



CONNECTING

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FALL 2008

A NEW NAME

I've always heard that the only things constant were death and taxes, but I also thought that the name PSI was pretty close to being sacrosanct as well. However, after a lot of work, I'm excited to let you know that PSI's name is changing. Over the next few weeks, our website, letterhead, brochures, signage, and other collateral material will begin to change. This represents one of the most momentous of all the changes we've seen in my decade of leadership here. The process involved members from all of our constituencies including alumni, faculty, trustees and current students.

There are many reasons for the new name, but the primary one has to do with the need for professional accreditation through the American Counseling Association, which will drive licensure laws in the years ahead. To be accredited with them our name cannot contain the word "psychology" or any derivative.

Knowing this transition was coming presented us with an opportunity to think carefully about who we are and where we are going. We needed an overarching name that had clear

Christian overtones, but did not sound too religious. Far too many of our graduates are in settings where a Christian school might cause difficulties (e.g., applicants for licensure in states where there is antipathy toward Christian clinicians or missionaries in non-Christian countries).

We also needed a name that (a) had an available website, (b) could be trademarked, and (c) allowed for continued growth and expansion. In the future the name may need to reflect a vision that goes beyond counselor education.

After working with a rebranding company and receiving input from hundreds of alumni, current students and faculty, the name the trustees of PSI have selected is Richmont Graduate University. Richmont reminds us of the riches of life in Christ and can serve as a reference to the mountainous geographic region around both Atlanta and Chattanooga. The name also allows us to create separate schools underneath this institutional name. Present plans call for a school of counseling, a school of ministry, a school of psychology (which will use the name

PSI, thus retaining the brand equity built over the years), and a school of formation.

By the way, if you wish to change your diploma from Psychological Studies Institute to Richmont Graduate University, please notify our registrar, Stephanie Kirschmann at skirschmann@psy.edu. There is a small cost involved and the signatures on the diploma will be from current institutional leadership, but we are happy to prepare a new diploma if you wish.

With great sincerity I want to thank you for your dedication and support to PSI. I also want to let you know that though this was not a process I sought, I do believe the result will strengthen our mission, and position us to expand our ministry.

Sincerely,

C. Jeffrey Terrell, Ph.D.
President



Speakers

Dallas Willard, Ph.D. and Jane Willard, LMFT

The Use of Imagery and Prayer in Counseling
presented by Jane Willard, LMFT

Engaging the Will in Personal Transformation
presented by Dallas Willard, Ph.D.

Save the Date ALUMNI REUNION

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 7, 2008

Mt Paran Church of God Great Hall • 2055 Mt. Paran Road NW, Atlanta, GA 30327

Heavy hors d'oeuvres reception and guided tours of the newly renovated McCarty Building beginning at 4:30 PM

Three-hour continuing education seminar from 6:00pm-9:00pm

FREE admission to students, faculty and members of the alumni association. Spouses, friends, or nonmembers can pay \$25.00 by check or cash at the door.

Additional information

A block of rooms has been reserved under the name, "PSI Room Block" at the Sheraton Suites Galleria. For reservations, please call 1-888-627-7047. Rooms will be released after October 7, 2008.

To reserve your spot for this event, please contact Meredith Williams at 404-835-6119 or mwilliams@psy.edu by October 31, 2008.

Difference-Making 101



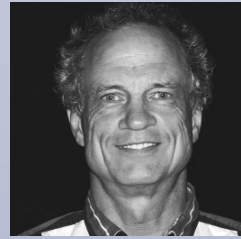
Robert K. Arp, D. Min
Chief Development Officer

Dr. Rob Arp joined Richmont as the chief development officer in late March, 2008. According to president, Dr. Jeff Terrell, "The addition of Dr. Rob Arp as Richmont's chief development officer is a wonderful step forward for our institution. Dr. Arp will provide executive level leadership to all of the institution's fund raising initiatives while focusing particularly on Richmont's development needs in the Atlanta area. We are blessed to have him join us." Rob received a B.A. in theology from Lee University in 1984. He holds a master of divinity from Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia and received his doctorate in pastoral ministries from Erskine University in 1995. Rob served on the ministry staff at Mount Paran Church of God and has provided pastoral counseling for those in need while working in a ministry environment. For the past three years Dr. Arp served as a consultant for the Dozier Family Foundation and was instrumental in the development of a high-tech arts facility in West Cobb. Rob's interests include history and archeology, writing, and baseball. He and his wife, Robbin have been married for 24 years and they currently reside in Atlanta with their two grown children.

Angela Landry

Assistant to the Director of Admissions

Angie assists the director of admissions as well as welcomes new and prospective students into the Richmont Family. She loves that her job gives her the ability to further the mission of Richmont. Angie is a second-year student pursuing a master of arts in marriage and family therapy with a specialization in spirituality and counseling. She graduated from Trevecca Nazarene University with a B.A. in religious studies and a B.S. in behavioral science. She is passionate about helping troubled families and hopes to do research in personality theory. Angela has been married to her husband, Nick, for two years and resides in south Atlanta.



Dennis House, '06 MAPC
Recruiter

Dennis House joined Richmont as a recruiter based out of the Chattanooga campus. He will spend most of his time on the road spreading the word about Richmont to prospective students. Dennis obtained a bachelor's degree in business administration from Georgia State University in 1980 and a masters of arts in professional counseling with a child and adolescent specialization from PSI in 2006. Dennis has over twenty-five years of experience in commercial lending, finance, sales, and construction. He is the father of 21-year-old daughter, Rebecca, a senior at Auburn University. Dennis is a member of Mt. Paran Church of God Atlanta.

James P. Owens
Recruiter



As a recruiter for Richmont, James will be traveling to colleges and universities throughout the southeast on behalf of the school. He will work to build relationships with students, schools, and faculty as well as churches in the area. James is married to Whitney Owens, a Richmont student. In addition to working for Richmont, he is pursuing a masters of divinity through Columbia International University. In the future, he and Whitney plan to plant a church in Cobb County.

Novell Blain, LAPC, '06 MAMFT
Director of Admissions



Richmont is thrilled to welcome Novell Blain as the new director of admissions. Novell is a cherished member of the staff and recently transitioned from her role as assistant to the dean of students. In her new role, Novell feels privileged to meet prospective students and share Richmont's history and mission. Novell is a 2006 alumna and obtained a master of arts in marriage and family therapy with a specialization in Christian sex therapy. She also serves Richmont as an alumni counselor and enjoys working with a variety of issues such as effective communication, improving intimacy, addiction recovery, and women's issues. Novell is the proud mother of an 18-year-old son named Bryan, who is a senior at Kennesaw Mountain High School. She and Bryan live in the Kennesaw area and enjoy spending their spare time working on projects in the dramatic arts.

Richmont Statement of Purpose:

Richmont Graduate University provides graduate counselor education integrating applied psychology and practical theology to make Christian counseling a servant to the Church for Christ-centered transformation.

