The Politics of Counseling: The Urgency of Political Involvement

It is impossible to dispute the claim that political outcomes have had an impact on counseling. A good example of how counseling's destiny has been altered would be federal legislation. The National Defense Education Act of 1958, the Vocational Education Act of 1963, the Community Mental Health Systems Act of 1963, the Education for All Handicapped Children Act of 1977 and other such legislation too numerous to list here, have had a profound impact on our profession. Counselors themselves seem to be more willing, through various organizations and groups, to be active in initiating significant changes. Counselors are no longer waiting for others to dictate the future of their profession. A superb example of an outcome related to this latter trend would be legislation pertaining to counselor licensure.

But are we doing enough? Some would say the answer is no. In an article that appeared over a year ago in the Journal of Counseling and Development, Stephen Weinrach indicated we are not active enough in the politics of this country. Weinrach wrote "President Ronald Reagan's election (1980) and reelection (1984) platform statements would say the answer is time to take a strong stand and attempt to achieve this expectation. It will not be difficult for us to find problems that need our attention. There are some current issues that are having and will have a profound affect on the quality of life for countless individuals in our world (e.g., AIDS, the lack of food and shelter for the homeless, pollution of the atmosphere, etc.). Regardless of what some Democrat and some Republicans would like us to think, these issues are not the province of any one organization states that members should be "dedicated to the enhancement of the worth, dignity, potential, and uniqueness of each individual and thus to the service of society." It is time to take a strong stand and attempt to achieve this expectation. It will not be difficult for us to find problems that need our attention. There are some current issues that are having and will have a profound affect on the quality of life for countless individuals in our world (e.g., AIDS, the lack of food and shelter for the homeless, pollution of the atmosphere, etc.). Regardless of what some Democrat and some Republicans would like us to think, these issues are not the province of any one profession or group, but are in fact problems that affect all of us.
Profoundly Speaking . . .
(continued from page 1 . . .)

political party, they concern us all. Counselors are in a unique position since they have both the skills to work directly with individuals who suffer the psychological and physiological outcomes of such catastrophic problems and also because they possess the right and ability to help initiate wise political changes that would alter the world in a positive manner. Such an effort would move us closer to an environment that promises to enhance a person’s chance to reach her/his full potential. Certainly, such an environment is compatible with the general aims of counseling.

- Earl J. Ginter -

President’s Message

CSI CHAPTERS are the heart and soul of this organization. As one reads the CSI bylaws, it becomes very apparent that the chapters are a significant part of the organization. The growth and development of CSI is directly related to the growth and development of chapters.

Chapters provide membership to CSI by recruiting and retaining eligible persons from local students, faculty and practitioners. Retention of members is a major role that chapters can play. Chapters can develop activities which will meet the professional needs of the membership. Chapters can foster the development of students by encouraging professional counselors to work with and for students. This can happen through such chapter activities as orientation meetings for new counseling students, mentoring of students by practicing counselors, and visitation of potential counseling students to various counseling sites.

Professional counselors and counsel educators can find activities such as case study groups, reading groups, workshops and presentations so they can maintain and enhance their knowledge and skills. These kinds of professional development activities may be used by certified/licensed counselors for C.E.U.’s.

For a chapter to be successful, it requires leadership and commitment. The chapter contact, chapter officers and committee chairs must facilitate and direct the chapter to be a viable and successful group. Without the leadership and commitment of the chapter leaders, the chapter becomes the proverbial rudderless ship.

It is obvious to me and the leadership of CSI, that chapters need our support to become an effective organization. It is also obvious from the survey completed by chapters that networking is important and necessary for chapters to continue to grow and develop. One of the methods that CSI can use to increase networking among chapters is the CSI Newsletter. The newsletter could feature a successful chapter in each edition that focuses on the goals, activities and membership of the chapter. This could permit other chapter leaders to contact the successful chapters for assistance or more information. Another newsletter article each edition could focus on is activity that a chapter has found extremely successful. Of course, chapters will have to respond to the request of the editor to submit such articles. Last March at the CSI Leadership Workshop at AACD (Chicago), I was pleased to see chapters share activities with other chapters to increase awareness of those attending.

As I mentioned in the last newsletter, Jane Myers, past-president, has agreed to work with inactive chapters. Please contact Jane if you are one of the leaders or members of such a chapter if you want assistance.

Also, if any chapter needs assistance with chapter activities, please contact Jane Myers, Tom Sweeney, Sam Gladding or me. We welcome your inquiries. Also, if you of any you have ideas of how to increase chapter networking, please contact me.

Don’t forget to mark your calendar for the CSI meetings to be held at AACD in Boston from March 15-18, 1989! BE THERE!

