



SPECIAL EDUCATION, REHABILITATION, AND COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

California State University, San Bernardino

College of Education

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The Department of Special Education, Rehabilitation, and Counseling (SRC) prepares professionals for the communities of San Bernardino and Riverside counties and beyond. The programs housed in our department (Counseling, Rehabilitation Counseling, School Psychology, and Special Education) prepare students for exciting and rewarding careers of service. These careers include working as leaders in schools as special education experts and school psychologists, in the counseling profession in schools and community mental health and in adult rehabilitation sites like the Veterans Affairs. These careers offer great rewards that make a difference in peoples' lives. Students are exposed to innovative and up-to-date learning opportunities where theory is directly practiced in hands-on settings with support and guidance to help shape optimal learning.

Special Education, Rehabilitation, and Counseling Department Mission Statement

We prepare professionals to promote knowledge, social justice, and compassion through practice in special education, counseling, school psychology and rehabilitation counseling. Our goal is to inspire professionals to create and champion practical knowledge and theoretical principles.

RECOGNIZING ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Special Education, Rehabilitation, and Counseling Department

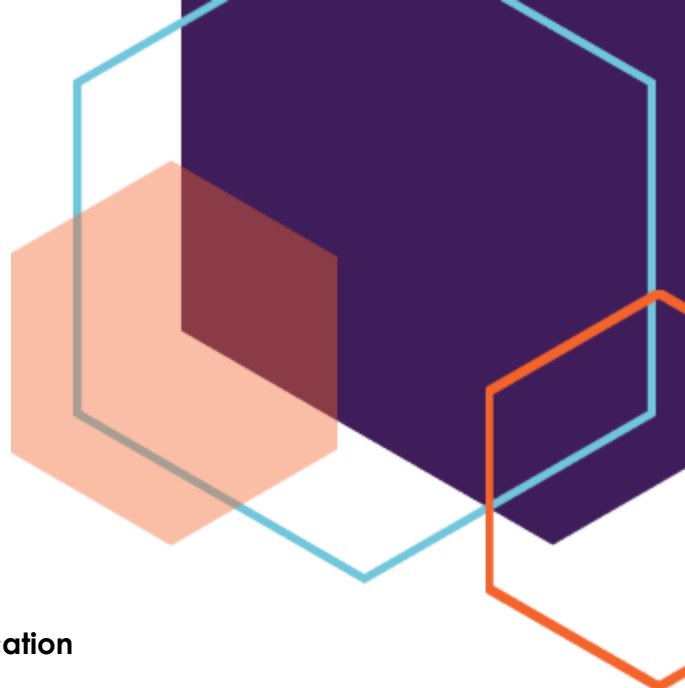
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The Rehabilitation Counseling program, coordinated by Dr. Connie McReynolds, has been awarded a 5-year \$1,000,000 training grant from the Department of Education Rehabilitation Services Administration that will provide financial support to Rehabilitation Counseling students as they pursue their master's degree. The Rehabilitation Counseling program trains students to provide effective rehabilitation counseling services to individuals with disabilities in the state/federal system and community-based settings.

This grant will continue California State University, San Bernardino's record of success by providing tuition scholarships to students. Specifically, scholars receiving funding under this grant proposal will be required to complete a fieldwork in a State Department of Rehabilitation agency. The MA in the Rehabilitation Counseling Program at California State University, San Bernardino is noted for its successful graduate outcomes in the past 35 years since it was

established. The program's success has been with its proven record of accomplishment in the diversity of the student body and the high employment rate with the State-Federal Department of Rehabilitation agencies in California as well as other qualifying employment settings. A substantial number of the students have disabilities or are from traditionally underrepresented groups, which enhance the cultural competence of students while engaged in learning.



RECOGNIZING STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Special Education, Rehabilitation,
and Counseling Department



Nora Nickoel Bianey Ortega, third year graduate student in the Counseling program has been awarded the 2020-2021 Sally Casanova Scholar Fellowship in the California State University Pre-Doctoral Program. Out of 250 student applications, Nora was one of the 77 selected to receive this fellowship to support her research efforts with her faculty mentor, Dr. Edwin Hernandez.

Jewel Patterson, graduate student in the Counseling program was recently honored with the prestigious award of “The 30 under 30 award” from the California State legislator, as sponsored by assembly member Eloise Gómez Reyes. Jewel was selected for her dedication and innovation as a community organizer and is dedicated to serving the marginalized communities of the inland empire. Jewel works as a senior youth organizer for the C. O. P. E. Organization and is also the first presenter of the 20-21 school year for the Kathryn Green lecture series at the University of Redlands which was held on Thursday, October 29th. We are so proud of the amazing effort and work that Jewel brings to the community with heart and commitment.

Audrey Paredes, doctoral student in Education at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) received the Chancellor's Doctoral Incentive Program (CDIP) Fellowship. This is an extremely competitive award among all 23 CSU campuses, Dr. Edwin Hernandez, faculty member in the counseling program at California State University, San Bernardino, will serve as her faculty mentor during the program.

RECOGNIZING FACULTY AND STUDENT PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

Special Education, Rehabilitation and Counseling Department



Counseling

A collective effort of faculty members (Enrique Espinoza & Edwin Hernandez) and graduate student (Jewel Patterson) from the Counseling Program were recently notified that their proposal titled (School Counselors Advocacy for Whom?) was accepted for the special theme issue on *Anti-Racist Counselor Education* to be published in the journal of *Teaching and Supervision in Counseling*. This special theme issue generated significant attention from the scholarly and research community. The special issue is set to release next year.

Rehabilitation Counseling

McReynolds, C.J. & Yalamanchili, P. (in press). The Positive Impact of Neurofeedback for Veterans with PTSD: Implications for Rehabilitation Counseling. *Journal of Applied Rehabilitation Counseling*. This paper discusses positive therapeutic gains made with veterans whose primary treatment for PTSD was cognitive rehabilitation using artifact corrected neurofeedback. Assessments at baseline and following 20 and 40 half-hour sessions of neurofeedback treatment identified significant improvements for auditory and visual attention using the Integrated Visual and Auditory Continuous Processing Test (IVA-2) and significant improvements in well-being based on the General Well-Being Scale (GWBS). Neurofeedback positively affected veteran's overall auditory attention with auditory test scores reflecting significant improvement following neurofeedback training sessions. Ratings of well-being significantly improved after treatment with 84% of the veterans improving five points or more on the GWBS. Improvements in well-being were found to be significantly correlated with increases in veterans' overall auditory attention and auditory processing speed. It is postulated that cognitive functioning improvements achieved with neurofeedback may hold promise for enhanced employment outcomes for veterans.

School Psychology

The Intersect of Technology and Wellness Among Adolescents: Exploring Implications for School Psychologists presented at the Annual Conference of the California Association of School Psychologists, November 10th, 2020. R. Brett Nelson, CSUSB, Lakhvir Kauer (student in the SRC School Psychology program), Ricardo Hernandez (student in the SRC School Psychology program) and Shane R. Jimerson, Ph.D., UCSB. Screen time is so pervasive in young people's lives that many young people suffer from mental health issues. However, less is known about the impact of screen time on positive mental health, or wellness. It is the purpose of this presentation to explore the relationship between screen time and wellness, or positive mental health. Preliminary results suggest findings in the expected direction, that is, the more screen time portends lower wellbeing. The presentation will look at the data in detail, and offer ways of helping adolescents and young adults balance screen time with real-life social activities and connections.

For more information on the programs in the Special Education, Rehabilitation, and Counseling Department at California State University, San Bernardino please click on the SRC webpage below:

<https://www.csusb.edu/src>