Richmont Locations:

1815 McCallie Ave
Chattanooga, TN 37404-3026
888-267-4073 (toll free)

McCarty Building
2055 Mt. Paran Road N.W.
Atlanta, GA 30327-2921
888-267-4073 (toll free)

Jennifer Cooper

Assistant to the President



Jennifer Cooper arrived at Richmond in mid-April to act as the assistant to Richmond president, Dr. Jeff Terrell. She began assisting Dr. Terrell at the onset of the renovation phase of the administration offices. Now that the McCarty building renovation is complete she will strive to effectively complete the administrative functions for the president that will touch every aspect of the Richmond "family" life. Jennifer and her husband Paul have been married for 23 years and are dedicated to raising their talented daughters, Andrea and Sydney. They are faithful members and remain active in children's and youth ministry at Mount Paran Church of God.

**Cheryl A. Snead**

Assistant to the Dean of Clinical Affairs

Cheryl is the voice of the Hope Counseling Center as her main role is to interact with the individuals who call to set up counseling appointments. In addition, she assists the dean of clinical affairs,

Dr. Evalin Rhodes Hanshaw, with the maintenance of records for clinical training. Cheryl studied psychology at the University of Georgia. She has been married to Jimmie Snead for twenty years and is the proud mother of two children, Annie (Go Dawgs!) and James (War Eagle!). Cheryl is an aspiring author with her first work, *HoliMess*, in the editorial stage. In addition to writing, she loves to travel, paint, and read.

H. Roxanne Shellabarger, '08 MAMFT

Assistant Registrar



Roxanne describes her role at Richmond as the "purveyor of vast amounts of paperwork and important records for all PSI departments, also known as the gatekeeper of transcripts and queen of graduate information for all students." Roxie is a recent graduate of PSI and enjoys her new position in the records office. She has been married for two years and is welcoming the newest edition to their family – a rowdy and ill-behaved puppy named "Gingko Biloba Shellabarger." She enjoys the outdoors, camping, and anything related to good food.

**Melissa Cunningham**

Assistant to the Dean of Students

Melissa Cunningham recently joined Richmond as the assistant to the dean of students at the Atlanta campus. Melissa is very excited about her new position and is inspired to take classes to learn about

Christian counseling so she can apply it to her personal life. Melissa recently moved from Grand Rapids, Michigan where she studied business and environmental studies at Aquinas College. She recently became engaged to fiancé Eric Vanderhorst and plans to be married this Spring.

Emily Harbold, Ph.D.

Administrative Assistant for Academic Services



Dividing her time between several roles, Dr. Emily Harbold will provide support for Dr. Phil Coyle, academic dean, and Dr. Cara Cochran, assistant academic dean. Dr. Harbold holds a Ph.D. in educational policy and leadership with a cognate in adult education and graduate administration from Ohio State University. She earned a M.A. in English from University of North Carolina at Greensboro and a B.S. degree from East Tennessee State University. She has served on the faculty of several renowned universities including Ohio State University and has a wealth of experience in the university setting including service as the associate director of academic services at the College of William and Mary. As a native of middle Tennessee, she enjoys traveling, cooking, and gardening with husband Frank Harbold, US Navy veteran. They are fans of Auburn and OSU football, and they are members of First-Centenary United Methodist Church in Chattanooga.

**Caffie Frizzell**

Accounting Assistant

Caffie Frizzell joined the Richmond finance department as an accounting assistant. Some of her roles involve management of the accounts payable process and staff expense procedures. She

returned to finance after twenty-five years working in computer systems. Caffie loves to garden every chance she gets. Her current projects include brain washing her granddaughters to love gardening and the same music she enjoys.

Dione Mashburn

Administrative Assistant for Institutional Advancement



Dione Mashburn joined Richmond with over twelve years of experience in the financial field, including banking, real estate, and office management. Her role is to assist Judi Coyle, director of institutional advancement, in connecting to and caring for the Richmond community. Dione is a single mom with two beautiful daughters, Cassidy, age 10, and Kristin, age 7. She is thrilled to come on board at Richmond and excited to see what the future brings.

**Barbara Armstrong**

Assistant to the Director of Grants

Barbara joined Richmond during a busy season of grant writing. Her role is to assist in grant research and preparation in order to widen the scope of Richmond's relationships with foundations and businesses. Barbara is happily married to Bobby Armstrong and has been blessed with three boys, ages 6, 8, and 16, who cause her to question her sanity daily!

FACULTY RECOGNITION

SERVICE BEGINS AT HOME

As Richmond students learn to minister through counseling, it is important not to lose sight of the importance of our service to those to whom we are closest: our families and friends. Richmond students have set a marvelous example in quiet service and encouragement to faculty member Mike Reid, his wife Andrea, and daughter Kaylee.

Our friend Mike Reid came to PSI in the summer of 2006, leaving a thriving counseling practice in Brookhaven, Mississippi. Very quickly it became apparent that Mike has a natural gift for teaching and mentoring students. Soft-spoken, with a dry sense of humor, Mike immediately endeared himself to everyone at PSI. Soon after he arrived, Mike was stricken, almost overnight, with severe muscle and joint pain that limited his activities. Mike's teaching took on an entirely new dimension as he shared openly about the spiritual and emotional challenges he faced in light of illness.

Last fall, Mike began to have some setbacks that continued into the spring. Richmond students arranged two work days at the Reid home to take care of some basic needs around the house. It became apparent that he really needed to have an extended time of rest and recuperation, so, reluctantly, Mike began a leave of absence from PSI in May 2008. At one point, Mike shared that he was really praying about a laptop for his home to make it easier for him to write and stay connected. Richmond is blessed to have

students, faculty and staff who are committed to praying for one another, so a general request went out (unknown to Mike) about what we might be able to do to get Mike a laptop.

The response was overwhelming and instantaneous. Over a period of three weeks, students, faculty and staff donated almost \$2600. Not only did Mike receive a laptop, but a love gift of over \$1000 and a basket full of over 60 cards and letters from students, faculty, and staff encouraging him and expressing appreciation, all of which were presented to him in July at a fellowship in his honor.

Mike, Andrea and Kaylee will always be a part of the Richmond family. Our fervent prayer is that Mike will continue to improve physically and be able to spend more time with us. We are all grateful for his continued contribution and ministry among us.



BEST WISHES TO JESSICA AND KELLY



Jessica Jennings and Husband, Jeff Jennings, Move to Richmond, Virginia

Jessica Jennings, gifted therapist, PSI alumna, and former director of admissions, and her husband Jeff Jennings, PSI alumnus and former therapist at Compass Resources, made the decision to move to Richmond, Virginia in August 2008. The couple responded to the Lord's calling for Jeff to pursue a Ph.D. in psychology at Virginia Commonwealth University. Jessica will start a new position as a primary therapist at Remuda Ranch East, where she will help women looking for hope and healing from anorexia and bulimia. Jessica was the face of PSI for almost seven years as the director of admissions and prior to that earned her M.A. in professional counseling from PSI. She worked selflessly as an advisor

for students and streamlined the admissions process to accommodate the growing student body. We are grateful for the lasting mark she has made during a challenging time of growth for PSI. Jessica and Jeff will be missed deeply, but we look forward with excitement as they embark on this journey. Novell Blain, PSI alumna, and former assistant to the dean of students will capably take over Jessica's position and continue to be the welcoming face of this excellent school!



Farewell to Kelly Bowden, Administrative Assistant to Academic Services

Two years ago, the academic services office was able to hire our very first administrative assistant. God sent to us Kelly Bowden, a woman of extraordinary talents and enthusiasm. Kelly, who is also a professional photographer, quickly became part of the PSI family, photographing events, making her world famous brownies (for which she still won't share the recipe) and keeping the academic services office in top form. Kelly also served as a wonderful ambassador to the community for PSI.

