The Department of Human Services welcomes Dr. Huma Bashir as our new Department Interim Chair!

Message from the Interim Chair: Welcome to all new and returning students!

WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY IS GOING TO AOCC!

Submitted by Dr. Tara Hill, Ph.D.

The All Ohio Counselor Conference is an annual event sponsored by the Ohio Counseling Association and the Ohio School Counseling Association. Please join your faculty and fellow students in Columbus for some amazing educational sessions and networking. This year, several of our alumni will also be presenting in addition to other Miami Valley professionals. This is a great opportunity to network and get a feel for the highly knowledgeable colleagues are providing for our mental health clients and k-12 students. Here is the link for more information. https://aocc.site/

WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR TO PRESENT AT HICE!

Submitted by Dr. Mary Huber, Ph.D., CRC

Dr. Huber was accepted to present “Bridging the Gap: Building a System of Community-Supported Recovery” at the Hawaii International Conference on Education. The conference is from January 3rd-January 6th, 2022.

Dr. Huber’s presentation is a summary of the effectiveness of a Certified Peer Support (CPS) program, called “Bridging the Gap” (Bridging), an Evidence-Based Practice (EBP), in providing support to women in early recovery from Opioid Use Disorder (OUD)/Substance Use Disorder (SUD). The women recruited were in transition from either a treatment center or from jail/prisons.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT!

Rebecca Kolssak will be graduating this December with her Masters in Clinical Mental Health Counseling alongside the trauma informed care certification. Rebecca is so thankful for the education and mentorship she received from the faculty here,
even if it was occasionally accompanied by sleep deprivation and migraines. 😊 Alongside working with children and adolescents who have experienced trauma, Rebecca is excited to get back to reading for fun and growing plants post-grad. 

**Darrien Wilkerson** will be graduating this December with a Master’s in Clinical Mental Health Counseling and a trauma informed care certificate. He is an CSI Honor Society Member and Vice President of CSI Honor Society as well as being the Practicum & Internship Graduate Assistant. He looks forward to joining an outpatient setting, working with adults and children after graduating.

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### CSI Omega News!

- Expect a faculty panel headed by Dr. Johnson to educate students on how to join professional organizations and conferences! To be scheduled approximately for mid-November.
- In case you graduating students need study help, there is an ongoing NCE study group in Zoom that is open timeframe and open participation via email, ideally on weekends. You can contact Sehar Bokhari (bokhari.2@wright.edu) or Darrien Wilkerson (wilkerson.29@wright.edu) via email for participation.

There is planning in the works for a game themed Zoom meeting, but at the moment the details are tentative. If you want any more information regarding these events, membership, or other CSI Omega related details, please contact the executive members Sehar Bokhari (bokhari.2@wright.edu) or Darrien Wilkerson (wilkerson.29@wright.edu), the faculty advisor Dr. Josh Francis (josh.francis@wright.edu), or check out the national CSI Omega website csi-net.org.

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### New Certificate Coming Soon!

*Submitted by Dr. Josh Francis, Ph.D., LPCC-S, LICDC-CS*

I wanted to provide some information on an exciting addition to the WSU Counseling Programs. Beginning in the Spring of 2022, the department will begin offering a new concentration in Addiction Counseling. The concentration will allow students to earn the educational credits to be eligible to sit for the Licensed Independent Chemical Dependency Counselor (LICDC) exam, in addition to the Licensed Professional Counselor (NCE Exam). Addictions (both chemical/substance and process/behavioral) continue to grow in frequency and complexity, especially in a post COVID pandemic world.

Additionally, most people who struggle with addictions have an underlying mental health disorder, and many people with mental illness turn to addiction for relief from their symptoms, creating a vicious cycle. I feel it is incredibly important to be cross trained in both disciplines to meet the needs of our community, especially if you have an interest in addictions or want to work with vulnerable populations.

Lastly, the additional credentials may also help you stand out to potential employers as you enter the counseling field. Final details are being worked out, and we hope to formalize a new program of study soon. Please contact me if you are interested or want to talk more about this exciting opportunity.