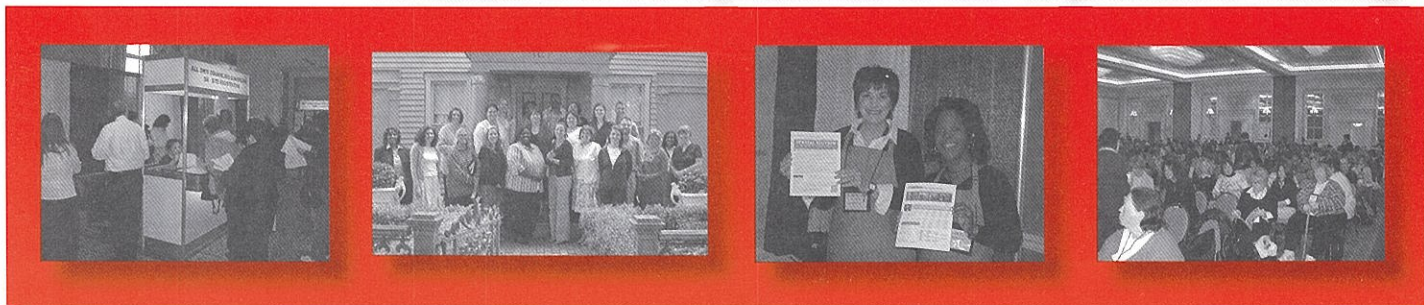


Guidelines | Ohio Counseling Association

The mission of OCA is to promote and advance the profession of counseling.



VOLUME 34, NUMBER 3
SPRING 2008



Counselor Identity: A Response to the American Psychotherapy Association

Daniel R. Cruikshanks, Ph.D., PCC, NCC
President, OCA

Recently a student asked during class about whether I thought it would be appropriate for her and her classmates to seek the BCPC (Board Certified Professional Counselor) credential from the American Board of Professional Counselors (ABPC). Initially, I was a bit embarrassed to find myself confused by her question. She had asked with such conviction that I felt I should know what she was talking about, but I had no idea what this certification was and had never heard of the ABPC. She quickly produced a very attractive glossy brochure which outlined the Board, its mission, and the benefits of membership. It turns out the American Psychotherapy Association has formed this new Board and a national certification of “professional counselors.”

With the slogan “When was the last time that an organization came along to provide any real help to you?”

the ABPC purports to be the nation’s leading advocate of professional counselors. But according to ABPC, those who may apply to become BCPCs include among others: Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists, Sex Therapists, Psychologists, Psychiatrists, and Psychotherapists. Although some may laud this inclusive stance, there are serious problems with this new certification. First, and perhaps most important, the term “Professional Counseling” is a legally regulated term in most States with counselor licensure—including the state of Ohio.

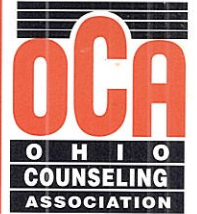
The Ohio Rules are specific. First, “no person shall engage in or claim to the public to be engaging in the practice of professional counseling for a fee, salary, or other consideration unless the person is currently licensed under this chapter as a professional clinical counselor or professional counselor” (§ 4757.02).

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Guidelines

SPRING 2008: VOLUME 34, NUMBER 3

Guidelines is the Ohio Counseling Association's quarterly newsletter published for its members. We welcome your comments, suggestions, and news.

Deadlines for submission are August 1; November 15; February 1; and May 2 of each year.

Advertisements and articles are subject to editorial approval and revision. OCA reserves the right to reject any ad or article for any reason.

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The Ohio Counseling Association is a branch of the American Counseling Association.

Join OCA for Life!

A **Lifetime Membership in OCA** is now available for a one time membership fee of \$600. This will allow individuals to become members of OCA for life without ever needing to renew their membership! Please obtain the new OCA Membership Form by accessing the OCA website at www.ohiocounseling.org.

Another new membership category is **Legacy Member** (what had previously been referred to as Lifetime Member). This is an honor extended only by the OCA Executive Council and reserved for those OCA members who have demonstrated outstanding service and leadership during their careers.

Candidates for OCA President-Elect Provide Vision and Goals for OCA



Jake J. Protivnak

I work as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Counseling and Special Education at Youngstown State University in Youngstown, OH. I am a licensed professional clinical counselor (PCC-S), a licensed school counselor (LSC), and a nationally certified counselor (NCC). I completed my Ph.D. in Counselor Education and Supervision at Chio University and my master's degree in Community Counseling at Kent State University. I have served as an adjunct counselor educator for the University of Dayton and Ohio University. I have provided direct counseling services in clinical mental health, school, and college settings. Most recently, I worked as a counselor, specializing in work with children and adolescents, at Coleman Professional Services, a nationally recognized not-for-profit provider of behavioral health and rehabilitation programs in Northeast Ohio.

I am an active member in the American Counseling Association (ACA), American School Counselor Association (ASCA), National Career Development Association (NCDA), Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (ACES), Ohio Counseling Association (OCA), and Eastern Ohio Counseling Association (EOCA). In OCA, I have served as a member of the government relations and finance committees, awards committee chair, and president of the Ohio Association for Spiritual, Ethical, and Religious Values in Counseling (OASERVIC). At Youngstown State University, I serve as the co-advisor of the Chi Sigma Iota (CSI) Eta Chapter. My current teaching and research interests include school counseling interventions and accountability, counselor identity and development, and career counseling.