Last April, Kelly became engaged to Dave Lewis, and announced in July that she would be leaving PSI to spend more time with her photography and jewelry businesses. We are grateful for all that Kelly did for us and wish her and Dave the best in their future together.



JACK MANGUM AWARD GOES TO RICHMONT STUDENT, NICK HERSEY

The Jack Mangum Award, coordinated by the Experiential Learning Committee of the Georgia Association of Colleges and Employers (GACE) and sponsored by Waffle House Incorporated, recognizes those students who exemplify outstanding characteristics in experiential learning. GACE honored Nick Hersey with a monetary award in the arts and sciences category. Nick won this award based on his outstanding service in the Atlanta community and commitment to academic excellence at Richmont.

Nick and his wife have four wonderful children, and he has a job in carpentry in order to support his family of six while he attends graduate school. Somehow, Nick finds time to volunteer approximately 20 hours a month to build relationships with refugees and work with underprivileged children and youth. Since August of 2007, Nick has been meeting with refugees at Celebration Fellowship in Clarkston, GA.

Nick clearly articulated his desire to pursue advanced degrees in counseling psychology. He expressed his plan to eventually obtain a doctoral degree in psychology. The Jack Mangum Award will certainly help him pursue his dreams, and we are proud to have him as a student at Richmont.

Below is a small excerpt from Nick Hersey's essay describing his passion for helping those who have been traumatized:

"It has been my desire to work with underprivileged individuals since I was a teenager...I have recently gained an increasing awareness of the prevalence of refugees living in my community...several people, including myself, have taken the initiative to focus our efforts on building relationships within these communities... to educate these individuals about the basic necessities of our way of life (and) better aid these individuals to acquire a job and thus become more self-sufficient and better adjust to our society...(My) ultimate goal is to be properly equipped to help traumatized children better cope with the life they've experienced, and to help them develop tools to aid them in their future...My hopes are to take the knowledge that I gain through my education and research and apply and teach these skills to people in all nations. It is my belief that I can be much more effective reaching the entire nation by teaching others who share the same passion, and thus develop a ripple effect, which is exactly what I intend to do..."

2008-2009 Student Government Association Officers

Atlanta SGA



From L to R on the top row: Meagan Goodwin (orientation officer), Laura Hahn (secretary/treasurer), Aja Russell (social activities officer), Jordan Yates (president), Laura Machado (Chaplain), Starla Gustafson (orientation officer), Laura Leman (social activities officer)

Chattanooga SGA



From L to R: Lorrie Ballard (social activities officer), Christine Weisgerber (orientation officer), Rachel Cobb (president), Laura Ward (secretary), and Kim Brown (chaplain). Not pictured are Shannon Cramer (social activities officer) and William Lockett (orientation officer)

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

The following students have been selected for the 2008-2009 school year based on academic eligibility, financial need, application essays, and interviews with the scholarship committee:

Baird McClure Memorial Scholarship

David Wallace, Keith Naylor, Crystal Dabney, and Tyler Wilkinson

Harrison Griffith DeKay Scholarship

Catherine Lord, Karren Washoma, Sarah Brookings, Melinda Heshelman, and Mycha Whiting

Willingham Rollinson Scholarship

Richard Michael Williams

Paul L. Walker Merit Scholarship

Lauren Laake, Courtney Fishburn, and Audrey Starnes

All of the above, as well as the **Harriet Caldwell Scholarship** and the **June Braund Scholarship** are open for applications for the 2009-2010 academic year. Applications and scholarship criteria can be found on the website, www.psy.edu. Applications for scholarships must be received by May 1, 2009. Please contact Novell Blain, director of admissions, for more information, 404-835-6111.

We are so grateful for the individuals and families that have established scholarships for Richmont students. If you would like to learn more about how to set up an endowed scholarship, please contact Judi Coyle in the office of advancement, 423-648-2669.

NEWS BRIEFS

RICHMONT PURSUES SPECIALIZED ACCREDITATION THROUGH CACREP

In January of 2009, Richmond will apply for accreditation with the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs. The mission of CACREP is to promote the professional competence of counseling through development of preparation standards, encouragement of excellence in program development, and accreditation of professional preparation programs. CACREP is the major accreditation body for the field of counseling. Most state licensure laws for professional counseling are based upon or parallel to the CACREP standards. Richmond has a long tradition of demanding excellence of students; the faculty and administration are also committing themselves to achieve the highest standards related to their roles and functions as counselor educators. Richmond achieved accreditation with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) in 2003 and has recently completed the self-study process for reaffirmation this

past month. CACREP, as a specialized accrediting agency, focuses on programs that prepare individuals to enter the counseling profession. Specialized accrediting agencies such as CACREP define the standards of excellence in educational preparation programs for recognized professions such as counseling. CACREP accreditation is nongovernmental, self-regulating, peer based, voluntary, and represents the highest standards for counselor education.

There are five basic components of the accreditation process. Step one is to conduct a self study. Richmond must evaluate itself using the CACREP standards, which includes such items as curriculum, faculty resources, clinical experience requirements and supervisor qualification, and program evaluation processes. Step two is to submit the application and self-study report that describes how the standards are being met and provide evidence to support these claims. Step three is the CACREP on-

site team visit, the team report, and the institutional response to the team report. Teams spend 3-4 days on campus interviewing students, program graduates, clinical experience supervisors, faculty, and institutional administrators. Teams also review the facilities and other program resources. Step four is the accreditation decision. The CACREP board meets semiannually to make decisions on applicant programs that have completed the review process. Richmond is planning to be presented at the January 2010 CACREP board meeting. Various decisions may be rendered, ranging from complete denial to accreditation. The final step is the granting of accreditation. If Richmond demonstrates compliance with the CACREP standard, then accreditation will be granted. This status would be granted for an eight-year period when all the standards are satisfactorily met. CACREP accreditation will place Richmond among only a few faith-based graduate schools with this credential.

OUR NEW QUALITY ENHANCEMENT PLAN:

ADVANCED DIGITAL VIDEO COUNSELING SUPERVISION

Imagine the benefits of watching your professor or clinical supervisor in counseling sessions. Imagine watching advanced students in counseling sessions. Imagine receiving direct, supportive feedback from your professor, supervisor or fellow students as they watch your actual counseling sessions. Imagine having access to real examples of specific intervention techniques captured during actual counseling sessions, name the technique you want to see demonstrated, and with the click of a button you can access dozens of digitized video examples of that technique in actual counseling sessions available for your review. Does instant access to hundreds of hours of high-quality digital video recordings of professional counseling and marriage and family therapy sessions as a primary learning tool sound good? Well, this digital portfolio of counseling sessions will become available to Richmond students in the very near future.

Richmont has completed a two-year process of self-study resulting in a new and important program to enhance the counseling skills of students. Faculty will be able to teach a counseling technique, demonstrate it through role-play, and now also show actual counseling sessions using the technique with actual counselees. Students will have their own counseling portfolio of high-quality digital recordings as a means of enhancing their supervision experience and substantially increasing their effectiveness as a counselor.

