Greetings & Happy New Year from the Chair

It has been a while since you received an update from the Addiction Studies Department and with the flurry of activities that have occurred in the last year we thought we would bring you up to date. The faculty and students in ADS have been very busy and you will find in this newsletter a listing of our Fall graduates, the winner of the NAADAC Minority Fellowship Scholarship, and an overview of the NAADAC conference. We also would like to announce a recent faculty appointment to the National Addiction Studies Accreditation Commission. In addition you will see what kind of activities the ADS student organization CASPPA has been involved with, along with a listing of available scholarships and fellowships for the ADS students. And lastly, there has been some changes with department staff and we would like to introduce these new members to you as well.

I hope you enjoy the newsletter and wish you all a happy and successful 2016.

Frank Zavadil

Congratulations Fall 2015 Graduates

Masters in ADS
Leslie Hintz
John Schlenske

Bachelor of Science in ADS
Shana Boger
Corey Carpenter
Shane Gerlach
Courtney Feng
Emily Tilberg
Kasey Toben
Addiction afflicts millions of people nationwide, with rates of the disease rapidly increasing. The National Institute of Drug Abuse recently reported that, in 2013, 22.7 million people needed treatment for substance abuse disorders (8.6% of the population), but only 2.5 million people received the needed care. Getting an online master’s in substance abuse counseling gives you the tools to approach this epidemic from a variety of perspectives. Graduates of these programs can work to increase public awareness of addiction, counsel families affected by addiction or work directly with individuals in treatment programs.

Because addiction affects communities across racial, cultural and socioeconomic lines, there is a widespread need for substance abuse counselors throughout the country. Earning your master’s in substance abuse counseling online allows you to continue to work in underserved areas while getting the education needed to move into higher level positions. The ranking of the best distance substance abuse counseling master’s programs in the nation will help you make an informed decision about your graduate education.

For the 2016 rankings, OnlineColleges.net has greatly refined its approach to evaluating schools and their respective programs. Our innovative method of assessing schools is what makes our rankings so distinctly authoritative. On the surface, every ranking we produce employs a basic formula: Academic Quality + Online Offerings + Cost and Student Aid = Final Score. This final score determines where a school ends up in our rankings. Of course, there’s a lot more than meets the eye. Visit the methodology page to discover the data points that shape our formula and to learn more about our process.
With the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) predicting job growth for substance abuse and behavioral disorder counselors at 31% between 2012 and 2022, those with a master’s in substance abuse counseling enter a job market that’s in their favor. To further secure your position in this expanding market, it is highly recommended that you get state and national certification as soon as possible. The Association for Addiction Professionals (NAADAC) offers several levels of national credentials, which, in turn, assures potential employers that your education and abilities pass muster. In addition, each state has its own licensing board that provides individuals with the necessary licensure to practice as a counselor. The requirements vary widely by state, so be sure to check with your state’s medical board.

Another important step in becoming a substance abuse counselor is to ensure that you secure an internship while studying. Many programs offer or even require an internship segment be completed before graduation. This experience not only bolsters your professional resume, it provides you with the skills and training in a supervised environment. There are certain things that cannot be taught in the classroom and an internship will ensure that you are prepared for your first day as a counselor.

http://www.onlinecolleges.net/rankings/best-online-masters-substance-abuse-counseling-degree-programs/

Welcome

The Addiction Studies Team would like to welcome our new Education Assistant, Christy Berger. Christy started with us in October and had previously worked on campus in the Continuing Distance Education and Graduate Department.

Meet one of our Adjunct Faculty

Melissa Dittberner, graduated with her Master in ADS at USD in 2014 and have been in the ADS department since graduation. Melissa is currently working toward her doctorate degree in Human Development and Educational Psychology. This spring semester Melissa will be the Graduate Assistant in the ADS department, and will be teaching ADS 116: The Study of Alcohol Use and Abuse and ADS 320: Adolescent Substance Abuse Issues. Melissa is also designing a Telehealth course with a goal that all Heath Sciences students will take this course. Fun Fact: Melissa plays roller derby for the Sioux City Roller Dames.
The Association for Addiction Professionals, is pleased to name Jaime Anderson, as one of thirteen cohort Fellows of the NAADAC Minority Fellowship Program for Addiction Counselors (NMFP-AC). This inaugural 2015 cohort marks a historic national precedent in the realization of President Obama’s 2013 Plan “Now is the Time” toward reducing health disparities and improving behavioral health care outcomes for racially and diverse populations in the United States. Jaime’s dedicated commitment to this fellowship appointment will increase the availability of culturally-competent Master’s level addiction counseling to underserved and minority populations, and transition age youth between (ages 16-25) on the Crow Creek Indian Reservation.

