever! The program continues to thrive, and strives to provide our alums, current students and incoming students with quality instruction and professional support.

We are currently in the process of reaccredidation from CACREP, and continue to see a steady stream of newly licensed and certified counselors graduating from our program, successfully securing jobs locally, nationally and internationally. A strength of our faculty is to place the highest priority on reviewing and enriching our program with the latest trends in the counseling profession. We are collectively active in ACA, PCA, ASCA, PSCA, ACES, PACES, and NARACES, to name a few! Chi Sigma Iota is alive and well, and continues to provide our students and alums with an important vehicle to access opportunities that foster professional excellence in counseling.

In addition to our ongoing counseling list serve, we are introducing a list serve for our alumni. Our plan is to create a way to get valuable information about jobs, training and general information to our graduates as well as our current students.

As always we are happy to hear from you.

Dr. Maura Krushinski
Counselor Education Program Director

What would you like to see in our newsletter? Please contact Dr. Krushinski at krushinski@duq.edu or Dr. Delmonico at Delmonico@duq.edu and let us know!
NCE News

If you are a graduate student in counseling at Duquesne, you may be eligible to use the Graduate Student Application (GSA) to take the National Counselor Examination (NCE). A passing score on this exam is part of the application for the National Certified Counselor credential and licensure as a Professional Counselor in Pennsylvania and most other states.

You are eligible to use the GSA for the NCE administered on April 17, 2010, at Duquesne, if you are currently enrolled in one of our CACREP counseling programs, and you have completed at least 48 credits of coursework covering all of the CACREP required curriculum areas plus fieldwork. If you will be receiving a degree in counseling from Duquesne after October 2009, you are eligible to take the exam in April.

These applications are available in the Counseling Program Office (109 Canevin) or from the Campus Coordinator, Bill Casile. The registration deadline for the April exam date is January 13, 2010.

If you are not eligible to use the Graduate Student Application (GSA), you will need to contact NBCC to obtain a regular application. The regular applications for the NCE are available free at www.nbcc.org or for a fee by calling them at 336-547-0607. Deadline for the regular application is typically earlier than the application deadline for the GSA. Check their web site for this and other information.

If you are not interested in obtaining the NCC and are only interested in licensure as a Professional Counselor in Pennsylvania, you can apply to the State Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists and Professional Counselors at: http://www.dos.state.pa.us/bpoa/cwp/view.asp?a=1104&q=433470. You will need to have completed your 60 graduate credits, have a master’s degree in counseling, and can document the required number of supervised hours of counseling experience.

Questions about the NCE? Contact your Campus Coordinator, Bill Casile, 412-396-6112 or casile@duq.edu

CSI

During the 2008-2009 academic year, Duquesne’s Chi Sigma Iota chapter has provided numerous activities to promote professional development of its members. The activities included a round table discussion on DBT and Trauma presented by Elizabeth Ventura, and Demond Bledsoe. A Gestalt workshop was offered by Dr. Tom Petrone. CSI officers actively participated in the PCA conference in State College in October. They also attended the ACA conference in Charlotte, NC in March. The officers have also participated in two Sarri’s candy fundraisers this year. CSI welcomes new board members Jessica Ellsworth (president), Roslynn Zeilinski-Singer (V.President), Mathew Lynch (Treasurer) and Julie Diorio (Secretary) for the 2009-2010 academic year.

Alumni Library Privileges

Alumni can apply for borrowing privileges at the Gumberg Library by stopping at the circulation desk and filling out an alumni registration form. Once the form is completed, alumni status will be verified and the information will be put into the Library’s borrower database. The verification process may take up to 24 hours during a business week. Alumni privileges apply for one year.

To check out materials, alumni must be registered and present a valid driver’s license or passport. Alumni can check out books for 4 weeks (28 days) with one renewal permitted. Total item limit is 10. Renewals may be made in person or over the phone at (412) 396-6130.