The plan is to use an advanced digital video technology system, adapted from the Landro Play Analyzer, initially developed for professional sports play analysis. This system, along with related supervisory and teaching strategies, will help to strengthen students' counseling and self-awareness skills. The program will include several new components: campus-wide installation of a video technology system for recording and reviewing students' counseling sessions, a "Master Series Video Curriculum," 25 hours of professionally evaluated digital video recordings of each student counselor, a professional digital marketing portfolio for each graduate, and numerous training resources within the classroom and the supervision clinic to enhance student learning outcomes. Richmond students will now have the opportunity to develop counseling skills based on direct video evidence of their own counseling techniques. We at Richmond are dedicated to training outstanding counselors, and with our new digital video technology and supervision plan, Richmond is poised to continue the lead in counselor education. The Landro project is funded by a matching grant from the Maclellan Foundation. We welcome any contributions you would like to submit to help us meet this challenge grant that expires on January 15, 2009

McCARTY BUILDING RENOVATIONS COMPLETED: ATLANTA STAFF AND STUDENTS ARE THRIVING!

Gone are the days when Atlanta students and staff had to leave campus to find a good sitting area to eat their lunch and study for a test! Richmond is excited to announce the completion of the long awaited renovation of the three floors of the McCarty building that currently accommodates close to 250 students each semester.

The terrace level (pictured on the right), which in the past was used as a storage space, has been transformed into a state of the art library and student lounge area. This new space meets students' needs by providing a large eating area, kitchen, and a new library equipped with ample study areas and compact, electronic bookshelves.

The first floor houses a new student affairs suite and development wing that contains additional, revamped office space to accommodate our growing school. On the second floor, additions included a renovated classroom (the largest at Richmond) as well as three new faculty offices. There is now an elevator that services all three floors.

Richmont students and staff are forever indebted to Richmont trustee and Mt. Paran Church of God elder Larry Owens, who has been a constant presence on campus throughout the entire renovation process. He managed the planning efforts and construction teams with grace and perseverance, and we continue to be blessed by his presence during the final stages of the renovation. In addition, we are humbled by and grateful for the initial gift given to us by Mr. and Mrs. Bill Cheney to build the initial structure that we now grow and thrive in.



CBI UPDATE

Angie Conroy is the volunteer director of Chattanooga Bible Institute. She and her husband Pat have raised six children and live on Lookout Mountain.

From the Director of CBI:

An interesting question came up during class today, "What is a Christian?" The general consensus of the class was someone who loves God with all his heart, soul and mind and loves his brother as himself. I immediately felt defensive and a bit defeated. While fearing this is an unobtainable goal for me in this earthly body, I do believe this is exactly what I'm called to do. The problem clearly lies with my nature not God's. He is perfectly capable of transforming me, but the struggle between willingness and willfulness, dependence and independence, surrender versus control determines the intimacy of my love relationship with Him. And honestly, I'm not sure the cross would hold sway over

my heart as it does were it not for recognizing this chasm between what God asks of me and what He receives. It is only by His perfect and undeserved love for me through the bloodshed of Christ that a bridge is created allowing me to crossover to Him. So humbly acknowledging my worthlessness before my creator who counts me of infinite worth I continue to wage the war within. Maybe to me, a Christian is one who sees how far short of the mark he falls and out of unspeakable gratitude and love for his redeemer refuses to stop seeking the face of his Lord no matter how filthy his own countenance.

An Introduction to CBI:

I would like to introduce CBI and what we do to those of you who aren't familiar with us. Located on the Chattanooga campus, Chattanooga Bible Institute is an interdenominational ministry of PSI providing the community with Christian classes, Christian counseling services and The Poindexter Library- a Christian resource library open to

the public. CBI was originally established 75 years ago as a facility to teach Bible instructors how to better teach the Bible. The 1950s initiated what is now the Poindexter Library and the late 80s saw the introduction of the counseling program. During all these years CBI continued to participate in and conduct countless Bible classes and conferences. In 2000, CBI merged with PSI forming a SACS accredited graduate school for training Christian counselors- maintaining campuses both in Chattanooga and Atlanta. Today finds CBI still playing a viable role in the community as we continue to partner with Richmond Graduate University. As a trustee of Richmond and volunteer director of CBI, I have been in the unique position of getting to know the "nuts and bolts" of this institution and I am in awe; in awe of the faculty, staff, students and the community as they share in a mutual commitment and passion for the work being done here. CBI has been richly blessed by a heritage of loyal and devoted patrons and now, our association with such an outstanding graduate university promises a bright future indeed for those seeking and serving God.

Good Conversation

The Fall 2008 issue of *Conversations* focuses on the topic of discernment—the spiritual discipline of sensitivity to God’s will in our life. The following is an excerpt from the fall issue, and it also brings the PSI connection full circle because the author is an alumna!

THE STILL SMALL VOICE: A MOTHER’S JOURNEY FROM GRIEF TO HOPE

Kendra Allen

Silence. Stillness. “I’m sorry... I can’t seem to find a heartbeat,” the ultrasound technician said. More silence. Everything in that dimly lit room was completely still and quiet. Too quiet! Just a moment before, my husband and I were chatting with the friendly technician. We had been a bit giddy as we were about to learn the gender of this little one growing inside me. But in an instant, the room had grown cold and lifeless. As the technician stepped out to call the doctor, the darkness of the room echoed the darkness that began to enshroud our hearts. *It can’t be true... the doctor will come in, and he will find the heartbeat and everything will be all right...* our hearts so desperately willed. On a bleak February day and in one sentence, death had altered the course of our dream.

As I write these words, it is late July, two years later. Today the air is thick with humidity, and nature is in full bloom, teeming with life. It is a fitting reflection of the life that has started springing up again in our hearts... in a place where we once thought it could not. As I hold my infant son, grinning at me with bright, laughing eyes, I feel a quiet awe rising up within me. He is now six months old, and we still find ourselves riveted by the wonder of this merciful gift.

We chose his name—Wilder—because he is a living reminder of God’s wild imagination and love. In living out the story that God is writing in our lives, we have tasted this wildness.

The story began several years ago when we had decided it was time to expand our family. This was anything but an easy decision. While we envisioned our daughter, Caroline, as a big sister and looked forward to her having the companionship of a sibling, this decision brought with it a measure of fear because I have

a rare disease of pregnancy. Affecting about two percent of pregnancies each year, hyperemesis gravidarum (HG) is marked by rapid weight loss, malnutrition, and dehydration due to unremitting nausea and vomiting. In the first trimester of my pregnancy with Caroline, I lost twenty-five pounds. During those first weeks, our thoughts immediately went to the safety of our unborn baby. The doctor alleviated our fears by assuring us that the baby draws all needed nutrients from the mother. This fact brought comfort, if not relief, to my aching body and weary soul.

On June 30, 2003, our baby girl, Caroline, was born. Today she is a vibrant and precocious five-year-old embarking on the adventure of kindergarten. My health was restored, and we settled into life as a family of three. In the end, it seemed a small price to pay for the abundant joy a longed-for child brings. So, about three years ago, we decided to try to have another baby, even though we knew it was likely that the HG would surface again. Foolishly believing that experience had taught us something about managing the disease, we moved forward with trying to conceive.

To tell of all that this journey of grief has taught us would fill a book. But somehow I experienced the foundational peace of God, and it lodged itself in my heart. I felt his presence deeply and began the process of learning that although he allows tragedies to befall us, he will not deny us an intimate and life-giving relationship with him. My relationship with him was being strengthened and formed on a deeper level. He was drawing me closer to him through each painful question; he would not abandon us in this dark place. The psalmist says, “The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit” (Psalm 34:18, NIV). God was truly our refuge.

