



M.C.P. PERSPECTIVE

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Benedictine University

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Illinois house bill 514 passes and is effective immediately

A bill supported by the Illinois Education Association, the Illinois Federation of Teachers, the Illinois School Counselors Association, the Illinois Counseling Association, and the Illinois Mental Health Counselors Association that removes the requirement for school counselors to possess a teaching certificate passed unanimously and was put into effect on July 10, 2003.

The bill will allow more students access to school counselor services, an area of top shortage as reported in the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) 2002 Annual Report. Current trends show that the existing shortage will escalate within the next five to ten years when numerous retirements in the field will occur.

This bill provides the authority to the ISBE and the Teacher Certification Board (TCB) to draft rules that would allow school counselor certification without obtaining an Illinois teaching certificate. It also allows the ISBE and the TCB to set rules for those certified counselors from other states to be certified in Illinois. Counselors, who have a master's degree in counseling and equivalent or greater educational training that meets the current state requirements for school counselors, would be eligible for the state type 73 school counselor certificate after passing the ISBE School Counselor Examination.

The reasons for the change are numerous. In addition to the expected continued shortage for these positions, the state saw that 42 other states have removed the

teaching certificate requirement, school social workers and school psychologists are not required to have a teaching certificate, and the state is ranked 47th nationally in its ratio of students to counselors. The national average is 500 to one; Illinois is 700 to one.

Although the ISBE website has not been updated to reflect the amended certificate requirements, those interested in the educational requirements can view them at the ISBE website under the "Divisions" category. The website can be found at www.isbe.state.il.us/divisions.htm.

What do we live for if it is not to make life less difficult for each other?
-George Eliot

IMPORTANT DATES

- September 2
Application for December 2003 graduation due
- September 29
Fall classes begin
- November 14
Last day to drop fall classes (before eighth class meeting)
- November 17
FP evaluations due
Intent forms due
- November 27-30
No classes; all offices closed
- December 5
Application for March 2004 graduation due
- December 7
Fall term ends
- December 8
Winter incompletes due
- December 24-25
Christmas Holiday; all offices closed
- December 31
Fall degree conferral

M.C.P. department announces new forms





Annual spring brunch takes a successful new twist

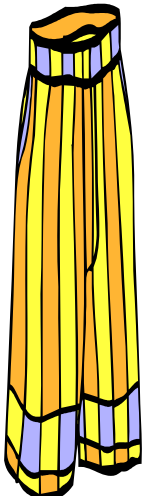
The department held its annual spring brunch on May 3rd, 2003. It was agreed to do something a little different this year. In the past, the event provided time of fellowship and food for students, graduate assistants, and various areas of interest. This year, in addition to honoring graduates, we invited some of our placement sites, previous attendees, and gave brief informational presentations about their placement opportunities. We also honored them with a certificate of appreciation for their hard work and support of our student interns. Because of the overwhelming interest expressed by students and supervisors for this opportunity to meet and discuss fieldwork experiences, we will be inviting the field placement site supervisors to this event each year. Watch the newsletter and journal for further information.

2003-2004 schedules prepared and available in department

In response to student feedback and suggestions, the department has been busy preparing a course schedule that publishes out for two years. This schedule is available as a planning tool and will be used in advising. The schedule indicates whether the course will be offered in day, evening or weekend course formats. The schedule is complete through summer 2005. We do want to caution that due to circumstances beyond the department's control there may be some adjustments to the schedule, but for the most part students can rely on it to do some long range planning.

For the 2003-2004 academic year, the department has created schedules with days and times through summer 2004. These will be used for planning purposes only. Students will not be able to register for any temporary to the schedule being posted on Banner Live. These schedules are available in the department office.

In addition, we have added classes to the schedule, specifically we will offer MP 60, MP 65, MP 63 and MP 61 twice a year instead of once. This is designed to create smaller class sizes and to accommodate student scheduling concerns. We believe this will improve the quality of learning for our students.



Redecline Briefs

- The department has submitted an application to the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation (IDPR) to become an approved program of the IDPR. Once we have obtained this status, our graduates will experience a streamlined licensure application process. We are advised that this approval will take an number of months, so we will keep you posted and hope to make the next announcement soon.
- Please give the department office your current e-mail address if you haven't done so. We send out faculty notices, reminders and via e-mail. If we don't have your address, you aren't missing out!
- When emailing faculty, please identify your subject with a course number or your name. Using something like "Hi" may cause your email to be deleted without being read.



MCP announces new format on the web

The MCP program received significant national attention when it was recently accepted for membership by the Council for Applied Master's Programs in Psychology (CAMP). Membership in CAMP means that Brockport's MCP program will meet or exceed a series of rigorous requirements that rank it among the best graduate psychology programs in the nation.

MCP program approved by CAMP

"Our goal is to improve the quality of education at the master's level, and that all programs meet our membership criteria," said Dr. Jan Dier, professor of psychology at the University of West Florida and chairperson of the CAMP Executive Committee.

CAMP also strives to increase the confidence of the professional psychology community in the education and training of master's level clinicians by establishing general standards of education and training, encouraging and helping training programs meet those standards, and certifying compliance with those standards.

CAMP also seeks to make the public aware of these standards and advocates membership in the program to the professional psychology community.

"We are delighted to be accepted for membership in this organization," said Margaret Salyer, academic and field placement advisor in the graduate department of Psychology. "The organization (CAMP) holds master's level clinical psychology programs to very high standards both for design and content."

Figuring out who you are is the whole point of the luncheon experience.

Ann Quiden



Graduation requirements are defined in graduate catalog

The M.C.P. department would like to reiterate the coursework requirements for graduation as defined in the graduate catalog. All coursework with a grade below “C” must be repeated for the course to apply toward graduation and/or certificate requirements. Courses designated as foundation courses, in the M.C.P. program that would be all courses listed on page one of the Departmental Guidelines, require a grade of “B” or higher to apply toward graduation or certificate requirements. This is not a new policy, but it is one that has been surrounded by some confusion. If you have any questions in regard to this policy, please contact Margie Salyer at (630) 829-6235.

Winter and spring registration and billing details announced

Associate Provost David Sonnenberger recently announced that graduate course registration for winter and spring 2004 will begin in mid-October. Students can verify when registration begins by checking the Ben U Live web page. All courses for graduate classes will be posted there as registration begins. Sonnenberger also announced that courses in the graduate and adult undergraduate format will not be billed until the class starts. Billing previously occurred at term start rather than course start. This is particularly significant for students enrolling in weekend courses that do not begin until some weeks into the quarter.

Fortunately psychoanalysis is not the only way to resolve inner conflicts. Life itself still remains a very effective therapist.

? **Karen Horney**