As OCA president, I will be committed to advancing the professional privileges, recognition and employment of all professional counselors. This includes counselors working in clinical mental health, school, rehabilitation, college/university, corrections, and private practice settings. I will look for opportunities to pull in these groups of professional counselors working in diverse settings to help our association move forward with one voice.

“Protivnak” continues on page 12

Be sure to cast your ballot for President-Elect by May 13.
The ballot is inserted between pages 2-3.

Kathleen M. Salyers



I have really enjoyed my involvement with the Ohio Counseling Association Executive Council first by acting as the By-Laws Committee Chair and currently as the Government Relations Committee Chair. This has provided me with the opportunity to gain an understanding of the vital leadership role for the counseling profession that the Ohio Counseling Association takes in the State of Ohio. The leadership that evolves due to the collaborative relationships among those involved in OCA and the ensuing impact upon the counseling profession truly is remarkable. I really view this as a demonstration of what is possible when we practice in a more holistic and contextual manner those excellent counseling skills with which we have been trained. This is where we begin to take our skills into the community and have a real impact upon the counseling profession.

I had worked in community agencies for approximately 30 years before coming to the University of Toledo. I have a varied background in community agencies having worked in such capacities as behavior specialist in residential and habilitation programs for persons with physical and mental disabilities, special needs coordinator with Head Start, and the 11 years prior to coming to UT as a counselor/counselor supervisor for a substance abuse treatment facility in Southern Ohio. It was due to these years of employment in community agencies that I became interested in sharing my experience with others. The first opportunity to do so was by acting as counselor supervisor and providing in-service trainings. This evolved into what seemed to be the next natural step in my professional development which was to seek a faculty position at UT after getting my Master's Degree in Counseling from the University of Dayton and then my Ph.D. in Counselor Education and Supervision from Ohio University. This is my seventh year at the University of Toledo and I am currently a tenured Associate Professor. Along with my other duties as a faculty member, I serve as the Program Coordinator of the Community Counseling Program in our CACREP-accredited Master's Degree Community Counseling Program. We also have a CACREP-accredited Master's Degree in School Counseling and Doctoral Degree in Counselor Education and Supervision.

“Salyers” continues on page 12

University of Toledo Doctoral Students Win First Place in National Ethics Competition

Each year the American Counseling Association sponsors a national ethics competition for master's level and doctoral level students. The case scenarios represent current dilemmas facing members of the counseling profession.

Amber Lange, Tara Hill, Christie Jenkins, and Megan Mahon, doctoral students at the University of Toledo, were excited to find out that their response paper, **“The Case of Mixed Up Numbers: Deconstructing the 2008 ACA Doctoral Ethics Dilemma”** won. The paper utilized a social constructivist ethical decision making model to determine if a recent doctoral graduate was ethically utilizing his qualitative dissertation results for a quantitative publication. Dr. Piazza, faculty advisor for the team, stated, “this year’s team was determined to take first place as a follow-up to last year’s second place finish. Taking top honors is a credit to the team’s hard work and level of scholarship.”



Further questions about this case response can be addressed to amber.lange@utoledo.edu. In addition, you can view the full response at <http://www.counseling.org/PressRoom/NewsReleases.aspx?AGuid=a2471330-6224-4e7a-a00c-3ab437b3ad62>

Developing Professional Counseling Identity through Effective Leadership

Jean Underfer-Babalis, ACA Midwestern Region Chairperson-Elect

“Developing Professional Counseling Identity through Effective Leadership,” is the theme chosen for the Midwest Region of the American Counseling Association (MWR) for the year 2008-2009. The American Counseling Association (ACA) is divided into four regions with the Midwest Region consisting of IL, IN, IA, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, ND, OH, OK, SD, and WI. The other three regions are North Atlantic, Western and Southern Regions.

Annually, MWR hosts a leadership and development conference. This past year the Midwest Leadership and Development Conference (MWRLDC) was hosted by our current chairperson, Kelly Collins, in Minneapolis, MN. What a wonderful and informing conference it was! This coming year, the MWR will be hosted by me, Jean Underfer-Babalis, in the Chicago-land area. Illinois and Indiana are the two co-sponsoring states. The sponsorship and state site is based on a rotation process established in “MWR Operating Guidelines.” The purpose of the conference is to assist leaders in addressing issues and concerns that are pertinent to the branch counseling associations of these respective states and issues that are on the national radar as they pertain to professional counseling. Some examples include: recruiting membership, mental health parity, lobbying on a state basis, creating unity, and a variety of other topics.

Workshops are conducted by national and regional leaders. These workshops are smaller than those offered at the national convention, thus more personal and intimate. It is a chance for professional counselors to talk more directly and less formally with some of the nation’s top leaders and writers in the counseling profession.

During the spring, a needs survey will be sent to each state to gather input about what kinds of topics professional counselors and branches would like to have at this year’s conference. Please plan to join us in the Chicago area, Thursday, October 2, 2008 through Saturday, October 4, 2008.

Chicago attractions abound. Spend some time in the wildest spot in Chicago at the Lincoln Park Zoo. It is open daily and is free. The Garfield Park Conservatory has an indoor children’s garden and various special attractions throughout the year. It is free as well. The theatre district is a true delight and is currently featuring distinguished titles such as, “Phantom of the Opera,” “Star Wars,” “Wicked” and “Jersey Boys.”

