

Meredith is a senior Behavioral Science major from Oakland, Michigan

Challenging Academics. Christian Community.



A few years ago Rochester College renovated a rarely-used space on campus into something that can truly serve our students: a counseling clinic with a fully licensed staff, that happens to be comprised of our own faculty!

Psychology & Counseling Clinic Serves Students

The role of the Psychology and Counseling Clinic on the Rochester College campus is designed to meet the special developmental needs of young adults who face the major life transitions and personal adjustments of attending college. When an individual's social supports and psychological coping mechanisms are experienced as ineffective in resolving personal issues, a psychotherapeutic relationship can serve as a major psychological support. When students are able to learn new ways of managing the pressures and stress of college life, they can discover more effective ways of thinking, improve relationships, and make more effective personal choices.

The Psychology Clinic is designed to offer professional psychological services to the Rochester College community. These services include psychotherapy, counseling, marriage and family psychotherapy, and psychological assessments to assist in identifying the individual challenges of students. The current professional staff includes two Clinical Psychologists and a Psychotherapist, all of whom are licensed by the State of Michigan in Psychology.

Pictured is the clinic staff: Melissa Schroeder, M.A., Limited Licensed Psychologist; Robyn Siegel-Hinson, Ph.D., Licensed Clinical Psychologist; Gordon MacKinnon, Ph.D., Clinical Director, Licensed Clinical Psychologist



Marvin Brown

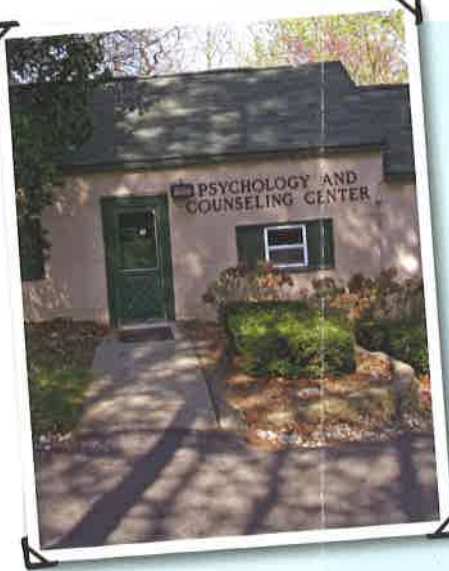
In his own words... meet recruiter

I don't work for Rochester College because it's a job or it allows me to take care of my family. I work for Rochester College because it provides a small family community dedicated to enhancing lives through education and service. Rochester College is a place where students grow academically, mentally, and spiritually. Other colleges attempt to duplicate the small class environment, nice faculty, and campus life! However, Rochester College is much more than just these things. Rochester College changes lives.

I grew up in Detroit's inner city and attended Rochester College as a student athlete (basketball) from 1994-1998. It was during the time spent at RC I found the true meaning of community. Most of my very best friendships were formed on this campus. After finishing up my bachelor's degree, I started working for the State of Michigan as a Disabilities Examiner. Later I decided to return to school to pursue my Master's degree in Physical Education, after which I began working as an assistant basketball coach and adjunct PE professor at a local university. One thing led to another and I ended up returning home to RC to work in admissions and athletics. I'm happily married with three wonderful kids.

I'd encourage you to check out RC! In addition to recruiting territories, my responsibilities also include working closely with students at community colleges and all transfer students. Hit me up if you want more info!

Academic Spotlight



Behavioral Sciences Department offers varied degree programs spanning the helping professions.

The Behavioral Sciences Department provides students with an experience that goes beyond the psychological sciences. Whether a student chooses Psychology or Social Work, the program is designed to provide a foundation that prepares them for further graduate studies. The mission of the Behavioral Sciences Department is to assist students in developing a deep understanding of how people function emotionally, mentally, socially, and spiritually.

Graduates from our program have been successful in graduate studies in Psychology, Social Work, Counseling, and Marriage and Family Therapy and have attended fine institutions such as the University of Michigan, University of Detroit-Mercy, Wayne State University, and Oakland University, as well as New York University.

The Behavioral Science faculty at Rochester College have high academic credentials and years of clinical experience among them. They are practicing clinicians as well as Professors. The faculty are able to bring "real-life" experiences in contemporary practice to the classroom. Our faculty are published and in 2006 two of the Psychology Faculty presented at a conference in Oxford, England. Student research is supervised by our senior faculty in Psychology and several students have presented their research at national and regional meetings. The Behavioral Sciences Department allows students an opportunity to excel academically under faculty who are committed Christians and who bring their commitment to the classroom.

