I am honored to have served as Chair for the past five and a half years and would like to take this opportunity to reflect on some of my experiences and to share with you some of our successes. Foremost, I’d like to recognize my colleagues who trusted me to lead the Department and who gave their support and commitment to the various initiatives we’ve pursued during my tenure. To each of you, I offer a heartfelt ‘thank you’. I also am deeply indebted to Becky Karas, our Office Manager, and Denise Montgomery, our Academic Program Specialist, for always being there, ensuring that deadlines were met and keeping track of all the minute details required to run an academic Department. When I assumed the role of Chair in 2002, I had no idea how significantly this position would enhance my involvement with students. This has been one of the most rewarding aspects of serving as Chair. Over the last couple of years I have worked very closely with the SOS Club and Alumni Society in planning activities (Orientation, End of the Year Banquet), and attending events (Canoeing down the Ocklawaha River, Relay for Life and the annual Halloween Party). Moreover, I have had the privilege of working with a series of phenomenal Graduate Assistants (Lisa Bright, Milton Moss, Mya Schmitz, Barb Lo Frisco, Brucie De Alejo) as well as our current G.A.’s, Lisa Rubino and Julia Stenzel. Indeed, as I look back, these relationships will hold a very special place in my heart.

Over the past five and a half years our Department has achieved a number of accomplishments, which I am pleased to share; they include:

- A 40% increase in our Departmental operating budget;
- Doubled our certificate programs to include: Certificate in Rehabilitation Technology and Certificate in Behavioral Health Counseling;
- Major expansion of our program on the Sarasota campus;
- Establishment of the Calvin M. Pinkard Scholarship, which was awarded to Christina McFarland, Fall 2007;
- Co-Sponsored three training conferences: 2004 - Functional Limitations of Psychiatric Disabilities; 2004 - Weaving Therapeutic Realities (MFT Conference); 2002 - From Evaluation to Placement;
- Established ‘The Counseling Clipboard’ - our departmental newsletter;
- Reinstated our student organization - The SOS Club;
- Became an Approved Provider for the State of Florida 491 Board (LCSW, LMFT, LMHC);
- Became an Approved Provider for Commission on Rehabilitation Counseling Certification (CRC);

I’d like to conclude by quoting one of my favorite scriptures; Psalms 37:23 states in part that “the steps of a good man/woman are ordered by God.” I believe this to be true and am thus abundantly blessed to have had my steps ordered across the path of many of you. Many thanks.

Dr. Charlotte Dixon
Dr. Tennyson Wright Appointed as Department Chair

The Department of Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling is pleased to announce that Dr. Tennyson Wright will transition into the position of Department Chair beginning December 20, 2007. Currently, he is Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Studies.

Dr. Wright states, “It’s an honor to be recommended by my colleagues, and appointed by Dean Skvoretz, to become the new chair of the Department. I have a lot to learn as chair and I want to thank Dr. Dixon, Becky Karas and Denise Montgomery, in advance, for guiding me through the early stages of my transition into this important role in the Department. Also, I want to acknowledge the outstanding job that Dr. Dixon has done during her tenure as chair, and I wish her continued success as she pursues her research, teaching and service interests. And last but not least, I’m excited about working more closely with our students, faculty, staff and the community. I welcome your input and look forward to communicating with you regarding issues of importance to all of us. Thank you.”

Addictions and Substance Abuse Certificate

Dr. Theo Carroll has accepted the position of Coordinator of our Graduate Certificate Program in Addictions and Substance Abuse Counseling (ASAC). This Certificate is currently being updated so that it is consistent with the revised Addiction Counseling Competencies (2006) that are identified by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. As the field of addictions counseling has become more specialized, the need for qualified substance abuse professionals continues to increase. Over the past few years interest in the ASAC certificate has grown significantly and we are responding with a revised curriculum which should be ready for implementation in Summer or Fall of 2008. Course availability is based on student interest and therefore, interested persons should submit an application to http://www.outreach.usf.edu/gradcerts/ as soon as possible in order to gauge student demand and schedule classes.

For more information contact Dr. Theo Carroll at 941-412-3947.

P.S. By the time you read this Dr. Carroll will have competed in her fifth Ironman Triathlon - this one at Panama City Florida, on November 3rd. An Ironman includes a 2.4 mile swim, followed by a 112 mile bike ride, and topped off with a marathon (26.2 miles).

