

The University of Scranton

Counseling and Human Services Spring 2025 Newsletter



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THANK YOU DR. BRUCH!



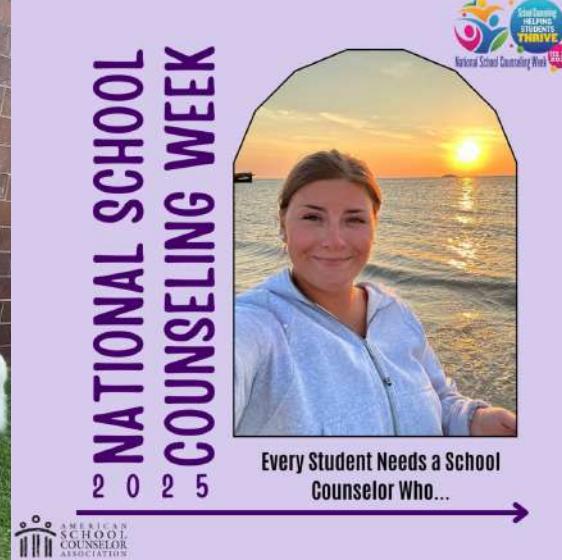
Dr. Bruch, your unwavering dedication and service to our department and the Scranton community have been truly remarkable. Your distinguished career in clinical rehabilitation counseling has left a lasting and profound impact on students, faculty, and staff. Your commitment to lifelong learning has set a standard of excellence and inspired countless others. As you step into retirement, we wish you all the joy and relaxation you deserve. Know that your presence will be deeply missed, and your legacy will continue to inspire us all. Thank you for everything, and may this next chapter be filled with happiness and fulfillment.



