COUNSELING ALUMNI CONNECTION

The purpose of the Counseling Alumni Connection (CAC) is to keep graduates of the Department of Professional Counseling connected to the Monmouth University community by providing quality programming for the promotion of professional and personal development. Alumni are encouraged to participate in educational programs and ongoing initiatives sponsored by the CAC. All CAC programming and its participants will adhere to the Code of Ethics of the American Counseling Association.

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October 16, 2020
Pre-Conference Ethics Institute
9:00 am - 3:00 pm

October 17, 2020
Full-Day Conference
8:30 am – 4:30 pm
ETHICS INSTITUTE SPEAKER
PERRY C. FRANCIS
EdD, LPC, NCC, ACS

Workshop: Ethics, Law, & Social Justice: The Intersection of Behaviors and Beliefs

Time:
9:00am-3:00pm

Description:
In the last 10 years there has been an explosion in the awareness of social justice issues within the field of mental health. Access to services, multicultural issues, values debates, referrals and denial of services, and socio-economic issues have all been raised in ethical and legal debates, legislation, and standards of practice. Using the Multicultural and Social Justice Counseling Competencies (MSJCC) as a foundation, the presenter and participants will explore how the 2014 ACA Code of Ethics addresses social justice, advocacy, standards of practice, and issues of values between the practitioner and client.

\*5 ethics CE hours

Dr. Perry C. Francis is a member of the faculty at Eastern Michigan University in the Department of Leadership & Counseling where he serves as a professor of counseling and the coordinator of the counseling training clinic for the College of Education Clinical Suite where he maintains a private practice. He works with a variety of people who would not otherwise have access to mental health services.

Perry has been in higher education for over 20 years teaching in the traditional classroom, through remote broadcast, hybrid courses, and totally on-line. He seeks to help the students take ownership of their learning as they traverse the lectures, texts, and assignments that support their acquisition of knowledge. He also provides CEUs to professionals in mental health, student affairs, and faculty on a wide range of subjects including ethics, classroom management, working with aggressive and violent students, supporting student success, and integrating veterans back onto campus.

As a professor, Perry works with non-traditional students daily, helping them to learn to balance their lives, careers, and education.

Beyond the campus setting, Perry served as the Chair of the Ethics Revision Task Force for the American Counseling Association as well as chairing the sub-committee on Scope of Practice issues for 20/20 Commission on the Future of Counseling. He has presented on ethics in supervision, ethical issues facing college counselors, and suicide prevention at conferences in the United States, Canada, and Europe. He has also written numerous journal articles and book chapters including a chapter on ethics in forthcoming book Introduction to Counseling: A Multicultural and Social Justice Perspective to be published in December of 2020.

Dr. Francis earned his degree in counselor education at the University of Northern Colorado (UNC). Before completing his counseling degree, Perry was a Lutheran parish pastor and a campus pastor.
KEYNOTE SPEAKER
MONA ROBINSON
PhD, LPCC-S, LSW, CRC

Workshop: Cultural View of Disability: Communicating with People with Disabilities

Time:
9:00am-10:30am

Description:
The purpose of this presentation is to provide an overview of multiculturalism it pertains to communicating with people with disabilities. The presenter will explore disabilities from a multicultural perspective to increase participants’ cultural competence when working with people with disabilities. Participants will be able to articulate an overview of multiculturalism as it relates to work with people with disabilities, identify appropriate language to use when communicating with the population, and exhibit increased competency when communicating with people with disabilities.

*1.5 multicultural CE hours

Dr. Robinson is a Professor and Immediate Past Chair of the Department of Counseling and Higher Education at Ohio University. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Psychology, Master of Arts in Rehabilitation Counseling, and a Doctorate in Rehabilitation Services (Rehabilitation Counselor Education) from The Ohio State University. She is a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor, Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor Supervisor, and Licensed Social Worker. Her research interests include psychiatric rehabilitation, disability advocacy, multicultural counseling, ethics, and dual diagnosis.

Dr. Robinson is currently First Vice President for the National Council on Rehabilitation Education (NCRE). She has served as Past President of the National Association of Multicultural Rehabilitation Concerns (NAMRC), the Ohio Rehabilitation Association (ORA), and the Ohio Rehabilitation Counseling Association (ORCA).
Sarah I. Springer is an Assistant Professor in the Professional Counseling Department at Monmouth University. She is a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC-NJ) and Approved Clinical Supervisor (ACS). Dr. Springer’s area of expertise is counseling children, adolescents, and parents. She has published most often in the areas of Group Work, Supervision, and Counselor Training.

Kathleen L. Grant is an Assistant Professor in Educational Counseling and Leadership at Monmouth University. Dr. Grant studies issues associated with extreme achievement pressure on adolescents, promoting access and equity to high-quality education, and improving school climate and safety. She has presented her research at national, regional, and local counseling conferences. Dr. Grant is a Nationally Certified Counselor (NCC), a certified New Jersey School Counselor, and a certified Director of School Counseling Services in New Jersey, a member of the American Counseling Association (ACA), the American School Counseling Association (ASCA), the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (ACES), and the National Association for College Admissions Counseling (NACAC).

Lauren Cozzolino is a Licensed Associate Counselor (LAC-NJ) and a graduate of the MS in Clinical Mental Health Counseling program at Monmouth University. She has worked with children and adults with diverse emotional, behavioral, and intellectual needs. Her passions in counseling include mindfulness-based interventions, social justice advocacy, multicultural sensitivity, and destigmatizing (reducing shame) around mental health services.

