Faculty and Staff, Brief Bios:

Dr. Michael Gerald, Ph.D., CRC., LMHC-Iowa is a newly hired assistant professor in rehabilitation counseling in the Special Education and Rehabilitation Counseling (SPERC) Department. Dr. Gerald will begin his appointment in the Fall 2020 semester and will be a key player in helping finalize efforts related to counselor licensure and ensuring our graduates are part of the solution to the State of Utah’s mental health crisis.

Dr. Trenton Landon, Ph.D., CRC., LVRC-Utah, has been with Utah State since the Fall 2016 semester. Dr. Landon is an assistant professor in rehabilitation counseling in SPERC. Dr. Landon presently serves as the program chair for the Master’s in Rehabilitation Counseling. Since 2016, Dr. Landon has authored/coauthored 17 peer reviewed publications and two book chapters.

Dr. Michelle McKnight-Lizotte, Ph.D., CRC, LPC-Idaho, is an assistant professor in rehabilitation counseling in SPERC. Dr. McKnight-Lizotte has been with Utah State since the Fall 2018 semester. Since that time, Dr. McKnight-Lizotte has authored/co-authored ten peer reviewed publications and two book chapters.

Dr. Kathleen (Kat) Oertle, Ph.D., CRC, LVRC-Utah, began her employment at USU in Fall 2013 as an assistant research professor. Since arriving, Dr. Oertle has secured external funding of nearly $6 million of which is a $600,000 3-year grant for her latest project, called “Collaborate for Change (C2)” (one of five funded out of 134 total projects). Dr. Oertle has authored/co-authored 20 peer-reviewed publications and two book chapters and given more than 30 presentations. Recently awarded promotion with tenure, Dr. Oertle will began her appointment as an associate professor on July 1, 2020.

Dr. Brian Phillips, Ph.D., CRC, joined the Rehabilitation Counseling faculty at USU in Fall of 2019. Prior to working at USU, he was an associate professor in the Rehabilitation Psychology program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison where he worked for eight years. His research focuses on two primary strands, namely (a) understanding and predicting workplace social effectiveness and its outcomes and (b) measuring the influence of individual strengths on adjustment, well-being, and employment outcomes of people with disabilities. He has worked on multiple federally funded research projects and serves as an editorial board member for several journals.

Dr. Tim Riesen was recently promoted to Research Associate Professor and holds a joint appointment in the Center for Persons with Disabilities and the Department of Special Education and Rehabilitation Counseling. Since joining the department in 2011, Dr. Riesen has been the PI for $6.8 million in federal grants and state contracts and published 18 peer reviewed manuscripts, two co-authored books, and seven book chapters.

Kris Wengreen, Graduate Program Coordinator, is a full-time departmental employee. Her degree in Business Information Systems has served the USU RCM program well because she is able to develop databases which record and monitor many aspects of the program including RSA Scholar Payback, Student Progress, Graduates, and much more. Mrs. Wengreen has been with USU for more than 17 years.

Tracy Woolstenhulme, MRC., CRC, LVRC-Utah, Practicum/Internship Coordinator and Supervisor, is a clinical instructor and the practicum/internship coordinator in the Special Education and Rehabilitation Counseling Department at Utah State University. Her work with practicum/internship students is invaluable to the core faculty as her work with practicum internship students allows core faculty to focus on research and grant writing.
Number of Students
Current Doctoral Students: 2
Current Master’s Degree Students: 43
Current Alternative Certification Students: 60
Projected Spring 2021 MRC Graduates: 18

A total of 63 Master’s and Alternative Certification students receive scholarship funds, with the remaining 39 either being self-pay or receiving tuition assistance through the VA. Two of the RSA training grants (Dr. Kat Oertle and Dr. Tim Riesen serving as PIs respectively) will end after supporting students in the Fall 2020 semester. This loss of funds has impacted overall enrollment and student numbers are down from the 2018-2019 academic year (down from 119 to the present 103). The student enrollment numbers may yet increase due to last minute enrollments and the potential to receive a new RSA long term training grant (Dr. Michelle McKnight-Lizotte serving as the PI).

