

2009 Early Career Achievement Award



Jeffrey S. VanLone, Ph.D.

Hobart and William Smith Colleges Counseling Services

Presented at Boston, 2010

Early, from the Early English term *Aerlice*, is defined by the Merriam dictionary as *near the beginning of a period of time; near the beginning of a course, process, or series; or before the usual or expected time*. It is clear from the comments in the nomination materials that this year's winner of the CCAPS Early Career Achievement Award is a person who has achieved in the good space of time as a person, colleague and professional.

Descriptors for our award winner include references to strengths like veracity and tenacity, commitment to diversity and general well-being of faculty, staff and students on the campus, advocacy for interdisciplinary collaboration, and dedication to the profession of mental health counseling in the context of higher education.

One could make a case that being early, as near the beginning of a time, in one's profession implies being on more of a course of learning and observing. For our awardee, while these have been important aspects of his early career, he has also set himself about the important task of being an active clinician, consultant and leader. Following the completion of a doctorate degree and doctoral internship in 2002, our honoree began work in a college counseling center where his focus was on developing assessment and clinical skills, promoting group therapy [including a group that interfaced physical and emotional health, and men's issues]. He provided supervision to doctoral level trainees and served the campus as part of a crisis response resource. Additionally, our awardee taught several courses in the counseling psychology area.

Rather quickly, our honoree's talents and investment in higher education came to the attention of others seeking leadership. In 2007, he was selected to become the director of counseling services at Hobart and William Smith Colleges. He has served this role and distinguished himself as one of the youngest center directors in the country. His insight and attention to the importance of collegiality have nurtured an effective working relationship between the administrative, academic and student affairs areas. Our honoree has advocated for and been a constructive force in promoting diversity and multiculturalism on the campus. He also maintains his interest in teaching in the psychology department.

For an early career professional, his contribution to the general body of knowledge is notable. He has published in several journals and authored a chapter in a book. He has made 8 invited presentations on a variety of topics related to diversity, counseling center mission, health and wellness and clinical concerns related to eating disorders. He has also been honored as the most outstanding graduate student at West Virginia University where he was the recipient of the Swiger Supplemental Fellowship and a New Professional Scholar by the Western Association of Housing Officers. Our awardee has also served as an active worker and leader on the Directorate of CCAPS.

It can definitely be said that given the talent and commitment of our honoree, he has achieved much

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before the expected time, the true hallmark of an Early Career Award Winner for CCAPS. Perhaps the highest compliment is paid by a nominee who references him as great friend and colleague; caring, compassionate and talented , one who has help others along their journey. So it is with great pleasure that CCAPS presents this year's Early Career Achievement Award to Dr. Jeffrey VanLone.

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