ADVOCACY PROJECT:  
COUNSELING LEGISLATIVE DAY

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In order to strengthen Liberty University’s representation at the American Counseling Association Legislative Day this year, we are proposing modifying the existing assignments in core curriculum to help students identify and cultivate support for pertinent current legislation.
GOAL

To insure that all counselor education students graduate with a clear professional identity and sense of pride as professional counselors, including the skills needed that motivates them to advocate for the profession on a personal, systemic and legislative levels.
OBJECTIVES

Objective 1: All counselor educators and faculty teaching designated core courses will be encouraged to incorporate the teaching of legislative advocacy for clients and the profession into their curriculum.

Objective 2: Students will engage in identifying professional and client issues that require a legislative or systemic form of interpersonal and self-reflective practices that encourage them to become professional and social justice advocacy.

Objective 3: Students will be educated on identifying the practical steps of implementing advocacy skills on a personal, systemic and legislative level.
Counselor Education

“…ensuring that all counselor education students graduate with a clear identity and pride as professional counselors” (Chang et al., 2012, p. 96)
MODIFIED ASSIGNMENT COMPONENTS

- CHMC 500 - Orientation to Counselor Prof Identity and Function - Modification of the Advocacy Project Assignment

- CMHC 502 Human Development - Modification of Class Participation

- CMHC 504 Multicultural - Modification of Cultural Immersion Experience and Group Project
MODIFIED ASSIGNMENT COMPONENTS

- CMHC 505 Counseling Techniques - Modification of Class Participation

- CMHC 510 Theories of Counseling - Modification of Class Participation

- CMHC 512 Group Process - Modification of Group Proposal Project
MODIFIED ASSIGNMENT COMPONENTS

- CMHC 515 Research - Modification of the Class Participation and Homework Paper/Activities Assignment

- CMHC 521 - Assessment - Modification of the Participate in Class Discussions and Group Activities Assignment

- CMHC 522 Career - Modification of Class Participation
LOGISTICS

People needed for implementation:

• Faculty, counseling students, CSI members

Timeline for developing and implementing:

• Fall semester: modification and implementation of class assignments.

• Spring semester: Legislative Day attendance
Partner with Chi Sigma Iota (CSI) in Legislative Day activities.

- CSI will organize logistical planning.

- Each student will be responsible for contacting their respective legislator to schedule meetings where they can present chosen legislative action individually and/or in groups.
RESOURCES

**Contact information for local and state representatives:**

Text your zip code to 520-200-2223 to get a list of your representatives.

ACA website on public policy and legislative issues

Virginia Counselors Association Website

Virginia General Assembly Website

Florida Counselor Association Website

Florida Legislative Web site

Chi Sigma Iota - Counseling Academic and Professional Honor Society International Website
ADVOCACY PROJECT TEAM

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