Students Supported with Scholarship Funds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Number of Students</th>
<th>Scholarship Money Dispersed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall 19</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>$251,346.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring 20</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>$262,776.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer 20</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>$54,769.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 20 (projected)</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>$167,633.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$736,524.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following are the scholarly products and grant applications/managed grants produced from July 1, 2019 to July 31, 2020. Products are listed in alphabetical order.

Faculty Publications from July 1, 2019 to August 6, 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Published/In press</th>
<th>Books</th>
<th>Book Chapters</th>
<th>Manuscripts Under Review</th>
<th>Manuscripts Soon to be Submitted (12/31/20)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>22</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Published/In Press

Of note in this section is Dr. Oertle’s role as guest editor for the Journal of Forensic Vocational Analysis and the outlets special issues on the topic of Transition. Dr. Oertle was invited by the editor of the outlet, Dr. Chrisann Schiro-Giest, to lead the first special issue on transition in a rehabilitation counseling journal to our knowledge. This journal is a publication of the American Board of Vocational Experts, the premiere society for vocational experts. As such, this journal is the only publication specifically for professionals who give opinion and “expert testimony” regarding determinations for job performance and work limitations related to disability.

An asterisk (*) denotes authorship with a graduate student.


15) **Oertle, K. M.**, ^Bobroff, S., & ^Sax, C. (in press). Organizational policies and personnel factors that are incentives for and challenges to collaboration as identified by statewide transition supervisors. *Journal of Disability Policy Studies, 31*(1). ^Contributed equally as second authors. Acknowledgement to *Elizabeth Chesley-Livingston, a rehabilitation counseling doctoral student at the Utah State University, for her contribution to early version of this manuscript and assistance with data collection and analysis.


**Book**


**Book Chapters**


Manuscripts Under Review:


In Progress (submission anticipated prior to December 31, 2020)


## Presentations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Referred Presentations</th>
<th>Invited Presentations</th>
<th>Key Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Refereed Presentations


canceled, but presented as part of the virtual conference).

**Invited Presentations**

Of note in this section is Dr. Riesen’s invitation to present in as both the keynote address and session presenter for the Inkluderings Kompetanse Conference in Oslo, Norway.

Grants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grants Submitted</th>
<th>Total Funding Requested</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>$2,287,396.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grant Submissions

1. **McKnight-Lizotte, M.**, Landon, T. J. (Co-PI), & Gerald, M. (Co-PI). *Rehabilitation Training: Rehabilitation Long-Term Training Program Grant: Rehabilitation Counseling H129B200013*. Submitted May, 2020. $1,000,000 = Funding Request Pending


Current Funded Grants and Contracts

As rehabilitation counseling faculty, we presently manage/co-manage 10 funded projects ($4.9 million) at this time. This funding helps supports a combination of research and teaching projects.

   a. Acknowledgment to Drs. Julie Smart and Jared Schultz for the model.


   a. Acknowledgment to Dr. Julie Smart, co-author and leader from 2014-2016.

   a. Acknowledgment to Dr. Jared Schultz, co-author and leader from 2015-2018.

   a. Acknowledgment to our project team, Sheryl Bobroff and Nan Hampton, and Henry Cohn-Geltner of San Diego State University along with *Kayla Currier, *Elizabeth (Liz) Chesley, *Eliza Jex, *Alyce McLeod, and *Azure Pellegrino, Master’s and doctoral students at Utah State University, who helped with the development of this proposal for the past submissions by editing, researching data, checking citations, and making suggestions for improvements. ($597,747 for 3 years) NIDILRR FIP grant number 90IFDV0011-01-00.


8. **Riesen, T.** (2019). *Discovery fidelity Scale*. Center for Social Capital. ($36,000.00 for 3 years)


Graduate Certificate Programs. CFDA Number 84.129W. Funded by The Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS). $1 Million.

a. Acknowledgment to Dr. Jared Schultz, co-author and leader from 2015-2018.