-Joe Kandor-

FROM THE CHAPTERS

ALPHA RHO (Texas Woman’s University) . . . organizational meeting held April 6, 1988 with ten charter members including two faculty members, Louis Shilling and Merry Evenson. Chapter officers include Roxanne Fox (Pres.), Al Matthew (Pres. Elect), Martha Gault (Sec.) and My Gibson (Treas.).

ALPHA THETA (California State College, Bakersfield) . . . June meeting featured Don Yutzler speaking on the use of the DSM III (R). CSI member, Julie Frazier, was chosen as counseling student of the year at CSUB. Three new members, Claudette Benjamin, Delma Sarmicanic and Carol Wilcox were initiated into the chapter. The September meeting featured Michel Papen-Daniel who presented a workshop on the uses of the MBTI in counseling people in relationships.

THETA CHI (San Francisco State University) . . . new member initiation is set for November 20. Welcome to new members Patricia Pompers, Sandra Francis, Herbert Kessner, Stanley Graubart, Lisa Frankfort, Geoffrey Brown and Jo Anne LaCombe. Recent workshops have been devoted to helping interns and counselors with their financial record keeping and ideas on how to establish yourself as a professional therapist.

IOTA PHI (Philippines) held a lecture series, October 19-21, at Mountain State University, La Trinidad, Benguet, featuring a series of topics of interest to counseling and human development specialists. The lecturers included Trinidad O. Abenjoj "Prisms of Light", Vicentita M. Cervera, "The development, validation and standardization of a Filipino Work Values
The Newsletter  
November, 1988

received. Two chapter members have been elected to leadership positions with the Virginia Counselors Association. D.L. "Pete" Warren is now President-Elect and Ruby Laughton is Secretary-Elect. The chapter is also working with the local mental health association to sponsor a spring workshop for area professionals focusing on legal and ethical issues.

(Editor’s Note: If you have any information that you would like to have included in the next issue, please notify your chapter contact person).

J. Erwin McCorkle

Erwin McCorkle’s death on August 7 was indeed a great loss to the Counseling and Guidance Department, a loss it will continue to feel for a very long time. A doctoral student and graduate assistant, Erwin was one of the members instrumental in starting the Chi Sigma Iota Chapter at E.T.S.U. In previous years he had worked at MHRM centers in Central and East Texas and had just been elected president-elect for the Texas Association Mental Health Counselors.

The vacancy left by Erwin touches many. He kept the coffee pot brewing in the lounge and kept his eye peeled on the door from his desk, always eager to greet someone with a hello or a hug. Erwin found time to listen, offering warmth, positive regard, and acceptance, all natural characteristics of who he was.

Paula Hosking, a master’s student in one of Erwin’s practicums, wrote in her log of how Erwin touched her life:

Erwin has modeled, taught, and confirmed what being truly genuine and unconditionally accepting means. He respected and supported me as an equal from the first day we met. It often seemed like he had had and verbalized more confidence in my competence than I would ever realize. He validated everything I represented as an individual and especially as a counselor. I was continually amazed at how short a time I knew Erwin and yet he managed to make such an enormous impact/contribution to my life. As I look at the many people in my life that have helped me grow, his presence stands apart from the rest. I loved him. I miss him. I will never forget him. And I would like to believe that a part of his greatness will be with me always.

That is indeed the feeling of many of us who were touched by Erwin’s presence in our lives.
CSI OUTSTANDING RESEARCH AWARD - ABSTRACT

Shyness is an attribute that spans a wide behavioral, emotional continuum. This study was designed to test the effectiveness of a one-day workshop which integrated cognitive, behavioral and relaxation techniques commonly used in the treatment of shyness. A one-group post-test design was utilized to measure the effectiveness of this format in the incidence of social avoidance and fear of negative evaluation.

The results of the measures of levels of social avoidance and fear of negative used in the study demonstrated a highly significant decrease in both of these variables. Such a format provides a vehicle for delivery of services to a large number of students who identify themselves as shy. Based on the results available a recommendation can be made that such a workshop be available to students on a regular basis.

- Nancy O'Neil -

SUPERVISOR CREDENTIALING

A generic credential for counseling supervisors was endorsed by the AACD Convention in Chicago. The Council also approved the creation of a 3-member Supervisor Credentialing Task Force to develop the specifics of the credentialing program.

AACD President Robert J. Nejedlo appointed H. Allan Dye (Chair; Purdue University), L. DiAnne Borders (University of North Carolina at Greensboro), and Lee Richmond (Loyola College) to the new task force. The three were charged with writing a statement of the standards and competencies of counseling supervisors, and then determining criteria for certification based on this statement. They also will investigate administrative and governance structures and make plans for the implementation of the credential.