Jaime will receive NAADAC training, education, professional guidance, and a tuition stipend of up to $20,000 for the 2015-2016 school year. Dr. Diane Sevening was appointed by NAADAC to serve as Jaime’s mentor. Following graduation, Jaime will continue to work as a Licensed Addiction counselor with Indian Health Services.

Jaime Anderson enrolled member of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, raised in Chamberlain, South Dakota. She is currently pursuing my Master’s Degree in Addiction Studies. Jamie is a mother of three sons, ages 15, 14, and 9 and working as a substance abuse counselor with Indian Health Services on the Crow Creek Indian Reservation.
Scholarships and Fellowships

The USD/ADS Department awards $6,000 in scholarships annual to qualified MA in Addiction Studies students. Applications for the Faithe Fellowship Scholarship are due March each year. Please contact the Department Chair for more information.

NAADAC has a Minority Fellowship for qualified MA in Addiction Studies students. **You do not need to be a minority but interested in working with minority.** NAADAC Minority Fellowship Program for Addiction Counselors (NMFP-AC). Applications are open December 16 and due March 15.  [http://www.naadac.org/NMFP-AC](http://www.naadac.org/NMFP-AC)

The National Board of Certified Counselors has provided a fellowship for addiction counselors: The Foundation also offers donor-funded military and rural scholarships and Center for Credentialing & Education (CCE) grant-funded GCDF scholarships (domestically and aboard), professional development awards and BCC training awards. To learn more go to [http://www.nbccf.org/Programs/Scholarships](http://www.nbccf.org/Programs/Scholarships)

**William L. White Student Scholarship Award**

**By Diane Sevening, EdD, LAC, NAADAC Student Committee Chair**

The NAADAC Student Committee is proud to announce the first annual William L. White Student Scholarship Award. This new scholarship was created to promote student addiction research and develop the importance of student research projects in NASAC accredited programs, NAADAC approved programs in higher education, or an accredited addiction studies higher education program acknowledged by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) that provides research or education to the addiction profession.

This scholarship will be awarded annually to one graduate NAADAC student member and one undergraduate NAADAC student member with the best student addiction research paper on the assigned topic for the year. The topic for 2016 is “Recovery Oriented Systems of Care: How Research is Changing the Addiction Profession.” Graduate students must submit a 10-12 page research paper. Undergraduate students must submit a 5-7 page research paper.

To be eligible for the William L. White Student Scholarship Award, students must have at least one full year of coursework remaining, a grade point average of 2.7 or higher, and be a current NAADAC student member.

The 2016 recipients of the William L. White Student Scholarship Award will be recognized at the NAADAC Annual Conference in Minneapolis, MN from October 7-11, 2016. The $1000 undergraduate award and $2000 graduate award will be submitted directly in the students’ names to their educational lenders.

All applications, including a completed application form, unofficial academic transcript, three letters of recommendation (two letters from college/university faculty, and one letter from an active NAADAC member), and the assigned APA-formatted research paper, must be submitted together electronically to [naadac@naadac.org “ATTN: William L. White Scholarship”](mailto:naadac@naadac.org “ATTN: William L. White Scholarship”) by May 31, 2016.

For more details on the scholarship award and to download the application form, please visit [www.naadac.org/white-scholarship-award](http://www.naadac.org/white-scholarship-award) or contact NAADAC at 703-741-7686.
CASPPA Presents:
Rebound - The Chris Herren Story

On November 2nd CASPPA, through amazing fund raising efforts, brought public speaker Chris Herren to USD. Chris is a former NBA basketball player (the Denver Nuggets and the Boston Celtics), motivational speaker, author and sobriety advocate who struggled with substance abuse for much of his basketball career. Alcohol and drug-free since August 1, 2008, he has refocused his life to put his sobriety and family above all else.

He shares his story of abuse and recovery in his memoir, *Basketball Junkie*, as well as the Emmy nominated ESPN Films documentary *Unguarded*, of which he is the subject.

In this very personal presentation, Chris shared his story in a brutally honest format with just a microphone. The event started with Chris introducing himself, with highlights of his basketball career and his dream of paying in the NBA which began to unravel by making some bad decisions. He took the audience on his journey from addiction to sobriety. Additionally, he related his story to the audience addressing themes of gateway drugs, prescription drug abuse, drinking and driving as well as self harm. To conclude Chris took questions from the audience.