About the Author

Kendra Allen, M.S., NCC, is a full-time wife and mother and maintains a small psychotherapy practice. She attended Florida State University, Georgia State University, and the Psychological Studies Institute. She lives in Nashville, Tennessee, with her husband, John, and their two children, Caroline and Wilder.

If you wish to read the full article, and others on the topic of discernment—please order *Conversations* today. October is Clergy Appreciation Month so you can purchase a gift subscription for yourself or a friend for only \$12. www.conversationsjournal.com 404-835-6128

Founding members of the alumni association receive a complimentary subscription with their membership.



FALL PREVIEW DAYS

All Richmond Graduate University prospective students are invited to the Richmond Fall Preview Days. Come join us for the Richmond experience, gather information on our Richmond Christian counseling programs, meet faculty, staff, students, and enjoy a free lunch.

WHERE:

Chattanooga Campus
1815 McCallie Ave
Chattanooga, TN 37404-3026

Atlanta Campus

2055 Mt Paran Road NW
Atlanta, GA 30327-2921

WHEN:

Chattanooga
November 1, 2008

Atlanta

October 25, 2008

TIME:

Both Preview Days
10:00a.m. - 1:30p.m.

Please plan to stay for the duration of the program. Lunch is provided.

RSVP:

Novell Blain, Director of Admissions
Direct 404-835-6111
Toll-free (888) 924-6774 ext. 6111 or
nblain@psy.edu



RESEARCH UPDATE: OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD AND OTHERS

Recently published research by Dr. David Simpson, 1997 PSI alumnus and Valparaiso University psychology professor, offers pastors, psychologists and others new insights regarding the links between spiritual and interpersonal relationships.

Before delving into his research insights, a life update is in order. Dr. David Simpson is married to Holly Simpson, also a PSI alumnus. After graduation from PSI in 1999, Holly worked for Paul Mauger, former PSI president, as a program manager and then worked in the mental health field in various capacities. She worked with geriatric individuals, child and adolescents, and currently works as a career counselor at Valparaiso University and is in private practice at Waterleaf Counseling Services. Upon graduation from PSI in 1997, Dr. Simpson served for three years as the director of enrollment development at PSI and managed two PSI Hope Counseling Centers. He and Holly moved to Oklahoma where David obtained a Ph.D. in counseling psychology at the University of Oklahoma and taught undergraduate psychology courses. He joined the faculty at Valparaiso University in Fall 2005 where he teaches graduate and undergraduate courses. David and Holly are the proud parents of 2-year-old daughter, Lauren.

Dr. David Simpson, whose research efforts have focused on the connections between religious faith and psychology, reported his findings in "Understanding the role of relational factors in Christian spirituality," published this past summer in the *Journal of Psychology and Theology*.

While psychologists have examined various dimensions of interpersonal relationships for many years and there is an emerging interest in spirituality in the discipline, Dr. Simpson said the research reported in the *Journal of Psychology and Theology* was prompted by a dearth of research connecting the two domains.

"Christians have an inherent relationship with God, which we can see in Jesus dying to restore the relationship between God and his people," Dr. Simpson said. "It seemed likely that the relational dimensions present in interpersonal relationships – such as trust, intimacy and attachment – might also be

applied to spiritual relationships."

Based on surveys taken by nearly 400 self-identified Christians, Dr. Simpson said the major finding of the study is that it suggests people who have positive relationships with God are less likely to have negative relationships with other people.

Dr. Simpson noted that the instrument used for the survey focused on measuring negative relationships rather than positive relationships, so the analysis can't indicate with certainty that positive relationships with God lead to positive relationships with others and vice versa. Yet the correlation between people possessing positive relationships with God and having fewer negative interpersonal relationships was strong, he said.

Dr. Simpson said his research highlights the potential impact that positive relational spirituality could have on one's relationships with others. That supports advice given by pastors, spiritual counselors and psychologists on how building positive relationships with God also can lead to more positive relationships with one's family, friends, co-workers and neighbors. At the same time, it might be the case that positive relationships with the people in one's life could help someone develop a positive relationship with God.

"Practically, the results emphasize the importance of including relational spirituality in the overall view of emotional and relational health," he said. "The results suggest that people may benefit from exploring their own relational functioning across both dimensions."

Dr. Simpson said he hopes people will use his research to identify resources that can help them build positive relationships with both God and one another, which could lead to better overall emotional health.

"In a sense, all of the research I do is looking at how we as people relate to God," Dr. Simpson said. "Ultimately, all of this is geared toward gaining a better understanding of how we relate to God and hopefully translating that knowledge into something that people see and can use as a path to spiritual and personal growth."

HONORS & MEMORIALS

The following are individuals in whose honor and memory gifts have been received from February 2008 through September 2008.

IN HONOR

Phil and Judi Coyle
Eleanor Powell
Dr. Evalin Rhodes Hanshew

IN MEMORIAL

Robert C. Jones, III
Melvin G. White
Jeanne Butts
Mary Levell Gardner

We are grateful for those who pay tribute to special people in their lives through gifts to Richmond.



*A higher standard.
A higher purpose.*

Richmont Graduate University is a member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA), which is committed to helping Christ-centered organizations earn the public's trust through developing and maintaining standards of accountability that convey God-honoring ethical practices.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

DIANE HITT: A HEART FOR DISCIPLESHIP



Just before Diane Hitt entered PSI in 2003, she was in a season of restlessness and keenly aware that she was being led to embark on a new journey. However, she felt older and since she attained a masters of religious education in seminary, the thought of going back to school felt daunting. She explains, "This was something I really had no desire to do." In 2003, Diane felt the Lord leading her to acquire additional skills to build career options. Diane says, "Little did I know that there was a graduate school in Chattanooga that I could attend." God providentially arranged a meeting with Director of Institutional Advancement, Judi Coyle, at a Scenic City luncheon and the rest is history. Diane became a part time student at PSI as she continued to work full time at Precept Ministries International.

Diane has worked at Precept Ministries in Chattanooga for 25 years and has several different roles such as trainer/coordinator liaison, workshop trainer, who trains others to study the Bible inductively, and now one who answers theological and doctrinal questions that come into the ministry through emails and phone calls. Diane is most passionate about establishing people in God's Word and encouraging them in their faith. One of the ways she does this is through leading Bible studies and communicating the truth from the Scriptures. Since graduation, she feels more equipped to use counseling, coaching, and discipling skills in serving others.

Currently, many outside activities fulfill her passion for discipleship, mentoring, and coaching. She discipled a woman from her church who was recently saved, teaches an in-depth two-year discipleship program at her church, Woodland Park Baptist Church, and leads a noon-time Bible study at a Chattanooga law firm. In addition, this fall she began teaching a Bible study at CBI on 1 John and the pertinence of his message in today's world, which she hopes Richmond students in Chattanooga will be able to participate in.

