



2016-2017 Annual Report

The Counseling Graduate Program at SUNY New Paltz trains highly skilled mental health and school counselors knowledgeable in both the practice and science of counseling. The program's climate combines rigorous academic standards along with a collegial and supportive mentoring environment that conceptualizes students as emerging professionals. The program is committed to academic and personal development of counseling trainees within an atmosphere that values cultural and intellectual diversity. The program's goal is to prepare mental health and school counselors who:

- Possess the knowledge and skills necessary to practice as highly competent counselors
- Demonstrate intellectual curiosity and a commitment to continually expanding their counseling knowledge and proficiency
- Understand and model the professional standards and ethics of their profession
- Attend to their own personal growth, as well as that of their clients, through utilizing supervision, valuing interpersonal feedback, and engaging in ongoing self-evaluation
- Show mastery of the research process and understand its central role in counseling practice and conducting program evaluation
- Are open-minded and respectful of multicultural and intellectual diversity
- Use their counseling knowledge to function as compassionate and caring practitioners, advocates, and leaders within their profession and within the communities they serve

The purpose of this annual report is to inform current and prospective students, the public and important community stakeholders about key findings, decisions, and modifications of the program in line with our program mission statement and objectives.

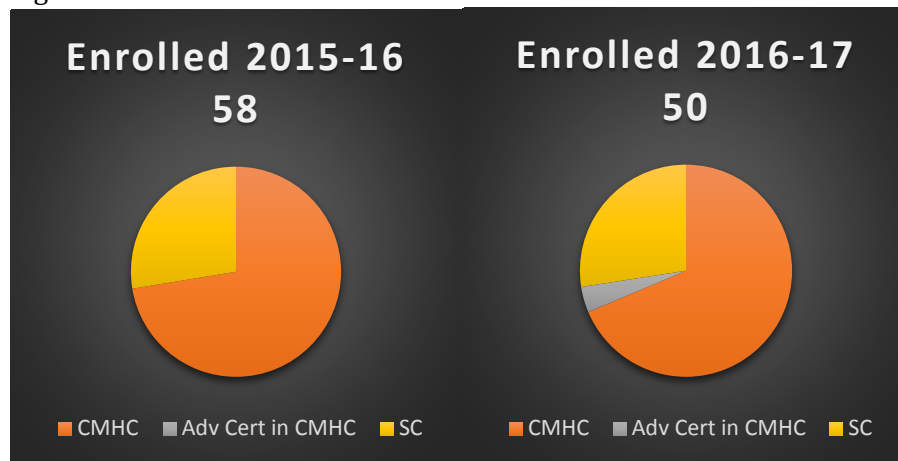
1. Enrollment Data

While the overall enrollment across the Clinical Mental Health Counseling (CMHC) and School Counseling (SC) programs decreased slightly from the 2015-16 to the 2016-17 academic year (from 58 to 50 enrolled students), the number of applications we reviewed and the number of students we admitted into both the CMHC and SC programs increased (See Table 1). During the 2016-17 Academic Year, the counseling faculty reviewed and considered for admissions the applications of 63 prospective students. Twenty-six of these 63 were admitted into the counseling graduate program (41% of those that applied; see Table 1). Figure 2 summarizes the enrollment trends across programs for the 2015-16 and 2016-17 academic years.

Table 1.

Program	2015-16			2016-17		
	# Applications Reviewed	Admitted (% of applications)	Total # Enrolled	# Applications Reviewed	Admitted (% of applications)	Total # Enrolled
CMHC	35	13 (37%)	42	43	17 (40%)	35
Adv Cert in CMHC	0	0	0	4	2 (50%)	2
SC	10	5 (50%)	16	16	7 (44%)	14
Total # of Students	45	18 (40%)	58	63	26 (41%)	50

Figure 2.



2. Faculty Changes

As a result of the retirement of the esteemed Dr. James Halpern during the Spring of 2016, we received approval to hire one (1) tenure track counselor educator with an emphasis in Clinical Mental Health Counseling. We also received approval to hire one (1) one-year lecturer who will be responsible for coordinating the practicum and internship placements for all students. After a year of reviewing applications and conducting interviews, the Counseling Graduate Program is delighted to welcome Dr. Adam Stephens as a tenure-track faculty member and Prof. Matt Maher as a one-year lecturer, both to start in the Fall 2017 semester. One core counseling tenure track faculty, with an emphasis in School Counseling, left SUNY New Paltz during the Fall 2016 semester. We hope to be approved to fill this open position in the Fall of 2017.