“Life itself still remains a very effective therapist.”
—Karen Horney
Rehabilitation & Mental Health Graduate named ADA Coordinator for the Office of Diversity and Equal Opportunity at USF

Spring 1993 graduate, Raquel Peverini, recently took the position of ADA Coordinator for USF’s Office of Diversity and Equal Opportunity. She holds a Bachelor’s degree in Psychology and began her graduate work at USF through a grant scholarship for individuals who are minorities in the rehabilitation counseling field. The grant scholarship required Raquel to maintain a strong GPA, fulfill a set course load, and required her to commit to working for a not for profit agency. Raquel described her experience in the Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling Program as “absolutely incredible.”

Upon graduation, Raquel accepted a job offer at Abilities of Florida, where she worked for a total of six years. She began as a Job Coach, then became Manager of Placement Services, and also worked as a Case Manager for adults with Cystic Fibrosis. Raquel continued to advance professionally and went on to obtain work in the Mental Health Counseling arena, counseling perpetrators of domestic violence. She also worked at Family Service Centers in a program for juvenile sex offenders. Before accepting the job of ADA Coordinator at USF, Raquel worked at the Advocacy Center for Persons with Disabilities, an agency designated by the government as not-for-profit. There, she advocated for families with children who have disabilities and are in the public school system. The last job Raquel held before officially beginning employment at USF was for Cascade Disability Management, a company that deals with worker’s compensation cases.

At USF, Raquel’s responsibilities include ensuring that the University is in compliance with the stipulations set forth by the Americans with Disabilities Act. Specifically, Raquel ascertains that transportation services, the website, and human resources are operating according to ADA regulations. The Department of Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling congratulates Raquel on attaining the position of ADA Coordinator for the Office of Diversity and Equal Opportunity at USF, and is proud to have a graduate of the program in such a notable position.

1989 Graduate Ruth A. Fanning Promoted to Director of Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment Service at VA

Ruth A. Fanning, 1989 graduate of the program, was selected as the Director of the Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Service in August 2007. Ms. Fanning began her career working in the private sector rehabilitation field, in the mental health field, and in the banking industry. Ms. Fanning also worked in St. Petersburg for a period of twelve years, as the Assistant VR&E Officer, A Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor, and a Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist.

As the Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Officer (VR&E), she led the VR&E Division to become the top performing office, leading the nation by rehabilitating over 700 veterans in the 2005 fiscal year. Prior to her new appointment as the Director of the Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Service, Ms. Fanning worked in the Cleveland Regional Office as the Acting Director and Assistant Director.

As the Director of VR&E Services, she provides effective vocational rehabilitation services to veterans with service-related disabilities, thus, enabling our injured veterans to seamlessly transition from military service to a successful rehabilitation, and on to suitable employment after service to our country.

Alumni News by Mark Olivere

In May, approximately ten alumni and friends had a pot-luck get-together at my home in Sarasota. I think that all would agree that it was a relaxing, entertaining, and educational evening. It was a joy to see some familiar faces and a pleasure to meet other alumni. We talked of our experiences at USF and about the work that we are now doing, as well as ways to develop our practices. Ann White provided a summary of the work that her agency, Youth and Family Alternatives, Inc., is doing; very helpful and encouraging information as the services are much needed. I was very pleased that Melinda Masters of Organic CEUs was kind enough to give us a one-hour presentation, "Brief Assessment and Treatment of Couples with Sexual Problems". As you might expect, there were a lot of questions and answers, and a lively discussion! As an added bonus, we were able to get one free CEU, compliments of Melinda! Thanks are due to Ann White and Valorie Hoppenworth for their help in bringing welcome additions to the meal.
**Student News**

**Congratulations Graduates!**

The Department of Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling wishes fulfillment and success in the journey ahead!

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**Announcements**

**Engagements:**

- **Brie-Anna Tyrrell** will marry on March 8, 2008
- **Jaime Mills** will marry on April 19, 2008
- **Tina Perry** will marry on August 2, 2008

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"You cannot teach a man anything. You can only help him discover it within himself.” —Galileo Galilei

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"At the touch of love everyone becomes a poet.” —Plato
Two New Books in Writing Stage

This fall the faculty’s scholarship activities have included some specific research, writing and copy editing – as of the deadline for this edition of the newsletter two new books are being written.