"I am very pleased with the progress made this year toward a supervisor credentialing process," said AACD Past-President Brooke Collison. "The credentialing task force is to be commended."

"The early consensus about a credential for counseling supervisors is evidence that the need has been there," he added. "This is a good example of what a professional organization ought to be doing - helping to develop standards for our profession."

Nejedlo also voiced support for the credential. "Credentialing is one of the hallmarks of a profession, and having a supervisor credential will certainly strengthen us as a profession," he said.

The national credentialing program was the result of the collaborative work of a group representing AACD divisions and counseling credentialing organizations. The group met in September 1987 at the invitation of ACES President Joseph C. Rotter. At that initial meeting, participants agreed to form an Interdivisional Task Force on Supervisor Credentialing and to promote standards for counseling supervisors. The group authored the proposal for the credential that was approved by the Governing Council in March.

"The overwhelming positive response from the AACD divisions and affiliate organizations was very encouraging, and, as I interpret it, a mandate to the profession," said Rotter.

Interest in accountability of counselors led to the certification and licensing of counselors. Recent developments indicate there is a growing emphasis on accountability of supervisors as well.

The Ohio counselor licensure law, for example, includes standards for supervisors of applicants, and South Carolina recently enacted a separate license for supervisors. In addition, NACCMHC is developing standards for supervisors of applicants for the CCMHC credential. Other organizations, such as American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT) and the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE) also have "approved supervisor" categories. The proposed credential will be a national, generic certification applicable to supervisors of counselors in a variety of settings, and supervisors of both pre-service and post-degree counselors.

Dye believes the proposed credential reflects the profession's growing awareness of the need to be accountable. "The credentialing effort and the associated project to develop standards for counseling supervisors are most importantly an effort to be accountable to ourselves, other professionals, and the public," he said.

Richmond, who was involved in the effort to credential career counselors, believes a generic credential for supervisors is a major next step to ensure quality performance of counselors.

Recent professional developments have provided the foundation for a solid credentialing program, said Borders. She pointed to the substantial amount of research and several new books on counseling supervision that have been published in the last few years. "Counseling supervision is now being recognized as a professional specialty," she added.

Distinguished Scholar - the newest CSI Distinguished Scholar is Garry Walz from the University of Michigan. Look for more information about Garry in the next Newsletter.

Leadership seminar - Garry Walz, Rose Cooper and Tom Sweeney will be conducting a leadership seminar for members at the 1989 AACD meeting in Boston.
CSI ELECTION NEWS
BALLOTS DUE
DECEMBER 16

Chapters are now in the process of selecting a President-Elect for CSI. Two candidates, Don Bubenzer (Kent State University) and Larry Loesch (University of Florida) are the nominees.

According to CSI By-Laws, each chapter is eligible to select one individual for this position. Ballots were mailed to chapter contacts during October, 1988 and are due in the Headquarters Office by Friday, December 16, 1988.

Presented below, in alphabetical order, is a summary of the qualifications of the candidates.

Donald L. Bubenzer
310 White Hall
Kent State University
Kent, Ohio 44240
Chapter: Kappa Sigma Upsilon
Member #979

Qualifications:
My educational background includes a bachelor's degree in sociology and philosophy from Indiana State University, a master's degree in theology from Eden Theological Seminary and a master's and doctorate in Counselor Education from Ohio University.

Credentials include:
Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor in Ohio, National Certified Counselor and Clinical Member and Approved Supervisor of the AAMFT.

I have 12 years of experience as a counselor educator. Currently, I am an Associate Professor and Coordinator of the Counseling and Human Development Services Program at Kent State University. I also hold an appointment as an adjunct faculty member in the Behavioral Sciences at the Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine. Previously, I served as Director of the Counseling Program at the West Virginia College of Graduate Studies.

My publications and research efforts have included 6 funded grants, membership on the editorial board of two journals and articles in the areas of marriage and family therapy, counselor supervision, and stress.

I have served as Sponsor of the Kappa Sigma Upsilon Chapter since July of 1986 and currently serve as the Membership Chair of Chi Sigma Iota. I consider my research, writing and presentation record in the area of supervision and my departmental leadership to be my strongest statement of commitment to counseling. I believe the strength of counseling as a profession lies in the quality of training counselors receive.

Goals Statement:
My excitement about Chi Sigma Iota, and I believe the excitement of many of us, is about the organization's commitment to counseling as a matter of both the mind and the heart. The excitement is about what we the members of Chi Sigma Iota do to celebrate and stimulate inquiry and about our commitment to use that inquiry as a professional counselors for the well-being of human kind. If elected President of Chi Sigma Iota I will strive to increase the excitement of inquiry and service, the heart of our profession, by:

Using the resources of the honorary to support our Chapters so that they provide professional vitality to their members.

