

2022 Academic Program Review External Review Report

Department of Counselor Education

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Part 1: Overview

A. Degree Programs by Level

Bachelor's (BA): None

Master's (MA): Master's of Education - Clinical Mental Health Counseling
Master's of Education - Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling
Master's of Education - School Counseling

Doctoral (Ph.D.): Counseling

B. Summary of Visit

- is currently undergoing re-accreditation.
2. Approximately around the time of the previous academic program review , the department hired three faculty members that have contributed extensively to elevating the program through research, service, and teaching. The two new faculty hires will be replacement hires for faculty that have retired since the previous academic program review.
 3. The entire department's programs at the Master's and Doctoral levels are also currently undergoing re-accreditation, with their self-study portion of the process concluding in May, 2022. The accrediting body, CACREP, will be conducting a site visit in Spring of 2023, and meeting in Summer of 2023 to determine re-accreditation.
 4. Despite multiple competing programs in the area, the department's accreditation by CACREP elevates their degree programs above competing programs in the region.
 5. The department developed a comprehensive mission statement driven by three overarching goals to accomplish its mission
 - a. The mission statement is:
 - b. The three goals to achieve this mission are creating an ethically-informed professional identity; carrying out a disciplined scholarly inquiry and research agenda; and a commitment to efficacious professional service.
 6. A large portion of the academic program review report discusses the establishment of student learning outcomes (SLOs) to ensure that the program is meeting and/or exceeding its obligation to accrediting bodies, the State of Florida, FAU, and its students in terms of the provision of education. The program has an extensive evaluation process of SLOs at the master's and doctoral levels. Their process is multifaceted and addresses all the critical curricular, practice, and dispositional standards we (as a profession) look for in an emerging counselor/counselor educator.

Part 2: Findings

A. Strengths

1. Faculty/staff/student interaction and research opportunities
 - a. The level of interaction appears to be extremely high and positive within the department.
 - b. Students discussed multiple research opportunities with multiple professors, enabling them to better understand their coursework and pathways to professions and research.
 - c. Adjuncts also discussed continuing research with faculty and/or collaborating on new research with faculty.
2. Students discussed the program as being extremely supportive and having a very connected cohort. One major theme discussed multiple times revolved around the opportunities for developing and/or expanding leadership abilities in multiple courses and experiences.
3. Training grant
 - a. Creates community engagement by strengthening connections to the community between FAU, Counseling Education, and addressing community mental needs.
4. Highly involved with professional organizations and editorships, without any financial or related compensation such as course releases.
5. The Early Career Academy sponsored by the Division of Research is extremely helpful in fostering the ability to pursue and write grant proposals.
6. Faculty credit for chairing dissertations creates an incentive to chair and ensure that students graduate to get compensation.
7. Great reputation – 90 quality applicants with minimal recruitment competing for 18 spots in their CMHC program.
8. Every single group we interviewed mentioned the amazing work done by Mikeala Kursell to make sure everything runs smoothly between faculty, students, and adjuncts within the program.
9. Many of the faculty have obtained tenure and promotion at FAU, demonstrating long-term

stability of the faculty and the program. Additionally, the department's faculty as a whole are the most research-productive and grant-

