Oral Defense Announcement
University of Missouri – St. Louis Graduate School

An oral examination in defense of the dissertation for the degree
Doctor of Philosophy in Education with an emphasis in Counseling

Amanda Bohnenstiehl
M.A. Community Counseling, Loyola University Chicago, 2009
B.S. Psychology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2007

Supervisory Working Alliance as a Predictor for Counselor Burnout:
The Potential Mediating Role of Supervisee Nondisclosure

Date: November 21, 2019
Time: 1:00pm-3:00pm
Place: TLC Sigma Aldrich Lab

Abstract
Clinical supervision sometimes lacks the elements necessary for a rigorous, helpful, and meaningful experience for the supervisee. The purpose of this study was to examine the relationships between the supervisory working alliance, supervisee nondisclosure, and counselor burnout, specifically in a sample of counselors, social workers, and psychologists pursuing their original state licenses. Nondisclosure was examined to determine if it was a mediator of the relationship between the supervisory working alliance and burnout. Participants (n = 288) completed a demographic questionnaire, the supervisee form of the Working Alliance Inventory (Bahrick, 1989), the Disclosure in Supervision Scale (Gunn & Pistole, 2012), and the Maslach Burnout Inventory-Human Services Survey (Maslach, Jackson, & Leiter, 1997). Final analyses showed that supervisee nondisclosure did not mediate the relationship between the supervisory working alliance and burnout. However, the supervisory working alliance predicted nondisclosure (β = -.73, p < .001) and burnout (β = -.41, p < .001). Other major findings involving the various subscales of working alliance and burnout are reported and discussed; these have implications for future research, clinical supervision, and training. The supervisory working alliance seemed to be of utmost importance to developing counselors’ experiences as they pursued their state licenses. Limitations are also discussed.

Defense of Dissertation Committee
Susan Kashubeck-West, PhD
Chairperson

Mary Lee Nelson, PhD

Elizabeth Holloway, PhD

Rocco Cottone, PhD