REDEEMING COFFEE: LAND OF A THOUSAND HILLS

Is it possible to engage redemption through the simple act of drinking coffee? Three PSI alumni think so! In 2004, Jonathan and Brenda Golden (both class of 1990) founded a company called Land of a Thousand Hills Coffee that is based on this very principle of engaging redemption through coffee. Karen Akridge (class of 2006) joined the team shortly after her graduation. Karen is a coach and consultant with Golden Coaching and Consulting who was quickly captured by the unique vision of the coffee company and now shares her time between the two providing human resource and business development for Thousand Hills. Recently featured on Good Day Atlanta and in the Atlanta Journal Constitution, Land of a Thousand Hills believes you can help change the world simply by drinking their coffee. They pride themselves on their excellent coffee and mission to "Drink Coffee. Do Good." All their coffee comes from Rwanda, and they small batch roast the beans at their coffee house in Roswell, GA. They pay their coffee growers in Rwanda a living wage and invest \$1 per bag of coffee sold to microfinance loans for widows and orphans. It is a coffee ministry that is helping to change the face of this once war torn country. Coffee washing stations have become unusual platforms for evangelizing and reconciliation between the Hutus and Tutsis. Yearly trips to Rwanda enable them to know the faces of the women to whom they give micro loans. They pray for their needs, and they strive towards excellence in all that they do. The mission and training at PSI has carried through into careers for Jonathan, Brenda, and Karen that may be outside traditional counseling, but each use PSI skills every single day. They feel equipped to build relationships all over the world through coffee, lend a compassionate ear to those hurting and provide counsel for those in need. They have truly become "difference makers" and work daily towards putting action to Jesus' words. Through Land of a Thousand Hills Coffee, it is possible to "Drink Coffee. Do Good".



*From L to R Karen Akridge,
Brenda Golden, Jonathan Golden*

For more information:

www.DrinkCoffeeDoGood.com • Karen@drinkcoffeedogood.com
Coffee House Address: 352 South Atlanta Street, Roswell, GA 30075
Ph. 866.875.4369

Hours: Mon-Thurs 6am-8pm, Fri 6am-11pm, Sat 8am-11pm and Sun: closed
Free Wi-Fi, desserts and pastries, Live Music every Friday and Saturday night 8-10pm.

GENESISCE.ORG

Continuing Education Group

CE Clock Hours in Your Pajamas: GenesisCE.org

Dr. Michael Atwater, a PSI alumnus, is the director of GenesisCE.org Continuing Education Group, a service that provides Christian-based, online CE clock hours at discounted rates. By reading books and taking online tests, you can easily obtain your CE clock hours from the comfort of your own home without the high fees and travel costs. As alumni, it is likely that you already have some of the required books, such as the Conversations Journal, and Letters to a Young Therapist, by Mary Piper. Visit the website for details and board approvals. **When you use the code, PSIALUM on the website, www.GenesisCE.org, 20% of the purchase will be donated to Richmond.

PSI COMMUNITY COUNSELING CENTER LAUNCHES CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION PROJECT

The PSI Community Counseling Center (CCC) opened the doors to its newly renovated building just over a year ago. In a short period and with the help of community partnerships and foundation funds, the Center staff has had tremendous impact on the underserved of Chattanooga, impacting individuals, families, and communities. The Center partners with the Department of Children Services, the Focus Center of Excellence for children in state custody, the Hamilton County Public School System, and the Eastside Task Force, which was recently formed by Mayor Littlefield as an initiative to rehabilitate and revitalize six high crime neighborhoods in Chattanooga. These neighborhoods have been identified as high-risk based on data collected on social problems in the city, such as poverty rate, low school attendance, foster care enrollment, child abuse cases, child poverty, and youth crime. The case for targeting these areas was so compelling, the federal government has granted funds to support the mayor's task force initiative. The CCC is poised to be part of a powerful movement to transform individuals and communities in Chattanooga that have been plagued with poverty-related issues for decades.

To more fully meet the needs of the community evidenced by our partnering organizations, the Center began creation of a child abuse prevention team directed by Dr. Jana Pressley. The team will be a permanent part of the Center, offering a state-of-the-science intervention, known as Parent Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT), with a goal to dramatically reduce and prevent child abuse in at-risk families. PCIT is a model for early intervention developed by experts in trauma and abuse requiring specialized training. Clinical outcome studies have consistently found PCIT three times more effective than other forms of therapy, and it is broadly endorsed nation-wide. PCIT is a family-centered treatment approach proven effective for abused and at-risk children ages 2 ½ to 12 and their biological or foster caregivers. The PCIT approach is distinct in that it uses live coaching and treatment of both parent and child together and has consistently demonstrated success in improving parent-child interactions. PCIT addresses the negative parent-child patterns that may contribute to the disruptive behavior of young children. The Center is committed to the reunification of families, and

in PCIT training our clinicians will be taught modifications for the parent-directed portion of PCIT so that foster-care providers, residential treatment providers, as well as at-risk parents can apply the procedure.

Director of Research, Dr. Don Walker, is in the beginning stages of building support for a similar child abuse prevention team in Atlanta that will staff a child abuse and trauma center. The goal of the Atlanta center and prevention team is to form a partnership with the Fulton County Department of Family and Children Services to offer PCIT to the underserved and overburdened families in the Atlanta area, with a goal to dramatically reduce and prevent child abuse in at-risk families. Richmond continues to pursue additional partnerships with foundations, businesses, and individuals who have a heart to help the CCC continue to thrive and build the foundation for the Atlanta child abuse and trauma center. The help of our partners multiplies the impact in the lives of countless children and their families.

Save the Date

Continuing Education Opportunity:

“ETHICAL RISK MANAGEMENT: THE TOP TEN ETHICAL PITFALLS”

When: Saturday, January 24, 2009, 9am-3pm
Lunch will be provided from 12pm-1pm

Where: Richmond Campus, 2055 Mt. Paran Road NW, Atlanta, GA 30327

Speaker Information: William Doverspike, Ph.D., holds board certification diplomas in clinical psychology (ABPP) and neuropsychology (ABPN). He is the author of *Risk Management: Clinical, Ethical, and Legal Guidelines for Successful Practice* (2008), a resource book for handling complex ethical dilemmas in clinical practice. Dr. Doverspike also teaches at several universities including Argosy University and Richmond Graduate University. Dr. Doverspike will present an ethics workshop that will cover the most common ethical pitfalls that are encountered by

mental health professionals. He will discuss ways of successfully navigating these ethical pitfalls through the use of common sense ethical principles and a philosophy of striving for excellence. This event will be a great way for Richmond alumni and friends to interact and network with colleagues who face common ethical dilemmas in their day-to-day practices.

Continuing Education: FIVE NBCC-approved ethics clock hours provided. We are seeking GPA approval for the event.

Fees: Students, faculty and founding members of the alumni association **Free**
Basic members of the alumni association **\$25.00**
Nonmembers/friends of alumni **\$45.00**

Registration: Space is limited, so hurry up and register for this event!

To reserve your space: Founding members of the alumni association please contact Meredith Williams (mwilliams@psy.edu) or 404-835-6119 and leave the following information: name, year of graduation and email address.

