I. INTRODUCTION

History of California State University, Fullerton and the Department of Counseling

In 1957, Cal State Fullerton became the 12th State College in California to be authorized by the Legislature. The following year a site was designated in northeast Fullerton and subsequently purchased in 1959. That year Dr. William B. Langsdorf was appointed as founding president and Orange County State College started classes for 452 students in September. In the fall of 1960, the college opened classes on its own campus, where it occupied 12 temporary buildings. The name changed to Orange State College in July 1962, to California State College at Fullerton in July 1964, to California State College, Fullerton in July 1968 and to California State University, Fullerton in June 1972. The first permanent building, the six-story Letters and Science Building (now known as McCarthy Hall), was occupied in 1963.

In May 1971, Dr. L. Donald Shields, who had served as acting president for seven months, was appointed the second president of Cal State Fullerton. Dr. Miles D. McCarthy became acting president in January 1981; Dr. Jewel Plummer Cobb took office as the third president in October 1981; Dr. Milton A. Gordon was appointed the fourth president in August 1990; and in February 2013, Dr. Mildred Garcia became the fifth president of CSUF.

Within the University, the Department of Counseling is located in the College of Health and Human Development (HHD). The mission of the College of Health & Human Development is to provide exemplary education, research, and community outreach related to the health, development, and well-being of all people. Emphasis is placed on both theory and practice, with special attention to the development of critical thinking, leadership, and humanistic skills needed to function in a widely diverse and ever-changing society.

The Counseling Department was begun in the late 1960’s by David Keirsey and Marilyn Bates, both famous for their work with Myers-Briggs Temperament Theory. The program prepared graduates for the Marriage Family & Child Counselor (MFCC) license (now LMFT) and/or the California Pupil & Personnel Services credential (PPS). The PPS credentialing program option was later removed as fewer and fewer jobs were available for graduates. As the marriage and family therapy profession expanded, so did the Counseling program’s length and scope, becoming a full-fledged Department in 1973. Counseling students serve the communities in Southern California in their practicum sites, dedicating many thousands of service-learning hours to the well-being and mental health of their clients. Graduates of the Counseling Program serve in community agencies, schools, industry, and in private practice all over the state and beyond, sharing their knowledge of communication skills and personal growth honed during their training.

The Counseling Department became a 60-unit degree program in 2005, with a focus on training students for entry into the counseling profession as LPCCs and LMFTs. With the awarding of CACREP accreditation in 2007 the Counseling program at CSUF achieved national recognition in the preparation of skilled counselors ready to affect their communities in positive ways, for the sake of increasing social justice. In 2011, the Department became an early adopter of the new curriculum required by the Board of Behavioral Sciences (BBS) for future LPCCs and LMFTs, infusing the concepts of the Recovery Orientation to Wellness throughout the
curriculum for both licensure disciplines. And in 2013, the program expanded to 63 units, encompassing the entire core curriculum for LPCCs and LMFTs.

**Department of Counseling**
As mentioned above, the Department of Counseling is housed in the College of Health and Human Development (HHD). Counseling is a special relationship which develops between a person skilled in the art and science of helping and a person or group of persons desiring help with educational, career, emotional, behavioral, and/or relationship problems. Counselors understand that personal development is essential to effective professional development. Their focus on personal growth is balanced with their desire to facilitate individual, group, and family movement through the process of change. Counselors encourage personal development in clients facing difficult tasks or experiencing personal problems in life.

**Master of Science in Counseling: Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC) Program & Marriage & Family Therapy (LMFT)**
The Department of Counseling at California State University, Fullerton meets the challenges of the changing dynamics of the field of professional counseling by offering a Master of Science degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling leading to potential licensure in either Professional Clinical Counseling (LPCC), Marriage and Family Therapy (LMFT), or both.

The philosophical orientation of the Counseling program is humanistic, systemic and community-centered. It is a fundamental belief of the program that individuals, families, and communities have their own inner wisdom, desire to grow, and capacity for solving life’s challenges. Further, the counseling program is based on the belief that therapists can most effectively assist people by understanding the relationship of emotional distress to family dynamics and the broader social and cultural forces that shape life in their respective communities.

The LPCC/LMFT Counseling program at CSUF is guided by the principle that professional development requires clinical skills, theoretical knowledge, cultural competence, ethical practice, and the capacity for continual self-reflection. Please see the Department Homepage for more information on the Department of Counseling/LPCC-LMFT Program, [http://hhd.fullerton.edu/counsel/](http://hhd.fullerton.edu/counsel/).