SNAPSHOTS FROM SPRING



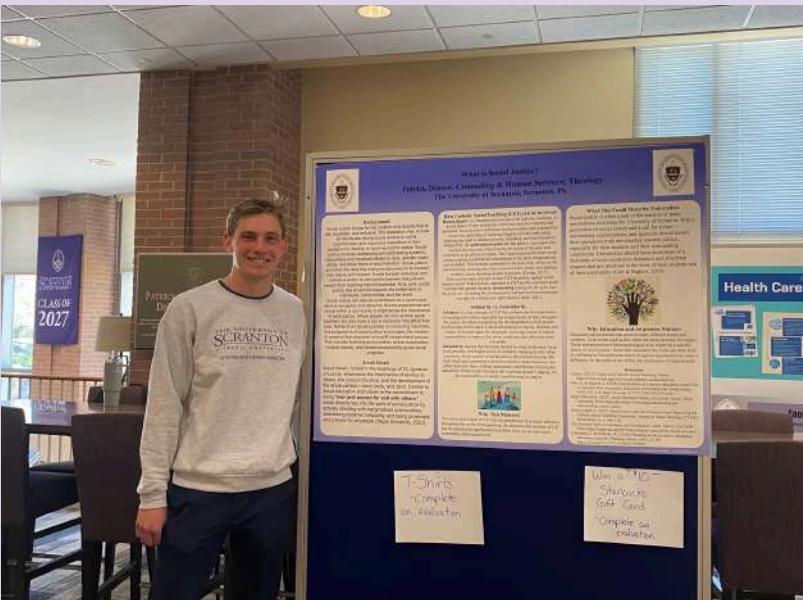
SNAPSHOTS FROM SPRING



SNAPSHOTS FROM SPRING

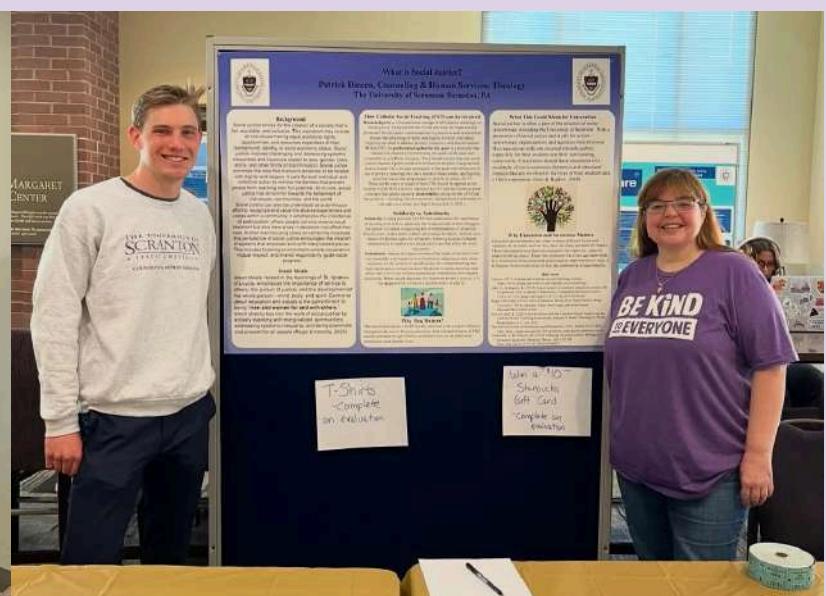


SOCIAL JUSTICE DAY!

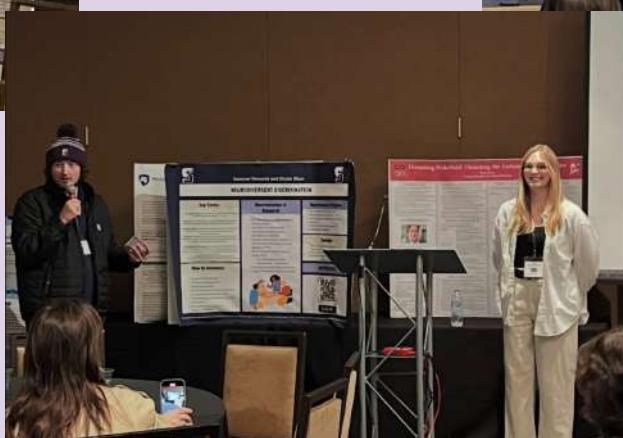
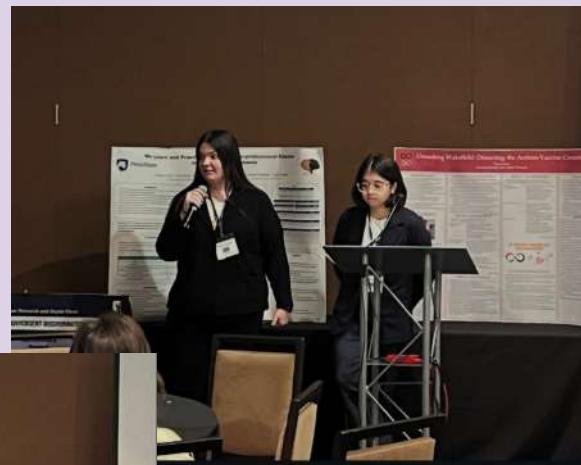


Patrick Dineen '25 successfully defended his thesis titled, "The Intersection of Undergraduate Experience and Religious/Spiritual Struggle" for the University Honors Program. With Dr. Whitbeck as his research mentor, this project used thematic analysis to explore the experience of college students and the impact of their religious and spiritual struggle for mental health, coping, and growth. This project showcased how scarcely examined topics within the mental health field can be explored and the results can be efficacious for greater understanding and future directionality.

Part of the way Patrick and a few other members of the CHS Department put advocacy into practice was by a Social Justice Day Event hosted in the DeNaples Center. Patrick helped organize an event with the help of Dr. Troy and CHS 112 classes to share educational posters about marginalized populations for the university community. The event allowed many students and staff of the university to gain knowledge and insight into avenues for social justice.



GRADUATE STUDENTS AT PRA⁷ AND CSI CONFERENCES



CONGRATULATIONS LUIS!



The PA Rehabilitation Association (PRA) Graduate Student Award for Direct Service and Advocacy recognizes the outstanding contributions of graduate students in the field of rehabilitation. This prestigious award highlights the dedication and impact of those who significantly advance the cause of rehabilitation through direct service and advocacy efforts. This year, the award was given to Luis Vasquez, an M.S. student in Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling, who demonstrated exceptional commitment and achievement in these areas. Luis was honored at the PRA Professional Development Institute (PDI) on Wednesday, April 2nd, 2025, in Harrisburg, PA. This event not only celebrated Luis's accomplishments but also inspired other emerging professionals in the field to continue making meaningful contributions to rehabilitation services.

