

Department of Counseling 2024 Annual Report

M.A. Clinical Mental Health Counseling

M.Ed. School Counseling

Hello IUP Master's Program Stakeholders,

The Department of Counseling and Human Development has spent the last year hard at work and we have some exciting updates to share with you about our Clinical Mental Health and School Counseling master's programs. We are grateful for the ongoing contributions of our faculty, staff, students, and alumni and know that we would not continue to thrive without everyone's support.

Department faculty had much to celebrate this past year, attending commencement ceremonies in both December 2023 and May 2024 to honor our summer, winter, and spring graduates. Below are the number of graduates by semester and program for the 2023-2024 academic year.

Semester	Number of Graduates
May 2024	20
December 2023	19
August 2023	7
Total 2023-2024 Graduates	46 Total (36 MA and 10 MEd)

Assessment

During this last testing cycle, 83% (5 of 6) current students and/or alumni passed the National Counselor Exam (NCE). In addition, 86% (6 of 7) of current students and/or alumni passed the PRAXIS II-Professional School Counselor Exam. The Department recognizes that an accomplishment passing these certification exams represents and are proud of those who have achieved this important milestone!

Summary of Program Evaluation Results

As we navigated preparing for our CACREP reaccreditation process this past year, we compiled data collected from annual surveys of alumni, employers, and site supervisors, as well as feedback from our Alumni Advisory Board, which meets once per semester. We are currently working to analyze the data for emergent themes and will work hard to implement insights shared as we continue to plan for a successful 2024 academic year.

The past academic year has been a continued time of transition, which naturally came with both challenges and opportunities. Throughout, we have maintained our top priorities of student-centered, proactivity, teamwork, and transparency with all stakeholders. Our collective efforts have resulted in many departmental accomplishments, including:

1. An increase in both MA and MEd admissions for the ~~2024~~ 2025 academic year.
2. The successful submission of our CACREP-study on July 4.
3. The second annual Social Justice conference, held at Pittsburgh East and sponsored by Counselors for Social Justice and the Center for Creativity and Change.
4. Maintaining our presence in the newly formed College of Education and Human Services
5. Successfully integrating into our newly formed academic unit, the Department of Counseling and Human Development.

Faculty look forward to ongoing collaborations with the students, alumni, colleagues, and other community stakeholders who continue to generously support our efforts.

Other Program Developments

In addition to the many achievements outlined above, there were several other significant departmental events during the ~~2023~~ 2024 academic year. In July, we welcomed Dr. Sarah Brown, coordinator of the undergraduate Human Development and Family Science Bachelor's degree program, into our newly formed department. She and Dr. Pollard Kosidowski were elected co-Assistant Chairpersons of the department for the ~~2025~~ and 2025-2026 academic years, while Dr. Desmond was elected to another year term as our department Chairperson. We also continued our tradition of being able to hire our own Counselor Education and Supervision doctoral candidates (and graduates) to serve as (a) temporary faculty (both in 04520697

Student Learning Outcome (SLO)	Area	How SLO is Evaluated(Key Performance Indicator)
Students will apply evidence based, ethically sound, and culturally relevant practice(s) to clients/students in a variety of clinical settings.	Counseling	860, 870, 930, and 960 summatives Comprehensive Exam – Counseling
Students will exhibit the strategies and skills of ethical and culturally relevant counselor leadership and advocacy practices.	Leadership and Advocacy	860, 880, and 960 summatives Comprehensive Exam Leadership and Advocacy
Students will demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and capabilities of an effective researcher and scholar.	Research and Scholarship	860, 890, 920, 940, 950, and 960 summatives Comprehensive Exam Research Dissertation

Students will apply the roles and responsibilities

selected as IUP's Distinguished University Professor for 2025. This is an exceptional honor as no faculty from our college has received this honor in the past 30 years. Congratulations Dr. Guth!

For fall 2023, the Department hired six temporary faculty Dr. Jessica Cosby, Dr. Shala Darwin, Dr. Jennifer Kennedy, Dr. Racheal Nuwagaba, Ms. Stephanie Onkst, Dr. Micheal Verona, and Dr. Jennifer Kennedy. In spring 2024, Drs. Cosby, Kennedy, and Nuwagaba returned to teach. We are grateful to have doctoral students and alumni to assist with teaching and supervision while we are short faculty complement.

On March 22, 2024, the department held the second all-UP Department of Counseling and Couse