

## UCA School Counseling Advisory Board

Feb. 12, 2024 11 am

Meeting Minutes

**Board Members Present:** Millie Engler, Rebecca Camarigg, Melinda Shuffield, Dr. Odunola Oyeniyi, Dr. Valerie Couture

### I. School Counseling Program

#### a. Adjunct Faculty-

Dr. Couture shared that Mrs. Donna Wilchie, School Counselor at Ida Burns Elementary School, PhD Student, and Advisory Board member is an adjunct faculty member with us.

-Mrs. Wilchie taught Foundations of School Counseling in the Fall and School Counselor as Consultant in the Spring.

A second adjunct instructor we have is Mrs. Susan Whatley who is a School Counselor in the Pulaski County Special School District.

Mrs. Whatley is in her third year of adjuncting with the program teaching Internship II. She does internship school site visits if within a commuting range.

#### b. Recruitment Grant-

Dr. Oyeniyi shared the recruitment grant numbers and the plans for how the School Counseling program will try to recruit more students using social media.

#### c. SPA writing-

Dr. Couture shared that she is writing a SPA report to make sure our program is aligned to ASCA national standards. It is due in September of 2024.

### II. Key Assessment Revisions

#### a. Key Assessment #6 Praxis School Counselor Exam

ETS slightly revised this exam and the new version started Sept 2023. The old version is good for 5 years.

### III. SCCN Advisory Board Members Share

#### a. Impact of the Learns Act?

Two areas were highlighted by board members.

- 1) Community Service Learning Requirement- Board members shared that tracking the hours for each student has taken time and they have learned how to creatively work with the students, faculty, and other stakeholders to make sure they are meeting this requirement.
- 2) Student Success Planning- One of the board members is the only school counselor in her school and she needs to sign off on each student's student

success plan. The students meet with their advisory teacher to create the plan and then the school counselor must review it to sign off. As there are several hundred students in the school this does take extra time.

Both the community service and student success areas have meant more work for the school counselors to make sure they are abiding by the requirements of the Learns Act.

**b. Any other topics board members would like to discuss?**

A question asked was how a graduate with a MS in School Counseling degree can work to become a LAC/LPC. Dr. Couture shared a curriculum crosswalk that has the UCA MS in School Counseling courses and the required LAC/LPC content areas. People can see where the gaps are as 60 graduate credit hours are required for someone to apply for the LAC/LPC. For further information the Arkansas Board of Examiners in Counseling has a website which describes the process to becoming a licensed professional counselor.