This month’s announcements from RC48:

- **Alum Spotlight!** 2011 RC graduate Maricela Martinez-Torres stays busy assisting veterans at the [VA in Wichita](https://www.va.gov/), where she serves as a VRC. Following an internship at the facility, Maricela was hired into the VR&E Unit, acquired her CRC, earned her (federal) CVRC, and was awarded Employee of the Year (2014). Stellar! Her unit accepts interns from all over the US. If interested, please contact Katrina via email.

- **New Faculty Member!** Following an extensive search process, Bill Purdy, 1998 RC alum, has been selected. Welcome! Bill will join us at the Earl Center this Fall.

- **RSA Grant Advisory Committee Meeting!** On Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, members of the newly established Advisory Committee met to get acquainted and discuss program status and direction. Present were Caryn Kennedy, Emporia SRS; Doug Lindahl, Lindahl & Santner Consulting and President, [IARP-KS](https://www.iarp-ks.org); CE faculty members Damara Paris, Katrina Miller, and Jim Costello; and student worker Franzi Willenbeucher. Others: Janet Dudek, VR-NE; Elizabeth Van Vleck, SRS-KS; Heather Center and Renee Cosby, RC students.

- **Anniversary Plans!** RC48 faculty and student workers are working hard to raise funds, reserve rooms, and confirm exciting speakers for the 50<sup>th</sup> program anniversary celebration and symposium (October 2016). CEUs will be available. **Tell Us Your Stories!** Were you inspired by a particular experience or person? Is there a colleague who has passed on and/or made outstanding contributions you’d like to recognize? You can be a part of preserving program history by emailing Katrina with your pictures and short stories for the commemorative webpage.

- **Summer Surveys Underway!** • The ESU Institutional Review Board has approved two proposed studies by RC48 faculty. Doug Lindahl consulted with Katrina Miller to prepare a survey of IARP members’ professional identities and educational needs. It is expected that this survey will help inform program curriculum, webinar, conference, and CEU development. • Sheila Hoover of DHS-VRS Oregon, and Robert Cooper of KDHHC are presently consulting with Damara Paris to complete and distribute a national survey addressing educational preparation and needs to state VRCs who work with deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind, and late-deafened individuals. This survey is exploratory, to assist in determining the viability of online rehabilitation training in this specialty.

- **Seeking Clinical Supervisors!** [BSRB records](https://www.ksbbsrb.org) show only 9 LCPCs located in Lyon County. A number of former RC students with the LPC credential are seeking LCPCs to provide clinical supervision hours. If you are available and want to be added to a list of providers, please call Franzi at 620.341.5220 and give her your business contact and supervision rate—and whether you are willing to consider doing any supervision via Skype technology.

- **Reduced Summer Hours!** RC48 program director Katrina Miller is in the office on Wednesdays from July 8<sup>th</sup> to Aug 5<sup>th</sup>. Otherwise, she is available on email. Chair Jim Costello and our Administrative Assistant Carleen Dvorak (620.341.5220) are at the Earl Center full time during business hours this summer.