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Have a submission?

Please contact Niby Kannai at KANNAINY@MAIL.UC.EDU
We want to hear about your career moves, publications, engagements, marriages, family births and everything else worth celebrating!
Congratulations Faculty and Students!

The University of Cincinnati Counseling Program is proud to recognize the ACA president-elect, **Dr. Cirecie West-Olatunji.** Dr. West-Olatunji joined UC in fall 2012, coming to us from the University of Florida. While she was hired as program coordinator for the counseling program, she is also the incoming president of the American Counseling Association. Dr. West-Olatunji begins her presidency on July 1, 2013. When asked what she is looking forward to working on in the upcoming year, she said, "I am looking forward to leadership development activities nationwide. I am launching an initiative to recruit 2014 new volunteers to state, regional, and national leadership." She described this effort as creating an army of ambassadors that will reach out to the membership at the grassroots level.

Dr. West-Olatunji hopes to improve the quality of leadership in ACA, increase the number of leaders, enhance international presence, and encourage outreach activities among the membership.

We are proud and honored to have a distinguished leader in the field of counseling represent the University of Cincinnati. The student body looks forward to supporting our program coordinator in this exciting and rewarding adventure.

**Mei Tang, Ph.D., LPC** was recently elected as the Vice President of the Association for Multicultural Counseling and Development. Her duties as AMCD vice president for Asian American and Pacific Islanders will begin in July of 2013. Her work will focus on promoting awareness, service, research, and greater understanding of issues related to this group.

**LaTrice Montgomery, Ph.D.** was one of 20 recipients of the competitive 2012-2013 Faculty Research Grants from the University Research Council. This grant will allow Dr. Montgomery to pursue her research full-time during the summer. The goal of her project, “Cocaine and Psychosocial Outcomes Across Three Randomized Clinical Trials: Examining the Interaction Between Race/Ethnicity and Gender”, is to bring attention to the importance of diversity in the treatment of cocaine dependence. This is a factor that is largely ignored both clinically and within research. Her work will be an analysis of ethnicity, gender, and their interacting effects upon cocaine and psychosocial outcomes.

**Jonathan Trauth** and **Angela Ano** were awarded the Counselors for Social Justice Award for their work as part of the AMCD/CSJ Service Day.

**Congratulations Graduates!** The Master’s Recognition and Doctoral Hooding Ceremonies will take place on April 26, 2013. Congratulations to all of our graduating Ed.D. and M.Ed. students on their achievements. Directly following the ceremony, the Counseling Program will have a gathering with family and friends for goodbyes and pictures. We wish you all the best of luck in your future endeavors.
Honoring Dr. Ellen Cook

Dr. Ellen Cook has been a valued faculty member of the University of Cincinnati since 1978. She has done extensive work in the areas of gender issues, career development, spirituality, and has made huge contributions to the understanding of the ecological perspective in counseling. In her most recent publication, Understanding People in Context: the Ecological Perspective in Counseling, Dr. Cook explains the theoretical background and practical application of this perspective. Dr. Cook’s work, recently featured in a ten page article ACA’s Counseling Today, is acknowledged as an integral part of counselor training due to its emphasis on comprehensive motivations and meaning to client behavior. As a cornerstone of the mental health counseling program at UC for 35 years, Dr. Ellen Cook’s presence will be sorely missed. We would like to thank Dr. Cook for her years of service and wish her continued success in the future!
American Counseling Association Conference

The American Counseling Association’s National Conference was held at the Duke Energy Convention Center in downtown Cincinnati from March 20-24. Highlights of the conference included keynote speakers Ashley Judd and Drs. Allen and Mary Ivey, Dr. West-Olatunji taking the oath of office, as well as many opportunities to learn from and mingle with colleagues. Several students and faculty were in attendance to represent the University of Cincinnati and support Dr. West-Olatunji. Doctoral students, Jennifer Willis and Ching-Chen, Chen presented in the poster and educational sessions. Molly Stehn, also a doctoral student, impressed the crowd with her operatic performance during the evening talent show. Another highlight for UC faculty and students was the reception hosted by the Counseling Program on Friday night. It was a fun event for all who attended. Next year, the ACA Conference will be held in Honolulu, HI during the week of March 24, 2014.
Happy Counseling Awareness Month!

April is recognized as Counseling Awareness Month and the American Counseling Association wants your help spreading the word! As members of this profession, we are in a great position to draw attention to counseling’s many benefits. Log onto http://www.counseling.org/about-us/counseling-awareness-month for more information about ideas, contests, special events, and other ways to get involved. Take some time this month to self-reflect and participate in advocating for counseling’s importance.

February 4-8 was National School Counseling Awareness week. Some of our current students showed their support by sending baked goods to thank the school counselors at their internship sites. Current students and alumni were encouraged to acknowledge school counselors and get involved in the community. Thank you to all who participated!

Center for Traumatic Stress Research

University of Cincinnati and University of Florida students are gathered every Tuesday at 4 pm in Room number 426 in Teachers college to work on collaborative research for the Center for Traumatic Stress Research. UC and UF students were actively involved in the ACA conference in 2013. Students share their research ideas and work together for bettering their own research under the guidance of Dr. West-Olatunji. Anyone with an interest in this research opportunity should contact Dr. West-Olatunji (westolce@mail.uc.edu).

Practicum & Internship Fair

In the beginning of March, the first ever practicum and internship fair was hosted by the Counseling Program. Faculty and site supervisors were in attendance to assist students in the information gathering and decision making processes. The fair was held in an effort to increase communication between the university and potential field placement sites. This event will be held every fall and spring.

American School Counselor Association Conference

The national conference for the American School Counselor Association will be held in Philadelphia, PA this year. The conference dates are June 30-July 1. Log on to http://www.schoolcounselor.org/content.asp?contentid=182 for details and registration information.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Congratulations to the following who received awards at the CECH recognition ceremony on March 28, 2013. Michelle Wombles-The Morry Rosenthal Award, Dr. Laura Nabors-Golden Apple Award, Rachel Manning-Outstanding Student Award for Mental Health Counseling, Nzingha Dalila-Outstanding Student Award for Counselor Education, and Katie Richardson-Outstanding Student Award for School Counseling.