Western Washington University
Graduate Program in Rehabilitation Counseling
Advisory Committee

October 28, 2016
Center for Continuing Education in Rehabilitation - Mountlake Terrace

Minutes

In attendance: Elizabeth Boland, Samit Bordoloi, Dana Brickham, Sheila Burkett-Lucky, Raine Dozier, Jana Finkbonner, Laurie Ford, Beckie Hill, and Eva Larrauri
By phone: Andres Aguirre, Vicki Tesch, J. Paul Vertrees

Minutes: Beth asked committee to review minutes from the May 13, 2016 meeting. The committee had a few changes. If there are any other changes, please send any updates/changes to Monica.

Welcome and Introductions

- Announcements & Welcome
  - Beth announced that the Dean of Woodring College of Education will be leaving at the end of this academic year.

Member Updates:
- UW – Kurt Johnson – no update available.
- CCER (Center for Continuing Education in Rehabilitation) – Kathe Matrone, Laurie Ford, & Eva Larrauri
  - The NW ADA has been very busy and they are very excited to have the ADA grant refunded for another 5 years. 15% of the grant will be devoted to research and they will focus on accessible healthcare. They are in the process of determining who their partners in the project will be and they are hoping to start in January. The goal of the project will be to disseminate material to hospitals, clinics, and medical providers so that they are aware of the law and the barriers for individuals with disabilities to access healthcare.
  - They are in the process of contracting with Idaho DSB and WA DVR to complete parts of their comprehensive needs assessments. This will include surveys, key informant interviews, and other types of data collection to learn more about the current needs for State VR services for individuals with disabilities in the states in the next few years. They are trying to determine if they should hire a full-time person to assist with this process.
  - There is a regional VR meeting at the end of November.
  - They are in the process of developing a few training series. One will be a series of master-class webinars on clinical practice. In the fall, they are also going to develop webinars on working with people with autism, TBI, and criminal justice involvement. In spring, they will develop 3 more webinars on non-disability, clinical-related topics to be identified.
  - They are working with the University of Arkansas to develop training for VR supervisors. The goal is to put together a webinar series that would be marketed nationally. Laurie mentioned that one part of the webinar would include how to supervise clinical interns.
- In August, they worked with the WA Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery to put on a conference for all their employment staff.
- In September, they had a TBI Symposium in the Tri-cities.
- They have received several inquiries regarding the ADA survey. The Hawaii Department of Corrections would like assistance in conducting a survey of their prison system to make it inclusive and accessible. They also might consult with Oregon’s Department of Corrections as well.
- The ADA Symposium will be in Chicago in May 2017.
- They are working on the TBI Knowledge Translation grant with the WA Department of Corrections to create a training curriculum for their staff to understand TBI for those incarcerated.

- **Idaho DVR – Vicki Tesch**
  - Idaho DVR has been busy with WIOA. They just complete three regional 1-day in-services throughout the state with the focus on WIOA.
  - They are developing a training for sub-minimum wage to provide to CRPs.
  - They do not currently have any positions but she anticipates some in 2017.

- **OVRS (Oregon Vocational Rehabilitation Services) – Sheila Hoover – no update available**

- **WA DSB (Department of Services for the Blind) – Sheila Burkett-Luckey**
  - Counselors are also wondering how they are going to provide direct service with all the required documentation.
  - This past year they had 165 successful closures with a median salary of $20/hour.
  - They are in the 2nd year of their strategic plan that includes reaching out to the WorkSource development centers and determining how to work together more.
  - They have hired three transitions specialists to work with the pre-ETS population.
  - They will have a youth employment summit in Seattle this summer and they are hoping to have another one in eastern WA in the future.
  - The regional area manager in the Seattle office is retiring in December and they have hired her replacement. A counselor in the Tacoma office is retiring in January and a counselor in the Seattle office is relocating to Tacoma, so there will be an opening in Seattle.
  - An RC student will begin her internship with Sheila in January. Sheila has done three informational interviews for current RC students.

- **WA DVR – Andres Aguirre and J. Paul Vertrees**
  - WA general program has hired a temporary project manager to assist with the implementation of different projects associated with WIOA. The first project is with the pre-employment transition services and the changes associated with section 511.
  - They hired a new Training Coordinator (Derek Trubia). He will be at the next coalition meeting in Vancouver at the end of November.
  - They recently hired some Transition Coordinators and they are led by the Transition Manager, Lori Magnuson.
  - DVR submitted a proposal for a reclassification associated with their VRC series. It has gone through the collective bargaining process but they are waiting to see if the legislators will finalize it. The reclassification would allow DVR to hire someone in a VRC 1 position that just has a BA but will be in training and get a MA within 2 years. VRC 2 would also be an in-training position allowing the individual to secure the necessary experience. The journeyman position would be a VRC 3 and the leads would become VRC 4’s.
The State Office is completing a final review of the State Regs. Once completed they will move into some projects that will include rewriting the WA Administrative Codes and revising their customer service manual.