Under contract from Charles C. Thomas, Publisher, a new edition of a popular and highly regarded professional book is being written by three faculty members:

**Employee Assistance Programs: Wellness/Enhancement Programming**  
4th Edition


As we all know, Dr. Richard and Dr. Emener are in the Department of Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling and Dr. Hutchison is recently retired from the USF School of Social Work. The 3rd Edition was highly touted in the EAP professional world and the 4th Edition is expected to be reveled equally so.

Another book expected to be in the bookstore by next fall is being written by one of the Department’s faculty members and one of its former students:

**Adult Loving Relationships, 2nd Edition**

Written by William G. Emener and William A. Lambos

As most of us know, Dr. Lambos is a Partner and Psychologist at Cognitive Neuro Sciences, Inc. & the Center for Rational Living, in Tampa, and also is an adjunct faculty member of the Department. Dr. Emener and Dr. Lambos have a contract from Nova Science Publishers for the 2nd Edition, and all indications are that with the revisions, updates and additions in the 2nd Edition, the book is expected to be a top shelf, cutting edge textbook/self-help book.

The next time the Department’s graduate seminar – “Employee Assistance Programs” – is offered, it will be wonderful to have Dr. Richard, et al’s new, cutting edge text. If the publication schedule holds, moreover, when Dr. Emener teaches his graduate course next fall – “Marriage and Couples Counseling” – students will have the opportunity of using his and Dr. Bill Lambos’ newly published book.

News from Dr. DuDell

The past summer was a very full and rich semester for the Behavioral Health Counseling Certificate program. The weekend intensive course, Introduction to Mind/Body Approaches, was a delight. I’m particularly grateful to all of the guest presenters who volunteered their weekend “free” time to share their expertise with the class. I also want to thank all of the students - each of you, in your own way, took some risks and went beyond your comfort zone. And bravo to everyone for trying acupuncture!

The Principles of Change course was very successful as well. Many of the reaction papers and comments reflected a heightened awareness of just how complex behavioral and attitudinal change can be. Successful change requires skill, inner structure, and mindfulness. I’m pleased this course provided useful concepts and techniques for long-term change. I’m appreciative for the time and energy you put into your personal change projects.

I believe the courses offered in the certificate program enlarge upon your overall graduate education both in terms of clinical skills and personal awareness. These courses are applicable to almost any population or treatment setting. Students gain “hands on” tools and experiences for one of the fastest growing fields in health care.

Of note: I’d like to send a special congratulation to Nicole Lambert who’ll be the first graduate of the certificate program this December.
SOS is a student organization dedicated to serving the community, the students, and the Department. It is a great opportunity to get to know one another and to get involved at USF. Students have the advantage of gaining experience with a service club, which may benefit them in their future endeavors.

Currently, SOS is "Calling on you" to give! SOS is collecting cell phones, pagers, PDAs, Blackberries, and cameras until the end of the semester. These items will be recycled to raise funds to provide additional services and resources to children in Hillsborough County who are victims of violence, abuse, or neglect. In addition to raising funds, some of the phones are turned into 911 phones for victims.

Recently, SOS club members walked for the American Heart Association’s Heart Walk at Raymond James Stadium. As a club, we raised $750.

This holiday season, SOS is also participating in Borders Holiday Gift-Wrapping to help our club raise money for Relay for Life. The American Cancer Society’s Relay For Life® is an event that brings together the whole community and helps raise funds for the fight against cancer. At the event, members will camp out overnight, walk around the track, and meet lots of new people. There is an incredible tribute to cancer survivors and caregivers that starts off the night, and a moving ceremony honoring those who have fought the disease. We can truly say Relay is unlike anything else you'll ever do. It's a night full of fun, hope, and remembrance.

2007/2008 SOS Officers:

President: Stacy Wharton  
swarton@mail.usf.edu
Vice President: M. Lisa Rubino  
rubino2@mail.usf.edu
Treasurer: Katie Cavallaro  
ktvacs@yahoo.com
Secretary: Julia J. Stenzel  
sos_usf@yahoo.com

Please feel free to contact the SOS officer(s) with any questions about the club, or any of the upcoming events. To sign up for Relay for Life, contact President, Stacy Wharton, at swharton@mail.usf.edu. Also, SOS is happy to hear your ideas for future community service projects and to accept any donations for our current and future community service projects. Thanks in advance!

Calvin M. Pinkard Scholarship

Please join us in congratulating Christina McFarland, who was awarded the Calvin M. Pinkard scholarship during the Fall 2007 Orientation Meeting. Christina is a second year student and former Graduate Assistant for the Department. The Calvin M. Pinkard Scholarship was established in 2003 in honor of Dr. Pinkard who founded the Rehabilitation counseling program in the early 70s.