OUTSTANDING STUDENTS



Congratulations to Maddie DeBario, Emily Glutz, and Susan Stopper on their remarkable achievements in their respective counseling fields! Maddie Demario's dedication to school counseling signifies her commitment to nurturing and guiding students through their academic and personal journeys. Emily Glutz's work in Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling highlights her passion for supporting individuals in overcoming challenges and achieving their fullest potential. Susan Stopper's expertise in Clinical Mental Health Counseling underscores her dedication to promoting mental wellness and providing crucial support to those in need. These outstanding students exemplify excellence in counseling and are sure to make a significant impact in their communities.

TUA INDUCTION

Congratulations to the undergraduate students recently inducted into Tau Upsilon Alpha (TUA), a national honor society recognizing excellence in counseling and human services. Since establishing our Epsilon Chapter in 2008, TUA has honored the dedication of top students at Scranton. Sponsored by the National Organization for Human Services, TUA highlights members' academic achievements and service commitment. This induction marks a personal milestone and reflects the society's high standards. As new TUA members, these students join a community ready to contribute to human services. Congratulations to all inductees on this well-deserved recognition!



The following is the list of inductees for 2025:
Rachel Alesso, Delany Bartram, Sean Dallahan,
Fanelysse J. de la Rosa, Adina Cecelia De
Stefano, Isabel Feliciano, Krista Gallagher,
Alexandra F. Holub, Daniel Juarez, Allison
Lehberger, Bianca Leonard, Gabriella Sofia
Meditz, Jocelyn A. Mendoza, Daniel Palumbo,
Olivia L. Stahley, and Searra VanDerveer.

CDR INDUCTION CEREMONY

10



CHI SIGMA IOTA MISSION

OUR MISSION IS TO PROMOTE SCHOLARSHIP, RESEARCH, PROFESSIONALISM, LEADERSHIP, AND EXCELLENCE IN COUNSELING, AND TO RECOGNIZE HIGH ATTAINMENT IN THE PURSUIT OF ACADEMIC AND CLINICAL EXCELLENCE IN THE PROFESSION OF COUNSELING. OUR SYMBOLS AND COLORS WERE CHOSEN TO REFLECT OUR MISSION AND VALUES: WHITE FOR VIRTUE, BLUE FOR TRUSTWORTHINESS AND INTEGRITY. OUR STRATEGIC PLAN AND BYLAWS PROVIDE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PURPOSES OF MEMBERSHIP AND REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SOCIETY.



CDR'S NEWEST MEMBERS



Destiny Andes, Angelina Bonacasa, Alexa Bonk, Evaline Bowman, Kaitlyn Emerson , Olivia Fedor, Michael Foder, Kristin Gallagher, Romina Gamarra, Federico Gutierrez, Jenna Haefele, Mackenzie Kizer, Raichle Lisak, Diana Lozinger, Gianna Manzo, Gianna Marmo, Joshua Martin, John Merchant, Kristann Mohar, Kathryn Moore, Khushi Morawala, Madison Moyer, Skylar Okun, Kalina Olson, Srushti Parkhi, Divya Patel, Angelina Penatzer, Kayleen Post ,Megan Refice Mia Sandy, Sarah Soos, Ashley Torres, Angeljalina Vargas, Robert Walker, Lauren Wallace, and Kendalyn Yurkin