“Effective Leadership” continues on page 13

“Counselor Identity” continued

Second, the Ohio Rules are very specific about who may become licensed as a Professional Counselor in Ohio. Under § 4757.23, to be eligible for licensure, a person must hold a graduate degree in counseling from an accredited institution with a minimum of ninety quarter hours (60 semester hours) of graduate credit in counseling, and must pass the licensure exam (currently the NCE).

Over the years, Ohio counselors have worked very hard, indeed, have been national leaders, in an effort to create a respectable professional credential that we call “Professional Counselor.” At the core of this effort has been an emphasis on Counselor Identity—that is the idea that Professional Counselors are those who embrace their identity as counselors. We are counselors by training, we identify what we do as counseling, and we are actively engaged in efforts that maintain the integrity of our field in an effort to be clear to consumers of professional counseling services. Our licensure law, which so clearly defines the title “Professional Counselor,” is grounded in this historical context of the importance of professional identity.

I became deeply concerned and troubled when the APA created a new national board of “professional counseling” that certifies anyone who wishes to identify as a professional counselor, regardless of their training or their credentials. If, however, you are one of a number of folks who are considering this credential, before applying for this certification, consider this—becoming a BCPC does not give one the right to identify or to practice as a Professional Counselor in Ohio. Use of this “credential” on a business card may actually be a violation of counselor law in Ohio and absolutely would be misleading to consumers of counseling services (unless you are licensed as a professional counselor).

The Ohio Counseling Association has reviewed the information available about this certification and has decided against endorsing this certification. OCA has determined that this credential does not protect the public; rather, it is more likely to harm the public by creating confusion. Moreover, as outlined above, the credential does not serve Professional Counselors or protect the field of professional counseling. Indeed, by offering to certify members of so many different disciplines, it weakens our identity by equating mental health counselors with attorneys, ministers, and social workers.

While I respect my colleagues who are attorneys, ministers, and social workers, I would never claim any one of these titles for myself, and it is my view that we should be cautious about extending the privilege of the use of our title to them and others who are not trained professional counselors. As professional counselors, licensed as such, we need to work to protect the professional identity that we have worked so hard to establish.

Let’s Give a Round of Applause to Ms. Stephanie Burns!

Allison Bruce, PC and Samantha Posey, PCC-S
NCOCA Co-Presidents

Some of you may have the pleasure of knowing Ms. Stephanie Burns, PC, NCC. For those of you who have not had the pleasure of knowing her, please allow me to take this moment to introduce Ms. Burns. Ms. Burns is currently a doctoral student at Kent State University. She is also a highly dedicated member of the counseling profession, the Ohio Counseling Association (OCA), and The North Central Ohio Counseling Association (NCOCA). NCOCA would like to extend a warm thank you to Ms. Stephanie Burns for her on-going support and contributions to the profession of counseling—as well as NCOCA and OCA.

Ms. Burns has worked diligently on updating the OCA website, as she currently serves as the Webmaster. I would like to take this opportunity to highlight just a few of Ms. Burn’s contributions. Since becoming webmaster for the OCA website, Ms. Burns has worked to implement on-line applications and renewals for OCA membership including payment through Paypal. Ms. Burns has added an on-line calendar that lists events, workshops, other important dates for all OCA events, as well as the OCA chapter’s and division’s events. Ms. Burns has provided updates on SB-53 through the website, including adding a form letter to guide professionals and students in writing their state representatives.

“Round of Applause” continues on page 10

Chapters and Divisions

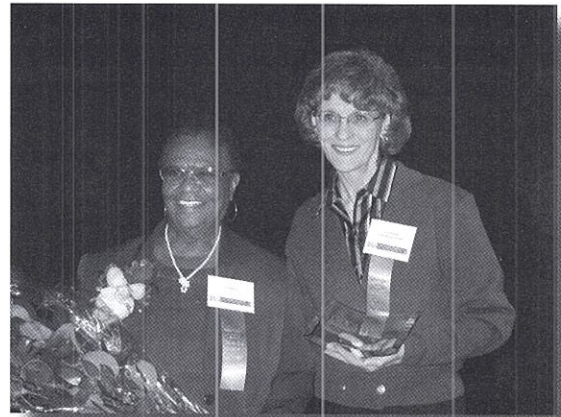
Greater Cincinnati Counseling Association (GCCA)

John Burik, President

The Greater Cincinnati Counseling Association will hold the **2nd annual counselor recognition event** on April 24, 2008 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati. Beverages and hors d'oeuvres are complimentary. All OCA and GCCA members are welcome to attend. Please send an RSVP to Melissa Fisher at melfisch10680@yahoo.com no later than April 15, 2008. The event committee consists of GCCA President-elect Al Lewis, and board members Jan Danner and Melissa Fisher. Nominations are being accepted for the recognition event. Counselors who work in agencies, schools, private practice or counselor education in the Greater Cincinnati region of the Ohio Counseling Association are all eligible to be nominated. Counselors who are chosen for the recognition event will receive complimentary membership to OCA/GCCA in 2008-2009 renewal year. Please contact Melissa Fisher at melfish1060@yahoo.com or Jan Danner at jdanner@cinci.rr.com for more information about nomination.

Claudia Moyer received the **2008 GCCA Mary Corre Foster Award** for outstanding work in community counseling. Claudia was a former dental hygienist with Cincinnati Public Schools. She began working for the Center for Chemical Addictions Treatment in 1985 and continues to provide counseling services daily as a licensed independent chemical dependency counselor. Claudia is completing her Master of Arts in Counseling degree at Xavier University and plans to apply for licensure as a professional counselor.