Faculty: Gordon MacKinnon, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology, Chair of Behavioral Sciences; Robyn Siegel-Hinson, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Psychology; Brian Stogner, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology; Sarah Reddick, Associate Professor of Social Work



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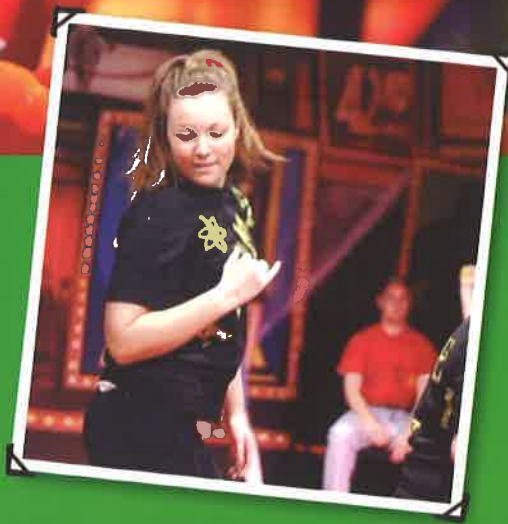
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In her own words... meet student

Meredith Ritschdorff

As a senior at Rochester College, I can reflect on my time here and realize how much I've grown, both as a person functioning in society and a Christian. I've learned much more than I ever expected. The college years are such a crucial part of life, where personal values and spiritual life become the foundation for giving life purpose and meaning. I was lucky enough to have my fellow students and professors guide me through my walk with Christ, which I believe greatly influenced my academic life as well as made my personal relationship with Jesus richer.

Spending four years in the psychology program has led me to plan on pursuing my master's degree at Wayne State University. I recently completed research and experimentation about the cognitive effects of scents found in aromatherapy, a project which I'll present at RC's Psychological Symposium and at a poster presentation in Chicago for the Midwestern Psychology Association.

I'm so glad I made an effort to get involved here at RC. Most of my favorite memories come from being in the social club Tau. I've taken advantage of opportunities to volunteer with fellow members of TAU, and every year I've participated in *Celebration*, where I love helping with the choreography. Being a member of TAU has helped me get so much out of my college experience. I've also been involved in the Jump Start program as a leader for the past three years. This opportunity allowed me to share my enthusiasm about Rochester College with incoming students. I feel blessed to have had this college experience. Thank you Rochester College for making me the person I am today and preparing me for the future!

Alumni Excelling

Former students make RC proud in the workplace

Natalie Burcham, 2003

Middle School Counselor, Berkely, Michigan

While at RC Natalie was involved with Sigma Phi Delta Nu, the A Cappella Chorus, the *Arieos* yearbook, and she took part of the first study abroad program in Vienna, Austria in the summer of 2001. After graduating she earned her Masters in Counseling from Oakland University in 2005 and then her post-masters specialization in School Counseling in 2007. After working in a variety of therapy positions, Natalie found her niche as a middle school counselor beginning in 2007. "RC not only helped me feel as prepared for graduate school as my fellow students who attended Big 10 universities, but the experiences I had helped to cultivate my spiritual life—something I feel is crucial to possess in the helping professions," Natalie says. "Also, I had the opportunity to develop a relationship with my professors. I even worked on a research study my senior year that was submitted to the American Psychological Association for publication. In the end it wasn't accepted, but that experience and the relationship with my professors made for a killer grad school recommendation!"



Did you know?

Dr. Gordon MacKinnon actually went to college here in the 1970's! That was before Rochester College offered 4-year degrees, so he obtained his associate's and then went on to earn bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees before returning to teach Psychology full-time more than 10 years ago. He has served as the Chair of the Behavioral Sciences Department and Clinical Director of the Psychology Clinic for the past five years. His M.A. is in Marriage and Family Therapy and his Ph.D. is in Clinical Psychology, making him a well-rounded leader of the excellent program offered at Rochester College today. In addition to teaching, Gordon is a practicing psychologist in Southfield and has experience in psychiatric hospitals and out-patient psychotherapy settings which include individual,

marital and family therapy working with diverse groups of people. These experiences have provided him opportunities to provide such insights to the ministries of churches in working with people. "The challenge of making psychology personally relevant to students in the classroom is what makes teaching a rewarding experience for me."