

Rehabilitation Counseling Program News

By Dr. Michael Frain

The Council on Rehabilitation Education (CORE) accredited program at Florida Atlantic University is enjoying its largest class of rehabilitation counseling masters students in 2011. The students continue to do very well on the Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC) exam. Since the inception of the CRC as a comprehensive exam and degree requirement, FAU students and graduates have passed the exam the first time at a rate of 95%. In 2010-11, twelve students took that exam for the first time and all twelve passed on their first attempt (the national pass rate was 68%).

Our students have submitted proposals for the first time to present at the National Council on Rehabilitation Education (NCRE) Spring conference in San Francisco and look forward to meeting other student attendees. Graduates and students involved in internship have been well received by the Veterans Administration Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment (VR&E) programs in Florida, with nearly 30% of recent graduates finding permanent employment with the Veterans Administration.

Three students have been involved in three different recent publications. Mike Rolland co-authored a chapter on veterans in the book *New Directions in Rehabilitation Counseling*; Frank Wijngaarde co-authored a journal submission to Rehabilitation Education entitled "Training needs of certified rehabilitation counselors in order to work effectively with veterans with disabilities"; and Michele Fazzari co-authored a manuscript detailing economic indicators effect on disability employment. Additionally, the program has its first (although surely not last) reality television star in Michael Ross, CRC, who was featured as a rehabilitation counselor in the MTV hit series *True Life* "addicted to exercise" November 6, 2011.

This Fall the program welcomed Deenaz Patel as a visiting line professor, Ms. Patel has been warmly received by all here at FAU and we hope she is enjoying the beach lifestyle of Boca Raton. The program is starting a category R degree program for Florida rehabilitation counselors who have not attained their CRC to date. The program