There will be comments from others that CSI is an elitist organization. At least some definitions would support that point of view, i.e., "a choice or select body". In fact, members of CSI are "choice or select" by virtue of their meeting or exceeding certain criteria established by its founders. Let us briefly examine these criteria and the rationale for their selection.

First, there are the academic criteria. The national credentialing and accreditation standards for all such bodies provide that entry level for professional counselors is minimally at the graduate level. As a consequence, CSI presently recognizes for membership, only persons with or studying for a graduate degree in counselor education.

The accepted minimum grade for graduate work is "B" or 3.0 on a four point grading system. The rationale for a 3.5 or B+ average in graduate studies was predicated on the belief that to be truly an "academic honor" society should require more than a minimal level of achievement. This was based, too, upon the conviction that with the proper application of one's intelligence, 3.5 should be within the reach of all students.

With respect to practitioners, evidence of a commitment to excellence was thought to be best demonstrated through evidence of state or national credentialing agencies. Such bodies tend to require meeting minimum standards of preparation and supervised experience and, more recently, entry examinations and continued education for renewal. All also provide for sanctions to those who violate a professional codes of ethics. All such criteria are within the realm of possibility for serious practitioners but, collectively, represent further evidence of a commitment to excellence.

One of the most troubling groups with which we have had to "bite the proverbial bullet" has been university counselor educators who are either not credentialed at all or who are credentialed by some other profession, e.g., psychology or social work. In the first group, the question is, why not exempt counselor educators from credentialing? They don't

(Continued on page 11)
This past academic year, CSI prepared and mailed to all Assistants to the Executive Director, a Handbook of Chapter Annual Reports. These handbooks were also shared with chapters officers.

The evaluation of this project indicated that Chapters found the handbook very useful and valuable. The specific comments were that it helped generate ideas, that it motivated less active chapters to initiate a variety of programs and activities, improve the chapter organizational structure, and provided fund raising ideas. In general, the sharing of information on goals, objectives, planned activities, speakers and accomplishments provided the much needed collaboration, coordination, and networking among chapters.

Encouraged by these comments, the Handbook will be printed again in 1989-1990. A typed summary page, prepared by the each chapter, will enhance the ease of using this information. The Handbook will also include the distribution of Chapters (number and location), CSI Calendar of Events for 1989-1990, CSI Officers, CSI Distinguished Scholars, and CSI Bylaws.

The goal is to not only create strong new chapters, but also to retain current members, and develop strong chapters that are vital, vigorous and visible.

Rose A. Cooper
President's Message

Counseling, Leadership, and Excellence: Catch the Spirit

During the fall, I am always amazed at the energy that is devoted to formulating new slogans for television shows and football teams. The beginning of these seasons involves a strong kickoff. As Chi Sigma Iota initiates its fifth year, I do not have any catchy phrases to throw at you, but I would like to emphasize a few points that are basic to our efforts in promoting excellence in counseling and one new development that will help the profession of counseling and CSI stay "winners."

As you are aware, Chi Sigma Iota is unique in its quest to promote leadership potential. It is a pro-active stance that enhances the development of individuals and the counseling profession as a whole. This year, as last, CSI will award a limited number of leadership grants for chapters to send less experienced professionals to the March, 1990 national AACD convention in Cincinnati. Those chosen will be expected to attend a leadership seminar and other meetings sponsored by CSI. The payback from this experience for individuals and their chapters should be great in regard to knowledge, insight, and acquired abilities. The enthusiasm and commitment of the officers of CSI for this project has never been higher. In addition, two CSI Fellows will also be chosen. (For more details, see article by Vacc and Kandor in this newsletter).

The point of my mentioning all of this is that I am pleased and proud as your president to have had some part in helping to implement this and other projects of Chi Sigma Iota. In July, the CSI Executive Council met in Greensboro, NC and my impression of this meeting is that the officers of the society are unselfishly committed to promoting the best within counselors and the profession of counseling. This striving for "excellence" is an uppermost goal that I think will keep CSI in the forefront of the profession. It is a spirit I would urge you to tap into and "catch" by applying for a CSI leadership grant or urging others to do so. It is an opportunity that is too great to be passed up.

