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College of Education and Human Development

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Vandiver is the Incoming Editor of the Journal of Black Psychology

Jan. 20, 2016

Beverly J. Vandiver, professor of counseling psychology in the Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology, has been appointed the incoming Editor-In-Chief of the Journal of Black Psychology, a premier journal focused on the psychological issues of Black peoples across various disciplines: African-centered psychology, therapeutic interventions, psychology of Black children, personality, education, and health and social behavior.

Published six times a year by the Association of Black Psychology (ABPsi), the journal was started in 1974. ABPsi is the oldest ethnic psychology association in the United States (1968) with a mission of addressing the significant social problems facing and affecting the Black community.

Professor Vandiver will begin her tenure as editor some time later in 2016. She received her doctorate in counseling psychology from Ball State University and is nationally known for her research on racial identity, notably the development of the Cross Racial Identity Scale (CRIS), a psychometrically strong scale to measure Black racial identity. A lifetime member of ABPsi, she has also been an active member of the American Psychological Association. She is a member of the Society of Counseling Psychology (Division 17), the Society for the Psychological Study of Ethnic Minority Issues (Division 45), and Evaluation, Measurement, and Statistics (Division 5). She is fellow in Divisions 5 and 17 of the American Psychological Association for her contribution to the empirical literature on racial identity and scale development.

Professor Vandiver has served on numerous editorial boards, such as The Counseling Psychologist, Journal of Counseling and Development, and Career Development Quarterly. She has also worked as a practicing counselor in community mental health centers and in a talented school system for secondary level students. Beyond scale development, her specialty is in cultural identity.
Adkison-Johnson Conducts Psychoeducational Parenting Group Project

Jan. 27, 2016

Professor Carla Adkison-Johnson is conducting a project to field test a psycho-educational parenting group for African American mothers and fathers with adolescent children. This parenting group model was developed by Adkison-Johnson (2015) based on her research that focused on the disciplinary practices of African American parents. The goal of this study/evaluation is to establish base line data regarding its effectiveness and impact on African American parents.

The first counseling group was completed in the Center for Counseling and Psychological Services in CECP in December 2015 and the next group is scheduled for February 2016. Preliminary findings indicated that the counseling group model assisted parents in communicating more meaningfully with their children. Parents also reported positive behavioral changes in their children.

Two CECP Professors Deliver Culturally Responsive Education Training to KPS

Jan. 27, 2016
Professors Joseph R. Morris and Mary Z. Anderson are working with the Kalamazoo Public Schools (KPS) to deliver Culturally Responsive Education training for middle and high school teachers, counselors, principals, school psychologists, and other school personnel. Planning began during summer 2015 in collaboration with Assistant Superintendent for Student Services, Cindy Green, and other members of the KPS leadership team. After developing a multifaceted yearlong plan, twenty-eight school district personnel were trained as small group facilitators. These facilitators helped the team deliver a district wide professional development workshop on September 2, 2015; over 400 secondary personnel attended a large group presentation and participated in small group activities aimed at increasing awareness and developing individualized strategies for implementing culturally responsive educational practices throughout the 2015-2016 school year.

Drs. Morris and Anderson will continue to work with KPS central office leadership as well as middle and high school principals to support this intervention throughout the year. Survey data will be collected from teachers at multiple time points to further support culturally responsive teaching strategies.

**Dr. Jennifer Foster Works to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse**

Jan. 27, 2016

Dr. Jennifer Foster, Assistant Professor of Counselor Education and counseling psychology, is a co-author of the book titled “Child Sexual Abuse in India: Understanding and Impacting Individuals, Families, and Socio-cultural Systems.” This book raises awareness on the topic of sexual abuse in India and calls for neighborhood and community investment and involvement in the prevention of child sexual abuse. Education and early intervention are emphasized.

Dr. Foster is also cultivating prevention efforts locally through her receipt of a Merz Tate College of Education and Human Development grant. She will facilitate a prevention program titled Partnering with Families to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse. The purpose of this project is to develop and implement a child sexual abuse prevention-training program for parents and caregivers. The interactive workshop will educate and empower families on the topic of sexual abuse. Parents will learn the warning signs of sexual abuse, red flags of sexual offenders, and developmentally appropriate ways to talk with children about sexuality and CSA. The aim of this program is to empower parents and caregivers. It will also include a family component following
the training to provide parents with an opportunity to talk openly with their children about sexual abuse.