Terri Pregitzer received the **2008 GCCA Marvin Rammelsberg Award** for outstanding work in school counseling. Terri will soon retire from 35 years in the field of education. Among many years of professional service, Terri is past President of GCCA and served as ASCA program chair for the ACA national convention. Terri is currently a school counselor with Milford Public Schools.



Pictured on the left is Claudia Moyer and on the right is Terri Pregitzer

Miami Valley Counseling Association (MVCA)

Christine Ferens, President

Greetings from the Miami Valley! We are working diligently on the upcoming Counselor Awareness Month and are very excited to announce that our annual **"Off the Clock"** gathering will be held on April 24 in conjunction with Counselor Awareness Month.

What is Off the Clock? This annual social event is an opportunity for area counselors, supervisors, students and counselor educators to meet, mingle and network! We offer complimentary food and drink, and fabulous door prizes including gift certificates to area restaurants.

In addition to the fun, food and prizes during Off the Clock, we will also be awarding two Student Scholarships from the Wray Reiger Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship is awarded to outstanding graduate students in Counselor Education programs at Wright State University and University of Dayton in memory of Wray Reiger, a past president of MVCA and school counselor, who was dedicated to the promotion of the counseling profession.

Continued next page

Also included in the Off the Clock festivities will be the induction of the Chi Sigma Iota Omega Chapter Inductees and the honoring of Professional School Counselors and Professional Clinical Counselor Supervisors—a fine and full evening indeed! We invite any counselors in the area to join us, please contact me for further information! We also invite any OCA members who are not currently members of MVCA to please join us—MVCA, At the Heart of Counseling!

Northwest Ohio Counseling Association (NWOCA)
Amber Lange, President

Past Training a Huge Success

NWOCA was pleased to host a winter breakfast at Bowling Green State University. Dr. Nick Piazza and Dr. Mary Iames presented **Psychopharmacology 103: What Every Counselor Would Like to Know About ADHD Diagnosis and Medications But Was Afraid to Ask!** This presentation was informative and educational for members and nonmembers alike. Thank you Dr. Piazza and Dr. Iames for a job well done!

Ethics Training with Dr. David Kaplan to be held in May

Of interest to those who are always looking for a way to fulfill the licensing requirements for ethics CEU's, NWOCA will be hosting a spring workshop entitled **The Revised ACA Code of Ethics: What Counselors Need to Know.** This six hour workshop will be presented by David Kaplan, Past-President and current Chief Professional Officer for the ACA. Dr. Kaplan will highlight new ethical imperatives in such areas as confidentiality, dual relationships, multiculturalism and diversity, end-of life care, recordkeeping, technology, diagnosis, and the selection of interventions. The University of Toledo is co-hosting the event and will be providing six ethics CEU's. This workshop will be held on Friday, May 2, 2008 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Cost for registration begins at \$50 for students and \$80 for professionals. For more information, contact Amber Lange at amber.lange@utoledo.edu

Knowledge-Based Governance Training to be held in May

Thursday evening, May 1, 2008, David Kaplan, past president and current Chief Professional Officer for the ACA, will be providing a workshop on knowledge-based governance. Knowledge-based governance is a contemporary way of running and managing executive board meetings. This workshop is free to OCA members and CEU's will be provided. This is a great opportunity for any president-elect or newly elected board member to learn leadership and management skills. Additional information will be forthcoming or you may contact Amber Lange at amber.lange@utoledo.edu

Ohio Association for Spiritual, Ethical, and Religious Values in Counseling (OASERVIC)
Louisa Foss, President

Spirituality, Religion and Counseling: A Vital Topic for Ohio Counselors

Expert in spirituality in counseling, Dr. Craig Cashwell, traveled to North Canton, Ohio on February 22, 2008. The workshop, co-sponsored by the Ohio Association for Spiritual, Ethical, and Religious Values in Counseling (OASERVIC) and the Counseling and Human Development Program of Walsh University, was well attended in spite of the snowy weather conditions, with 80 counselors or social workers in attendance. The morning workshop entitled **"Integrating Spirituality and Religion into Counseling: Unity in Diversity"** was highly experiential and informational. Dr. Cashwell presented entry points for discussing issues of religion and spirituality with clients, including spiritual practice as an adjunct to therapy, psycho-spiritual interventions in session, and appreciating the sacred nature of the therapeutic space. Dr. Cashwell also emphasized the self of the counselor as an entry point for spirituality, using his own experience to illustrate the concept. Dr. Cashwell used periodic guided meditation and prayer experiences during the workshop to enhance attendees' personal spiritual awareness. In addition, he addressed the concept of spiritual bypass, or the use of spiritual or religious experiences to bypass psychological pain. Throughout the morning, ethical issues were explored as related to spiritual and religious practices.

"Chapters and Divisions" continues on page 11

Ohio Statehouse Report Towner Policy Group



OCA Lobbyists (L to R) Amanda Sines, Carolyn Towner, and Kristy Smith

Lunch with the First Lady

All counselors are urged to come to Columbus on April 15, 2008 for our Legislative Advocacy Day. Ohio's First Lady, Frances Strickland, will be joining us for lunch and will speak to us following lunch. The Legislative Advocacy Day is a great time to come to Columbus to learn what issues are affecting counselors, to meet with your legislators, and to see the Statehouse. Kathleen Salyers, the Chair of the Government Relations Committee, will begin the day at 10:00 a.m. The Advocacy Day is sponsored by the Ohio Counseling Association and co-sponsored by the Ohio Mental Health Counselors Association, the Ohio School Counselor Association, and Ohio Association of Counselor Education and Supervision.

