Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program Fairleigh Dickinson University

(1) a summary of the program evaluation results
We have had 23 graduates in the past year. Our program has a 100% completion rate with 100% of our students successfully passing the National Counselor Exam. Our students report a job placement rate of approximately 89% within 3 months of graduation. We welcomed a new fall 2019 cohort of 23 students. As of August 23, 2019, according to Graduate Admissions we had 83 applicants. As of fall semester 2019, there are 58 students enrolled in the CMHC M.A. program.

ASSESSMENT
EVALUATION OF STUDENTS AND PROGRAM
In addition to course-level assessments and the culminating capstone portfolio program level assessment, the CPCEs and NCEs, we have four instruments using program objectives as standardized criteria. These program objectives/assessment criteria are blueprinted to the Core and Clinical Mental Health Counseling Standards. The instruments allow for a 360 degree evaluation of students and the program by consistently providing meaningful, comparative data for targeted program improvement. These instruments were created to meet the 2016 CACREP requirements.

Mean assessment results for fall 2018 and spring 2019
Scores are recorded on a 1-5 point scale (5=Far Exceeds Standards) with a benchmark of 3 or above (Meets or Exceeds Standards).

1. Evaluation of Practicum and Internship Students using Program Objectives
Fall 2018 n=31 3.9
Spring 2019 n=13 3.9

2. Evaluation of Program by 2018 Graduates
Fall 2018 n=19 4.2

3. Evaluation of Program by Site supervisors (sent after Internship II)
Spring 2019 (for 2018-2019) n=8 4.2

4. Students’ Evaluation of Site, Site Supervisors, & Triadic supervisors
Fall 2018 n=13 4.6
Spring 2019 n=12 4.8
All mean scores meet or exceed standards.

(2) subsequent program modifications

Program modifications are driven by results on assessments as listed above including specific clinical assessments, student learning outcomes in alignment with program and CACREP objectives, success rate of CPCE and NCE exams, E-portfolio (capstone project) pass rates, evaluation by alumni and Key Performance Indicator outcomes. Each area is analyzed and if deficits are noted changes are instituted or programs are modified according to need. “Closing the loop” is completed when program modifications are implemented as informed by above noted assessments.

Program modifications for fall 2018 included streamlining the COUN 9701 Practicum Syllabus with more concise forms to be used for collecting university supervisor and site supervisor communication and updated with more current counselor specific literature. These modifications were not indicated statistically but were part of ongoing revision of syllabi to align with the most current (2016) CACREP standards. Additionally, the Graduate Student Handbook was updated to include most recent faculty information and more concise description of Internship III. As is standard practice, it was disseminated to new students at the Graduate Student Orientation in August of 2019 and made available online.

Additional Substantial Changes

Dr. Shirley submitted the Self-Study for re-accreditation just prior to leaving the university in August 2018. The program was presented with an addendum request which was submitted in May 2019. A site visit was granted and is scheduled for October 27-30, 2019.

One counselor educator, (Dr. Katherine Shirley) resigned fall 2018 and one counselor educator, (Dr. Vincent Viglione) retired spring semester 2019. One faculty member received his Ph.D. in spring 2019 (Dr. Thomas Conklin) in counselor education and two new counselor educators were hired in spring 2019 and began teaching fall 2019 (Dr. Elliotte Harrington and Dr. Alwin Wagener).

There was a shift in the role of Director of the CMHC Program. Dr. Conklin was made director beginning fall semester 2019. Dr. Donalee Brown took on the role of Graduate Coordinator spring semester 2019 and will continue in that position.