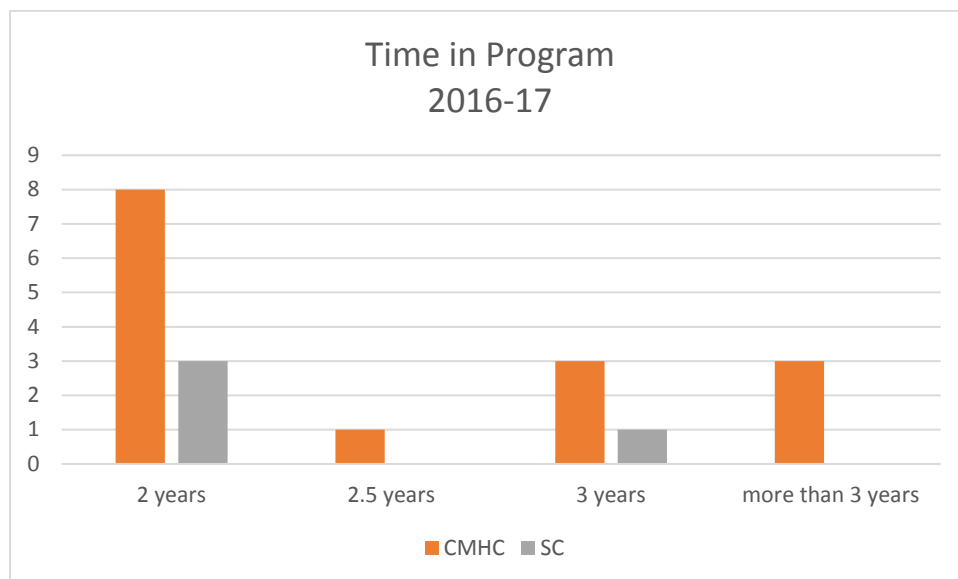
3. Program Completion

The number of students who graduated the program December 2016, May 2017, and August 2017 are listed in Table 2 below. Of these graduating students, 58% graduated from the program within 2 years (11 out of 19) and 26% graduated from the program within 2.5 or 3 years (5 out of 19).

Table 2.

	December 2016	May 2017	August 2017	Total
CMHC	1	9	5	15
SC	0	3	1	4
Total	1	12	6	19

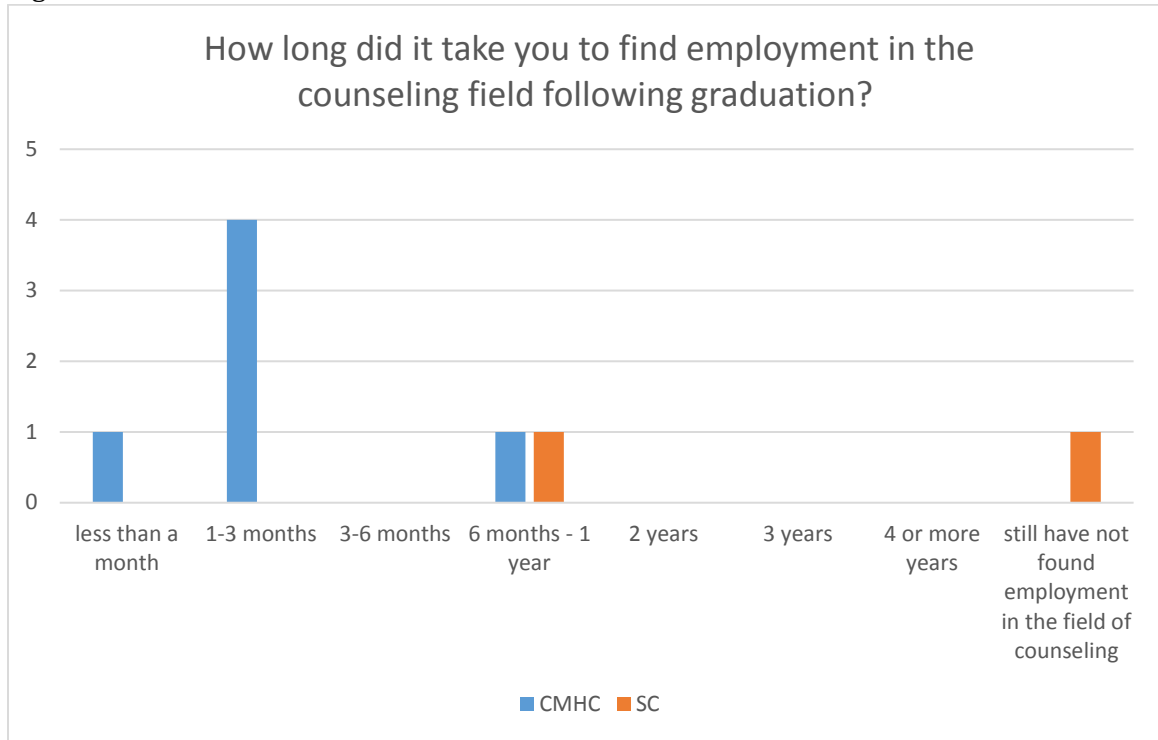
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4. Employment Rates & Exam Passage

87.5% of those 2016-17 program graduates surveyed (n=8) who desired employment in the counseling profession are currently employed as professional counselors; 62.5% found employment within the first 3 months of graduating (see Figure 3).

Figure 3.