Bill to Make Changes to the Practice of Marriage and Family Therapy Introduced

Representatives Shawn Webster (R–Hamilton) and Tom Letson (D–Warren) have teamed up to introduce House Bill 427 which revises the laws governing the practice of marriage and family therapists. HB 427 would expand the scope of practice of marriage and family therapists to allow for the diagnosis and treatment of mental and emotional disorders. Independent marriage and family therapists would be permitted to diagnose and treat mental and emotional disorders without supervision.

HB 427 also amends the law to add independent marriage and family therapists to the list of professionals that can supervise professional counselors in the diagnosis and treatment of mental and emotional disorders. Currently the list includes: psychologists, psychiatrists, professional clinical counselors and independent social workers. The bill also expands the list of the providers that can supervise social workers to include independent marriage and family therapists. The bill has been referred to the House Health Committee. It has not had any hearings to date.

UPPL Group Tries to Get Bill Off the Ground

When Senator Patricia Clancy left the Ohio Senate in October, 2007 to pursue a job in Cincinnati, the bills she had sponsored were left in limbo. One of those bills, Senate Bill 54, would remove language from the Ohio Revised Code that allows insurance plans to deny payment to the provider if the patient sustained injury while under the influence of drugs or alcohol. This section of the code is known as the Uniform Policy Provisional Law, or UPPL.

Interested parties who are pushing for the passage of the legislation have gotten the support of the new administration including the new Director of the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services, Angela Cornelius. They are currently working to find another champion for the bill now that Senator Clancy has left office. On January 14, 2007, advocates, including Amanda Sines from Towner Policy Group, met with Senator Robert Schuler (R–Sycamore Township) to discuss the issue. Since Senator Schuler was a co-sponsor of SB 54, supporting organizations thought he would be a likely candidate to take the lead on moving the bill forward.

Senator Schuler was very receptive to the request. He asked for some time to review the issue further, but stated that he would likely be able to get the bill hearings, so supporters will have the opportunity to present their case for passage. SB 54 has already been referred to the Senate Insurance, Commerce and Labor Committee. It has not had any hearings to date.

Continued next page

Comprehensive Mental Health Parity Introduced

Representatives Ted Celeste (D–Grandview Heights) and Jon Peterson (R–Delaware) introduced House Bill 384. The bill is the comprehensive parity bill that expands on the mental health parity bill passed during the last General Assembly. The previous legislation only mandated coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of biologically based mental illness. HB 384 would expand mandated coverage for all “mental illnesses and substance abuse or addiction conditions”.

On October 30, 2007, Amanda Sines of the Towner Policy Group attended a legislative day sponsored by the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addition Services. At the legislative day, ODADAS unveiled their new “Think Outside the Stigma” campaign. Advocates used this opportunity to discuss the comprehensive parity legislation before it was officially introduced and asked legislators to consider co-sponsoring Celeste and Peterson’s bill. HB 384 was officially introduced on November 7, 2007 with 23 co-sponsors. Towner Policy Group, through participation in the Coalition for Healthy Communities, has also been involved in strategic planning and interested party meetings regarding HB 384 and will continue to advocate for comprehensive parity in Ohio.

The bill was referred to the House Insurance Committee. The bill was to have a sponsor hearing on February 5, 2008.

Bill to Mandate Posttraumatic Stress Disorder Introduced

Representative Ted Celeste (D–Grandview Heights) has introduced House Bill 294. HB 294 would mandate that health insurance provide coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of posttraumatic stress disorder as defined by the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fourth Edition, published by the American Psychiatric Association. The provisions of this bill would not apply to plans that cover specific diseases or accidents only.

HB 294 has been referred to the House Insurance Committee and a sponsor hearing was held on January 22, 2008.

Background Checks for Licensure—Effective March 28, 2008

House Bill 104, sponsored by State Representative Tony Core (R–Rushsylvania), requires licensure boards to conduct criminal background checks on applicants for initial licensure. Whether or not the results affect the applicant’s ability to be licensed in Ohio would be at the discretion of each independent Board. The bill does contain a confidentiality section, so the results of the background check would not be public record. Only the Board and the applicant would be privy to the results of the background check. According to the sponsor, only licensure boards that requested inclusion in the bill were included. The Counselor, Social Worker and Marriage and Family Therapist Board is included under this new requirement.

Healthcare Simplification Act Undergoes Hearings in Ohio Senate Committee

House Bill 125, the Healthcare Simplification Act sponsored by State Representative Matt Huffman (R–Lima), has been undergoing hearings in the Senate Judiciary on Civil Justice Committee and the bill was substituted on January 29, 2008. The Ohio House of Representatives passed the bill by a vote of 91–5 on October 9, 2007. Interested party meetings have also begun in the Senate. Professional counselors and professional clinical counselors are specifically included in the definition of a health care provider.



