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From the Editorial Desk

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From the Editorial Desk



Arnold Coven, Ed.D. Editor

Dr. Coven is an Associate Professor of Counselor Education at Wayne State University

This issue marks the third and last year for this editor. This experience has been both an enriching and learning experience for me. I have had the opportunity to interact with Counselor-Educators, Counselors, Researchers and other professionals across the country. Further, I, and the editorial board, are gratified that the journal is now clearly identified as a professional endeavor of the Michigan Counseling Association and a reference source for both ERIC and Cengage Publishing. The new editor is Perry Francis, Ed.D., a Full Professor of Counselor Education and Coordinator of Counseling Service in the College of Education, Clinical Suite, at Eastern Michigan University. He is a current member of the Editorial Review Board. The board is following the tradition of three year editorships for professional journals. This last year Dr. Francis and Dr. Coven will be working together to ensure a smooth transition in publication of the Spring/Summer issue.

The focus of the first article is the ASCA National School Standards. The authors investigated the frequency of their implementation by school counselor supervisors and less experienced counselor supervisees. The data indicated that the supervisors were fulfilling the tasks of the standards significantly more than the newer counselors. A limitation of the study was the data being based on the supervisors' perceptions. The authors recommended increased outcome research to increase school counselors understanding of the roles and tasks emphasized by the national standards.

The second article addresses Domestic Violence, a critical problem in our society. The authors present a consultation model of training law enforcement and emergency room personnel to use basic counseling skills emphasizing victims' strengths. They point out that typically these professionals, and other helping persons do not comprehend victims staying in these abusive situations. The authors share a model of stages victims' experience before they can exit the situation. This model can increase helpers' understanding and counseling efforts.

The third article is quite alarming. The data indicate the high incidence of sexual assault not only of black college women but females in the first two years of college. Compounding the serious violence is the phenomenon that sexual assault victims face more social and authority criticism than victims of any other crime. This intensifies the physical and psychological harm, and seriously affects the self-identity and selfsufficiency of black college women. The need is pressing for preventative education by counselors and student affairs personnel.