Assistant Professor Publishes Journal Article

Feb. 3, 2016

Dr. Stephanie Burns has published a peer-reviewed journal article in The Journal of Employment Counseling titled, Predictive Validity of Person Matching at the Scale and Discriminant Analysis Levels. Validity comparisons (including hit rates, kappa coefficients, and chance expectancy rates) were made between person matching at the scale and discriminant analysis (DA) levels with 5,143 medical students who had taken Medical Specialty Preference Inventory-Revised (MSPI-R) interest inventory and had entered their medical residency. Person matching using the 30 discriminant analysis items demonstrated the greatest ability to assign test takers to the highest number of occupations at a rate greater than chance. The 30 DA items equaled a previous study's person matching hit rate at the item level using all 150 items on the MPSI-R. This was surprising as Kuder asserted that person matching was best performed by using all of the items on the interest inventory. However no calculation of person matching was able to outperform standard scoring with the same participants using the MSPI-R.
Professor Joins Local Musicians for Performance at Kalamazoo Institute of Arts

February 4, 2016,

Dr. Jim Croteau joined creative justice arts activists Denise Miller, Dr. Michelle S. Johnson (dj Disobedience), Abbie Maikoski and musicians Anne Rhode and Jonathan Boyd for "Common Threads" at the Kalamazoo Institute of the Arts on Thursday, Feb. 4. The performance consisted of poetry and music in call and response to art about race inspired by the recent African American art exhibit at the KIA. The original poems he read at the event grew out of, and were informed by, his professional work, community activism, and scholarship on helping Whites to become anti-racist in their actions and their identity.

To read more about upcoming performances, films, and lectures for Black History Month 2016, visit the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts webpage.

Four WMU grad programs among nation's top 50 in U.S. News ranking

contact: Cheryl Roland
March 17, 2016 | WMU News

KALAMAZOO, Mich.—The latest annual U.S. News & World Report ranking of the top graduate programs in the nation shows Western Michigan University with seven programs ranked among the top 100 in their disciplines, four in the top 50 and two programs assessed as the best of their kind in Michigan.

In the latest round of rankings released March 16, WMU’s occupational therapy program based in Kalamazoo was ranked at No. 32 nationally, making it the state's highest
ranking program in that discipline. The University's speech language pathology program, at No. 46 nationally, is tied for recognition as that discipline's best such program in Michigan.

Top programs

WMU graduate programs ranked among the nation's top 100 are:

- Occupational Therapy, Kalamazoo—No. 32.
- Rehabilitation Counseling—No. 37.
- Speech-Language Pathology—No. 46.
- Audiology—No. 48.
- Physician Assistant—No. 57.
- Occupational Therapy, Grand Rapids—No. 58.
- Social Work—No. 71.

All seven of WMU's top-100 programs are part of the University's celebrated College of Health and Human Services. Another eight WMU graduate programs also were highly ranked among graduate programs at the nation's more than 650 colleges and universities that confer master's and doctoral degrees. The additional ranked WMU programs are in: Earth Sciences/Geosciences (113), Public Affairs (115), English (125), History (125), Education (126), Art (131), Clinical Psychology (135) and Psychology (141).

"We have a long history of programs in the health and human service disciplines that enjoy international reputations for quality," says Dr. Susan Stapleton, dean of the WMU Graduate College. "While those programs continue to garner top rankings, we're also pleased to see our graduate programs in several other disciplines moving quickly up the ranking lists. Our graduate program in public affairs, for instance, moved up 34 spots in this year's rankings and is now very close to top-100 status."

Counseling Psychology Student has Article Accepted for Publication

April 4, 2016

Raymond L. Sheets Jr., current counseling psychology doctoral student, recently had his article, “Sexual Orientation Self-Presentation among Bisexual-identified Women and Men: Patterns and Predictors,” accepted for publication in the Archives of Sexual Behavior.
The article combines research from two separate, but related, quantitative studies that explore the process of self-presentation of sexual orientation for bisexual individuals. Results from the first study compared 147 bisexual college students and 191 lesbian and gay male (LG) students on patterns and predictors of self-presentation. Bisexual participants were less likely than their LG peers to present their actual orientation to others, and more likely to present themselves as having a sexual orientation different from their actual orientation. Similarly, in the second study, 240 bisexual women and men indicated their level of outness generally as a sexual minority person (potentially including identification as gay, lesbian, or queer) and specifically as a bisexual person. Outness was found to be higher with respect to status as a sexual minority compared to status as bisexual. These and other findings are discussed in light of research on the management of a stigmatized identity.

