Creativity and Resiliency in the Archives: Challenges in Uncovering the History of an Allied Health Sciences Division



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BACKGROUND

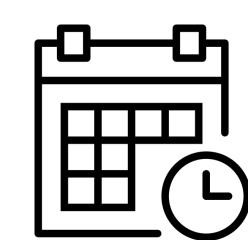
WHO: The division currently known as Clinical Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling (CRMH) division within the Department of Allied Health Sciences (DAHS), School of Medicine

WHAT: CRMH contacted the Health Sciences Library (HSL) to assist in discovering historical documents verifying milestones and key figures in its history.

- particular interest in earliest history, before division joined DAHS forming in the early 1970s
- hoped to find milestone date for anniversary celebration

CHALLENGES

- Incomplete online archival finding aids
- Documents not consistently deposited in archive
- CRMH division changed names and moved between several departments/schools
- e.g. Vocational Rehabilitation > Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling > Rehabilitation Counseling > Rehabilitation Counseling & Psychology
- Other programs at UNC have similar names
- Requires hands-on research at remote location
- Discovery of information cannot be planned – difficult to set a deadline



NEXT STEPS

- Continue research
 - Call on expertise from archives staff
 - Expand search to other University units (e.g., School of Education)



- Keep CRMH informed of progress and key findings
- Organize information for online guide useful to key stakeholders, including former, current, and prospective faculty, staff, students, and future researchers
- Add to existing online guide or create companion guide in compatible format

METHODS

RESOURCES:

- Online guide with timeline, key figures, historical documents on *overall* DAHS Department origins, created by former research assistant: https://guides.lib.unc.edu/DAHSHistory
- Archive finding aids
- Several names of early faculty provided by CRMH
- DAHS liaison, who worked with DAHS in the 1980s

STEPS (completed and in progress):

- Interview DAHS liaison
- Locate primary materials using finding aids
- Select and digitize key documents
- Begin creating timeline: identify information gaps, strategize additional steps
- Share preliminary information with CRMH for feedback and to elicit additional information

Possibility of funding from the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1954 stimulates discussion of potential UNC rehabilitation training programs

March 1974
The masters program seems to complete its move to the School of Medicine, Department of Medical Allied Health Professions in 1974. Or does it?

The School of Medicine

The curriculum contains didactic and clinical composition of the control of the control

GRADUATE STUDIES
1978-1980

DIVISION OF
REHABILITATION
COUNSELING
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
CHAPEL HILL

1969-----

Discussions of possible move of VR Counseling Program from School of Education to School of Medicine

1954

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH, AND MIRADA
OFFIce of Focusional Association of the second of the second

1954-late 1960s

Continue archival research to determine early history

July and August 1974

Move still under discussion

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA

AT

CHAPEL HILL

27814

August 8, 1974

Provost J. C. Morrow
South Building

Dear Charles:

Re: Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling Program

I am writing to bring you up to date on the present status of the Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling program. As you will recall, we agreed last fall to admit students to the Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling program through the School of Education but with the understanding that the School of Medicine would administer the program, with cooperation from the School of Education. The School of Medicine would administer the program, with cooperation from the School of Education. The School of Medicine would administer the program with cooperation from the School of Education. The School of Medicine agreed to pay the salary of the program director as well as other administrative program costs. At that time, you and I also suggested that the Graduate School review the program and make recommendations regarding its future. As you know, Dean L. V. Jones did not feel this review was needed.

A proposal to alter the curriculum or to transfer the entire program to the School of Medicine has not been made as yet because additional time is still required for further review of this program. As a part of this review, we will need to consider that the degree currently awarded to V-R Counseling students is a Master in Education. The Board of Covernors has recently authorized planning for a Master of Science in Health Sciences and it will now be possible to consider whether the V-R Counseling program might appropriately become a major area of concentration under this new degree structure.

The subject of admitting students for the fall of 1974, however, was raised several weeks ago and I have attached the recent correspondence (nost of which you have previously received). To briefly summarize this correspondence: Dr. Crounse wrote to me requesting my support regarding the admission of graduate students in order to preserve the continuity of the progr

1978

By 1978 the name of the division had changed to "Rehabilitation Counseling"