Our CASPPA members were able to do a meet and greet with Chris afterwards and were so impressed by him, his incredible message, and were honored to listen to him humbly speak about his recovery. Everyone involved were thankful for this opportunity.
As members of SDAAPP we continually hearing about the benefits of being affiliated with NAADAC and unless we have had the opportunity to interact with NAADAC they can seem like an obscure organization that we just pay dues to.

**NAADAC’s Mission Statement:** "NAADAC’s Mission is to lead, unify and empower addiction-focused professionals to achieve excellence through education, advocacy, knowledge, standards of practice, ethics, professional development and research." *Adopted 1998*

I attended my first NAADAC conference this fall in Washington D.C. and I found that NAADAC definitely lives up to its mission statement. While at this conference I had the opportunity to learn about marijuana’s impact on the adolescent brain; the evolving science of relapse and recovery; the changing addiction profession and emerging research; co-occurring differential diagnosis; opioid pain medication/heroin epidemic; trauma and addiction, suicide intervention with the Native American population; understanding the military culture; educating new addiction professionals, and designer drugs. These trainings were a fraction of the training opportunities available at a NAADAC conference.

This conference also provided the opportunity to learn how to advocate for the addiction profession. NAADAC’s mission for Hill day was for “NAADAC members and other addiction-focused professionals from across the country to participate in a special Advocacy in Action briefing and then convene on Capitol Hill to meet with their congressional representatives to advocate for the addiction profession....” ADS faculty and students from the Coalition for Addiction Students and Professionals Pursing Advocacy (CASPPA) met face-to-face with lawmaker’s staff to share their expertise and the specific needs of professionals and individuals seeking services in South Dakota on issues such as: student loan forgiveness; the growth and development of the addiction workforce; the importance of specialized addiction treatment professionals, expanding services in rural areas, federal and state funding for addiction prevention, treatment, and recovery efforts, the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA), and the legalization of marijuana.

At a NAADAC conference you will meet engaging inclusive NAADAC staff and administration, presenters and conference attendees. The passion and advocacy for the addiction profession is palpable at this conference and attending leaves you feeling proud to be a member of the profession. So if you are feeling a little anemic and need an injection of enthusiasm for the addiction profession consider attending a NAADAC conference, and this fall 2016 is an excellent opportunity.

NAADAC is excited to announce its **2016 Annual Conference: Embracing Today, Empowering Tomorrow**, held at the [Hyatt Regency Minneapolis](http://www.hyattregencyminneapolis.com) in Minneapolis, MN from Oct 7-11, 2016.
INCASE and NAADAC Conference 2015

The conference began on October 7th at the Marriott Bethesda North. INCASE held the board meeting at the hotel from 1-6PM. Various committee reports were covered, with fascinating information from the International Committee. Suffice it to say, the International Committee is looking for folks to assist with a potential East Coast conference in Summer of 2017. Please contact Joan Standora or Peter Myers if you are interested in assisting in the initial planning phases.

A meeting with SALIS occurred, and the potential to work on projects mutually was discussed. Those discussions will be ongoing.

Ed Reading received the Mel Schulstad Professional of the Year Award at the Awards banquet. Congratulations Dr. Reading! INCASE received a 25th Anniversary award from NAADAC at the Awards banquet as well, our sincere thanks to NAADAC!

Lisa Ray took photos and can be found (unedited) at the following link. https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0B4O_Mx-D7hqMYULVWHdVVVCaDQ&usp=sharing

The NAADAC/INCASE 2016 conference will be held in downtown Minneapolis, Minnesota at the Hyatt Regency Minneapolis. The dates are October 7-11. The INCASE meeting is tentatively scheduled for October 6, 2016 in the president’s suite. Please make plans now to attend. Also, it is time to start thinking about your presentations for 2016. The deadline for presentation submissions is January 19, 2016, so we all need to be planning now! Have some exciting research? Or do you have new classroom techniques? We want to hear from you! http://www.naadac.org/2016-call-for-presentations

We had many calls for a panel discussion of student internships, one focus would be on problems that arise during the internships and methods to solve those issues. The vast majority of presentations are available from 2015 are available to download: http://www.naadac.org/ac15-schedule-of-events you will see download links by the majority of the presentations, those without the link are not available.

National Addiction Studies Accreditation Commission (NASAC)

Diane Sevening, EdD, LAC, Assistant Professor in the University of South Dakota School of Health Sciences Addiction Studies Department was recently appointed to serve on the NASAC Board of Directors beginning in January 2016. This is a three year term and she will continue her service as a NASAC program evaluator.