Mr. Sheets co-authored the article with Jonathan Mohr and Skyler Jackson.

Dr. Phillip Johnson Publishes Article in Journal of Counseling & Development

April 4, 2016
Dr. Phillip Johnson, Associate Professor and Coordinator of College Counseling in the department of Counselor Education & Counseling Psychology, has published an article in the Journal of Counseling & Development. This article studies the concept of "somebodiness" in the lives of African American men, a multidimensional, culturally relevant, idea that allows counselors to describe the psychological functioning of African American men in terms closer to their lived experience.

The Journal of Counseling & Development (JCD) is the quarterly flagship journal of the American Counseling Association. JCD publishes articles that have broad interest for a readership composed mostly of counselors and other mental health professionals who work in private practice, schools, colleges, community agencies, hospitals, and government.

To view Dr. Johnson's article on the web, click here. View the entire July 2016 journal issue here.

Professor receives Lambda Leadership Award

April 15, 2016

Dr. James Croteau, professor in the Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology, has been selected to receive the 2016 Lambda Leadership Award from the LGBT Student Services Office. This award recognizes a Western Michigan University administrator, faculty, or staff member who advocates for LGBTQ people on campus. He will be recognized during the Lavender Graduation ceremony on Wednesday, April 20.
April 20, 2016

Eric M. Sauer, professor of counseling psychology, and colleagues recently presented a paper at the 2nd Annual World Conference on Personality, in Buzios, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The paper, "Examining changes in client attachment patterns in psychotherapy: A growth modeling study," described a recent clinical attachment study. In this study, Sauer and colleagues examined the impact of client attachment over the course of therapy. Unexpectedly, clients with any higher levels of attachment anxiety improved more rapidly than their less anxious peers. They also found that, as early as the 6th session of therapy, higher levels of client attachment avoidance interfered with the process of counseling. That is, there was evidence to suggest that they were experiencing their therapists as pressing them to be more engaged than they would like, and possibly even experiencing their therapist as being too distant.

Western Michigan University counselor education and counseling psychology students were honored during an awards reception Thursday, April 21, at the Bernhard Center. Students who were honored included:

**Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology Graduate Teaching Effectiveness Award**
- Master’s Level—School Counseling—Brandi Zoll
- Master’s Level College Counseling—Valerie-Ann Becker
- Master’s Level Clinical Mental Health—Amie Murphy
- Master’s Level Counseling Psychology—Brianna Scott

Doctoral Level Counselor Education—Stephanie Goodman
Doctoral Level Counseling Psychology—Deidre Begay

**Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology Graduate Research and Creative Scholars Award**
- Master’s Level Marriage, Couple and Family Counseling—Leah Sylver
- Master’s Level College Counseling—Carol Adams-Shearer
Master’s Level Clinical Mental Health - Margaret Sweeney
Master’s Level Counseling Psychology—Matthew Smith

Doctoral Level Counselor Education—Adam Osborne
Doctoral Level Counseling Psychology—Shealyn Blanchard

**Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology Alumni Scholarship**
Master’s Student—Beth Praed
Doctoral Student—Andrew Clay

**Robert & Diane Betz Award for Doctoral Studies in Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology**
Doctoral Studies in Counselor Education—Stephanie Goodman
Doctoral Studies in Counseling Psychology—Hartini Abdul-Rahman