- **Veterans Affairs – Karolyn Hannem – no update available**

- **Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation – Jana Finkbonner**
  - WA State Tribes met with DVR and DSB and are in the processing of signing their MOU for the year.
  - They have staff who are participating in the TVR institute with NWIC and WWU.
  - The CANAR conference will be Nov 8-10 near San Diego.
  - They are waiting for guidance from RSA regarding WIOA.
  - Their staff have been participating in various trainings.
  - Kim Conners is the new executive director of the SILC and their Regs have just come out.

- **Private Rehabilitation – Cathy Cottingham - no update available**

- **Community Rehabilitation Providers – Kathy Powers – no update available**

- **WWU HCS/WCE – Raine Dozier**
  - Raine discussed the Dean search for Woodring College of Education. They would love to see someone who has a background in human services but the need for a background in education for accreditation is so important.
  - The University and College have been engaged in a strategic plan that is due in June.
  - Raine is excited for new faculty members and several faculty are up for tenure/promotion.

- **WWU Human Services Program – Samit Bordoloi**
  - Samit is excited for the new Assistant Professor in the Human Services program. He has a community psychology background and he was a non-traditional college student.

- **NWIC BA in CARE in Human Services – Greg Mahle - no update available**

- **Alumni – Eva Larrauri**
  - Eva continues to have alumni reach out to her with questions.
  - Beth thanked both Eva and Sheila for continuing to be willing to work with students through informational interviews.

- **RC Students – Beckie Hill**
  - Beckie has enjoyed interacting with the 1st year students. The 2nd year students are hoping to have a get-together with the 1st year students to encourage communication between classes.
  - Beckie talked about their mid-year evaluations that happened during summer quarter.
  - Students have appreciated having the opportunity to meet with Dana regarding practicum and internship.
  - Beckie talked about how the students have appreciated how the instructors have been flexible and tried to adjust to the needs of the students.
  - The 2nd year students are also thinking about what is next after graduation.
Students are meeting the first week of each month to discuss the creation of a student ARCA club in the RC program.

**Program Discussion**

- **Update on Students**
  - Beth discussed the Student Summary Handout and the New Student Survey Results.

- **Program Evaluation Review**
  - Beth asked the committee to review the RC Mission & Objectives. The committee did not have any changes at this time.
  - Beth also highlighted the current Plan of Study (Curriculum). Beth and Dana are excited to have an integrated Theory and Practice class in winter and spring (previously Theory was taught in winter and Practice was taught in spring). With the upcoming change in accreditation, the curriculum will likely be changing.
  - Beth presented the results from Graduate Survey and highlighted the responses from summer/fall 2016 graduates.
  - Beth presented the 2015-2016 Program Evaluation Report.
    - She mentioned that she and Dana are using a new rubric for the Comprehensive exam. If any of the committee would like to review the rubric, please contact Beth.
  - Program recognition, support & resources:
    - Beth mentioned that she feels that the program has support from the graduate school, college, and department. She is interested to see how the change in Dean will affect the program.
    - Beth, Raine, and Dana will be meeting with the Dean in a few weeks to discuss changes that will happen with the CORE/CACREP change.

- **Update on Practicum**
  - Dana gave an update on practicum placements for winter. Dana thanked Paul and Rob for their help in assisting the placement of students in DVR offices.

- **RSA Scholarship Update**
  - We currently have 10 students on the grant.
  - Beth recently attended some RSA meetings at the recent NCRE conference and is continuing to understand what types of positions would qualify for the work requirement after graduation. She also learned that there are no new competitions for scholarship funds this year.

- **CORE/CACREP Update**
  - There will be new standards for CACREP coming out. In the CACREP standards there are 5 sections and section 5 is the specialty standard that will be what distinguishes rehabilitation counselors from other types of counselors.
  - With the CACREP accreditation change, Beth highlighted a few areas of change:
    - The need for space where students can meet with a client and be observed by faculty.
• The increase of credit hours from 72 to 90 quarter credit hours. She is not sure when it will be required but it would be helpful to start planning for this change now as there is a very high likelihood that it will be required in the future.
• There will be the need to have 3 full-time, tenure-track faculty positions and non-tenure-track faculty cannot teach more hours than tenure-track faculty.
• There will be a need to have a minimum of 10 clock-hours in one academic term of group counseling and group work experience.
• During Practicum or Internship, students must have the experience of leading or co-leading a counseling or psycho-educational group.
• CACREP has very specific requirements for site supervisors for Practicum and Internship. These requirements include that supervisors must have a minimum of a MA degree (preferable in counseling or a related profession), relevant licenses or certifications, a minimum of 2 years of pertinent professional experience in the specialty area in which the student is enrolled, knowledge of the program’s expectations/requirements, and relevant training in counselor supervision.
  o Beth encouraged members to comment when the call for the second round of feedback for the standards comes out.
  o The CORE board is meeting in May to finalize standards.
  o There is a taskforce to look at infusing disability into all sections of the standards. This will be for the next standards revision in 2023 (work will likely begin in 2019).

Next Meeting – Monica will send out a Doodle Poll to help schedule the next meeting.