Shelby Tortorello is a graduate-level counselor in training at Monmouth University. She currently works as a graduate research assistant under the supervision of Dr. Sarah I. Springer. Her experience in the field includes co-facilitating group work in an inpatient setting and participating in advocacy work and paraprofessional counseling for young mothers in an inner-city environment.

**Workshop: Examining Shame Resilience: Applying Brené Brown’s Theory to Personal and Professional Counselor Development**

**Time:**

10:40am-12:10pm

**Description:**

This presentation will discuss the connection between shame and mental health concerns and address its implications for personal development and client growth. Specifically, participants will learn about the ways in which shame can lead to disconnection and experience activities and short videos that help to facilitate personal and professional awareness. Throughout the program, participants will learn about the components of shame resilience and acquire strategies and resources that can support client conceptualization and healthy personal and professional relationships.
DARA GASIOR
PsyD, LPC (Licensed Clinical Psychologist)

**Workshop:** Family Therapy: Working with Challenging Family Dynamics in Effective Manner

**Time:**
10:40am-12:10pm

**Description:**
This session will focus on a brief review of various family theories including a discussion of Bowenian, Structural, Strategic, and Brief Solution Focused treatment models. Techniques, benefits, and criticisms of each model will be explored using various case examples to assist attendees in recognizing the practical implementation of these techniques into their treatment of difficult families.

Dr. Dara Gasior is a licensed clinical psychologist with over 20 years’ experience working with various clinical populations. She received her doctorate at Ferkauf Graduate School and has been working with clients in diverse settings throughout her career. In her various clinical roles at High Focus Centers, she has worked with clients of all ages struggling with mental illness, substance abuse and co-occurring disorders.

Due to her passion for the field and for mentoring newer clinicians, Dara has embraced her new role as the Director of Assessment and Training. In this role she is able to provide numerous clinical trainings designed to explore evidence-based practices, discuss clinical challenges and empower clinicians to feel better prepared and more confident in their individual work.
JESSICA BURKHOLDER
PhD, LPC, NCC, ACS

Workshop: Body Focused Interventions in Trauma Treatment

Time:
1:15pm-2:45pm

Description:
This presentation will introduce attendees to new trauma theories and approaches that attend to how trauma manifests itself in the body. Participants will be introduced to interventions that help clients experience a bodily sense of safety, self-regulation, and awareness. Leading practitioners in this area will be identified so attendees can continue to grow in their trauma treatment competence following this presentation.
ERIN MURPHY
MS, LPC, LCADC

Workshop: Medication Assisted Treatment

Time:
1:15pm-2:45pm

Description:
The purpose of this presentation is to provide an overview of medication assisted treatment. Basic information about the neuroscience of addiction will be presented. Participants will be engaged in a discussion of three types of medications used in treatment of Opioid use disorder. The misconceptions of medication assisted treatment will also be reviewed. Participants will be able to gain a basic understanding of the neuroscience of addiction, be able to identify 3 medications utilized in MAT and understand the advantages of MAT through this presentation.

*1.5 opioid CE hours
DAVID BURKHOLDER
PhD, LPC, NCC, ACS

Workshop: Couples Counseling: History, Special Considerations, and Effective Theories and Interventions

Time:
2:55pm-4:25pm

Description:
This program will cover the history of couples counseling, distinct issues couples face, and evidence-based theories in working with couples. Participants will gain increased understanding of the history and development of couples counseling, the distinct issues couples face and how to work through them, and the theoretical underpinnings and interventions associated with two of the foremost approaches for working with couples: Emotion-Focused Therapy and Gottman Method Couples Counseling.

Dr. David Burkholder is an independently licensed counselor, associate professor, and Department Chair in the Department of Professional Counseling at Monmouth University.

Dr. Burkholder started his professional career as a counselor in 2004, working primarily with children and adolescents. Upon completing his PhD and joining Monmouth University in 2009, Dr. Burkholder took a hiatus from clinical work to focus on his new role as a faculty member in the department of professional counseling.

In addition to teaching and scholarship, in 2017 Dr. Burkholder began trainings in Gottman Method couples counseling and in 2018 established a private practice where he works exclusively with couples. Dr. Burkholder also teaches a course on couples counseling in which students complete the level one clinical training in the Gottman Method.
Workshop: “Not Thin Enough”: Overcoming Barriers to Eating Disorder Treatment and Recovery

Time:
2:55pm-4:25pm

Description:
This program aims to educate mental health professionals on the complexity of eating disorder (ED) treatment, particularly with regard to anorexia nervosa (AN) and bulimia nervosa (BN), and the barriers patients face in seeking out and/or engaging in treatment. Factors will be explored that contribute to AN and BN patients’ struggle with understanding the validity and severity of their illness, which often inhibits patients from beginning the recovery process. The presenter will provide insight into the roles of an ED in patients’ lives, including control, emotion regulation, and many others. Further, external barriers to ED patients’ receiving treatment, including managed care, the glorification of eating disorders on a societal level, and themes within family dynamics will be discussed. By the end of this program, mental health professionals will develop a more in-depth understanding of barriers to ED treatment, as well as clinically appropriate interventions in working with, and advocating for, patients who struggle with an ED.