Basic members and nonmembers please send your name, email address and check or cash to: Richmond Graduate University
The McCarty Building
Attn: Alumni Relations
2055 Mt. Paran Road NW
Atlanta, GA 30327
(Make check payable to Richmond Graduate University)



New Alumni Association Members

Erin M. Adams
Kendra Kermeen Allen
Michelle J. Allen
Pauline B. Anders
Scott Bertini
Bonnie S. Birkmeyer
Patricia Brown
Joseph O. Bucha
Thomas R. Campion
Candace Curry Couch
Alison Cross
Andrea P. Fambrough
Barbara Getz
Whitley R. Greene
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David Hall
Judy L. Holley
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Rebecca G. Palpant
Jenny Peck Reynolds
Jessica M Ringsmuth
Christopher T. Rogers
Summer Schulz
Wilma J. Smith
Vanessa R. Snyder
Adam B. Stamey
Susan Stocksdale
Deborah L. Torell
Libby Watson
Lamanda Whelchel

The alumni association helps graduates stay connected to the PSI and now Richmond family through networking opportunities and continuing education events. Each gift made helps to advance the Kingdom and mission of Richmond. All alumni association members receive discounts to continuing education events hosted by Richmond and founding members receive a complementary subscription to the *Conversations Journal*. To join the Alumni Association please visit our website at: <http://www.psy.edu/alumni/association.asp> or you may call 404-835-6119 and speak with Meredith Williams.

Beginning in February 2008, the Office of Alumni Relations began sending out a monthly "Alumni Update" e-newsletter to all PSI/Richmond alumni with up-to-date email addresses. If you would like to receive this and you do not think we have your current email address, please contact Meredith Williams at mwilliams@psy.edu.

Class Notes

Class of 1977

Patricia "Patty" McCarty Fultz

- Employed by** Mississippi Department of Mental Health - 15 years
- Title/Position** Assistant Director of the Division of Policy and Planning
- Who do you help?** I work with individuals who receive services, their family members, and service providers in the public sector (or those who receive certification from the Department of Mental Health) to improve and develop services, which will best suit the needs of those who use them. I assist the Division of Alzheimer's and Other Dementias in providing Virtual Dementia Tours across our state to individuals who work with older people. I also assist the Division of Community Services to provide pre-evaluation screening training, which is required by Mississippi law for every community mental health center.
- Accomplishments** I have become a Certified Public Manager and have graduated from the Mississippi Stennis Executive Development Institute. I have also become a licensed mental health therapist and a licensed mental health/mental health retardation administrator.
- Transitions** I am currently vice president of the Women in the Church of Trinity Presbyterian Church and I've been extremely happily married for the past 8 years to Danny Fultz, a tool & die maker with Delphi.

Class of 1981

Maria Serrao Britt

- Employed by** Self-employed psychologist in private practice and Magellan Behavioral Health Services
- Title/Position** Therapist
- Who do you help?** Women and various subsets of their families (children, adolescents, couples and sometimes families). More recently I have been evaluating and treating children for agencies providing in home services through state funding.
- Transitions** Married in 1985 in Atlanta. Granted psychologist license in 1995 and granted MS in Christian psychological studies at PSI (diploma transition). Moved back to Pennsylvania in 1990. Transitioned career from mental health to substance abuse treatment. We have an 8-year-old son Jonathan.

Class of 1989

Jim Natter, Psy.D.

- Employed by** Central Dupage Pastoral Counseling Center, Carol Stream, IL
- Title/Position** Executive Director and Psychologist
- Who do you help?** I love to help those who are serious about growing themselves but especially with their relationship with God. My background with the Navigators has challenged me with allowing the Spirit to bring verses of scripture to mind as I work with clients. I am trained in using Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) and Clinical Hypnosis.
- Accomplishments** I retired from the Navy Reserve about 10 years ago as a Captain. I haven't done much since getting my doctorate in clinical psychology, except journeying with many brave souls who have shared their lives with me over the years....really a precious ministry, and I feel blessed to be a part. I am thankful to many at PSI for the training I received there.
- Transitions** I moved from Atlanta after graduating from PSI with my wife and 4 children. I went through a divorce 12 years ago and haven't remarried. Two children live near Chicago and two live in Georgia (both Army Rangers...Yes, many tours in Iraq and Afghanistan and would appreciate your prayers for them and their wives).

Class of 1990

Abigail Kalaf, LPC

Who do you help? Worked in private practice for four years and then at Garner Webb University's counseling center helping students. For the past ten years, I have been a full time mother and am dedicated to offering wisdom and listening to friends.

Accomplishments I am a licensed professional counselor in North Carolina and a board certified professional Christian counselor through AACC.

Transitions Moved to Kansas City, Missouri after graduation and then to Zebulon, NC, just outside of Raleigh. I live on Lake Bunn with my husband Bill and 11-year-old son Matt. We would appreciate continued prayer for healing through the unexpected loss of my 6-½ year old son, Andrew in 2007.

Class of 1991

Sarah Tate, LPC, LMFT

Employed by Stone Mountain Christian Counseling Services, Inc.

Title/Position President and Counselor/Marriage and Family therapist

Who do you help? My work is multi-cultural and includes a wide range of clients and issues. I do a lot of work with grief and trauma, divorce recovery, helping couples deal with infidelity, career direction, adjustment disorders, and the integration of psychology and theology.

Accomplishments I gained my LPC and LMFT licenses after receiving my diploma in 1991. I then graduated from PSI with the first class getting my MS from PSI in 2003 with a specialization in counseling and spirituality. This year I gained my AAMFT Approved Supervisor designation and love doing supervision for interns and graduates.

Transitions I continue to enjoy my 5 granddaughters and coordinating the Soul Care Ministry at Cornerstone Bible Church in Lilburn, GA.

Class of 1993

Anna "Micky" Land, LPC

Employed by Church of the Apostles

Title/Position Counselor/Spiritual Director

Who do you help? Over the years I purposely worked with the Christian population. I have been in private practice for 15 years at Gateway Counseling Center right next door to PSI at North Parkway Square. I supervised many of the PSI students over the years. My passion from the time I attended PSI has been to integrate the grace of God into counseling.

Accomplishments I wrote a book last year entitled, *Ending the War with Myself: Loving Myself as God Does*. It is part the story of my wounds but also the truth about God being more grace filled than we could ever imagine.

Transitions This past November, I closed my practice and now am a counselor at my church, Church of the Apostles.

Class of 1994

Susan Stocksdale

Employed by Rift Valley Academy, Kijabe, Kenya

Title/Position Counselor-in-Residence

Who do you help? MKs (missionary kids), which in turn helps missionary families which in turn helps the people of Africa!

Accomplishments 2 children – Caroline, age 10, Ben, age 8

Class of 1996

Rebecca G. Palpant

Employed by The Carter Center Mental Health Program

Title/Position Senior Program Associate for *The Rosalynn Carter Fellowships for Mental Health Journalism*

Who do you help? *The Rosalynn Carter Fellowships for Mental Health Journalism* are part of a national effort to reduce the stigma and resulting discrimination associated with mental illnesses. I develop and oversee the Journalism Fellowship program that each year awards stipends to ten professional journalists to produce a significant work on mental health or mental illnesses in an effort to increase accurate reporting on mental health issues and decrease incorrect, stereotypical information.

Accomplishments Under my leadership, the program established Fellowships within South Africa and most recently Romania. Ten journalists were awarded from New Zealand between 2001-2005. Over 98 journalists have been awarded to date and Fellows have garnered awards from Mental Health America (MHA and formerly National Mental Health Association), American Psychiatric Association (APA), recognition from the Peabody committee and the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, and nominations for the Emmy and several nominations for the Pulitzer Prize.