Listserv Update

The department of Counseling, Psychology, and Special Education will be initiating a new listserv for alumni students. This we hope, will aid in relaying relevant information to our alumni. Please send an email to Denise Clemente (clementedl@duq.edu), if you notice that you have not received any emails and wish to be added to the listserv.
On the Road to Ramallah

Nicholas J. Hanna, Ph.D.
aka Enula Habeeb

My father was born in Ramallah, Palestine on the West Bank in the Middle East. He moved to the United States as a young man, married my mother, then died at the age of 33 years. I was 3 years old, and never knew him. In April 2008 I had the unique opportunity to join an American tour group, the American Federation of Ramallah Palestine, the members of which were all descendants from those born in Ramallah. We flew to Amman, Jordan, spent the night in a hotel there, then the next day we were bused to the city of Ramallah. It was necessary to cross Israeli check-points and show passports to be allowed to travel to the West Bank and the city of Ramallah.

We stayed in Ramallah for about 18 days, making side trips to the Holy Land. We visited Christ’s birthplace in Bethlehem, and the city of his youth, Nazareth, where I also visited a cousin through marriage. This man operates an upscale jewelry store in Nazareth. It was moving to walk the same streets on which Jesus walked. I visited the Church in which is housed the actual house where the Blessed Mother, Saint Joseph, and Jesus lived. Finally, we visited Christ’s tomb in Jerusalem. That experience was so overwhelming, I began to pass out. To kneel at the slab on which Jesus’ body lay and to kiss it simply was too much for me. I felt lightheaded, and had to be helped to regain steadiness on my feet.

We took other side trips: Mt. Nebo where Moses was buried, Jericho and the tree where Jesus had the man, who had climbed the tree to see him, come down and take Jesus to his home for supper, and we saw the Dead Sea. We celebrated Orthodox Easter. I constantly looked for and asked questions about where my father may have lived when he was a young boy. No one seemed to know.

I took a trip by myself into the town from our hotel, which was very comfortable and convenient....good restaurant and many services. My taxi let me off in the “old town”. So there I was on a Wednesday morning, the sun was shining brightly, many Palestinian people going to work and shopping. I had no idea where I was, and I didn’t speak any Arabic to help me get by. Finally, an old man sitting in front of his shop called to me to join him. I cautiously approached him. He invited me for coffee and to sit awhile with him. He spoke to me in Arabic, and I told him, “Ma bi tukbe bil Arabi”, roughly meaning, “I don’t speak Arabic”. He had a third man join us and he translated from Arabic to English and back. So there the three of us older men sat in the morning sun, sipping our coffee and talking about my Arabic father who had come from this tiny Village. It was a warming experience. I even managed to find my way back to the hotel where we had lunch. Sitting outside the new hotel where we had lunch, I was waiting for all the others to gather. I sat on a stone wall, taking in the sweet April air, basking in the glorious sunshine, while I admired a gorgeous tree that had flowered across the street from where I was sitting. I was filled with the beauty of the place, and thought “How I love Ramallah”.

Finally, I want to share that when I looked out of my hotel window, across the street I looked at a huge field where they had built apartment buildings. The hills beyond seemed to go on forever. Sadly some Israeli settlements had been built on Palestinian land. Others had new Palestinian buildings going up all over the place. I thought my father probably played in these fields as a young kid, and now I am looking at them, admiring their beauty. I felt I had found my father in his home town. Then I felt this poem come pouring out of me and it said:

**Ramallah, My Home**

As morning sunshine unfolds over Ramallah,
I sit in silence
Looking at the rolling hills
Absorbing the truth
Of this ancient land

Ramallah is my home!

A little village
Now gone yielded
A brightly growing
Vibrant city
Radiant in beauty
Like a bride
In Palestine

My honor is
To be present
The reality of
My belonging
Is deep almost
Unfathomable

In this beautiful
Home – Ramallah
Let there be
No barriers
No wall
Only loving family

She opens her arms
Welcomes me
Welcome home
To beautiful
Ramallah

Ramallah, Palestine
Cristina Kumpf has joined the Lambda cohort of the ExCES program and is also first time mother to a beautiful six-month old baby girl. Cristina is Kevin Kumpf’s wife who is in the Iota cohort. She has worked in community counseling, specifically in the field of drug and alcohol, since attaining her Master of Science in Counseling Psychology from Chatham College. During her time in the field, Cristina has acquired certifications as a Licensed Professional Counselor and a Nationally Certified Counselor.