Graduates from the Counseling Graduate Program Clinical Mental Health Counseling (CMHC) program consistently achieve high pass rates on **the National Clinical Mental Health Counseling Exam (NCMHCE)**. The pass rates for 2016-2017 graduates taking the NCMHCE exam for the first time was 83% (Out of 6 graduates who took the NCMHCE, 5 passed and 1 failed).

Two School Counseling (SC) and one Clinical Mental Health Counseling (CMHC) students took the National Counselor Exam (NCE) for the purposes of certification in April 2017. All three students passed the NCE. The mean score for the two SC students (110) and the one CMHC student (123) was higher than the mean for professionals taking the exam (105.85). See Table 3 and 4 below for more specific results.

Table 3.

Descriptive Statistics on SUNY-New Paltz

Program: School Counseling(60 Hours)
 Examination Date: 4/22/2017
 Number Tested: 2
 Number Passed: 2
 Minimum Criteria: 94.00

	University Results			Professional Results			CACREP Results			Non-CACREP Results		
	Items	Mean	Std Dev	Mean	Std Dev	N	Mean	Std Dev	N	Mean	Std Dev	N
Human Growth & Development	12	6.50	0.71	8.00	2.36	737	8.95	1.98	2327	8.86	2.02	623
Social & Cultural Diversity	11	8.50	0.71	7.75	1.77	737	8.23	1.60	2327	8.14	1.58	623
Helping Relationships	36	22.50	0.71	22.47	4.58	737	24.36	3.92	2327	23.94	4.24	623
Group Work	16	11.50	2.12	11.64	2.33	737	12.58	1.97	2327	12.34	2.04	623
Career Development	20	13.50	0.71	13.64	2.59	737	15.04	2.42	2327	14.60	2.52	623
Assessment	20	14.50	0.71	13.38	2.68	737	14.76	2.48	2327	14.48	2.69	623
Research & Program Evaluation	16	11.00	4.24	8.53	2.62	737	9.68	2.55	2327	9.49	2.64	623
Professional Orientation & Ethical Practice	29	22.00	1.41	20.45	3.96	737	21.65	3.33	2327	21.14	3.36	623
Score	160	110.00	8.49	105.85	17.60	737	115.25	14.88	2327	112.98	15.76	623
Fundamental Counseling Issues	32	19.50	0.71	21.71	4.19	737	23.72	3.50	2327	23.40	3.88	623
Counseling Process	45	30.00	1.41	31.13	5.16	737	33.28	4.48	2327	32.78	4.71	623
Diagnostic and Assessment Services	25	15.00	2.83	14.50	3.37	737	16.08	3.22	2327	15.79	3.30	623
Professional Practice	38	31.50	3.54	25.06	4.97	737	27.78	4.48	2327	27.03	4.73	623
Professional Development, Supervision, and Consultation	20	14.00	0.00	13.48	3.21	735	14.41	2.63	2324	13.97	2.69	623
Score	160	110.00	8.49	105.85	17.60	737	115.25	14.88	2327	112.98	15.76	623

Table 4.

Descriptive Statistics on SUNY-New Paltz

Program: Mental Health Counseling(60 Hours)
 Examination Date: 4/22/2017
 Number Tested: 1
 Number Passed: 1
 Minimum Criteria: 94.00

	University Results			Professional Results			CACREP Results			Non-CACREP Results		
	Items	Mean	Std Dev	Mean	Std Dev	N	Mean	Std Dev	N	Mean	Std Dev	N
Human Growth & Development	12	8.00	0.00	8.00	2.36	737	8.95	1.98	2327	8.86	2.02	623
Social & Cultural Diversity	11	10.00	0.00	7.75	1.77	737	8.23	1.60	2327	8.14	1.58	623
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5. Curricular Revisions

Using the CACREP 2016 Standards as our guide, the Counseling Faculty proposed a set of curriculum revisions to both the Mental Health Counseling and School Counseling programs. The revised curriculum, as proposed, will still be 60 credits. Students will no longer take Human Growth and Development electives offered by the Psychology Graduate Faculty but will take a course in Substance Use & Addictions Counseling. The Practicum and Internship classes will become 3 credits instead of 4, and students will take courses in Ethics & Professional Identity and Supervision, Consultation, and Social Advocacy prior to starting Practicum. Further, our Disaster Mental Health course will become a requirement rather than an elective.

By the end of Spring 2017, the curriculum revisions were passed by the following on-campus bodies: The Psychology Department, Liberal Arts & Sciences Senate, Liberal Arts & Sciences Deans office, and the Graduate Council. We will be submitting the curriculum revisions to NYSED and Office of Professions over the summer for review and approval.

6. CACREP Self-Study

The Counseling faculty are committed to pursuing CACREP Accreditation. The three main areas that needed attention prior to applying for accreditation have been addressed (i.e., autonomous budget, curricular autonomy, and a dedicated counseling training space). We will begin writing up the CACREP Self-Study during the Summer 2017 and hope to have it submitted to CACREP January 2018.