**Kenneth Bullmer Scholarship for Doctoral Students in Counseling Psychology**
Laura Pacheco del Castillo

**Dr. Lonnie Earl Duncan Memorial Scholarship Award**
Walter Malone

**Alan and Kristin Hovestadt Outstanding Student in Marriage and Family Therapy Award**
Laura Hinkley

**Arthur & Margaret Manske Outstanding Master’s Student in School Counseling**
Ariana Busse

**Joseph R. Morris Award for Outstanding Contributions to Multicultural Counseling and Psychology**
Deidre Begay

**Thelma M. Urbick Outstanding Doctoral Student in Counselor Education Award**
Michael Bobbitt

**Outstanding Master’s Student in Counselor Education & Counseling Psychology**
Shernita McIntosh

**Outstanding Doctoral Student in Counseling Psychology**
Shealyn Blanchard

**Outstanding Alumni Award**
Darrick Tovar-Murray

Congratulations to our 2016 award recipients!
Rehabilitation Counseling program students and faculty meet with Senator Stabenow

April 22, 2016

Dr. Jennipher Wiebold and two rehabilitation counseling students attended the National Rehabilitation Association's Governmental Affairs Summit with the Michigan Rehabilitation Association.

Dr. Wiebold is an Associate Professor with a joint appointment in the Departments of Blindness and Low Vision Studies, and Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology. She is the Rehabilitation Counseling Program Coordinator (front left). Sarah Mannschreck (far right) is the Co-President of the WMU Student Rehabilitation Counseling Association, and Cindy Lingbeek (far left) is the Secretary of the WMU Student Rehabilitation Counseling Association. While attending the 2016 National Rehabilitation Association’s Governmental Affairs Summit with the Michigan Rehabilitation Association, Dr. Wiebold and the students met with Senator Stabenow and staffers to discuss the vocational rehabilitation needs of Michigander’s with Disabilities, and the need for qualified rehabilitation counselors to provide vocational rehabilitation services.
“I always consider myself as a people person,” Professor Mohd Tajudin Ninggal (M.A.’94, Counselor Education; Ed.D. ’98) says. “I like to work with young people and motivate them to excel in life.”

Tajudin was a college senior when he attended a talk by WMU Professor John Geisler at the Universiti Putra Malaysia and became inspired to attend WMU to study student affairs. After completing his Master’s degree at WMU, he decided to stay for his doctoral studies.

As a student at WMU, Tajudin participated in the International Food Festival and fondly remembers being President of the Malaysian student organization and being invited to have tea with President and Mrs. Haenicke in their home. He also marched in the Parade of Nations during Homecoming.

“I proudly waved my Malaysian flag to the thousands of roaring spectators,” he said. “I felt our country was being appreciated and my presence felt at WMU.”

Since returning to Malaysia, Tajudin has remained connected to WMU in many ways -- through former professors and friends, a strong alumni network, and several visits to campus including one for his son’s commencement ceremony in 2011. Aside from his son, he has convinced
nephews, cousins, and friends to study at Western.

In May, Tajudin deepened that connection when he hosted 12 graduate students from the WMU Department of Educational Leadership, Research and Technology (College of Education and Human Development) at the Universiti Teknologi Malaysia in Johor Bahru, where he is a counseling psychology professor and the Past-Provost of Student Affairs.

Accompanied by WMU faculty members Dr. Eric Archer and Dr. Ramona Lewis, WMU students met with local grad students, toured the campus, and were briefed by Tajudin on the topic of “Managing Student Affairs and Diversities in Malaysia.”

“The purpose of this short-term program was to explore higher education in the two countries and for students to participate in a number of cultural experiences,” Archer explained. The trip included stops in Singapore and Malaysia during early to mid-May 2016.

“During the trip we visited Yale-NUS (Singapore); Universiti Teknologi Malaysia - UTM (Johor Bahru) - where Dr. Ninggal is on faculty; Universiti Malaya - UM in Kuala Lumpur; Heriot-Watt University in Putrajaya; and Sunway University in Bandar Sunway,” Archer said. “Additionally, the study abroad group hosted an alumni reception for WMU graduates living in Malaysia, which was attended by approximately 40 alums.”

“Even though the visit was short, it was filled with sweet and valuable memories to be treasured,” Tajudin said. “For sure, the experiential learning has expanded and broadened the students’ perspectives about diversity and life. Not to forget they have had lots of fun, too!”

Professor Tajudin is pictured above (center) with the WMU students, Dr. Archer, and Dr. Lewis.