Chi Sigma Iota

Students in our department are invited to join Chi Sigma Iota Delta Gamma Chapter. Chi Sigma Iota is the international honor society for students, counselors, and counselor educators. Benefits of the organization include professional development opportunities, community service and outreach, social events, networking, and scholarship. In order to qualify, students must have completed at least one semester of full time graduate coursework, earning a grade point average of 3.5 or better. To join, go to Chi Sigma Iota’s website at http://www.csi-net.org and click “Membership”, then “New Member Application.” The chapter advisor is Dr. Michelle Mitcham-Smith. Dues for the first year are $35.

In Memoriam
~ Glenn Baruch ~

Glenn Edward Baruch, 55, of Tampa, died March 10, 2007. Glenn earned a Master of Arts degree in counseling from the University of South Florida. Glenn Baruch was a nationally board certified and licensed mental health counselor in private practice as a psychotherapist. Prior to his career as a therapist, Glenn had extensive experience in the business world, having earned a Master of Business Administration degree from the College of William and Mary and having worked for more than 10 years as a management consultant and real estate developer. Glenn is survived by his son, Jason; daughter-in-law, Brittany; granddaughter, Mallory; mother, Ilene; sister, Andrea; brother, Don; and many other loving family members and friends.
The Department of Rehabilitation & Mental Health Counseling Welcomes Fulbright Scholar

Our Department is pleased to welcome new student and Fulbright Scholar, Jhanille Brooks, from Jamaica. The Fulbright Scholarship is issued by the U.S. Department of State to bring students from around the world to the United States to receive an education. The purpose of the Scholarship is to promote international diversity and collaboration. Scholars may pursue Doctoral degrees, Master’s degrees, or conduct research. Individuals considered for the Fulbright Scholarship must meet certain criteria. They must be achievement oriented, give back to their community, have passion for their country, and have a desire to return to their country to impart their knowledge.

The panel that chose Jhanille consisted of past Fulbright Scholars and two members of the U.S. Embassy in Jamaica. Thirty Jamaican students were nominated and the list was narrowed to six students, who were then interviewed. Three students were selected from Jamaica. Jhanille was honored to be chosen as one of them, and was excited for the opportunity of continuing her education in another country. Currently, USF educates Fulbright Scholars representing such countries as Bangladesh, Iraq, Barbados, and Malaysia.

When one reflects on Jhanille’s background and accomplishments, it is clear why she was chosen as one of three students to represent Jamaica as a Fulbright Scholar. In high school, she committed her time to community service and was involved in a service to feed the poor and the homeless with the Interact club, a Christmas toy drive for kids, visiting children in a children’s hospital, as well as service work for her church. At her church, she worked in the nursery and taught Sunday school. During college, she was a volunteer telephone counselor, and she taught a dance group. She also taught kindergarten for one year prior to her arrival in Tampa. Jhanille stated, “I knew I wanted to be a counselor since my last year of college.”

Presently, Jhanille is enjoying the Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling program greatly, and is impressed by the large USF Tampa campus. The class that she is enjoying the most this semester is Substance Abuse. Jhanille is considering getting a certificate in Behavioral Health Counseling. The Department of Rehab & Mental Health Counseling is proud to have such a well-rounded student in the program and looks forward to watching her succeed.

Doctor’s Corner: Fine Book Selections

Dr. DuDell recommends:
♦ Radical Acceptance by Tara Brach
♦ After the Affair: Healing the Pain and Rebuilding Trust When a Partner Has Been Unfaithful by Dr. Janis Abrahms Spring

Dr. Emener recommends:
♦ The Five Love Languages: How to Express Heartfelt Commitment to Your Mate by Dr. Gary Chapman
♦ The Five Love Languages: Men’s Edition by Dr. Gary Chapman

Dr. Otto recommends:

Dr. Weinberg recommends:
♦ The Language of Change by Paul Watzlawick

Dr. Wright Recommends:

“We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give.”
--Winston Churchill
Mission Statement

The mission of the Department of Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling is to promote quality services for individuals with differences in abilities and to help the state meet its human service needs in the areas of rehabilitation and mental health through teaching, research, and service.

“The only person who is educated is the one who has learned how to learn and change.”

—Carl Rogers