Effective counselors and leaders have much in common. Both share a deep concern for the people with whom they work, are good listeners, rise to the challenge of being creative in difficult situations, and are hard workers. One of the opportunities within CSI is to develop one's leadership abilities in the ever-maturing and rapidly-growing field of counseling. It takes teamwork, but tune in and stay tuned as CSI continues to grow and promote the development of counseling. As always, your input is valued. After all, an essential part of counseling is the individual and this includes you.

Sam Gladding

CSI Research Award Abstracts

Three CSI Research Awards were presented at the AACD Convention in Boston last March. The award winners, in order of place were: (1) April Ross Lane, NCC (University of Alabama); (2) Nancy Kizielwicz, NCC (State University of New York at Brockport); and (3) Jo Ellen Perry, NCC (James Madison University). A author created abstract was required as part of the materials submitted for consideration for an award. CSI is pleased to present the award winners' abstracts in further recognition of their accomplishments.

April Ross Lane - Transition to parenthood: Dyadic adjustment as a correlate of perceived mental health of family-of-origin experience.

The impact of family-of-origin experiences on the marital adjustment of husbands and wives during the transition to parenthood was examined in this longitudinal study. Subjects were 118 adults participating in childbirth preparation classes. Indicated in data collected during the third trimester of pregnancy and five to six months following the birth of a first child was that the family-of-origin experience of husbands and wives is a significant variable affecting marital adjustment. Suggested in some of the gender-specific comparisons was a strong relationship between family-of-origin experience and marital adjustment for wives. Indicated in additional comparisons were no significant relationships between selected demographic variables and marital adjustment during the transition to parenthood. Implications for therapeutic practices and suggestions for related research are discussed in the paper.
Planning for the International Conference on Counseling in the 21st Century to be held in Hong Kong from December 28, 1989 to January 2, 1990 has moved toward completion. The conference is being organized by counselor education programs in three countries, San Francisco State University, The School of Education in the Chinese University of Hong Kong, and Naruto University of Teacher Education in Japan. There are over 30 programs, many of them dealing with the problems of emigration, multicultural issues, changing role of women in different cultures, and a number which focus on school counseling programs in a variety of cultural settings.

Other affiliate sponsors of the conference are Aacd (American Association for Counseling and Development), ARCA (American Rehabilitation Counseling Association), Chi Sigma Iota (Counseling and Academic Professional Honor Society International), WACES (Western Association for Counselor Education and Supervision), and CACD (California Association for Counseling and Development).

Presenters will come from the United States, Hong Kong, Canada, Australia, Philippines, Singapore and Taiwan.

Among the attendees and presenters will be Aacd President, Sunny Hansen, Aacd President-Elect, Jane Myers, former Aacd President and Executive Director of Chi Sigma Iota, Tom Sweeney, WACES President, Amy Hittner, and former ACES Presidents, Nancy Scott and Jim Winfrey. Many other national, regional and state officers will also be there. Thus far over 100 persons have registered for the conference.

The airfare (west coast to Hong Kong and return) and hotel (Regal Meridan) costs will be $1,245.00. For those wishing to take the optional tour afterwards to Bali, Singapore, and Bangkok, the 10 day tour will cost $1,195.00. Over 40 persons have already signed up for that trip and it may be completely booked by the time you read this. There are a limited number of rooms at the Regal Meridan still available. For airfare and hotel information, write to Universal Travel, 8888 Clairmont Mesa Blvd., Suite A, San Diego, CA 92123. For reservation, call 1-800-272-6888 in California or 1-800-272-7888 from other states.

For conference information write to Bill Evaiff, Department of Counseling, School of Education, San Francisco State University, San Francisco, CA 94132.

Leaders are made, not born. Gaining experience, know-how and necessary skills helps to create leaders. Today, more than ever, there is an urgent need for leaders—good leaders who are strong, dedicated, competent and honest.