Gina Gordon earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Elementary and Special Education from Mercyhurst College in 2001, and earned a Master of Education degree in School Counseling from Slippery Rock University in 2005. She began her career in 2001 as a teacher in the Butler area school district. In March of 2006, she initiated her career as an elementary school counselor in the Blackhawk school district. Currently, Gina and her husband reside in Neshannock Township with their two 4-legged furry children!

Helena Ng also joined the Lambda cohort. According to Helena, her last name is pronounced as “ing,” as if there is an “i” before “ng.” Helena is Chinese, born and raised in Hong Kong. She is new to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, even though this is not her first time living in the United States. She spent 2 ½ years in Maryland for her master’s study in counseling at Loyola University, Maryland and a unit of clinical pastoral education in Allentown, Pennsylvania. Currently, Helena works as a graduate assistant for the School of Education. She is excited about her learning through her work and classes.

Catherine Sherman is a poet and avid gardener. She and her husband share their restored 1895 Victorian house with four cats and a dog. Catherine works at Washington & Jefferson College.

Heather Bowser graduated from Penn State in 1998 with a BS in Rehabilitation Services Education and worked with adults with MH/MR. She earned her MS.Ed in Counseling from Duquesne University in 2003 and has since been working in the addictions field as a therapist. Heather has an LPC and currently works in an all female program and find her work with women to be rewarding and fulfilling. She is excited to be a member of the Lambda Cohort!

Amy Alexander is one of the Lambda cohort members. Amy received a Master’s degree from Duquesne University in School Counseling in 2000. She is currently a 10th grade counselor at Penn Hills Senior High School. She has been with the district for the last 14 years; and has lived in Pittsburgh all her life. Amy is married with two daughters.

Stephen Kuniak practices addictions counseling at SPHS Behavioral Health in Greensburg. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Saint Vincent College in Latrobe PA (2005), and a Master of Science degree in Education from Duquesne (2008) with a concentration in Marriage and Family Therapy. He is looking forward to experiences in the doctoral program. Stephen is trying to balance the demands of the doctoral program with his passion for technology, video game playing, research in film, and a deep appreciation for comic books.

Although his friends, family, and members of the Duquesne Counseling and Supervision communities call him Chuck Esposito, most people call him “Fr. Chuck.” He is a Roman Catholic priest for the Diocese of Greensburg. Last summer he celebrated his 10th Anniversary of ordination to the priesthood. Currently he is pastor of a parish in Indiana County where he enjoys the support of the members and the opportunities to apply the competencies he has gained in the program. He hopes to do research on grief and trauma and has a particular interest in the wellness issues of older adults. He spends time with his family, including three nieces who are a special joy. He speaks Italian and Spanish and has taught both languages. He is passionate about abstract art and creates works in oil on canvas. Some of his favorite paintings are by the Irish-born artist, Sean Scully.

Cristiana White is a member of the Lambda cohort. She is from the Dominican Republic. Christina is married and is a mother to a 19 year-old son. She is a licensed clinical social worker and currently works as an elementary school counselor. Christina loves to travel and prides in the fact that she is a master in Tang Soo Do karate.
Faculty News

Dr. Maura Krushinski has entered her 5th year as Director for the Master’s Counselor Education Program. She continues to focus on issues related to counselor education and supervision, recently introducing a course in supervision for master’s level students. Dr. Krushinski is also working on a supervision field guide with Drs. Stephanie Helsel and Mindy Heher.

Dr. Maola is in his 36th year at Duquesne, he began in August 1974. He is teaching several courses and has been newly named to coordinate the School Counseling specialization. For the past three years he has directed a project funded by the Pennsylvania Department of Education to increase the number of National Board Certified Teachers in Pennsylvania; year one funded at $75,000; year two funded at $296,000 and Year three funded at $126,000. In addition he just coordinated the CACREP team visit to campus and is in the process of coordinating the next NCATE and PA Department of Education reviews of the School of Education.

Dr. David Delmonico is in his twelfth year at Duquesne University and has established deep roots in the community of Pleasant Hills. Dr. Delmonico works with schools, churches, community centers, and other agencies to educate individuals on the psychology of the Internet. While he works to help adults who develop online problematic sexual behavior on the Internet, he also provides Internet safety education seminars to youth and adults. Dr. Delmonico enjoys teaching the sexuality course, providing supervision, and serving as director to the Counselor Education and Supervision Doctoral Program.

