Executive Summary: CMHCRC's Annual Academic Assessment Report (AAAR)

Thomas University's Clinical Mental Health Counseling and Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling (CMHCRC) program undergoes an annual review of program outcomes to ensure that it provides graduates with the training necessary for professional success, and advanced levels of clinical training in the counseling profession. The full program review is documented in the AAAR. The Executive Summary of the 2018-2019 AAAR is as follows:

AAAR Part I: Student Learning Outcomes

The 2018-2019 AAAR documents pass rates on various artifact assignments in core curriculum classes in the CMHCRC master's program. A goal of a 100% pass rate on all collected assignments is set to demonstrate student mastery of cumulative concepts designated in the Student Learning Outcomes.

Data collected in 2018-2019 AAAR indicates that three of the fifteen course assignments, or 20% of outcomes, were unmet. The unmet outcomes all reflect research paper submissions, and indicate a potential need to remediate writing skills or APA formatting.

Due to these results, all course Canvas shells have incorporated the Embedded Librarian training on APA formatting. Also, a prearranged Zoom session is offered for live APA training by the TU librarian. This training is also recorded and embedded into all course Canvas shells. For those students determined to have unsatisfactory writing skills, a recommendation is made for RCE 507 Scholarly Writing. Also, students were assessed on the Professional Counseling Performance Evaluation (PCPE) and those students in need of remediation were addressed individually.

AAAR Part II: Division Improvement Plans

Annually, each division/department (unit) of the university determines results related to the program's learning outcomes. In 2018-2019, the CMHCRC program made changes to the program name and revised the Program of Study which were approved by TU's Interdisciplinary Academic Council.

Additional changes enhanced focus on student licensure and certifications, resulting in the implementation of a Master's Comprehensive Capstone course utilizing Mometrix. Additional modules were also offered in several courses related to preparing students for eventual licensure and certifications, a Canvas Counseling Connections Shelf was developed to disseminate information to students, and the CMHCRC program submitted an application to NBCC for authorization to allow our students to complete the NCE/NCMHCE exam while enrolled as students (students are currently able to take the CRC exam in their last 25% of the master's program). NBCC approved the application and Thomas University's CMHCRC program will begin offering these exams in the Spring of 2020.

Division administration and faculty met monthly to review current policies and procedures in the program and make decisions regarding curriculum, clinical practice of our students, and the student mastery of skills and techniques. The result of these meetings led to programmatic changes presented to the TU's Academic Council. TU's CMHCRC program implemented a systematic monitoring process of changing state licensure requirements, increased clinical fieldwork hours from 700 to 1,000 in order to remain in compliance with states requiring a 1,000 hour threshold, and offered Psychopharmacology as an option for all students residing in states with this as a required course for licensure.

Lastly, the Honors Society - Chi Sigma Iota - gained new members, additional MOUs were developed with new agencies with CMHCRC interns, and a new full-time faculty member was hired.