At a time when we’re all feeling pretty low, we wanted to prepare this special issue as a way to showcase some of the good things that have happened in HPC since Covid-19 sent us home in March.

**Department of Human Development & Psychological Counseling**

- Clinical Mental Health Counseling (CMHC)
- Marriage & Family Therapy (MFT)
- Professional School Counseling (PSC)
- Student Affairs Administration (SAA)

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• **Diamond Slone Couch (MFT)** was recently selected as an AAMFT/SAMHSA Minority Fellow in the youth program. This nationally competitive and prestigious accomplishment is for master’s students interested in service provision to racial and/or ethnic minority children, adolescents, and individuals as they transition into adulthood.

• **Hannah Ellicker (SAA)** was selected as the Reich College of Education Graduate Student Speaker.

• **Allyson Murphy (PSC)** received the North Carolina School Counselor Association Graduate Student Scholarship as well as a scholarship from the American School Counselor Association to support attendance at their virtual summer 2020 conference.

• **John Ribes (SAA)** received the School of Graduate Studies Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award.

• **Jessie Butler and Fiona Abrams (CMHC)** were selected for the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program for Addictions Counselors. They will receive funding and training to support their education and facilitate their addictions counseling service to underserved populations.

• **Gaige Cogswell (SAA)** received the University College’s Excellence in General Education Student Mentoring Award.

• **Hannah Cook & Mike Holley (SAA)** received the Gregory S. Blimling award for top Graduate Student in the Division of Student Affairs.
On May 1, 2020, the Alpha Sigma Upsilon chapter of Chi Sigma Iota International Counseling Honor Society inducted 22 new members from the CMHC and PSC programs. These students were invited to be members based on their academic excellence and commitment to the counseling profession.

**HONOR SOCIETY**

**FACULTY SERVICE & AWARDS**

**Dr. Sonja Ardoin (SAA)** was selected to the NASPA Region III (southeast) Board as the Faculty Council Representative. She also was appointed to the editorial board for the Journal of First-generation Student Success.

**Dr. Laura Gambrel (MFT)** served as editor of the Journal of Marital and Family Therapy virtual issue on mindfulness in marriage and family therapy. The issues includes a comprehensive review of articles published in JMFT focused on mindfulness.

**Dr. Amy Milsom (Department Chair)** was elected Chair of the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) Board of Directors, and officially took office on July 1. CACREP accredits over 870 master’s and doctoral programs (including our CMHC and PSC programs).

**Dr. Mark Schwarze (CMHC)** was appointed by Governor Roy Cooper to the North Carolina Board for Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselors.

**Dr. Jill Van Horne (PSC)** received the Reich College of Education 2020 Outstanding Mentoring Award.
• **Dr. Sonja Ardoin**, with 3 other colleagues, received the ACPA Commission for Admissions, Orientation, and the First Year Experience & The National Resource Center for the First-Year Experience and Students in Transition Research Grant for the study: An Examination of Rural Students in Higher Education Through a Non-Deficit Framework.

• **Dr. Karen Caldwell** received $458,189 in funding from the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration to support the final year of a four-year grant project that totaled $1,754,806 in HRSA funding. The funding enables students in the CMHC and MFT programs to provide culturally sensitive behavioral health services for residents of Northwestern North Carolina.

Black Lives Matter, and **Dr. Dominique Hammonds** has lent her voice to a number of outlets to help counselors be prepared to support Black clients. She was interviewed in two separate podcasts and quoted in an article in Counseling Today:

Jordan Montgomery (MFT ‘14) completed a Ph.D. in marriage and family therapy, from Florida State University. She is currently a postdoctoral research fellow at Florida State University College of Medicine’s Center for Child Stress & Health in Immokalee, Florida. Montgomery is responsible for presenting lectures on the impact of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and toxic stress on children. Her presentations focus on how ACEs and toxic stress impact children, specifically in Immokalee, Florida, which is a rural Latino and Haitian migrant farm-working population in southwest Florida.

Montgomery also provides mental health crisis therapy to families, as well as tele-psychology mental health services to children and their families.

Five HPC faculty were promoted to associate professor with tenure:

- Dr. Kristen Benson (MFT)
- Dr. Laura Gambrel (MFT)
- Dr. Glenda Johnson (PSC)
- Dr. Mark Schwarze (CMHC)
- Dr. Jill Van Horne (PSC)

Dr. James Lancaster (SAA) retired after 18 years at Appalachian. In retirement, he is looking forward to new projects in writing, traveling, and home projects.
CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

Spring 2020 Graduates

Student Affairs Administration
Ashley Borders
Kaitlin Burg
Kailanne Burleson
Gaige Cogswell
Hannah Cook
Hannah Elicker
Alexandra Espaillat
Michael Holley
Amy Kolowsky
Sarah LaFrance
Marcia Logsdon
Kellie Redmon
John Ribes
Lindley Simpson
Kira Taylor

Clinical Mental Health Counseling
Lanie Anderson
Heather Rossi

Professional School Counseling
Emily Cannon
Eliza Dutcher
Anna Faircloth
Robyn Honer

Summer 2020 Graduates

Clinical Mental Health Counseling
Damaris Bates
Matthew Beason
Jaime Belsey
Kallie Brown
Kirsten Cole
Jessica Kempton
Timothy Spitzhoff
Amanda Walker
Byron Wells

Professional School Counseling
Ian Gaul
Megan Penninger

Marriage & Family Therapy
Kathrine Brown
Lindsey Buchanan
Caroline Davis
Kaitlynn Divine
Jordan Gale
Michelle Hampton
Hannah Martin
Catherine McCormick
Alyric Miles
MacKenzie Mizell
Rachel Naylor
Jillian Tillett
Andrew Vanden Broeke
Presentations

- PSC alumnus Robyn Honer ’20 presented with Dr. Lucy Purgason at the virtual American School Counselor Association (ASCA) Conference in June.

- Dr. Ardoin (SAA) presented six sessions at the ACPA national conference in Nashville in March.

Faculty Publications


Student & Alumni Publications
