The Local Clinical Science Training Model and Internship Readiness
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LCS Defined

The Local Clinical Scientist (LCS) training model is an augmentation of the Scientist Practitioner (SciP) model, requiring the reciprocal and necessary integration of research and practice in the local context. The phrase clinical scientist is somewhat parallel to the phrase scientist practitioner, reflecting the recognition that psychologists are both committed to the scientific discipline and healthcare profession. Consequently, LCS trainees have training in evidence-based practices and can design research programs to provide evidence for emerging programs. The term local refers to the particular application of general science in the local context. Consequently, the scientist-in-practice must take into consideration the unique elements of individuals, families, and communities within their space-time and relational contexts.

The program adopted the LCS training model in 2000 as an intentional strategy to build a research culture within the doctoral program and to articulate a core belief in our program that the distinction between science and practice is a false dichotomy. Following the LCS model, we do not distinguish between clinical researchers and practitioners among faculty. Instead, we strive to research and clinical practice, emphasizing a reciprocal model where prior research informs clinical practice and effective practice informs subsequent research (Diddams et al., 2004).

LCS Resources:

Integrated Coursework

We would like to acknowledge Alyson Barry, M.A. & Alexia Muket, M.A. who contributed their course assignments to this poster.

Sample LCS Projects

Student specific Treatment and Research (St. Stewart, locally sponsored): Student designed and conducted a research project using the evaluation outcome in the improving program quality (for administering program effectiveness to practicing professionals). Program Evaluation contributed to the research evidence for an evidence-based practice.

Autism Spectrum Treatment and Research (St. Stewart, locally sponsored): Student designed and conducted a research project using the evaluation outcome in the improving program quality (for administering program effectiveness to practicing professionals). Program Evaluation contributed to the research evidence for an evidence-based practice.

Project PCAY (St. Stewart, P.J.): Declined Students serve an research internships and investigations in a project providing screening and brief intervention to adolescent substance users in local correctional and public health.

About SPU

- APA Accredited October 2006 as an LCS Program.
- Our alumni (continuously surveyed until 3-years post-graduation) continue to involve themselves in practice and science:
  - Alumni spend 62% of their time in clinical practice, 10% conducting research, 11% in administration, 10% teaching, 4% in supervision, and 9% in other activities.
  - 62% have obtained their Licensed Psychologist credential and the majority of the remainder indicate that they intend to pursue it.
  - Since graduation, 5 have published in a professional journal and one has a manuscript under review; seven have presented at professional conferences.

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