CECP Faculty Continue Work with KPS

Sep. 14, 2016

Dr. Joseph R. Morris and Dr. Mary Z. Anderson (left) continued their work with the Kalamazoo Public Schools this summer. For the second consecutive year, Drs. Morris and Anderson trained facilitators to deliver training to increase culturally responsive practices among professional staff, including teachers, administrators, counselors, speech pathologists, school psychologists, in the Kalamazoo Public Schools. Last year only
secondary professional staff members were trained. This summer secondary personnel received additional training while elementary staff were introduced to the training. Over 1000 individuals were trained.

Training started with a keynote address by Dr. Morris to all KPS staff members focused on the importance of teacher-student relationships to academic achievement, stereotype threat and the relevance of mentoring and culturally responsive practices. The keynote address built on Dr. Morris and Dr. Anderson's experiences supporting culturally responsive leadership for building principals, partnering to introduce a male mentoring program for KPS students, and Dr. Morris' longstanding work at Washington Writers' Academy. Drs. Morris and Anderson appreciate the assistance of counseling psychology doctoral student Michelle Stahl with data analysis.

Counseling psychologist and faculty member Croteau dies suddenly

contact: Cheryl Roland
September 20, 2016 | WMU News

Dr. James Croteau, professor of counselor education and counseling psychology, died suddenly after falling ill while cycling Sept. 18 in Kalamazoo. He was 59.

James Croteau

Croteau, a member of the WMU faculty since 1990, was nationally known for his research, training, clinical work and publications that focused on such issues as lesbian, gay and bisexual issues in the workplace and on college campuses as well as racism awareness and racial healing.

In addition to being a faculty member, Croteau was a practicing counselor. He also was a fellow of the American Psychological Association's Society of Counseling Psychology, as well as a fellow of the APA's Society for the Psychological Study of Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Issues.

A ranking published in 2010 by The Counseling Psychologist named Croteau as the nation's most productive scholar in counseling psychology in the area of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender studies. The ranking was based on his publication in eight national refereed journals as well as the impact of his work as reflected by the number of citations of that work by other scholars.

Active in a variety of campus initiatives at WMU, Croteau was part of the campuswide group of faculty and staff that piloted the Everyone Counts program promoting diversity and inclusion.

Croteau earned his bachelor's degree from Loyola University, New Orleans, and both his master's and doctoral degrees from Southern Illinois University. Before coming to WMU, he worked for six years as a counselor at Ithaca College.

**Services**

Services will be held at Betzler Life Story Funeral Home, 6080 Stadium Drive, Kalamazoo. Visitation is 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 30. A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 1.

**Remembrances**

For more information or to share a photo or memory of James Croteau, visit lifestorynet.com.

**Associate professor presented with NAACP Humanitarian Award**

Nov. 18, 2016
Associate professor of Counselor Education, Dr. Phillip Johnson, recently was presented with the 2016 Humanitarian Award by the Metropolitan Kalamazoo Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). This award is a direct reflection of the contributions Dr. Johnson has made to improve the lives of people of color in the areas of politics, education, religion, civil rights and community service.

Throughout his career, Dr. Johnson has focused much of his efforts towards decreasing the impact of our racialized society on African Americans, specifically African American males. Dr. Johnson has presented his work at many conferences and written in various journals nationally. He is a member of the University-Community Empowerment Center at Western Michigan University and the Metropolitan Kalamazoo Branch NAACP, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., and Galilee Baptist Church.

**CECP Assistant Professor travels to Bangalore to provide workshops**

December 2016

Dr. Jennifer Foster was invited to travel to Bangalore, India to provide child sexual abuse prevention trainings with parents, teachers, counselors-in-training, faculty members, and ministry leaders. The workshops focused on increasing participants’ knowledge about child sexual abuse and learning specific strategies to protect children. Child sexual abuse (CSA) is a serious and widespread problem in India, which has the largest child population in the world. It is estimated that 53% of children in India experience sexual abuse before the age of 18 (National Study on Child Abuse in India, 2007). Beginning in 2012 laws were implemented mandating the reporting of child abuse. Yet, many children never disclose their abuse, and children who do tell may not be believed or protected because the offender is a close friend or family member. Due to cultural stigma surrounding abuse, many children suffer in silence. In order to decrease the prevalence of CSA, educational programs are needed to raise awareness about CSA and to assist adults to take steps to protect children. Foster’s pilot program trained 400 adults in diverse prevention strategies. Follow-up research will be conducted on the efficacy of the training.