MEET THE 25-26 CDR EXECUTIVE BOARD¹²



Kathryn Moore
President



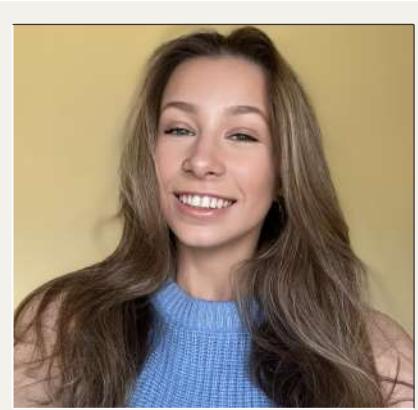
Mia Sandy
Vice President



Angelina Bonacasa
Secretary/ Student Liason



Kalina Olsen
Treasurer



Sarah Soos
PACE Co-Chair



Diana Lozinger
PACE Co-Chair



Alexa Bonk
Social Media and Graphic Design Chair

THE 25-26 CHSA AND TUA OFFICERS¹³

CHSA Officers

President: Avedis Berenson

VP: Hannah Turck

Treasurer: Victor Giordano

Secretary: Allison Lehberger

TUA Officers

President: Ashley McVeigh

VP: Avedis Berenson

Treasurer: Alexandra Holub

Secretary: Searra VanDerveer



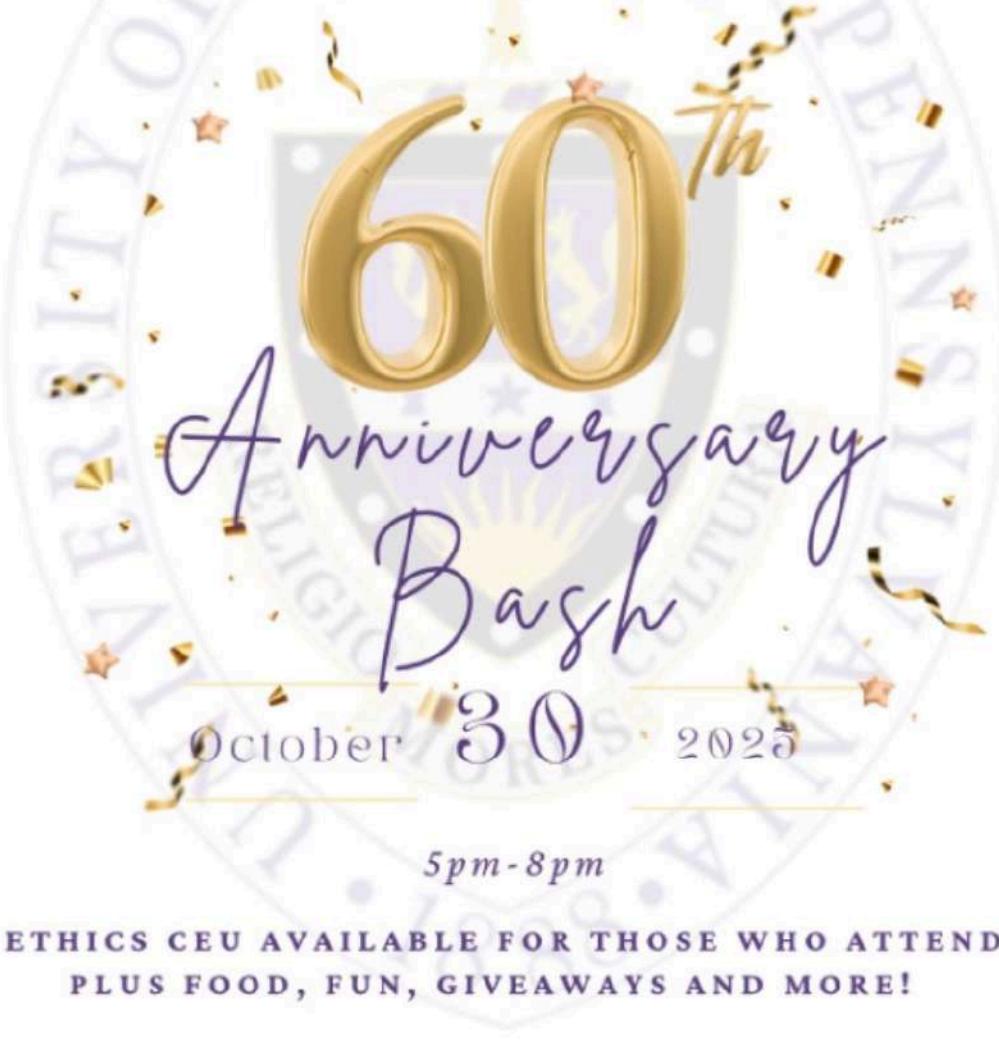
Congratulations to the students who graduated from the Counseling and Human Services Department this year! Your dedication and hard work have brought you to this significant milestone, and we couldn't be prouder. As you embark on your professional journeys, let the learning experiences you've gained ignite your passion for your work and fuel your commitment to helping others. Your compassion and understanding will undoubtedly make a positive impact in the world. Here's to a future filled with success, growth, and meaningful contributions to society. We believe in you and look forward to seeing all the wonderful things you will achieve!

COMING THIS FALL..

SAVE THE DATE

INVITING ALL ALUMNI, CURRENT STUDENTS, CURRENT
AND RETIRED FACULTY MEMBERS, COMMUNITY
PARTNERS!

