

**The Division of Clinical Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling underwent a 10-year external review in 2017. The review was very positive and highlights of reviewer comments are presented below:**

**Mission Statement:**

The external review team noted that the CRMH mission statement was “both realistic and feasible.” In response to the reviewers’ comments, faculty edited the mission statement to include the importance of evidence-based knowledge and research informed community practice so that it more accurately reflects the current state of the program.

**Curriculum:**

The CRMH program is in compliance with CACREP standards for cohort size.

Lecture Content: Reviewers were impressed with the incorporation of integrated models (such as SAMSHA and ACT) into the core curriculum. Professors work very hard to keep their lectures on the cutting edge of new evidence-based approaches in counseling and mental health treatment.

Curriculum Changes: At the time of this review we had two online courses in the summer sessions. Both online courses were in the area of substance abuse. We combined those two classes into one online course about substance abuse. After considering student feedback, and after evaluating our strengths and areas of growth needed in our program we decided to add a course on Marriage and Family Counseling: Marriage, Couple & Family Counseling in Clinical Rehabilitation & Mental Health Counseling Practice. Although this course is not required for licensure in NC, we feel that this material is important to the foundational skills of our graduates. In addition, this decision will benefit students who move to VA after graduation who need a course on family and marital counseling for licensure.

Diversity is important to us and is discussed in all classes across the curriculum. We changed our Introduction to PD and DD classes to incorporate more diversity/multiculturalism into the course content.

Clinical Placements: Students voiced a desire for the CRMH MA program to consider developing more opportunities for students to participate in clinical experiences in the Veteran's Administration and related health care system. Students indicated that they are very satisfied with their clinical placements and recognized how much work goes into the coordination of clinical experiences, but sometimes this process was not very clear to them. We have an active contract with the Durham VAMC and a strong relationship with the VAMC. Regarding the process of practicum and internship placements, students receive a letter explaining how the practicum and internship placement process works as well as a list of potential practicum and internship sites that students rank. Faculty then meet as a group to discuss student preferences, student skill level, and determine where students will interview for clinical placement.

- The CRMHCMA program should continue to pursue funding through its RSA Long Term Training grant. We have no-cost extensions for our two long-term training grants and in October 2019 received two additional 5-year long-term training grants from the RSA in the Dept of Education.

**Faculty:**

- The program's faculty are very highly regarded by the student body and by stakeholders in the community.
- Faculty members are seen as being active, committed, devoted, highly skilled and viewed as experts in their areas of research and teaching.
- Morale among faculty members is high and they are collegial and very supportive of each other. Faculty are viewed by their students as excellent teachers and faculty supervisors and as being exceptionally hard working and highly productive.
- Faculty have been successful in securing extramural support and are actively engaged and productive researchers
- There is a lack of minority representation among the faculty and future recruiting efforts should emphasize identification of qualified minority candidates

**Students:**

- The program's students are skilled, well-prepared, and are highly regarded by community supervisors and employers
- Student morale is excellent
- The student mentoring program is well-received and students feel integrated and have a sense of belonging
- The student body is diverse and they have an effective targeted recruitment strategy
- Students are generally well-funded, although there is an over-reliance on training grant funds for support
- Students were appreciative of recent opportunities for providing feedback to the program and continued opportunities for input should be formalized and extended
- Students feel they do not have enough "face-time" or individual interaction with faculty, and ascribe this not to a lack of desire on faculty members' part, but rather to their high work demands and lack of time
- The quality of student placements in jobs is very good. Students are employed in a wide variety of settings and although salary information was not provided, it appears that students may be commanding higher than average beginning salaries.

**Leadership:**

- The program has a critical need for dedicated administrative support. The current, decentralized arrangement is neither efficient or practical. Faculty are using much valuable time on administrative tasks that should be expended on their core responsibilities of teaching, research and service.
- The facilities and resources provided to the program are generally sufficient to their needs. Space for offices, clinical training and other functions will need to be

factored into the plans for any anticipated enrollment growth. The program's faculty has developed productive and fruitful relationships with other programs within the medical college and the university, and also is actively engaged with the community in collaborative partnerships. These relationships are one of the program's strengths.

Our CRMH faculty are actively engaged in clinical and research endeavors in collaborative partnerships in the community. Listed below are just a few examples.

UNC Heart Transplant program

UNC Lung Transplant program

UNC Ventricular Assist Device (VAD) program

UNC Center for Rehabilitation Care

UNC Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (Neuropsychology/Rehabilitation Psychology)

UNC Stroke Center

UNC TEACCH Autism Program

Carolina Institute of Developmental Disabilities

Frank Porter Graham Institute

UNC Center for Rehabilitation Care

Family Support Network of the Greater Triangle