CSPA Assistantship

Office/Department: Counseling Center

Director: Dr. David Onestak

Mission Statement: To provide a safe, supportive, trusting, and confidential environment which empowers students to develop the awareness, values, and skills they will need to meet future challenges and lead vital, meaningful lives.

Diversity Mission: We are committed to the continued development of awareness and appreciation for individual differences within our diverse university community. We strive to promote inclusion and to affirm diversity in its broadest sense by fostering an emotionally safe and respectful environment.

** Please note, to avoid ethical issues that may occur when the CC staff relate to an individual in a role other than as a client, all current and former CC clients will be excluded from training and employment opportunities at the CC.

Functional areas included in this office/department:

1. Counseling
   a. Individual, couples, group
   b. STEP
   c. Treatment programs
2. Psychoeducational programming, program planning and implementation
   a. Outreach events
   b. PSYC 402 Workshops
3. Peer Mentor Program – for underrepresented student population
4. Consultation to the University Community, Incoming Students and Parents
5. Teaching, training, and research
   a. GA assists in teaching PSYC 202 and 402

- Students who participate in this experience will gain understanding of student affairs as a profession and the influence student affairs has on contemporary higher education through the following tasks and activities:
  - Psycho-educational outreach programming skills and experience
    ▪ Collaborative projects and programs with various university departments
  - Consultation with senior staff, peers, faculty, and staff from other Campus Partners (e.g., ORL Staff)
  - Supervision and co-teaching of undergraduate Program Assistants and Peer Mentors via the PSYC 202 and 402 classes
    ▪ Schedule and review outreach workshops for Program Assistants
    ▪ Co-lead 2 all day Cultural Immersion Field Trips for the PSYC 402 classes
  - Use of technology

- Students who participate in this experience will be exposed to the purposeful application of the following student development, career development, counseling and/or organizational theories:
  - Brief Counseling Theories (Beck)
  - Typology (Myers-Briggs)
- Identity Development Theories (Racial, Social Class, Sexual, Gender)
- Multicultural Counseling Theories (Sue & Sue)
- Psychosocial Developmental Theories (Erikson)

- **Students assigned to this site will be able to participate in the following assessment and/or evaluation projects:**
  - Outreach Programs Evaluation Project
  - Spring and Fall Experiential Trip Evaluation
  - Peer Mentor Program Effectiveness Assessment
  - Other – Periodic Research Projects

- **Students who participate in this experience will be evaluated and provided ongoing feedback in the following ways:**
  - Weekly meetings with their primary supervisor
  - Written performance evaluation each December and April

- **Specific expectations of students assigned to this site include:**
  - Arrive early to mid-August for training
    - This will depend on when classes start
  - Create and maintain a schedule designed to meet assistantship requirements
    - 20 hours/week
  - Timely completion of paperwork
  - Adherence to CC policies and programs
  - Adherence to ethical guidelines of the College Student Personnel profession
  - Support the mission of the CC, Student Affairs, and JMU
  - Communicate consistently and honestly with your primary supervisor
  - Maintain a positive attitude about job responsibilities
  - Attendance at weekly PSYC 402 and 202 classes
  - Attendance at weekly staff meeting and other scheduled meetings

**Supervisors for the GA Position**

- Traci Ballou-Broadnax, Psy.M, Resident in Psychology, Coordinator of Multicultural Student Outreach
- Magali Laitem, Psy.D., Clinical Psychologist, Outreach Coordinator

**Contact Person**

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