CED 2014 Improvement Plan

Based upon the information received in our program evaluation, the CED faculty with input from our Advisory Board, made the following adjustments/changes:

Curriculum: Both, students and graduates, requested more diversity in the School Counseling curriculum. We added the CED 7090 Advanced School Counseling course to address current trends in school counseling (i.e., bullying, social justice, technology, etc.) We also added CED 7055 School Counselor: Postsecondary Planning and College Counseling through the awarding of a Michigan College Access Network (MCAN) grant. This course helps prepare school counselors to work with students in future planning and ‘next steps’ after the completion of high school.

Faculty: The program area has a posting for a School Counseling tenure-track position. The hope and expectation with this position is to have School Counseling highlighted in recruitment efforts; a more concerted collaboration and interaction with the Michigan School Counseling collaborative; and a faculty member designated solely to the School Counseling track which aids in the specialty area for student learning but also allows for prioritizing of connectivity to ASCA and MSCA. With current faculty retirements as well as faculty changes, it is imperative to replace faculty in specialty/explicit program areas.

Facility: We are working to upgrade our Counseling Clinic to include videotaping of all counseling rooms/sessions. This will allow for all counselor-in-training (CIT) sessions to be, not only heard, but also, seen. This process aids in student learning in that feedback and supervision are more complete; the non-verbal skills and tendencies of the CIT can be witnessed and findings shared.

Learning Outcomes: The University is moving toward the implementation of Compliance Assist which aligns with the requirements of CACREP (our national accrediting body) for student learning outcomes. The faculty is beginning talks on revamping our determination of student learning from previously held thoughts of learning objectives. This will be an on-going process and our first step will be putting together a process for data collection, etc.

Overall, the feedback received from current students, graduates, internship sites and employers was very positive. Sites and employers repeatedly indicated that our students are ‘well prepared’ and ‘assets’ to the field. Current students and graduates appreciated the learning and faculty, and felt they were prepared to work in the Counseling arena upon program completion. We will also be working toward an electronic evaluation process to fast track compilation efforts (i.e., the use of a survey monkey system or the like) for our future reporting periods.