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Editorial Preface

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EDITORIAL PREFACE

Welcome to the third annual issue of the *Graduate Journal of Counseling Psychology (GJCP)*, the Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology (CECP) academic journal. The Marquette University *GJCP* is a peer-reviewed journal developed to provide CECP graduate students an environment to publish original empirical and theoretical research relevant to the field of counseling psychology.

As we proudly add another issue to our publication history, we continue to work toward our goal of making the journal a more accessible, educational tool for CECP graduate students at Marquette University. This year the journal took a major step towards this goal by developing a new website. In collaboration with the Raynor memorial Library, the journal went completely digital from manuscript submission, to blind peer-reviewing, to final publication. It was our hope to provide graduate students with a professional publication experience while also collecting, showcasing, and preserving scholarly output of the CECP department.

With many new features and resources available to editors and authors, the visions of the journal's founders of expanding the *GJCP* to include submissions from other counseling psychology graduate departments and inviting editors from other programs are gaining clarity. We are confident that future editorial staffs will continue seek opportunities to enhance the *GJCP* and encourage research productivity among counseling psychology graduate students.

ORGANIZATION AND CONTENT OF ISSUE

This issue begins with an analysis of Peterson & Seligman's Values in Action Inventory of Strengths (VIA-IS). After LaFollette thoroughly describes the instrument and summarizes the psychometric properties, she identifies several interpretative considerations. LaFollette concludes her analysis with a critique of the strengths and weaknesses of this strength-based assessment.

The next portion of this series focuses on Group Counseling. Rouse begins by highlighting the importance of self-esteem and the negative effects low self-esteem can have on female youth. She delves into recent literature examining counseling interventions for young women in group settings. Her review revealed needs for further research in several areas including longitudinal studies on the effects of self-esteem building programs and the use multidimensional instruments to measuring self-esteem.

The final section in this issue contains two articles that relate to parental influence on their offspring. Ottaway begins by providing a comprehensive overview of factors of parental divorce that have been found to impact the attitudes toward intimate relationships of their offspring. Interestingly, except for one factor, family conflict, Ottaway's literature review reveals limited and contradictory findings among the factors. She concludes that more research needs to be conducted in the area of study. The second article in this section is a study examining how college students' self-esteem relates to their perceptions of their parent's approval. Skytte's results suggest that students' self-worth is not significantly influenced by their beliefs about their parent's approval. Limitations and areas for future research are thoroughly discussed .



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Each article selected for publication meets the following criteria (a) the topic is relevant to the field of counseling psychology; (b) the writing is concise and accessible to graduate students; and (c) the article contains an adequate review of the conceptual and empirical literature.

We are excited to present the 2010 issue of the *GJCP* and hope you find the articles in this issue as interesting as we have. The editorial board would like to thank everyone who submitted a manuscript for consideration. We would also like to send a special thanks to Ann Hanlon, the Digital Project Manager at Raynor Library, for her enthusiasm and support as we transitioned to our current website. Finally, we encourage past authors and other students to become involved with the journal as future authors or editors.

Jeff Poterucha