Dr. Bernstein is currently in the midst of his thirty-eighth year of teaching at Duquesne University. During this past year, he worked with the Mylan School of Pharmacy at Duquesne University to help the faculty select students for their doctoral programs. In addition, Bernstein and Dr. Vincent Giannetti, a professor in the School of Pharmacy, are writing a paper about the selection of pharmacy students for publication. In November 2009, the third revision of his Counseling Theory workbook will be printed and distributed.

In the spring of 2009, Dr. Lisa Lopez Levers shared her experiences in Botswana with several grades of students at St. Barbara’s Parochial School, in Massillon, Ohio. This is the school that Dr. Levers attended as a child, and she was delighted to be invited back after all these years. She was accompanied by a friend and photojournalist, Mr. Mogakolodi Boikanyo, who was visiting from Botswana. They both shared pictures and information with the school children regarding the people, life, and culture of Botswana.

Blast from the Past

Can you identify the two faculty members in this picture from the 1980 Human Dynamics Workshop?

Answer: Dr. Hanna (top center), Dr. Krushinski (right, second row)

Dr. Levers (top right), Mr. Boikanyo (top center), and students from St. Barbara’s Parochial School.
There was a strong presence of Duquesne University Counselor Education Program students, faculty and alumni at the 2009 PCA conference.

**Conference Committee**
- Teresa Sciulli
- Morgan Tamburro
- Christina Antonelli
- Mathew Lynch
- Julie Diorio
- Jessica Ellsworth
- Mercy Djackson
- Holly Branthoover, Ed.D., PCA President (Alumni)
- Jennifer Eaton, MA, Conference Co-chair (Doctoral Candidate)
- Becky Willow, Ed.D, Conference Co-chair (Alumni)
- Taunya Tinsley (PCA President-Elect)

**Conference Presenters**
- Dr. Nick Hanna, Ph.D (Faculty)
- Dr. Maura Krushinski, Ed.D (Faculty)
- Joan Kaylor, MSEd (Alumni)
- Eric Owens, MA (Doctoral Candidate)
- Alison Dubios, M.Ed. (Doctoral Candidate)
- Demond Bledsoe, M.S. (Doctoral Candidate)
- Elizabeth Ventura, M.S.Ed. (Doctoral Candidate)
- Debra Hyatt-Burkhart, M.A. (Doctoral Candidate)
- James Matta, Sr., Ed.D (Alumni)
- Tom Petrone, Ed.D (Alumni)
- Amy Peters, M.S.Ed (Doctoral Student)
- Mindy Heher, Ph.D. (Alumni)
- Susan McNiff, Ed.D. (Alumni)
- Erin Neuman, M.S.Ed.,CPRP (Doctoral Candidate)
- Anthony Boone, MA, M.S.Ed. (Doctoral Candidate)
- Mark Lepore, Ed.D. (Alumni)
- Grafton Eliason, Ed.D. (Alumni)

**Save the Date!**

**42nd Annual PCA Conference**

October 15th - 17th, 2010
Penn Stater Conference Center, State College, PA

– Counseling in a Multicultural World –
Alumni News

Stacey Ulery Chakos is a new mother to a baby girl, Audrey Marie Chakos born November 23, 2009.

Julie Martin is a new mother to a baby boy, Griffin Emmet born on March 27, 2009. She was nominated, and inducted into the Upper St. Clair Academic Hall of Fame earlier this month.

Sherri (Vernacchio) Kempf and her husband Mike had a daughter Addison Nicole on March 18, 2009. She currently works as an elementary school counselor in the North Hills School District.

Demond Bledsoe, Dr. Lisa Lopez Levers, and Elizabeth Ventura presented Trauma Counseling and Supervision: The Integrative Systemic Approach to Trauma (ISAT) Model at the ACA conference. Presenters described an integrative and systemic approach to trauma (ISAT) that promotes understanding the complexities of trauma counseling and supervision.

Lindsay Macken and her husband welcomed a healthy, and a happy baby boy. Tyler Cole Macken was born on August 14, 2009.