Class of 1998

Derron Connor, LMHC

Employed by Hamilton Center, Inc, a community mental health center in west-central Indiana

Title/Position Therapist and Case Manager

Who do you help? Adults suffering from anxiety, depression, panic attacks, Axis II disorders that threaten relationships and employment, and chronic physical illnesses. I also work with the local schools to serve children as a Therapist, Case Manager, and Family Therapist.

Transitions My wife and I foresee a move into spiritual service. I have been pastoring a small church in Brazil, Indiana since the start of 2008. It is an exciting work, and full of challenges. My wife and I became engaged the day after I last saw many of my classmates! We have been married 9 years, and have 3 wonderful children, Sarah Kate who is 7, Shepherd who is 4, and Christian who is 2.

Class of 2001

- Employed by** **Grete Shelling, EdS, MS**
Interface Ministries, Inc
- Title/Position** Counselor, Human Resources Staff
- Who do you help?** Austrians and Expatriates in Graz, Austria; mostly women, but also couples. I also mentor staff members.
- Accomplishments** *In Love But Worlds Apart*, a handbook for inter-cultural couples.

Class of 2003

- Employed by** **Staci Bolton, Ph.D.**
Private Practice – Alpharetta; Adjunct Faculty for Richmond Graduate University
- Title/Position** Licensed psychologist
- Who do you help?** Children, adolescents, and family – psychological testing and therapy.

Class of 2005

- Employed by** **Carmeisha Arnold**
PSI Community Counseling Center in Chattanooga
- Title/Position** MFT Supervisee
- Who do you help?** The underserved and uninsured population
- Transitions** Conferences/motivational speaking. We are expecting our third child in November.

- Employed by** **Jill Sahajdack Rainwater, MA, LPC**
I split my time between 3 wonderful positions right now.
- Title/Position** 1. *Grand Rapids Community College, Program Manager, Continuing Education & Professional Development.* I develop, manage, oversee and teach CEU workshops for healthcare professionals (including counselors, psychologists and social workers).
2. *Healthy Happy Kids Campaign (Juice Plus), Speaker and Workshop Presenter.* I'm involved with a national, grass-roots campaign focused on nutrition education for children.
3. *The Beekman Center, Licensed Professional Counselor.* I provide traditional and equine facilitated psychotherapy (EFP) for children, teenagers and adults. In my EFP work, I focus on eating disorders, grief, Asbergers, self-esteem interventions, and assertiveness training.
- Transitions** Ben and I moved to Michigan in 2007 while he attends graduate school at Michigan State University.

Class of 2006

- Transitions** **Leanne Eldridge**
My husband and I live in Georgetown, TN with our two children, ages 5 and 2. I am not currently working in the counseling field, unless I can count my family in this! We are home schooling our daughter for kindergarten this year and see where the Lord leads us in this. More children in the future may come as well!

Class of 2007

- Employed by** **Lane Walthall Beatty**
Bradford Health Services, Warrior, Alabama
- Title/Position** Primary Counselor/Family Therapist
- Who do you help?** Substance abuse patients and families of patients in a residential setting, specifically, I have been working with a lot of our military and their families, who are dealing with substance abuse issues and trauma from combat.
- Transitions** I recently got married on March 29, 2008 and moved to Birmingham, AL.

- Employed by** **Candace Curry Couch**
Eagle Ranch
- Title/Position** Intake coordinator
- Who do you help?** I perform the initial interview and assessment for families that are applying.
- Transitions** I got married this past summer.

- Employed by** **Elizabeth "Libby" Chalk, LAPC, LAMFT**
Morningstar Family Resources, a Christian company that contracts with DFCS, the Dept of Juvenile Justice and School systems
- Title/Position** Therapist
- Who do you help?** I work primarily with adolescents and families. I also write reports for foster families and foster children in the midst of adoptions, including child life histories, foster home conversions, and family assessments.
- Transitions** My husband and I recently bought a house in Roswell.

- Employed by** **Melissa "Missy" Garriss**
North Haven Church & Christian Life Home
- Title/Position** Christian Counselor
- Who do you help?** North Haven: Adults, Adolescents, Couples; Christian Life Home: Unwed mothers ages 10-23, working through multiple issues, including making the decision about parenting or adoption options.
- Accomplishments** Certified Grief Recovery Specialist
- Transitions** Moved to Wake Forest, NC to be closer to relatives.

- Employed by** **Amy Bascle Scott**
Bethany Christian Services of Greater Chattanooga
- Title/Position** International Adoption Counselor
- Who do you help?** I develop long-term (2-3 years +) relationships with families looking to adopt children from overseas. My job includes evaluating motivation for adoption including working through any issues of past/current infertility, selecting country for adoption, completing home study and necessary paperwork to complete adoption, facilitating adoption education, and providing post adoption support.
- Transitions** My husband and I were blessed with the birth of a daughter, Parker Brooke Scott, on May 12, 2008. She is the delight of big sisters Reagan and Logan.



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A higher purpose.

Donors

We appreciate the generosity of these individuals who contributed to PSI from July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008.

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Brent Darnell	Jay & Dawn Jumper	Cindy Robinson & Friends	
	Catherine D. Kain		

Why Do I serve...?

This section of *Connecting* is an ongoing column that highlights various personalities that serve Richmond. Consider what capacity the Lord might be calling you to serve.



Kevin Albertini, Richmond Student

If I were to summarize into one word, the motivation for serving and being a part of Richmond, it would be obedience. Similar to the biblical character Peter, I feel that God routinely asks me, "Kevin, do you love me?" My answer (though not always confident) is yes, to which God consistently replies, "then be obedient

and engage in what it is that I have for you." For me that has meant to explore, to learn, to serve, and to persevere. I have not come to Richmond or engaged in this ministry to become someone or something great, but it is an action, or rather reaction, to my desire to become what God has created and saved me to be.

Donna Austin, Director of Grants and PSI Alumna

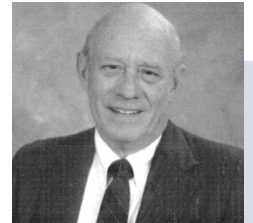
I serve because each day I see the redemptive power of God in the lives of the people with which I have the privilege to work through counseling. I also see the tremendous influence Richmond and its growing potential to change our communities one life at a time through programs supported by the grants I write.



WHY DO YOU SERVE?

Hugh Huffaker, Richmond Board Member

The parable of the Good Samaritan contained in the 10th chapter of Luke describes the mission of Richmond. Our teachers, staff, counselors, and students want to show their love as they attempt to bandage the wounds of their neighbors. They don't want to pass on the other side. Jesus closes this wonderful parable by saying, "Go and do likewise!" I am honored to support this mission through my service on the board of directors for 30 years.



Rob Arp, Chief Development Officer

Van Goethe once said: "Dream no small dreams for they stir not the hearts of men." I'm excited to be part of an organization that is not afraid to "think big" and is truly passionate about training next generation leaders for God's Kingdom.



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Connecting is a publication of the Richmond Graduate University, which was originally founded as the Chattanooga Bible Institute (CBI) in 1933. Richmond's mission is to provide graduate education, integrating applied psychology and practical theology to make Christian counseling a servant of the Church for Christ-centered transformation. Richmond is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award master's degrees in professional counseling and marriage and family therapy. Our campuses are located in Atlanta, GA and Chattanooga, TN.

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Meredith Williams
mwilliams@psy.edu