Linking chapters so that they nurture and support each other so that they encourage new chapters.

Encouraging the contributions and recognition of members and chapters by continuing awards programs at the national level and by encouraging the development of award and scholarship programs at the local level.

Continuing to promote research, scholarship, and professionalism through the imminent scholar program at the AACC annual convention.

Developing a pool of professionals willing to volunteer services for the continuing development of chapters, i.e. CEU workshops to generate scholarships etc.

Using the ideas and energy of fellow officers and Chi Sigma Iota members to continue our commitment to professional excellence and the cultivation of leaders in the field of counseling.

Larry C. Loesch, Ph.D., NCC
University of Florida
Department of Counselor Education
1215 Norman Hall
Gainesville, Florida 32611
Beta Chapter
Life Member #003

Qualifications:
I have been a counselor educator for fifteen years since receiving my doctorate in counselor education from Kent State University in 1973. Current major professional activities include being NBCC Examinations Coordinator and an editorial board member for Counselor Education and Supervision. I served as an AMECD (AMEG) representative to CACREP. I am a former president of AMECD and of Florida ACD. I served as editor of Measurement and Evaluation in Guidance and as chairperson of the APGA Council of Journal Editors. I served on the AACC (APGA) media committee and the AACC Technology Committee. I was a (co-)recipient of the 1983 AACC Research Award, 1986 AAMEE Exemplary practices Award, and a Florida ACES distinguished Professional Service Award. I have (co-)authored more than 80 professional publications and presented more than 70 workshops and convention programs. My NCC number is 2.

I served at the initial CSI Secretary-Treasurer and have been involved with CSI from (soon after) its inception. I was a co-founder of Beta Chapter, the second CSI chapter founded, and served as its chapter contact for three years.

Goals Statement:
Chi Sigma Iota is the manifestation of recognition of excellence in the counseling profession. Begun by visionary professionals, the dream has become a reality because of sound leadership and an active membership. This solid foundation must be built upon, both through continuance and extension. Most of CSI's activities have been successful and should be continued. A few others should be discarded. Still others remain to be developed and implemented. CSI should continue its chapter and membership development activities so that greater numbers of "excellent" counseling professionals can participate in it. Chapter and member services and benefits should continue to be a primary goal. Seminal efforts toward inter-chapter collaborations need to be nurtured. And finally, activities to bring greater recognition and exposure to CSI throughout counseling and related professions should be continued. These noble goals will not be achieved fully during any one person's term of office as CSI President. However, substantial and significant progress toward them can be made during one term. Therefore, my primary goal if elected CSI President would be to facilitate effective use of the CSI leadership resources to progress as far as possible toward these goals.
CHI SIGMA IOTA
CALENDAR OF EVENTS
1988-89

May 1, 1988  Beginning of 1988-89 fiscal year
May 5, 1988  Annual plan forms sent to chapters
July 29-31  Executive Council Meeting
*  Chapter Election schedule
Sep 15, 1988  International Elections Ballot mailed for 1989-90 officers
Sep 30, 1988  Annual plans due to Headquarters
October
November
Dec 31, 1988  Requests sent to chapters for representation at Annual Business Meeting
Mar 10, 1989  Name(s) of representatives at Annual Business Meeting due to Headquarters
Mar 17, 1989  Annual Business meeting (at AACD) International Officer Elections nominations for 1990-91 elections solicited
April - July  Chapters contacted to submit nominees for International offices, 1990-91
Apr 30, 1989  End of 1988-89 fiscal year

*Elections are to be held prior to submission of annual plans.

DIXIE TIGNER NEW CSI ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Ellen Lilley (left) and Dixie Tigner at the Second Annual Chi Sigma Iota All-State Conference/Fifth Annual Ohio Valley Counselors Conference held at the O.U. Inn, Athens, Ohio, April 8-9, 1988.

Dixie Tigner joined CSI as its Administrative Assistant July 1, 1988. She has been working in a variety of positions since completing a business degree at Hocking Technical College in Ohio. She has been sole proprietor of her own business, administrative consultant to two electronics firms, and held two secretarial positions with Ohio University.

Dixie is currently involved in helping the local chapters with their membership recruitment, reviewing annual plans, arranging for the rebates. She is conducting an ongoing study of the membership in terms of rate of renewal and number of new members, both over-all and at the individual chapter level. She is also charting the results of an attempt to reach members whose memberships have expired in an effort to urge them to renew their memberships.

CSI is growing rapidly, and so much so that Dixie is usually in the office during normal business hours. There is also an answering machine in the Headquarters office which is always on for the convenience of the members.

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