Lauren (Kuhn) Paulson graduated with a Ph.D. in Counselor Education & Supervision in May, 2009. She got married in June, 2009 and is keeping herself busy with three jobs. She is working as a full-time visiting professor of psychology at Allegheny College and as an adjunct at Edinboro University.

Elizabeth Schroer recently got engaged and will be getting married in the spring of 2010.

Debbie Whittam has accepted a fulltime position as a Therapist in Gateway Rehabilitation Center’s detox Unit. This is in a wing off of their inpatient facility in Aliquippa. Debbie thanks all her professors for their dedication and support through her years at Duquesne.

Emily McMullin is now a NCC. She is also a mother to a beautiful baby boy born on June 27th, 2009, David King McMullin III.

Nicole Oddo reports that the last St. Vincent – Duquesne cohort that has attended majority of their classes at St.Vincent’s location is graduating on Dec.17, 2009 and that they are pretty excited about it.

In Memoriam
Andrew Dennis Urban

A Note to Prospective Doctoral Program Students

The executive doctoral program in Counselor Education and Supervision (ExCES) at Duquesne University is designed for experienced counselors who are interested in enhancing their professional capabilities while maintaining their full or part time jobs.

The ExCES doctoral program is constructed to support development in three broad curriculum areas: Teaching and Supervision, Research, Clinical Practice and Service.

Graduates of the program will be well prepared to pursue or move forward in a career in scholarly research, supervision and teaching at the university level or work as a supervisor of other professional counselors. The program emphasizes student-faculty collaboration, which serves as the foundation for an ongoing mentoring process. Because of their teaching and supervisory responsibilities in the program, each doctoral student will get a partial tuition remission. In addition, each doctoral student will participate as a member of a cohort throughout the program.

Interested students can apply online by visiting www.education.duq.edu or by contacting the doctoral program director at 412-396-5576.

Graduates

DECEMBER 2008
Bianca Barnabei, Jennifer Bialobok, Anna Deeds, Joseph Farrell, Andrea Festa, Tiffany Gillie, Abigail Hall, Rachel Hodgson, Lauren Huwalt, Jessica Jones, Lisa Klein, Nicole Lacy, Keith Lodge, Julia Martin, Jamie Mixter, Ashlie Mohney, Jocelyn Niedziela, Rochelle Rogachesky, Mauna Sandin, Judith Simon, Julie Smith, Lindsay Synan, Christopher Watkins, Debra Whittam, Erin Woodward,

MAY 2009
Gina M. Acquavita, April Bowers, Daniel E. Corbin, Mary Dennis, Julia K. Dwyer, Erin A. Gardner, Diane M. Giangiodano, Bethany L. Gill, Sara I. Johnston, Andrew D. May, Emily J. McMullin, Natalie M. Perkins, Brigitte M. Szivos, Joshua K. Young

AUGUST 2009
Charles Esposito, Elizabeth Firment, Laurie Gatti, Rachel Johnson, Jamie Kohler, Tashawn Nichols, Abeer Rasheed, Donna Spatig, Darla Stokes, Stephanie Svilar

PH.D.s
Jay Darr May 09
Lauren Kuhn May 09
Monir Atta-Alla Aug 09
Kaila Edgar Aug 09
Mindy Heher Dec 08
Stephanie Helsel Dec 08
Jill Maloney Dec 08
Dave Haschak Aug 08
Sithandazile (Hope) Msimanga Aug 08
New Publication by alumnus of the ExCES program

An alumnus from the ExCES doctoral program, Christian Conte, Ph.D. has written and published a book: Advanced Techniques for Counseling and Psychotherapy. Drawing from his clinical experiences, Dr. Conte presents the concepts of counseling through stories in an easy to understand manner. He strives to reduce the mystery of counseling that is usually part of a beginning counselor's psyche. The book is a compilation of advanced counseling techniques, concepts, models, and their application for counselors who work with individuals, couples, families, and children.

Mark your calendars with these important dates:

March 18-22, 2010
American Counseling Association National Conference

May 20-22, 2010
Pennsylvania School Counselor Association

July 3-6, 2010
American School Counselor Association

January 7, 2010
Classes begin for Duquesne University Spring Semester

October 15-17, 2010
Pennsylvania Counselor Association Annual Conference

December 17, 2009
Duquesne University Winter Graduation