

# **DRAFT**

## **Strategic Plan Department of Counseling and Educational Psychology 2003-2008**

### **Department Mission Statement**

#### **The Process**

The Counseling and Educational Psychology Department will seek to provide educational excellence in a personal and professional environment by challenging and supporting individual and professional development; researching and teaching from a sound knowledge base; affirming diversity of ideas, values and persons; upholding the highest of ethical principles in professional conduct; and maintaining a partnership with institutions and communities within the region. We will maintain accreditation from the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP), and will continue our service through providing educational psychology instruction in the areas of human development, psychological and educational assessment, learning theories, and application of psychological principles to education.

#### **The Product**

Graduates will be competent, proactive professional counselors; knowledgeable, ethical, and skilled in their selected fields; flexible and comprehensive in their approach; adaptable to the needs of the people they serve; and effective in meeting those needs. They will be leaders and advocates for human development and effective living within their families, schools, institutions, and communities.

#### **The Impact**

The values of the region, state, and beyond will be advanced through the productivity of the department's graduates. Those served by the graduates will become more effective contributors to the whole of society by increasing their educational competencies, progressing in their career development, developing skills for resolving personal problems, and improvement in their family interpersonal relationships.

### **School Counseling Program Mission Statement**

The mission of the school counseling program is to educate Professional School Counselors. Through leadership, advocacy, collaboration, use of data, and action, our graduates will be competent at identifying and removing barriers that impede equal access to educational and career opportunities for all students. We are committed to educating Professional School Counselors skilled in needs assessment who are effective brief counselors and strategic brokers in providing equal resources and support for all students, when needed; and who believe in and are dedicated to the high academic achievement, career success, and personal/social development of all students.

### **Community Counseling Program Mission Statement**

The mission of the Community Counseling program is to prepare skilled and knowledgeable professional counselors for work in a variety of community and agency settings. Our program is designed to meet educational requirements for Georgia licensure as well as the standards of the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs. Our graduates will be ethical, reflective practitioners competent in serving a diverse population. We are committed to the delivery of excellent client services, to understanding and respecting human diversity, to ethical and social responsibility, and to leadership in the counseling profession. Students will:

- demonstrate ability to facilitate client growth, development, and coping within individual and/or group settings
- demonstrate understanding and upholding of ethics and standards of practice endorsed by the counseling profession
- demonstrate understanding of and respect for human diversity
- demonstrate ability to use a variety of theories, therapeutic interventions, assessment tools, and communication skills to assist clients.
- develop an identity as a professional counselor

### **Educational Psychology Mission Statement**

The teachers, counselors, speech and language specialists, and educational administrators who take our courses will be:

- dedicated to the equality of education for all students
- effective collaborators with other teachers, parents, counselors, administrators, and other service providers
- grounded in a comprehensive knowledge of the personal/emotional development of students
- grounded in a comprehensive knowledge of human learning and effective instructional strategies to promote learning
- effective assessors of student progress

We will assist educational professionals in developing as reflective persons who, when confronted with the challenges of educational reform and transformation, will take steps to systematically assess needs and develop programs that meet those needs.

**The department plan supplements the COE Strategic Plan relative to strategic directions for students, optional learning environments, faculty, and collaborations. Thus, the department plan is an adjunct to, and an appendage of, the COE Strategic Plan. It should be referenced in that respect.**

#### **Strategic Direction -- Students**

<b>Implementation Steps</b>	<b>Documentation</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>UWG Bread &amp; Butter Goals</b>
Continue to refine exit exam for Ed.S.	Policy, procedures, and format developed	2004	none	3

#### **Strategic Direction -- Optimal Learning Environment**

<b>Implementation Steps</b>	<b>Documentation</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>UWG Bread &amp; Butter Goals</b>
Revise Ed.S. curriculum in school and community counseling	Curriculum revised and implemented	2003	none	3
Maintain national accreditation through CACREP for M.Ed. Counseling programs	Monitored by CACREP	2001 and beyond	\$1,000 per year	3

Formalize Induction into school and community counseling profession	Guidelines established	2003 and beyond	none	3,7,8
National model and recognition for innovation in professional preparation of school counselors	Assessment and recognition from outside sources	2003	\$450,000	3,8,11
Incorporate new BOR principles for school counseling program	Principles disseminated by BOR and incorporated in curriculum	2003 and beyond	None	8
Establish counseling clinic that provides opportunities for faculty and students to work with children, youth and adults	Candidates assigned to clinic to increase learning opportunities; Director identified; Procedures established	2003	\$20,000	3,7,8
Evaluate need for possible off-campus program in our service area	Site and program approval	2004	\$500.00	3,7,8
Strengthen the facilitation, quality, and monitoring of field placements (practicum and internship)	Fieldwork coordinator identified	2004	\$16,000 (reassigned time)	3
Strengthen assessment for: (1) measuring extent that graduate students are accomplished in supporting teacher success in improving student learning and (2) documenting the quality of the performance of our students	Model, process, and data	2004	None	3
Review/refine/modify M.Ed. programs	Faculty review and curricular changes/modification	2004	none	3
Review/refine/modify admission standards, curriculum learning outcomes/objectives	Student, graduate, employers, advisory committee feedback	2003 and yearly thereafter	None	3

**Strategic Direction -- Faculty**

<b>Implementation Steps</b>	<b>Documentation</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>UWG Bread &amp; Butter Goals</b>
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Maintain, assess, and improve the incorporation of the COE conceptual framework in M.Ed./Ed.S. programs in school counseling	Faculty involvement and evaluation	2004 and beyond	none	3
For faculty with appropriate service activities and scholarly endeavors, reduce teaching load so as to not exceed 3 courses per semester. The Department will recognize and reward faculty for their work in improving P-12 school and community agencies.	Faculty teaching loads	2003 and beyond	\$33,000	6
Strengthen professional growth and development of faculty	Faculty on educational leave as approved by university; national, regional, state presentations	2003 and beyond	\$25,000/yr	6
Develop Ed.D. Program with a counseling major or strand	Program approved	2006	\$75,000	3

### Strategic Direction -- Collaborations

<b>Implementation Steps</b>	<b>Documentation</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>UWG Bread &amp; Butter Goals</b>
Strengthen collaboration and partnerships with area school systems and agencies relative to recruiting, internships, and induction into the profession	Increase in quality of placement sites and hiring of graduates	2003 and beyond	none	3,8
Investigate possible collaborative masters program	Program approved	2005	\$40,000	3
Implement and investigate fund raising efforts to enhance scholarships and department initiatives	Increase of funds dedicated to the CEP Department	2004	None	11
Ensure collaboration of leaders and teachers in the preparation of counselors	Revised curriculum and collaboration with other departments	2003	None	3