“Statehouse Report” continued

House Bill 125 remedies many of the administrative demands providers face in their interactions with insurers. In the House, it was a hard fought battle between the provider groups and the insurers, requiring some amount of compromise on both sides; however, the key focus areas of the bill remain strong. The bill makes the contracting process more transparent by requiring a summary disclosure form in contracts along with full disclosure of fee schedules, categories of coverage, and terms under which the contract can be amended. The bill also restricts how “all products” clauses are used and restricts the leasing or renting of a contract from one payor to another. The bill requires the Ohio Department of Insurance to create one, single credentialing form for providers and limits the credentialing review process to 90 days. The bill requires all third-party payors to develop a web-based eligibility system with the most up-to-date and accurate information needed to determine patient eligibility and benefits at the time of service.

The legislation establishes that a series of violations of the bill’s provisions by any person regulated by the Ohio Department of Insurance, taken together, constitute a pattern or practice of violation of that Chapter may be defined as an unfair and deceptive insurance practice under the Insurance Law, and authorizes the Department to conduct a market examination of any person so regulated to determine whether any violation of the Chapter has occurred. The legislation applies its provisions only to contracts that are delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed or modified in Ohio on or after the act’s effective date.

The bill also precludes any health care contract that includes a “most favored nation” clause from being entered into, and precludes any health care contract from being amended, modified, or renewed at the instance of a contracting entity to include a most favored nation clause, for a two-year period after the effective date of the act, subject to extension. House Bill 125 also creates a 15-member Joint Legislative Study Commission on Most Favored Nation Clauses in Health Care Contracts, chaired by the Superintendent of the Ohio Department of Insurance. The Joint Legislative Study Commission is charged with studying specified areas pertaining to most favored nation clauses in health care contracts, and requires the Commission to submit a final report of its findings and recommendations to the Ohio General Assembly.

Medicaid Reimbursement Increases Delayed

Governor Ted Strickland has made the decision to delay the 3% Medicaid rate increases for healthcare providers that were overwhelmingly agreed to in the state’s budget bill, HB 119. The 3% increase was set to be implemented on January 1, 2008. Another 3% increase was slated to take effect on January 1, 2009. It is believed that the increase will take place on July 1, 2008.

“Round of Applause” continued

She has devised and currently manages the OCA and NCOCA listsers, allowing instant and easy communication among all members. There are currently well over 1200 members including the OCA and NCOCA listserv. She has also recently updated the OCA website address to www.ohiocounseling.org. Additionally, Ms. Burns has created a NCOCA website. You may visit this site directly at <http://chdsw.educ.kent.edu/ncoca/>. We encourage you to visit these sites and see for yourself all the fantastic updates. These are just a few of her many contributions to the profession of counseling.

Ms. Burns is a generous and wonderful individual and professional. She contributes to the profession of counseling in invaluable ways. Ms. Burns is a counselor who shines with professional identity! Ms. Burns dedicates herself as a counselor to many professional organizations and seizes every opportunity to contribute to the profession of counseling. Please take a moment to thank Ms. Burns for her endless support and contributions if you have the opportunity to work with her or meet her. Dr. Daniel Cruikshanks, OCA 2007-2008 President and Tim Luckhaupt, OCA Executive Director, would also like this opportunity to extend a warm thank you and special recognition to Stephanie Burns.

"OASERVIC" continued

Authentic and passionate, Dr. Cashwell's knowledge, wisdom, and experience impacted attendees in a positive way. Attendees commented that the workshop was very successful, stating that exploration of this vital topic significantly contributed to both their self knowledge as well as their professional knowledge. OASERVIC is grateful for Dr. Cashwell's willingness to travel to Ohio and share his expertise in such a meaningful way. Dr. Cashwell is a faculty member in the counseling program at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. He is the author of many important works in the area of spirituality and religion including the book, *Integrating Spirituality and Religion Into Counseling: A Guide to Competent Practice*, and numerous articles in esteemed journals such as *Counseling and Values* and the *Journal of Counseling and Development*.

Announcement

Are you a member of the ACA division of the Association for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Issues in Counseling (ALGBTIC) and an Ohio resident? Do you see a benefit to having an Ohio ALGBTIC division? Are you interested in playing a role in the development of an Ohio ALGBTIC division? If you answered yes to any of these questions, please let us know! Please send an email expressing your interest to Tara Hill at Tmhm7@aol.com

Chapter Sponsored Events

The North Central Ohio Counseling Association (NCOCA) and the Ohio Counseling Association (OCA) cordially invites you to attend NCOCA's

Spring Banquet

Date: Friday, May 9, 2008

Location: Dolan Center Atrium at John Carroll University

Time: 5:30 - 6:30 Networking and Cash Bar

6:30 - 7:30 Buffet Dinner

7:30 - 8:30 Welcome and Presentation of the *Faive Award for Outstanding Contributions to the North Central Ohio Counseling Association*
Honoring 2008 Recipient - Dr. Chris Faiver

8:30 - 9:30 Speaker - Dr. Mark Savickas, *Career as Story: Work and Meaning in Today's World*, (Counselors earn 1 CEU Credit)

9:30-10:00 Closing Remarks

Cost: NCOCA Members \$60 / Non-Members \$70 / Students \$40

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Day Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Please send a check or money order (payable to NCOCA) with your registration form no later than April 30, 2008 to Judy Aungst, 34355 Sherwood Drive, Solon, Ohio 44139

For more information, e-mail Allison Bruce at abruce@marymount.org

Ample, free parking at the Dolan Center. For directions visit <http://www.jcu.edu/about/map.htm>

Ohio Association of Specialists in Group Work
Present a Spring Brunch

Co-sponsored by the University of Toledo
April 18, 2008 (10 A. M. - 12 P. M.)