Chi Sigma Iota will provide a Leadership Development Workshop for current and new leaders on Saturday, March 17, 1990 from 1:30 to 3:00 PM, during the Aacd Convention in Cincinnati. During a general session, a Handbook will be provided to each participant. The Handbook contains valuable information on building effective strategies, creating goals, planning and running a successful meeting, fundamentals of parliamentary procedure, Robert's Rules of Order with a chart of precedence of motions, how to write an annual plan of action, how to build and manage a budget, and a copy of the CSI Bylaws. During the small break-out sessions Aacd Regional Leaders will conduct small group discussions.

As much hands-on-experience as possible will be provided. There is a Chinese proverb that appropriately states:

I hear, and I forget.
I see, and I remember.
I do, and I understand.

CSI Chapters representatives are encouraged to attend this workshop, pick-up valuable materials and information, and become enthusiastic, encouraged and energized to assume and carry out leadership responsibilities.

Rose A. Cooper
The 1989 AACD convention theme, "Transformation of the Profession: From Lanterns to Lasers and Beyond" was meant, in part, to convey the message that counselors have established a professional niche and can be assured a prominent role in the future. This and other optimistic messages were delivered during the opening session at the convention. A session that closed with a laser show to visually emphasize the progress counselors have made. But as the smoke began to clear (another special effect of the opening session) I experienced the unpleasant thought that counseling's potentially bright future may also be evaporating. Whether or not counselors will enter the next century with a role to play depends mostly upon the issue of counseling's identity.

The factors that have served to delay counseling's identity are numerous and they vary in the degree that they have served as genuine roadblocks. Occasionally the counseling profession has been guilty of thinking too much when it should have acted or acted to quickly when it should have thought through an issue more carefully. For example, how long have we spent time thinking (and arguing) about whether counseling and psychotherapy are the same or different? On the surface this seems like an innocuous question that counselors first encounter in a graduate counseling class. The question is far from being innocuous. An underlying message of such a question is that counseling's efficacy may be restricted and that counseling itself may be less vital than other endeavors. In reality there is no clear demarcation between counseling and psychotherapy and such questions, when taken too seriously, can hinder progress towards identity crystallization. Of course the above factor is minor compared to others that serve to curtail the efforts of counselors to establish their role. Such factors are aptly illustrated by the mythological story of Atalanta.

Atalanta was a huntress who agreed to wed the man who could win a footrace against her. She loses to Hippomenes when she stops to pick up golden apples he has thrown in her path.

Sometimes counselors are tempted to acquire what appears to be a "golden apple" tossed in their path. This is best exemplified when a university's department of counseling and department of psychology combine efforts to create the hybrid of counseling psychology. Such incestuous relationships further obscure the formation of a "counseling identity." It is faulty logic to assume that because counseling's roots are in other professions it can not stand alone and apart from these professions. The strength of counseling lies in its diversity of interests and therapeutic approaches. Ivey (1989) has argued that the thread that binds all of this diversity together is the realization that "counseling" and "development" are inseparable aspects of what we practice. That "the key distinctiveness of ... counseling ... is this focus on human development, the reintroduction of movement into our immobilized ... clients ..." (Ivey, 1989). It is startling to rediscover that a major element of our identity is literally before our eyes in the name of a major counseling organization—the American Association for Counseling and Development.

It seems vitally important for counselors to accept that counseling may not have a completely unique heritage but that counseling can make a unique contribution. It is time for counseling to stop picking up the golden apples tossed its way. Counselors must become selfish and play by the rules they establish for themselves and vehemently promote those things such as licensure laws that enable the profession to stand independent of other professions.

Earl J. Ginter

The above editorial represents the views of the writer, reactions to these views are invited.
**Member's Corner**

It is a cliche to say that any organization or profession is as good as its members. The words may be trite but the depth of meaning is still profound. A part of the purpose of this column is to share the lives and contributions of Chi Sigma Iota (CSI) members. This year we would like to share news from and about members in two ways. First of all, there is a form at the end of this column for you to submit your special achievements and contributions. After editing, these contributions will be shared via the newsletter. Secondly, we would like to highlight selected CSI members throughout the various Chapters.

