

Four of 4 employers responded to Employer Survey sent specifically from information from alumni who were their employees; 6 site supervisors responded in Site Supervisor Survey that their agencies hired a recent SOU counseling graduate and completed the employer section of the Site Supervisor Survey.

The 10 respondents were asked to compare the SOU graduated counselor with other new employees at a similar level of training in terms of particular knowledge, skills, or attributes.

Counselor Preparation: 5 point Likkert scale

Good to excellent (range 4 – 5; All now in this range except suicide assessment):

- 4.2 Role of mental health counselor
- 4.0 Collaboration
- 4.5 Ethics
- 4.2 Legal standards
- 4.0 Record keeping
- 4.2 Theory
- 4.5 Counseling skills
- 4.3 Assessment and diagnosis
- 4.2 Referral
- 4.4 Select interventions
- 4.4 Group counseling skills
- 4.3 Multicultural and diversity skills

Adequate (range 3 – 3.9)

- 3.9 Suicide assessment

Below average (range 1 – 2.9): none

Summary of suggestions:

- More Interviewing skills
- More group training; groups are really pushed in public health sector.
- New hires need to learn to accept constructive feedback; they often felt unsupported even though we go out of our way to provide support.