

Counsellor Educators Chapter Chapter Report

For the period: June 2015 to March 2016.

Submitted by: José Domene (President)

Chapter Executive Committee

President: José Domene

Past President: Patrice Keats

President-Elect: Jeffrey Landine

Treasurer/Secretary: Liette Goyer

Counsellor Educator Chapter Executive

Following the chapter's annual meeting at the 2016 CCPA conference, our current president, José Domene, will take the position of past-president and our current president-elect, Jeff Landine, will take the position of president. Liette Goyer will remain in her position as treasurer/secretary of the chapter. At the present time, we have one member of the Chapter who is willing to stand for election to the position of president-elect. We anticipate that she or another candidate will be elected at the general meeting, resulting in

Our current past-president, Patrice Keats, will be completing her term on the executive following the chapter's annual meeting. We wish to acknowledge and thank for her years of active service on the counsellor educator chapter executive committee. We have particularly appreciated her vision and leadership over the past three years of service to the executive, particularly in responding to the various potential opportunities and challenges that we have encountered over this time.

Chapter Membership

As of February 29, 2016, we have 193 members, which represents a small increase from the previous year. Composition of the membership remains similar to previous years.

Following the revisions to the chapter's by-laws that were ratified last year, the chapter executive have worked with CCPA office staff in Ottawa to implement the different levels of membership that are present in our by-laws, including implementing reduced fees for student members.

CCPA Conference

The chapter will not be hosting a Counsellor Educator Chapter pre-conference workshop at the CCPA Conference in Montreal this year. Instead, we are scheduled to host our chapter's annual meeting from 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm on Saturday April 2. Looking ahead to 2017, the executive will decide whether to return to hosting pre-conference workshops, hosting a chapter-sponsored workshop during the conference itself, or to continue on with the format instituted this year. In addition, the Counsellor Educator Chapter is scheduled to be present at the CCPA Chapters table on Friday April 1(3-4 pm) and Saturday April 2 (12-1 pm).

We will formally announce the winner of the 2016 chapter's Doctoral Student Dissemination Award at the annual meeting. The student who won this year is Mr. Jon Woodend, from the Counselling Psychology PhD program at the University of Calgary. He will present a brief summary of his work at the annual meeting. As an Executive, we offer our congratulations to Mr. Woodend, and will be presenting him with his certificate and \$500 award during the meeting.

Other Chapter Activities

1. Revisions to the Doctoral Student Dissemination Award

In the past year, we have clarified and refined the eligibility criteria and adjudication process for selecting the winner of the chapter's Doctoral Student Dissemination Award. Changes made included: (a) specifying that applicants must be current doctoral students or have graduated within a year of the award date; (b) clarifying the student must have had a session already accepted for presentation at the conference, but it may be in any format; (c) streamlining the materials that the student needs to submit to apply for the award. These changes appear to have been successful in making the application process and the adjudication process run smoothly.

A challenge that will need to be addressed in future years is improving the advertising / recruiting for applicant for the award. Historically, there have been very few applicants and, even with the new procedures, this year there were only two. We believe that the revised award criteria and procedures will make it easier for students to apply for this award. However, it may be necessary to put greater effort into advertising and soliciting applicants for this the award.

2. Online Presence and Facilitating Communication Among Members

Stemming from suggestions made in a survey of our membership conducted in 2014, the chapter executive has been working on developing some new online communication networks, such as an interactive forum and/or a blog related to counsellor education in Canada. Additionally, we added a list of Chapter members who volunteered to make themselves available for consultation on a range of clinical and research issues. Unfortunately, these efforts have been delayed by CCPA's transition to a new web-site in the past year and decision to discontinue the online forums. Furthermore, recent additions to the web-site and the entire archive portion of our web presence was not transferred over to the new web-site. We are currently working with CCPA office staff to restore this content and develop alternative solutions for functions that appear to be no longer supported (e.g., the forum). This work will continue on into the upcoming year.

3. Consultation

In the past year, the chapter executive has responded to requests for consultation from CCPA's Head Office regarding the creation of a Clinical Supervisors Chapter, and our chapter members' perspectives on the possibility of modifying the criteria for becoming a Canadian Certified Counsellor to remove the requirement that the applicant's program of study needs to be located within an institution that is a member of the Universities Canada.

The chapter president also served as a representative of the chapter for the Council for Accreditation of Counsellor Education Programs (CACEP) Advisory Committee, to provide consultation regarding CACEP's rejuvenation plan.

Concluding Remarks

The executive committee of the Counsellor Educator Chapter is pleased with the accomplishments of the past year. We anticipate another productive year ahead under the leadership of incoming president, Jeff Landine. We will be taking necessary action to implement the tasks mentioned in this report, and pursuing new initiatives as they are raised by our membership or by CCPA's head office.