In these member highlight sections, we will discuss the member's world of work, perspectives on the profession and Chi Sigma Iota, and some personal insights.

In this column, we are paying special note to four of the CSI 1989 Award winners: **Wayne Griffin**, outstanding entry level student; **Paula Britton**, outstanding doctoral student, and **Rose Diane Michelfelder "Mickie" Miller** and **Richard "Rick" Shepler** who were co-recipients of the outstanding service to chapter award. These award recipients are members of two of our most active Chapters. Wayne and Mickie are members of Beta Chapter at the University of Florida while Paula and Rick have their membership with Alpha Upsilon Chapter at the University of Akron.

**Wayne Griffin** has maintained a 4.0 GPA as a student in the Department of Counselor Education at the University of Florida. He has also been selected to teach undergraduate courses in the Counselor Education Program. He serves as secretary of the Beta Chapter and has been active in planning and executing programs for the chapter. Wayne is active both in the city of Gainesville and at the University of Florida. He is on the Board of Directors for the Sexual and Physical Abuse Resource Center, and the Career and Personal Counseling Center, Eckerd College. He is a member of the Advisory Board for the University Wellness Committee and is a Mediator for the State's Attorney Dispute Mediation Program. He also serves on the City of Gainesville's Human Relations Advisory Board and on two University of Florida task forces - the AIDS Task Force and the President's Task Force on Student Conduct. Since 1981, Wayne has been employed in Gainesville as the Campus Minister and Director of the Presbyterian Student Center.

**Paula Britton**, a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor in Ohio, is currently completing an internship in the counseling center at Kent State University. She is a doctoral candidate at the University of Akron where she is President of Alpha Upsilon Chapter. She has been particularly involved in developing a networking manual for the chapter and in publicizing the activities of the Chapter. Of her activity in Chi Sigma Iota, Paula reports that she has been especially appreciative of her opportunity to work side-by-side with faculty and fellow professionals and of the chance to use her leadership skills and to develop new skills.

Ms. Britton's professional interests include family and group therapy with HIV Spectrum Disorder individuals. She is also active in the leadership of an AIDS support group. Her special areas of expertise include research and statistics.

**Mickie Miller** has served as President of the Beta Chapter at the University of Florida. Her work in founding Beta Chapter is exemplary. She organized the first three initiations and presided over two of them. She is responsible for organizing several workshops, one of which brought over 400 counseling professionals to Gainesville. Mickie has been involved in the founding of other CSI Chapters in Florida and has developed a slide show featuring the activities of Beta Chapter.

**Rick Shepler** is a Past-President of the Alpha Upsilon Chapter at the University of Akron. The Chapter won the CSI Outstanding Chapter Award during his year as President. This past year, Rick was one of the prime organizers of the all Ohio CSI Conference. He also assisted Alpha Upsilon in assuming responsibility for orienting new students to the Akron University Counseling Program and in the development of a chapter plan that garnered $650.00 for the Chapter from the University Student Programming Board.

We wish to thank these four CSI members for their special contributions to the organization and profession. Our thanks is expressed to the Assistants to the CSI Executive Director at these two schools - Peter Sherrard and formerly Jane Myers at the University of Florida and Bill Nemec and formerly Jack Cochran at the University of Akron.
Finally, please send us news about your contributions and achievements so that we can include them in future newsletters. These contributions might include an article published, a new job undertaken, a new position of leadership or a research or service grant obtained.

Please submit these items on the form below.

Name: ____________________ Chapter: ____________________ Date ___________
University Affiliation: ____________________

Contribution/ Achievement (use more paper as needed):

Send to: Donald L. Bubenzer,
310 White Hall, Kent State University, Kent, OH 44242
LEADERSHIP in COUNSELOR EDUCATION FELLOWSHIPS and INTERN PROGRAM

Leadership in Counselor Education

Chi Sigma Iota is again pleased to announce the availability of the Leadership in Counselor Education Fellowships. The Fellowships are designed to help future leaders in counselor education to become effective and knowledgeable in working with issues of concern to the profession. The intent is to help professional men and women during the early years of their career, to develop skills in helping move the profession forward in the future.

