Greetings, from the Earl Center!

Rehabilitation Counseling (now RC48 Online) faculty are reenergized and ready for Fall 2014. Classes began Monday of this week, and the Earl Center is bustling with activity.

- On August 12, 2014, we received official notification from CORE that the RC program has been re-accredited for another eight-year cycle. We are asked to present a written plan for program evaluation by 2016. A heartfelt thank you to the students, alumni, and community members who assisted and supported us during the Site Visit this past April.

- Congratulations to Sasha Anderson, Rich Atchison, Jackie Jacobs, Heather Koffman, and Whitney Lafferty-Lamb, for successful completion of the RC graduate degree this Summer! Best wishes to Sasha as she moves to Queens University, Ontario, Canada, to begin a Ph.D. in Rehabilitation Science; to Rich at his addictions counselor position with The Mirror, Inc., at Topeka; to Jackie as she begins work as a VRC for Missouri VR AT Lee’s Summit; and to Heather in her role as a VRC with Topeka SRS.

- Where are they now? Our 2013 RC graduates are making a difference across the nation! Cody Hunter is a counselor for Heartland Regional Drug Assessment Center at Lawrence, and contracts with the Kansas state correctional system to provide cognitive-behavioral education and substance abuse therapy groups. Tom Matlock is an addictions counselor with Corner House, at Emporia; Katie Rohloff Crook is an LPC and autism specialist in private practice at Emporia and the surrounding area; and Heidi Paugh recently took a position as a VRC with the West Virginia VA.

- We are delighted to welcome Deanna Durkes and Mika Satake, our first two admissions to RC48 Online. Both are ESU graduates, full-time professionals in rehabilitation and addictions services, and attending part-time from their home communities. At present, we have a total of 13 RC students attending full-time and on campus.

- The RC48 Online program bid farewell to Dr. Colleen Etzbach, who left us this summer to take a position at University of Wisconsin-Stout. Dr. Etzbach is greatly missed by faculty and students. We wish her the best.

- Dr. Damara Paris, who has been an online adjunct for RC over the past three semesters, will be presenting in person on Disability & Counseling Issues of Returning Veterans at Earl #201 on Tuesday, August 26th, noon. Students, alum, and interested community members are encouraged to attend. Dr. Paris is a candidate for the teaching position vacated by Dr. Etzbach.

- Counselor Education is pleased to announce the following new faculty members: Dr. Robert Kircher and Dr. Melissa Briggs (ESU-KC), of School Counseling; and Dr. Mijin Chung of Clinical Counseling (formerly Mental Health). All faculty teach across the counseling specialties to maximize student exposure to diverse professional identities and worldviews.

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