at The United Way Building (Anderson A)
1 Stranahan Square, Toledo, OH 43604

Evidence Based Approaches to Batterer Intervention Systems
Speaker: Dr. Carol Smith

This workshop will explore and discuss:

1. Domestic Violence
2. Specific treatment for batterers in group work
3. A viable alternative to Anger Management treatment groups

Continuing education credits: 2 sponsored by the University of Toledo

Please register by March 28, 2008

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Daytime Phone #: _____

OASGW member \$15 Non-member \$25

Student \$15

Send checks payable to: OASGW c/o Jean Underfer-Babalis

980 South Byrne Rd., Toledo, OH 43609

419-508-9648 (for any questions)

I will continue the exemplary work of previous OCA executive councils who have worked diligently to support the desires of membership. I will continue to support and promote the work of the legislative consultants and the government relations committee to advance mental health hold legislation, classification titles that accurately reflect the identity of counselors, a school counseling representative at the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) and a statewide model for school counseling. I will work closely with the Ohio Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist board to ensure that the rules and laws written guard the profession of counseling and protect the public in Ohio. As a previous Human Resources (HR) professional, I will use my leadership and business skills to help OCA increase its efficiency and accountability to our membership. I will look for opportunities to adapt OCA structure, resources, and procedures to fit the evolving role of professional associations in the 21st century.

Finally, I feel privileged to work as a professional counselor in a state that has a strong counseling identity and a wide scope of practice. Past state leaders in OCA, OACES, OHMCA, OSCA and other OCA divisions contributed to keeping Ohio a state that is strong for professional counselors. I will examine lessons from our history and the practices of associations in related professions to find ways to effectively utilize both our material and member resources to help us reach our goals for professional counseling in Ohio.

Announcement from the OCA Awards Chair

The Ohio Counseling Association is accepting nominations for the 2008 OCA awards including (1) the Charles “Chuck” Weaver award, (2) the Dave Brooks award, (3) the Herman J. Peters award, (4) the Susan J. Sears Counselor of the Year award, (5) the Research and Writing award, and (6) the Public Policy and Legislation award. Awards will be distributed at the All Ohio Counselors Conference Annual Luncheon on Thursday, November 6, 2008. Please visit the awards page at <http://www.ohiocounseling.org/awardnominations.htm> for more information about the individual award criteria and a nomination form. Contact Amber Lange, OCA Awards Chair, at amber.lange@utoledo.edu for more information.

Being a faculty member at UT has allowed me many opportunities to be involved in the continued development of the counseling profession through such activities as research, publications, and presentations at the State, Regional, National, and International level.

To now be able to be involved in the OCA Executive Council has truly been an honor and a privilege. I have attempted in my life to be of service to others from my very first job at 19 years old working in the kitchen with patients at the Portsmouth Receiving Hospital on work study through Ohio University in the summer of 1970. Over the years I have held as sacred the opportunity to share the path of others whom I attempted to be of service. I feel that with having the opportunity to run for the OCA President-Elect, I am in some small way giving voice to those I have had the privilege to serve. Being a true, qualitative researcher, I believe that as our paths have joined for whatever period of time, that we are forever somehow now bound together as we are part of each other’s life stories.

Therefore, the theme of my time as OCA President if I were to be elected would be that of “Unity in Action.” By this I mean that I would like for OCA to focus on counselor professional identity in the State of Ohio. This would involve recruiting new members and public awareness of the counseling profession. This can be done in many ways such as the OCA 2nd Annual Legislative Advocacy Day that will be held April 15, 2008 in the Atrium at the Ohio State House in Columbus. Uniting to work towards those goals that have been identified by the OCA Government Relations Committee would be another way of achieving this. I truly believe that as counselors we do incredible work in our community agencies, schools, hospitals, and treatment facilities, just to name a few of the places that professional counselors provide services. But before we can act as voices for our clients as a profession, we must first find our own voice. And in finding that voice, we must determine and let others know who we are and what we represent. It is through this unified voice in action that we become a presence capable of advocating for the counseling profession as well as our clients.

“Effective Leadership” continued

Put a little culture in your life at the Chicago Cultural Center, which features the 38-foot dome in the Preston Bradley Hall at the south end of the building (the worlds largest Tiffany stained-glass dome) valued at an estimated \$35 million. Now that is some dome!

Now for a More Serious Note—Being of Service

Part of being a leader is to find effective means of serving others. Examples include serving clients, professional organizations, the community, other professional counselors, as well as being an advocate for related issues such as mental health parity. The hallmark of a good leader is being someone who is more interested in serving others than in what the service position can do for her or him. Service to others definitely benefits the person serving, but the intent is to be of use or benefit to others. As a leader, I have encountered so many wonderful people throughout the United States. I think I would go to these leadership conferences and to the ACA national convention just to see all my beloved friends (and you know who you are). My service has allowed me to meet notable writers such as Sam Gladding. I remember reading his books and articles and thinking how I would love to just listen to him. Because of my leadership opportunity, I had the distinct pleasure of chauffeuring him around Toledo and spending an evening out with him and the other leaders in Toledo. It was an extraordinary experience. I also brag that I was in the same Legislative Advocacy Institute as Marie Wakefield.

Making Sound Decisions

Decisions are inherently a part of our service. Every so often, these decisions can create some real challenges. Leaders who are service-minded will seek counsel from other colleagues before making a decision that impacts others. Leaders who make decisions without consulting others prior to making and enacting a decision can, and usually do, precipitate some disparaging results.