CSI Intern Program

New this year is the CSI Intern Program which has been designed to expose recipients of the CSI Leadership in Counselor Education Fellowships to new and stimulating ideas. The internship will also provide mentoring to those recipients who have a desire to be service to the profession.

Two interns will be selected. One will work with the CSI President and another intern will assist the CSI Executive Director for one year. The general objectives of the Intern's assignment are as follows:

- attend Executive Council meetings and committee meetings as assigned, serve as a member of the Intern Selection Committee, review minutes for follow-through items after Executive Council meetings, participate at the AACC convention in social events related to the Executive Council, and work on projects as assigned by the President, such as planning the Executive Council's July meeting.
- The CSI Internship is a non-paid, part-time volunteer position. The Intern will operate from his/her home institution and communicate with the CSI President and Executive Director primarily by mail and telephone. Expenses involved in fulfilling the internship responsibilities, except for convention attendance, are covered by CSI; there is no stipend.
- Applicants for the internship need to be current or previous recipients of the CSI Counselor Education Leadership Award, have no more than three years of full-time experience as a post-master's degree counselor education professional, and be willing to attend the next two AACC conventions.

Nomination forms for the programs will be sent to the Chapters by October 1, 1989. Applications will be due to the committee by December 15, 1989. Additional information and applications for the CSI Leadership in Counselor Education Fellowships and the CSI Intern Program are available by writing to CSI, 313 McCracken Hall, Ohio University, Athens, OH 45701.

Nicolas Vacc & Joe Kandor

Sigma Upsilon Chi Chapter Celebrates First Official Merger

The former Alpha Zeta Chapter of Rho Chi Sigma and the Beta Rho chapter of Chi Sigma Iota have formally merged on the Southern University Baton Rouge, LA campus. The official ceremony was preceded by several meetings of Southern University faculty, Madan Kundu, Laura Beth Hicks and Ivory Tolson, Chair of the Counselor Education program. Technical assistance in making plans for the merger was provided by CSI Headquarters as well as the RCS Headquarters and officers.

The merger was celebrated with a four hour workshop on "New Lifestyle and Career Options for Older Persons" conducted by Tom Sweeney, Executive Director and founding President of CSI. Presenters at the workshop from the Southern University faculty were Madan Kundu, A.B. Johnson, Laura Beth Hicks, Elaine Hurme and Ivory Tolson. More than 80 persons attended the workshop and learned about the possibilities for creative and fulfilling lifestyles in their later years.

Following the workshop, the first initiation ceremony for the merged chapter was held on April 13, 1989 with nineteen new members welcomed into CSI. Presiding were Tom Sweeney and Jane Myers, founding President of RCS and CSI President, 1988-1989.
**One Student's Perspective of ΧΣΙ Chi Sigma Iota**

One could question the existence of a professional honor society, such as Chi Sigma Iota, in graduate school and for a profession. Most students who enter graduate school have above average academic records. They enter as "honor" students one could say. Students need to make grades of "B" or better to complete their program of study. At the graduate level, it is also assumed that students want to become well prepared professionals. Therefore, many students perform well in coursework and are qualified to become members of Chi Sigma Iota. So why have such an organization if most students and professionals are qualified to become members?

As a student, I perceive the organization as a symbol for developing and maintaining a high level of professionalism and skill in the counseling profession. It isn't just a group of people who maintain a certain grade average and now want to be an honor society.

Becoming a member of the society is a way of demonstrating one's support of high standards in the profession. High standards are represented by adherence to ethical codes, continuing one's education through workshops and supervision, contributing to the profession through research, presentations, and professional publications, and taking leadership positions that help determine the future of the profession.

One, of course, can make the same commitment without becoming a member of an honor society and many do. What Chi Sigma Iota offers, in one student's view, is a continual reminder that how we do is as important as what we do. Such an organization sets expectations for the kind of professionals we can be.

