

UCA School Counseling Advisory Board

02/06/2023 12 pm

Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present: Millie Engler, Donna Wilchie, Rebecca Camarigg, Esther Murdock, Chance George, Odunola Oyeniya, Valerie Couture

- I. **Special Guest Speaker** - Dr. Erin Shaw, LIBM Faculty/Program Coordinator
Dr. Shaw shared the details of current state legislative bills and how, if passed, they may impact school librarians and school counselors. She is the legislative committee chair for the Arkansas Association of Instructional Media (AAIM).

II. School Counseling Program Updates

- a. Adjunct Faculty- Mrs. Susan Whatley- Pulaski County Special School District
Mrs. Whatley is in her second year of adjuncting with the program teaching Internship II. She is also a practicing school counselor.
- b. Recruitment Grant- \$1,750
-Summer Workshops - Dr. Oyeniya
Dr. Oyeniya will complete two professional development seminars in June 2023 for K-12 teachers. Topics may include: Trauma-Informed teaching, Working with immigrant students, and/or reducing teacher burnout.

-Internet Presence - The program is putting recruitment money towards purchasing Google search space in February-April. When someone in Arkansas, Texas, and Oklahoma searches Google for school counseling programs, UCA should pop up at the top of the list.

III. Key Assessment Revisions

- a. Review CAEP required process
We review the CAEP flowchart for the program to make revisions to key assessments. The flowchart is to be used as a guide so revisions are made with the influence of current students, program completers, advisory board members, and external stakeholders.
- b. Key Assessment #5 Assessment and Rubric
We reviewed the revised key assessment and rubric. The advisory board members have two weeks to email suggested edits. At that point the assessment and rubric will go out to current program candidates for review. After revisions are made the assessment and rubric will go to external stakeholders for review, along with a survey instrument to complete.

IV. **SCCN Advisory Board Members Share**

Please share current challenges that your students are facing that you (or other school counselors) are trying to assist with.

- a. *Aggression* from students who are transitioning from middle school to junior high is on the rise. Two advisory board members have noticed this in their schools. One has converted a conference room into a “Zen Den” that is used for small group counseling sessions and is shared space with licensed counselors from Counseling Associates. Another member’s school has started days which are focused solely on mental health activities and social emotional learning.
- b. *Health insurance* access for kids who move in from out-of-state has been an issue for another school counselor. The process to get AR Kids is not easy as a parent has to show proof that their old insurance from MO is canceled. Even though they have requested this proof, the process is taking longer than anticipated so there is a child going without their prescriptions and access to mental health care.
- c. *Course selection* and student success planning is required by all students and parents. Assisting with this is time consuming currently and the underclassman class size is large so it will likely take up even more time in the future. Plans to share this duty should be put into place so the workload can be better distributed.