**Goal of Practicum Field Training in the Master of Science in Counseling Program**
The goal of practicum field training is to prepare graduate students to become competent and ethically mature professionals through practical training guided by the integration of classroom instruction and hands-on clinical/counseling work in a variety of settings. These training objectives including the following:

1. To enhance the ability to apply theoretical constructs to the practical aspects of training.
2. To consolidate a knowledge base of the critical aspects in the practice of professional clinical counseling (LPCC) and marriage and family therapy (LMFT) in the domains of clinical evaluation, crisis management, treatment planning, treatment, human diversity, law, and ethics.
3. To become knowledgeable and skilled in working in a wide range of settings with diverse populations.
4. To confront current issues and controversies in the field and to provide effective
solutions through a process of exploring one’s own theoretical perspective, utilizing/applying the legal and ethical guidelines in the field, and consulting with supervisors and other key participants.

5. To become engaged with positive role models in the field who will contribute to each student’s professional identity as a licensed professional clinical counselor (LPCC) and/or licensed marriage and family therapist (LMFT).

This Clinical Training Handbook

This Clinical Training Handbook is available to all students enrolled in COUN 530 A/B, COUN 584 A/B, COUN 590 and COUN 591, and the content of the handbook will be discussed in the Practicum Orientation that takes place each Fall and Spring semester before students enroll in the respective practicum courses. This handbook will also be available to practicum supervisors at the various sites where students will complete their training requirements and can be found at: http://hhd.fullerton.edu/counsel/current-students/handbooks/clinicalhandbook/index.php

The purpose of this handbook is to provide information necessary for students to successfully complete the practicum field training requirements that have been established by the Department of Counseling at California State University, Fullerton, and the California State Board of Behavioral Sciences (BBS).

The instructions and procedures in this Handbook are based on the laws, regulations, and ethical standards most recently cited by the Board of Behavioral Sciences (BBS), the American Counseling Association (ACA), the California Association for Professional Clinical Counseling (CALPCC), and the California Association for Marriage and Family Therapists (CAMFT). The Chair of the Department of Counseling and the Clinical Training Director are in continual contact with the BBS, CALPCC & CAMFT and students will be updated regarding changes and/or amendments to the current rules and regulations pertaining to the training component of the LPCC/LMFT program.

This Handbook also provides pertinent information regarding the requirements and expectations of the Department of Counseling concerning clinical/counseling training, supervision, and professional development. Both students and practicum supervisors are encouraged to comply with the requirements and procedures which are defined and discussed in this handbook, along with any amendments that are forwarded to students and agencies at a later date.

Any requests for exceptions to the rules, guidelines, and procedures of this Handbook must be made in writing. All such requests must be reviewed by the Counseling Faculty at their next departmental meeting. The Counseling Faculty will notify students, in writing, of their decision within fifteen (15) working days from the date of that departmental meeting.

Terminology

The clinical practice of psychotherapy by unlicensed practitioners in California is permitted through the Board of Behavioral Sciences (BBS) Statutes and Regulations for Marriage and Family Therapists. California has regulated the practice of marriage and family therapy since 1963. The BBS, under the State Department of Consumer Affairs, issues the license for Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT) and as of November 2009 legislation was passed for Licensed Professional Clinical Counselors (LPCCs) to be licensed and regulated by the BBS.
The BBS also issues the license for Licensed Clinical Social Workers (LCSW) and Licensed Educational Psychologists (LEP). The BBS members are appointed by the governor and are either public representatives or licensed members of one of the professions. The BBS is in the continuous process of interpreting and implementing legislative amendments.

The California Board of Behavioral Sciences (BBS) distinguishes between two types of non-licensed individuals in clinical training. The department requires that students use the appropriate terminology in all written and verbal communications.

- **Trainee:** An individual gaining experience in professional clinical counseling and/or marriage and family therapy, who is enrolled in a graduate program, has completed 12 units and become “classified”, but has not yet received their degree, is designated by the BBS as a **trainee**.
- **Associate:** The BBS designates an individual working toward licensure, who has completed the M.S. degree and is registered with the BBS, as an **associate (APCC or AMFT)**.

For purposes of clarity, an additional term is utilized:

- **Trainee Experience:** Trainee experience, trainee counseling/clinical experience, experience(s) of trainees are terms utilized in this Handbook to designate counseling experiences gained by a CSUF LPCC/LMFT student throughout their program of study. Specifically, this timeframe begins with the date of the first class and ends with the satisfaction of all degree requirements. The intent of this designation is to alert students that during their trainee experience (etc.), they are always under the jurisdiction of the requirements delineated in this Handbook.