**Paula H. Stanley**

(Editor's Note: Paula Stanley is a doctoral student at The University of North Carolina at Greensboro and has recently agreed to serve as Associate Editor for the CSI Newsletter)

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Although support was not found for improved communication skills, or self-esteem as a result of the intervention, a reduction in conflicts traditionally handled through "normal" school disciplinary processes was noted. It was concluded that the conflict manager program did have a positive effect within the school environment.
fancy Kizielwicz - Ideological orientations and social class in the mother-adolescent daughter relationship: A conceptual model.

A stratified random sample of twenty-four mother-adolescent daughter pairs participated in intensive interviews. Twelve of the dyads were from "middle class" families and twelve were from "working class" families. An interview protocol developed by the researcher was used to generate data for the study. The purposes of the study were to: (a) build upon existing theory by presenting a conceptual model for understanding the mother-adolescent-daughter relationship, (b) identify and describe the belief systems or ideological orientations of participants, and (c) analyze identified ideological orientations with respect to social class. Four classifications of ideological orientation for mothers and four classifications for adolescent daughters were identified. Patterned differences existed in respect to social class for intact families. Working class mothers who were heads of households did not, however, articulate traditional working class belief systems previously identified in research. The data from this study offers valuable information for researchers, counseling clinicians and women.

Jo Ellen Perry - Evaluation of a conflict manager program at the elementary school level.

The impact of a conflict manager program instituted at the elementary school level was hypothesized to reduce conflict, improve leadership and communication skills, increase self-esteem, and improve relationships between students and school staff. The program was implemented in an elementary school having approximately six-hundred students. Fifty-seven fourth, fifth and sixth graders and nineteen regular education teachers were given the Piers-Harris Self Concept Scale, the Student Attitudes About Conflict Scale, and the Teacher Attitude Scale to provide data for the non-equivalent control group pre-test/post-test design. Additional frequency data for discipline actions and conflicts mediated were obtained.

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Paula H. Stanley

(Editor's Note: Paula Stanley is a doctoral student at The University of North Carolina at Greensboro and has recently agreed to serve as Associate Editor for the CSI Newsletter)
Chapter Vote or Individual Vote ???

Hello! Is anyone out there?

In the last issue of the Newsletter, I asked for responses to the question: Should the election of international officers be changed from a chapter vote to an individual member vote? I was sure that my mailbox would be stuffed with responses to my question. But, alas, I did not receive a single response neither by land or by sea. As I explained in my earlier article, the rationale for having the chapter vote was to emphasize the chapter aspect that is so important to CSI. However, in reality, many members do not have the opportunity for input because they are at-large members, and often are not within chapter range. Other chapters do not have meetings and/or at the time the vote is needed. In a few cases, the chapter has become inactive but individual members continue to renew their membership and perhaps would like to have a say in choosing their international officers.

I am going to try again! The Executive Council suggested that I ask you these two questions:

1. Would you like to see the CSI Bylaws regarding the policy for electing international officers changed from that of a by chapter vote to one of an individual vote? Presently, all active chapters have at least one vote; chapters with 30 or more active members may have two votes.

2. If we move from a chapter vote to an individual vote, what suggestions do you have to keep the postage costs from becoming exorbitantly high?

A Letter from Betty Casey, A CSI Leadership in Counselor Education Fellow

I was a first-timer at the AACC Convention in Boston and honored to be a recipient of one of the Chi Sigma Iota Leadership in Counselor Education Fellowships.

I was struck by the friendliness of the convention attendees. It was most enjoyable to talk to counselors from the many states and the Philippines before and after sessions, becoming friends, sharing ideas and feelings about our work and debating new learning gained from the presenters. I also found myself becoming closer to counselors I already knew--we had the luxury of time to spend together away from other obligations.

It was exciting to see and hear in person people like Albert Ellis, Reck Niebuhr and Ken Hoyt, people whom I previously knew only from textbooks, lectures and journal articles.

The enthusiasm was very energizing, encouraging me to participate as fully as possible at the convention and to return to my job with renewed vigor and a greater feeling of competence.

