

# AU MFT Newsletter

Fall 2020



Marriage &  
Family Therapy

AUBURN UNIVERSITY

Certainty is the enemy of change.  
-Salvador Minuchin

## News

### **Congratulations to all six members of cohort 2020 for graduating!**

Congratulations to our Minority Fellow Recipients: Taylor Gnagi and Rhees Johnson

Welcome to Hannah Box, Our new Office Administrator!

With the graduation of the previous cohort, we are also excited to welcome the new cohort class 2022!

Auburn University shared a new requirement that there is a protocol and proof that all sessions involving a minor are videotaped and reviewed prior to deletion.



## Program Updates

- With the effects of the global pandemic COVID-19 still impacting daily lives, our program has been dedicated to making sure our students and community continue to receive the support needed, prioritizing safety above all else.
- All classes have been adjusted to Zoom when and where possible. If courses are in-person, social distancing and masks are required.
- We are Proud of Dr. Scott Ketring. As the President of the ABEMFT Licensure Board he fronted the change the Alabama MFT Rules and Regulations to enable 100% of all Marriage and Family Therapy to be teletherapy and for all supervision to be possible to be conducted through tele-supervision services. Additionally, he was able to provide the initial training for AL MFT Supervisors.
- Dr. Ruhlmann and Dr. Ketring created the MFT Teletherapy manual for students so that they could be providing teletherapy by April 1, 2020.
- We are happy to have Titanium, the new Electronic Medical Records (EMR) system was brought online to transition from paper records to EMR.



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## Programmatic Updates

- The Multicultural Alumni Advisory Board (MAAB) was approved as a constituency of interest (COI) for the Auburn MFT Program. With Yesenia Perez-Bertl (2013), Brianna Williams (2017), Jayson Carmona (2017), and Nakia Jones (2018) serving as the inaugural Board. The Board will be allowed to serve a five-year term and be allowed to renew for a shortened term to allow for a staggered format for future Boards. The Board members would select their replacements and interview diverse alums for additions to the Board. The Board will be made up from alums who match the nine protected categories for discrimination in the U.S. under federal law.
- The Dean's Office requested that the MFT Center offer free services to the AU Staff and Faculty during the Pandemic because we were the first mental health organization on campus to be up and running for services (April 1, 2020). The MAAB agreed and emphasized a need to support the university staff, who are the most diverse group within the Auburn University community.
- Lastly, the faculty voted to accept the new requirements for Readiness to See Clients

### **Requirements for Readiness to See Clients**

1. The student completes 35 observational hours and codes the therapist's behaviors.
2. The student's grasp of course concepts.
3. The student demonstrates maturity and professionalism.

Additionally, the instructors for HDFS 7601, 7620, and 7621 certify that the student completes the following requirements:

1. Pass the Auburn MFT Program Handbook quiz (HDFS 7601)
2. Complete Alabama Child Protective Services Interactive Training for Mandated Reporters training (HDFS 7621).
3. Complete Auburn University technology usage and privacy training (HDFS 7601)
4. AAMFT membership containing CPH liability insurance (HDFS 7601).
5. Complete the 12-hour Alabama Teletherapy training required for online client sessions (HDFS 7620 & 7621).