



# A Letter from the Department Chair Dr. Tsui-Yee Chow

Dear Students,

2009 – 2010 is a very exciting year filled with innovative ideas and new initiatives which aim to facilitate your success at Argosy as well as to prepare you to become a counselor. This is also the year in which we hope that we will get CACREP accreditation for the MA Community Counseling Program. Please remember that we will not be successful in attaining our goals for this year without your support, provision of feedback, and active involvement.

The following are highlights of what has taken or will take place in the Department:

### **CACREP Visiting Team is coming**

The Department submitted the Self-study for CACREP accreditation in May. The self-study got accepted, and we have been granted an on-site interview from Nov. 1-4. Two distinguished professors, Dr. Marty Jencius, Kent State University, and Dr. Janice Caron, Cappella University, will be visiting us. After the three day visit, they will submit a report to CACREP. We will know in spring 2010 whether we will attain the accreditation.

During the visit, the team will interview current students, alumni, faculty, and site supervisors. We are currently in the process of preparing for the site visit. Part of the process is to prepare students for visitors. Dr. Chow, the Program Chair, will conduct Town Hall meetings and class visits to explain the process to you. During these town hall meetings, she will also listen to your concerns and recommendations for the betterment of the program.

### **A Bigger and Stronger Department**

For those students who have been here for the last two years, you may have witnessed changes in the department. We were a five-person department in 2006-7. In 2007-2008, we had only two full time professors. Last year, we were in the process of rebuilding the department. First, Dr. Koch joined us and took on the Training Directorship. As a huge proponent of wellness, students and faculty are often inspired by his positive and spiritual outlook on life.

**ARGOSY UNIVERISTY,  
CHICAGO**

225 N. Michigan Ave.  
Suite 1300  
Chicago, IL 60601

Phone: 312-777-7601

Fax: 312-777-7748

E-mail:

AUCHICounselorEducation@edmc.  
edu



## A Letter from the Department Chair Dr. Tsui-Yee Chow

Dr. Shedah Tavakoli came in spring 2009. She earned her MA in Rehabilitation Counseling and Ph.D. from the CACREP-accredited Counselor Education and Supervision program from Wayne State University. She has seven years of experience as a professional counselor and clinical supervisor. Dr. Tavakoli has a strong research background and is currently a member of the Institutional Research Board (IRB).

Our newest addition is Dr. Kent B. Provost, who graduated from Idaho State University, and came on board in June 2009. Besides teaching, he is responsible for coordinating doctoral level practicum and internship. Dr. Provost has over seven years of clinical experience working with clients on issues related to mental health, general growth and development, and addictions.

### **Welcome Our New Student Advisor, Ms. Heather Pierce**

Ms. Heather Pierce joined us in fall as the Student Advisor for Counselor Education Programs, at both MA and doctoral levels. Her office is located at the Mezzanine Level with the Department of Student Services. Her main duty will be to provide assistance and advertisement regarding students' schedules and registration process. She will also work diligently with students to establish their Program of Study during their tenure at Argosy. However, students will still be assigned to a faculty advisor who will be mentoring and providing guidance on issues related to career exploration, professional development, and other more personal and in-depth issues.

### **New Administrative Cycles of MA Community Counseling Comprehensive Examination- 3 times a year now**

The faculty of the Department decides that MA Community Counseling Comprehensive Examinations will be conducted three times a year, during the Saturdays following the conclusion of Summer II, Fall II & Spring II terms, respectively. Detailed administrative cycles and petition timelines are listed in the section on the MACC Comprehensive Examination on the webpage.

### **Establishment of the First Honors Society on the Chicago Campus**

Special thanks to our Counselor Education and Supervision doctoral student, Jacquleen Kolessar, who worked very diligently to found a chapter, Phi Gamma Sigma, of the Chi Sigma Iota, Counseling, and Academic & Professional Honor Society International. It is the first of its kind at the Chicago campus. Chi Sigma Iota values academic and professional excellence in counseling; only students and alumni who attain a 3.5 GPA or above can join. Since its establishment in spring 2009, we have inducted over 50 students, alumni, and faculty members into the Chapter. Ms. Kolessar currently serves as the president, and Steve Wright as the President Elect. If you are interested in joining the honor society, please contact one of them. Ms. Kolessar can be contacted at [jkollessar@argosy.edu](mailto:jkollessar@argosy.edu); and Mr. Wright at [stwright@argosy.edu](mailto:stwright@argosy.edu). Our next new member induction will be around April. For updated information, see also the link of Phi Gamma Sigma on the department webpage.



### A Letter from the Department Chair Dr. Tsui-Yee Chow

#### **Standardized Textbooks**

From fall 2009, all different sections of the same course will have the same textbooks. In other words, regardless of which section students are enrolled in and which instructors they have, students of different sections will be using the same textbooks for the same course. We would like to eliminate confusions and unnecessary waiting to get professors' syllabi before students purchase their books. The booklist will be posted very soon on the campus website, under the Department webpage.

#### **Get Involved: Our Pledge for Your Participation in Professional Organizations**

CACREP accreditation highly recommends your involvement in professional organizations, such as the American Counseling Association, Illinois Counseling Association, and Chicago Counseling Association. CACREP has a strong emphasis on the development of students' professional identity. They will look at our students' participation in these organizations and other areas. If you would like to make an effort to support the program's pursuit of accreditation, here is your chance.

Besides CACREP accreditation, there are plenty of reasons why you should be involved in these organizations: professional development, networking, job search advantages, supporting and strengthening of the profession, access to scholarship opportunities, and many others.

Get involved, and you will find new horizons for your professional endeavors.

In closing, the Counselor Education Department is looking forward to a very busy but fruitful year. We hope for your success in your academic endeavors here. Have a wonderful year.