

Counseling professors co-present at regional conference

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Alfred University (AU) Assistant Professors of Counseling Kevin Curtin, Stephen Byrne, and Kasie Lee co-presented at the North Atlantic Region Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (NARACES) earlier this fall in Providence, RI.

The AU professors gave two presentations. The first, “Using Netbooks to Provide Bug-in-the-Eye Supervision in a Counselor Education Training,” focused on how that type of supervision is provided, technology requirements for implementation, benefits and limitations, and implications for practice and research.

“Facilitating the development of students& counseling skills is a significant component of counselor education programs,” they said. “As such, many programs are developing and maintaining clinical training laboratories to provide for an instructional and experiential environment. Given that live-supervision seems to be gaining momentum as a supervision practice, many programs seek to improve the quality, feasibility, and technology of this approach.”

Their session was about one program&s approach to live-supervision, specifically bug-in-the-eye supervision using a wireless netbook communication system between faculty-supervisors and counselors-in-training.

The second presentation was titled “Counselors Seeking Counseling: Benefits, Obstacles, and Lessons Learned.” The AU professors maintained: “Since the establishment of professional counseling, theorists and practitioners have advocated for students and clinicians alike to participate in counseling to enhance their personal and professional development.”

The presenters reviewed recent, original research regarding counseling trainees& use of personal counseling and barriers to doing so for trainees who have never sought counseling. Time was given for an open discussion of the audience&s perceptions of the importance of counseling for graduate students and barriers to seeking services.

NARACES promotes counselor education and supervision for master&s and doctoral degree students, faculty, and site supervisors in the Northeastern United States by encouraging quality education and supervision of professional counselors who specialize in addictions counseling, career counseling, clinical mental health counseling, college student affairs counseling, K-12 school counseling, and marital, couple, and family counseling.

Curtin earned a Ph.D. in counseling from George Washington University, Washington, D.C. His current research focuses on multifamily therapy groups, resiliency factors in children and adolescents with special needs, and service learning.

Byrne earned a Psy.D. in clinical psychology and a master of arts degree in psychology from Marywood University, Scranton, PA, and a bachelor of arts degree in psychology from Boston College. His research interests include narcissism, trauma, counseling outcome and process, and relationships.

Lee earned a Ph.D. in counseling from the University of North Texas, Denton, and a master&s of education degree in human development counseling and a bachelor of arts degree in psychology and sociology, both from Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN. Her areas of concentration include play therapy, expressive arts in counseling, child assessment, school counseling, parenting and child development, and counselor education and supervision.