*Please join us in honoring the
Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling Program's*





FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

Dykeman, C. & **Elrod, K.** (2025). Examining spanish-language pro-non-suicidal self-injury (Pro-NSSI) posts on Tumblr: A linguistic inquiry and word count analysis. *Adolescents* 5(2), 12; <https://doi.org/10.3390/adolescents5020012>

Lu, W., Oursler, J., Gao, N., Beninato, J., **Herrick, S. J.**, Durante, A., Bazan, C., Socha, C., Gbadamosi, S., Meyers, E., & Hill, K. (2025), Employment-Related Soft Skills for Young Adults with Disabilities, *Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation*, 0(0), 1-11. DOI: 10.1177/10522263251337587

Stefanelli, K. J. (2025). Meditation and guided imagery show reduction in chronic stress and increase in mental health-related quality of life for college students. *Journal of American College Health*, 1-11. <https://doi.org/10.1080/07448481.2024.2449426>

Whitbeck, M. A. & Griffiths, C. (2025). Piloting an online interprofessional learning event for counseling and occupational therapy students. *Teaching and Supervision in Counseling*. [In Press]

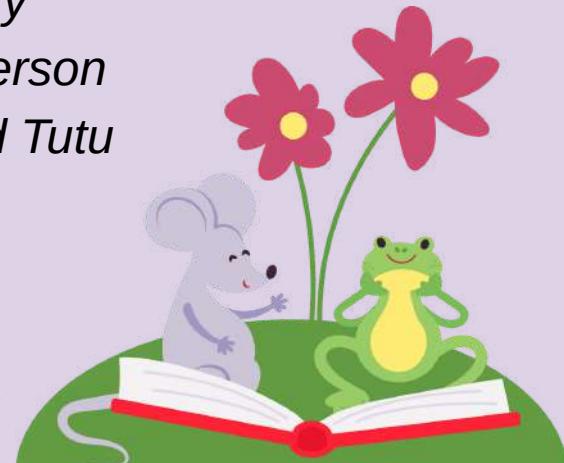
Jenkins, M., Deaton, J. D., **Whitbeck, M.**, Koechert, K., & Mack, H. (In Press). Affective responses, coping, and mental health outcomes: An exploratory needs assessment. *Nursing Administration Quarterly*. [In Press].

Willis, B. T., Talarico, L. G., & Pope, A. L. (in press). A sex-positive, contextual approach to children's sexual development. *Journal of Counseling Sexology & Sexual Wellness: Research, Practice, and Education*, 6(1).

FACULTY FUN FACTS

FACULTY SUMMER READING RECOMMENDATIONS

1. *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry
2. *Tress of the Emerald Sea* by Brandon Sanderson
3. *No Future Without Forgiveness* by Desmond Tutu
4. *The Last Lecture* by Randy Pausch
5. *A Monster Calls* by Patrick Ness
6. *The Anxious Generation* by Jonathan Haidt
7. *Letters to a Young Therapist* by Mary Pipher





How would you change your life today if the average life expectancy was 400 years?

I would plan on a second career as a game show host once I retire from teaching!

- Dr. Datti

Perhaps I would consider delaying Retirement

-Dr. Bruch

If I would put more money into retirement, and I would prioritize my physical health and wellness even higher! I would want to be able to enjoy the extra 300+ years!

-Dr. Willis

I'd dedicate myself to mastering multiple artistic disciplines—painting, writing, and perhaps even singing, because with 400 years ahead of me, I might have enough time to conquer my tone-deafness.

-Dr. Tierney

If the average life expectancy was 400 years, I would spend more time taking pictures to help me remember my journey along the way.

Dr. Jensen



LCHS Contact List

Name

Victoria Hammer Castellanos, Ph.D, RD, Dean, LCHS

Rebecca Spirito Dalgin, Department Chair

Gerianne Barber, MS, NCC, LPC, CRC, CTC Director

Kevin Wilkerson, Ph.D, SC Director

Samantha Herrick, RC Director

Paul Datti, Ph.D, CRC, HS-BCP, CHS Director

Ben Willis, Ph.D, NCC, ACS, CMHC Director

Phone

570-941-6305

Office

ELH 226

570-941-4308

MGH 455

570-941-7645

MGH 433

570-941-6599

MGH 445

570-941-7819

MGH 437

570-941-4127

MGH 451

570-941-6172

MGH 441