Counseling Advisory Committee

December 3, 2019

Members Present: Thomas Foster, Denise Walker, Rima Jaber, and Michael Schmit

Yolanda Dupre and Erika Schmit were not in attendance

Committee Meeting was called to order at 3:05pm by Thomas Foster, Program Director

Agenda

1. Greetings and Introductions – All present members provided an introduction, background and ULM affiliation. Michael Schmit was welcomed.
2. Short history of the program – Provided by Thomas Foster
3. Events and changes of the last year
   1. Faculty turnover and new faculty – Discussed the resigning of Julius Austin, Cynthia Matthews, and Denise Gilstrap. Rima provided insight regarding the student’s experience of faculty turnover. Discussion was held amongst the committee regarding possible solutions in terms of reclassification of staffing titles/duties, remote positions, etc.
   2. CACREP self-study, addendum, and site visit – Update on the self-study was provided with a tentative schedule of receiving feedback from CACREP during the spring semester of 2020. Addendums of the school counseling standards were discussed.
   3. Format change proposals
      1. Online vs onsite/online – Thomas provided insight regarding the change of format in 2012 from face-to-face to online. Discussion about meetings with administration to propose the addition onsite component back to the program was also detailed. At this moment, no final decision has been made about the administration’s decision.
   4. Counseling Clinic and grant – Update about the rationale for grant submission was discussed. If the grant is awarded, then the discussion about the format revision of the format will continue. Proposal regarding a Master’s level or Doctoral student/candidate holding the position of Clinic Director with the teaching responsibilities of practicum/internship courses and managing the clinic.
   5. Program direction
      1. Addictions track – Michael informed the committee that the previous addictions track was CACREP accredited. Committee was in agreement of pursuing an addictions track accreditation with the suggestions of piloting some of the courses that are on record to gauge student interest.
      2. New electives – Addiction track elective possibly added.
   6. Admissions policies and procedures – Cohort format and Spring admissions presented as opposed to the twice per year admission dates.
   7. Internship policies and procedures – Creation of the MOU/application to assist in organizing and streamlining the process of students entering practicum and internship. Rima Jaber serving as the Asst. Clinical Coordinator alongside Thomas Foster as the Clinical Coordinator. There has been evidence of success with the new implementation of MOU process.
   8. Faculty lines – Previously discussed in Faculty turnover and new faculty
   9. Summer workshop – Outline of the history and purpose of the summer workshop was provided.
   10. Organizational modifications and web development - Tabled
   11. Graduate assistants – Program currently has two Graduate Assistants, one serving in the Assistant Clinical Coordinator position. One position will now be paid from the Dean’s budget.
4. Goals for next year – This was tabled due to committee member needing to leave the meeting
   1. CACREP site visit and re-accreditation
   2. Hire new faculty line(s)
   3. CAEP accreditation
5. Discussion and Conclusion – Meeting was closed at 4:23pm by Thomas Foster. Members were informed that the next meeting would occur during the 2020-2021 school year with members holding 2 year terms.