CIRCLE and send in.

#1 Chapter or Individual
YES NO YES NO

#2 Postage suggestions?

I am grateful to Garry Wal for reminding me that there is no limit to human potential. It can be so easy to focus on deficits rather than strengths in the course of day-to-day events. By changing my view, new possibilities are revealed and hope can be instilled resulting in growth for me and my students.

During the Chi Sigma Iota Scholars Across the Generation seminar, Ken Hoyt observed that counselors aren't particularly adept at marketing, leading to a misunderstanding of our functions and lack of respect for our work. The logic of this is as apparent to me as is the logic of doing something to change this image.

George Wright challenged us to be more involved in community service. This can increase counselors' visibility and demonstrate the value of our work.

My personal goal is to increase my involvement in Nu Chapter-CSI, particularly in the area of recruiting student memberships. The opportunities for learning and fellowship are myriad. I am thankful to Chi Sigma Iota for the opportunity to experience the many activities presented by AACC & CSI.

Betty Casey

PLEASE SEND YOUR RESPONSES BY OCTOBER 31, 1989 TO:

Lois C. Wedl CSI Secretary
Education Department
OR call me at: (612) 363-5209
College of St. Benedict
St. Joseph, MN 56374
EXCELLENCE VS ELITISM

(Continued from page 1)

need it to teach and it could be construed as a nuisance requirement. Indeed, some day this and other requirements may be revisited and even modified. However, at the point in history when CSI was founded, national and state credentialing was, as it still remains today, a major movement toward the uniform professionalization of counseling. Who more that the mentors, teachers and supervisors should model responsible professional behavior? Who more needs to show the way toward a more credible view of professional counseling and counselors than those who do the teaching? Are they in less need of recurrent preparation? Is their money for such credentials more valuable for other purposes compared to those who are counseling in schools, agencies or in private practice? When we can answer these and other questions with a clear conscience that we are not expecting less of those who educate than those who practice, then change will come quickly.

Finally, the question of those who identify themselves as other than counselors is not one of elitism nor does it suggest that they have less than a commitment to excellence. We have received applications from a wide range of persons identifying themselves by a great number of nomenclatures. For at least some, we must wonder if their real intention is simply the desire to obtain a handcrafted work of art with their name, a gold seal and signatures attesting to their commitment to excellence which is suitable for hanging in their office.

On the other hand, there are others who counsel and have excellent credentials for doing so. The best example relates to our colleagues in psychology. In point of fact, in many instances, they are "us". Concurrent memberships in counseling associations and psychological associations is not unusual. Psychology has a tradition through its standards, credentialing and accreditation to recognize first and foremost those who practice, teach or conduct research in whatever realm of human or animal behavior as psychologists. Subspecializations are just that.

The founders of CSI started out committed to excellence in the profession of counseling. Without any intention to be exclusive, we sought to promote counseling and counselors in much the same spirit as psychology or any number of other professions. We have persons also known as psychologists among our membership. We also have members who belong to a number of other professional organizations and have credentials of such groups including psychology, marriage and family, etc. One important distinction, however, relates to what we believe is their primary identification with counselor education, counselor credentials and the criteria noted above. They have chosen to do what it takes to maintain an allegiance to counseling, not as a modifier, but as a noun. That commitment is what will make counseling truly a partner among the applied behavioral sciences.

In conclusion, I invite you to think and feel what it was about CSI that first attracted you to membership. I doubt that it was desire to be "exclusive". More likely, it was a satisfaction in finding a group of kindred souls excited about their chosen work and wanting to do it as well as they can. And if so, what more could we want from any such personal or professional affiliation? Share your visions and your enthusiasm for what counseling is becoming and, one day, maybe all graduates of counselor education will be eligible for membership!

Tom Sweeney
Chi Sigma Iota The Newsletter September, 1989

Membership & Chapters by State

Counseling Academic and Professional Honor Society International
313 McCracken Hall, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio 45701

International Membership

U.S. Postage PAID
Permit No. 100
Athens, Ohio 45701

Deadline for the next Newsletter is November 17th