

**1. Notable accomplishments**

**a. Enhancing Academic Excellence and Preparing Graduates to Thrive in a Changing Economy**

**Faculty** – Each year more school districts adopt Multi-Tiered Systems of Support to design and implement meaningful interventions to support students. In the fall of 2020, the new Connecticut Comprehensive K-12 School Counseling Framework (CCSCF) was published. The authors of the CCSCF encourage school counselors to implement the Framework with MTSS in mind. A graphic designed by Dr. Donohue’s MTSS research team was adapted for the document. Dr. Donohue served as an editor as well. In addition, in June of 2020, **Dr. Donohue** co-authored a book published by the American School Counselor Association (ASCA) entitled *Making MTSS Work* to support the growth of pre-service and practicing school counselors. The focus of the book is to provide specific examples which illustrate how multi-disciplinary school based mental health teams create equitable, effective, and culturally sustaining systems in schools. Students in the program continue to utilize Dr. Donohue’s textbook *The School Counselor’s Guide to Multi-Tiered Systems of Support*.

**Dr. Donohue** and **Dr. Zalewski** provided written testimony to the CT Education Committee in early March 2021 in support of HB6557, a bill concerning Social and Emotional Learning which would mandate that school districts provide school counselors to all CT youth at a 1:250 ratio. Passage of this critical bill will create thousands of school counseling jobs in Connecticut if it becomes law.

**Students** – Four of our interns, **Margaret Mocny, Ashley Bielert, Stefany Barbagallo and Vareesha Rahman** were accepted to present their poster sessions at the CSCA conference in May of 2021. Student **Joe Luchene** provided oral testimony to the CT Education Committee in early March 2021 in support of HB6557, a bill concerning Social and Emotional Learning which would mandate that school districts provide school counselors to all CT youth at a 1:250 ratio.

Current intern, **Karena Nguyen**, and first year school counselor and alumna, **Kathryn Goldberg**, have both participated as research assistants in a study directed by Dr. Donohue and several colleagues to explore the impact of school counselor ratio on student outcomes. This research was funded by ASCA.

**b. Increasing Access to Higher Education and Ensuring Student Success**

**Dr. Mason, Dr. Donohue and Dr. Zalewski** continue to include instruction and assignments focused on the school counselor's role in promoting college and career readiness. This year school counseling interns reviewed and discussed merits of different college and career readiness curricula.

Students –

Several school counseling students including **Stefany Barbagallo** and **Monika Chudy** continue to work to support CCSU undergraduates in the Career Center and TRiO program respectively. Both have shared their experiences with their classmates in class discussion.

First year students are encouraged to mentor students in area high schools. Several have supported first in family high school seniors as they pursue their college selection process. This effort was somewhat thwarted by the pandemic this year.

We nominated **Lucia Greene** for Graduate Studies Achievement Award. In spring of 2020, **Anthony Williams** won the Ebenezer Basset Award in Patriotism. We nominated **Gabe Chase** for the Ebenezer Basset Award. We are awaiting results of our 2021 nominations.

**c. Fostering an Inclusive and Safe Campus Culture that Values and Encourages Individuals to Participate in a Free and Respectful Exchange of Ideas**

**Faculty**

**Dr. Donohue, Dr. Mason and Dr. Zalewski** hosted a mid-summer on-line gathering for students to process the racial unrest that arose in response to George Floyd's death. 17 students joined our conversation about the role school counselors play in addressing systemic and interpersonal racism.

Dr. Donohue and Dr. Mason developed an assignment, rubric and discussion questions for practicum students who read *Interrupting Racism*.

**Students**

This year all students in practicum read and discussed *Interrupting Racism* to explore practical ways school counselors can address their own implicit biases and serve as a change agent in schools.

**d. Strengthening Stewardship – Advancing Scholarship, Service Learning, and Community Development for the Public Good (creative activity and community engagement)**

**Faculty**

Due to the pandemic, it was not possible to coordinate any service learning opportunities for our students this year outside of encouraging them to provide oral or written testimony in support of HB6557. We look forward to opportunities to engage in service learning community projects when we return to campus in the fall.

**Students**

Several of our students serve in leadership roles in organizations committed to community service. As stated earlier, **Anthony Williams** is president of Chi Sigma Iota. He will graduate from our program this May. Several students including (?) have served on the CSCA Graduate Student Committee. Their committee plans events to support the professional growth of school counseling students across the state.

e. Assuring Sustainability in the Future

2. Resource-related needs for School Counseling Program

There are currently no pressing resource-related needs  
Naviance, PowerSchool and 504 direct access for demonstration reason  
QPR train the trainers for one SC program faculty member (600\$)