Department Overview

The counseling faculty of the Department of Secondary Education and School Leadership meet annually to review, amend, and approve each counseling track program objectives within the context of data gathered from the previous academic year. The counseling faculty review and approve recommendations for programmatic changes to be initiated in the next academic year. Following is a summative report for the 2021-2022 academic reporting year.

Service

The Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) requires that departments provide appropriate continuing education regarding supervision and practicum/internship expectations among professionals in the field who provide practicum/internship supervision for NSU students. The Department of Counseling has historically hosted 1 to 1 Site Supervisor Training with follow-up at the midpoint during the semester. In AY 2022-2023, these training opportunities will continue in frequency. University supervisors will monitor effectiveness of site supervisor training in the students’ documentation and if needed, provide will additional support for the site supervisor and the site.

- The SESL Department organized the Focus Group Discussion with 9 recent master's graduates and 6 site supervisors to get their feedback on how well the students are preparing for practice and collect their recommendations for changes to the master's programs. The feedback from the discussion was reported to faculty and added to the university’s CAEP report.

- The SESL Department reviewed curriculum and its efficiency in developing students within the first year of graduate school. Based on the university assessment reports and feedback from various course instructors, the department voted to permanently keep UED 692 Research Methods a full term course in face-to-face course for counseling students entering the program.

- The SESL Department discussed renaming the department for more counselor identity to reflect the makeup of the department. The name Counselor Education and Leadership was voted as the new department name. The next steps in changing the department name are to clear academic affairs and be presented to the NSU Board of Visitors.

- The SESL Department initiated the newly voted curriculum which included counseling courses with the prefix COED. The new curriculum included a crisis and trauma course to assist counselors in dealing with the immediate and long term impact of trauma facing many persons in the population.

- The SESL Department led efforts to increase funding for CACREP accreditation. The department received a nomination donation from the Virginia Counseling Association Foundation. The department encouraged students to actively participate in VACES, VCA, and VSCA to foster counselor identity early in both the Mental Health and Professional Counseling programs.