**Minutes**

**Counselor Education Advisory Council Meeting**

**Thursday, December 2, 2022**

**4:00 to 5:15 pm**

1. Welcome and Introductions –Barbara Valente, Abby Gorbatoff, Sadie Sturdivant, Deidre Nelson, Tennille Sullvian, Jeffrey Brothers, Ken Delano, Dr. Quinn Pearson, Dr. Amy Davis, Dr. Chris DaSambiagio-Moore, Dr. Kevin Stoltz (late due to scheduling overlap).
2. Review and Approval of the Minutes from the April 22, 2021 Advisory Council Meeting – Deidre Nelson made a motion to approve the minutes, Barbara Valente seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved unanimously.
3. CACREP 2016 Standards – Dr. Quinn Pearson reported that faculty were beginning the transition to the 2016 standards. Proposed program objectives that align with the CACREP core curriculum standards and specialty-area standards (clinical mental health and school counseling) and proposed descriptions of professional dispositions were reviewed, and feedback was solicited from the advisory council. Ken Delano asked for clarification regarding “contextual dimensions,” which were explained in more detail based on the outlined criteria by CACREP. Proposed program objectives received positive feedback from Council members, and approvals were unanimous.

The Professional Dispositions Competency Assessment (PDCA-R) was also reviewed as the proposed instrument of choice for the department regarding student dispositions. Dr. Pearson explained that the instrument would be used at various points throughout a students’ program of study by students, faculty, and site supervisors. The PDCA-R received positive remarks from Council members. Abby Gorbatoff vocalized support from a student perspective, noting that the tool may be useful in guiding student growth and development. Deidre Nelson drew connections between the PDCA-R, and what professional school counselors should display in the workforce. Ken Delano mentioned the dispositions assessment could be useful in ALC supervision, and Barbara Valente commented on its applicability as a tool in CMHC settings. There was unanimous support for the adoption of the PDCA-R.
4. Diversity—Recruitment, Retention, and Graduation – Dr. Pearson introduced the department’s desire to improve representation and support for enrolled minority students. Feedback was solicited regarding ways to improve recruitment, retention, and graduation rates of minority students of color. Dr. Stoltz discussed potential relationships with HBCUs. Deidre Nelson mentioned she would be willing to serve as a mentor to students of color, and described the difficulty of reaching, recruiting, and retaining minority students of color as a systemic issue in education and not just counselor education. Jeffrey Brothers echoed this statement and also offered to serve as a mentor to students. Dr. Pearson suggested inviting current and past students to assist in the development of a diversity plan for the department, which received support from the Council. Deidre Nelson suggested the counselor education program work in collaboration with UNA’s admissions department to have a presence at local high school admissions fairs. A consensus was reached that beginning efforts to increase diversity could begin with internal departments and constituents at UNA such as admissions, Mitchell-West Center for Social Inclusion, and the Black Lioness group. External entities discussed included the Presidential Mentors Academy and Asha Kiran, an organization in Huntsville.
5. Other business—No additional business was presented.
6. Next meeting will be on April 14, 2022.