Considerations When Becoming a Leader

When considering a leadership position, a leader needs to take into account the enormity and significance of the position. Consider how much time and effort the position will require and whether one has the amount of time and effort to be able to offer. Accept a nomination or appointment only after conscientious reflection of all aspects of the position. One effective source of accomplishing this task is to ask people who have held the positions previously to see what is expected and what the position entails.

Part of leadership and development is to learn the most effective means of serving and inspiring others to serve as well. Helping other professional counselors succeed as counselors and leaders will motivate them to serve. The Midwest Leadership and Development Conference will facilitate your progress in motivating others to serve and rejuvenate your motivation as well. **Come join us in the Chicago area this fall.**

Ohio Police Juvenile Officers' Association

Presents:

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May 6-9, 2008

Held at

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WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

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G.R.E.A.T. Officers,
Medical Professionals and Anyone interested
in helping the Youth of Today.

Application has been made for
CEU, CPE and CLE Hours.

For Speaker information and registration visit:
www.OPJOA.com



A Unified Vision for the Counseling Profession

Kathleen M. Salyers, Ph.D., PCC-S

Chair, Government Relations Committee

At the November 2007 meeting of the Ohio Counseling Association Executive Council at the All Ohio Counselors Conference in Columbus, OCA President Daniel Cruikshanks formed a Task Force to investigate the possibility of opening the Law which governs the counseling profession in the State of Ohio. The Charge of this Task Force was to explore the possibility of having a tiered counselor licensure which might include a tier for the Counseling Supervisor and an additional tier for Doctoral level license. The Task Force also was to look at the protection of the term "counselor" in the Law and whether "life coaches" were encroaching on the counseling profession without the license to do so. One final issue was whether or not the CT status awarded by the Ohio Counselor, Social Work, & Marriage and Family Therapist Board was actually allowing students to practice without a license.

The Task Force Committee met by teleconference on Tuesday, November 20, 2007, and those in attendance were:

Dr. Bill Nemec	Dr. Susan Sears
Dr. Jake Protivnak	Christie Jenkins
Amanda Sines	Amber Lange
Carolyn Towner	Dr. Donna Tromski-Klingshirn
Dr. Martin Ritchie	Samantha Posey
Dr. Kathleen Salyers	

The meeting began with Dr. Susan Sears and Dr. Bill Nemec providing a detailed history of Ohio Law regarding the counseling profession. They were able to provide first-hand accounts of what had transpired when counselors first attempted to be able to practice in the State of Ohio. Their discussion of these past experiences gave the committee insight and informed us as to how best to move forward today. One of the key points discussed that impacted the ensuing decision of the Task Force was the fact that the last time the Law was opened, there was at that time a key person in the Legislature who was positioned to pull the proposed Legislation if there were concerns that instead of gaining, the counseling profession could indeed lose some of their abilities to practice which they had fought so hard for in the State of Ohio. It was acknowledged that those who had been in opposition previously to counselors' ability to practice in the State of Ohio, such as psychologists and psychiatrists, would continue to do so today.

The Committee members looked at the issues to be addressed by opening the Law which were the above Charges of the Task Force. It was the consensus of the Committee that it would be best to wait until we had developed a relationship, as had previously been the case when the Law was opened, to assure that we did not in fact lose rather than gain. The Task Force decided at this time to dissolve and to take our findings to the OCA Executive Council. In the decision to dissolve, it was also determined that a Task Force might be developed to look at the key issues that were determined to be of significant importance to the counseling profession at this time. In looking at these issues, one of the overarching themes appeared to be that of the denial of the right of counselors to practice in the State of Ohio, and the denial of the right of clients to choose. The key issues determined by the Task Force were as follows:

1. Legislative Advocacy Day;
2. Develop relationships with state legislators and senators;
3. Lobbying for the counseling profession;
4. Finding ways to get more counselors involved in advocating for the profession;
5. Develop working relationship with the OCSWMFT Board so that as new legislation is introduced there is communication with OCA;
6. Advocate at the national level regarding the national parity movement, Medicare, and provision of services to the military;

"Unified Vision" continued on back cover

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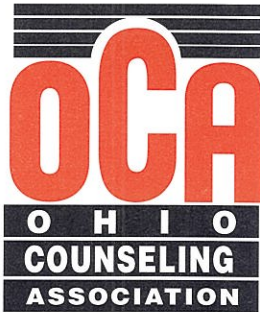
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“Unified Vision” continued

7. Focus on key people to share information regarding the counseling profession to assist in developing an understanding of our profession. Two people who were seen as especially important were Sherrod Brown and Marcy Kaptur;
8. Continue to pursue counselors being able to practice in the corrections system;
9. Continue to pursue counselors being able to practice in nursing care facilities;
10. Address the inclusion of substance abuse counselors as part of OCA;
11. Work with ACA, ASCA and AMHCA on national issues;
12. Continue to address legislative issues in the State of Ohio.

When the Task Force report was presented to the Ohio Counseling Association Executive Council at its January 2008 meeting, it was decided that these “key issues” were actually more of a “vision” for OCA. And so, they are presented as a unified vision for the Ohio Counseling Association. This is a vision of counseling professionals having the right to practice based on their licensed ability to do so in the State of Ohio. And it is a vision of the right of clients to choose the providers of their services...and this choice would include Licensed Professional Counselors and Licensed Professional Clinical Counselors.



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