



AMERICAN REHABILITATION
COUNSELING ASSOCIATION

A DIVISION OF THE AMERICAN COUNSELING ASSOCIATION

FALL 2014



**A Message from
ARCA President**

David Staten, Ph.D.

It is with humility and respect that I assume the role of President of the American Rehabilitation Counseling Association. I want to emphatically thank the membership for selecting me to serve this great organization. ARCA has been at the forefront of the rehabilitation counseling profession advocating for the rights and civil liberties for persons with disabilities, dating back to 1958 with ARCA's first President, Salvatore G. DiMichael.

Thus, I will strive to honor the history of ARCA. I will also continue to seek to focus on the future of the rehabilitation counseling profession. Before I started my term, I reached out to many ARCA members, mentors, colleagues, and leaders from other rehabilitation counseling professional organizations to acquire a broader understanding of the issues and challenges facing our profession. Although there a number of challenges, we are also presented with unique opportunities to collectively step up and help move the profession forward.

As I have stated before, I embrace a vision of a unified profession for rehabilitation counseling. Given ARCA's alignment as a division of ACA, I believe that this organization is best positioned to advance the agenda of the rehabilitation counseling profession. ACA currently has over 54, 000 members. As an organization, we have to do a better job of working with ACA to advance the ARCA agenda. Conversely, ARCA's membership has dropped to around 450 members. This is really unacceptable for an organization with the pedigree and legacy of ARCA.

Therefore, during my Presidency I have three goals. First, I want the ARCA Board to develop a comprehensive recruitment plan to help bolster membership. Jamie Schutte, Public Relations and Awareness Chair, has already initiated the process of developing the organization's recruitment plan. All Board members will contribute to the development of this plan. We will also be seeking input from the ARCA membership as we work to develop and finalize the organization's recruitment plan.

Second, I am committed to working with the ARCA Board, ARCA members, and other relevant stakeholders to develop a Strategic Plan for the organization. President-Elect Quiteya Walker is currently working with Keith Wilson, Research and Knowledge Chair, to develop a detailed membership survey. The results of the survey will be utilized to assist ARCA with both strategic planning and recruitment. I understand everyone is busy. However, please take a few minutes to complete the survey when we send it out to the membership. Your perspective is very important to us and we want your opinion on how to continue to enhance our organization.

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Publication Date: October 24, 2014

A Message from the President Continued

Thirdly, as the President of ARCA, I am committed to seeking out collaborations with organizations that share ARCA's mission of enhancing the quality of life for individuals with disabilities. Therefore, my third goal is to establish partnerships and enhance ARCA's relationship with relevant stakeholders. I look forward to embracing both the opportunities and challenges that currently face the rehabilitation counseling profession.

Lastly, I really want to stress member involvement. Please do your best to attend the ACA Conference this year. This year the conference is being held in Orlando, Florida from March 11 to 14, 2015. ARCA has number of presentations and activities lined up for this conference. This year we will be hosting a Past Presidents and Future Leaders Meeting and Focus Group. I also encourage you all to continue to share the ARCA Award information with your colleagues and students. Award information can be found in this issue as well as on our website at www.arcaweb.org.

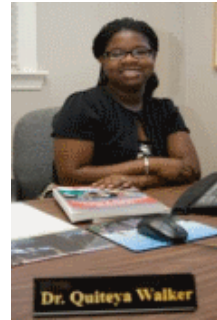
David Staten, Ph.D., LPC, NCC, CRC, BCC, BCPC
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HYATT REGENCY ORLANDO
MARCH 11 — 15, 2015
ORLAND, FLORIDA

For more information and/or to register, go to:
<http://www.counseling.org/conference/2015-conference-registration>

SAVE THE DATE FOR 2016
MARCH 30 — APRIL 3, 2016
MONTREAL, CANADA



***A Message from
 ARCA President-Elect
 and Secretary***

Quiteya D. Walker

The best advice I ever received was “when you make a commitment, be sure to fulfill that role to the best of your ability.” I am working vigorously to advance the mission of ARCA and meet the needs of the members we serve. This is an update on my activities for the past three months.

I envision ARCA as a vibrant growing organization that meets the needs of members and represents the interest of members in the profession. Dr. Keith Wilson, Dr. Jamie Schutte, and I are currently working on a member survey to identify members' perceptions of significant professional issues. The voices of members who complete the survey will provide data on which to base our decisions as we strategically plan for the next few years. Our Board wishes to be responsive to the membership as we advance our professional organization; and in order to do this, we need to hear from YOU! When you receive the survey, please respond.

Secondly, as I mentioned in my candidate statement, one of my goals is to build bridges with other organizations concerned with advancing the interests of persons with disabilities in order to explore opportunities and have a wider impact. The goal is to be at the table with other professional rehabilitation organizations so ARCA can have a voice as we discuss the future of our profession. In line with this goal, ARCA will collaborate with other organizations to discuss the future of the rehabilitation counseling profession. I will keep the membership updated on all activities aligned with this initiative.

As your President-Elect, I would like to be as transparent as possible; therefore, do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions, feedback, or concerns. I will not hesitate to bring your concerns to the Board so your needs as a member can be addressed.

Best,

Quiteya D. Walker
quiteyawalker@gmail.com

2014-2015 ARCA Leadership

July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015

ARCA OFFICERS

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Chair, Open

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RCB CONTACT AND CRCC CONTACT HOURS FOR JOURNAL ARTICLES

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ARCA NEWSLETTER EDITOR

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ARCA WEBSITE
<http://www.arcaweb.org>

Benefits of ARCA Membership

- **REHABILITATION COUNSELING BULLETIN (RCB)** quarterly peer-reviewed scholarly publication.
- Online quarterly **NEWSLETTER** highlighting legislative and professional activities affecting rehab counselors and the profession
- Opportunities for professional growth and leadership through participation in ARCA sponsored activities and workshops.
- Website reports on issues and trends affecting rehabilitation counselors
- CEUs for peer reviewing submissions to *RCB* or reading articles in *RCB*.
- Building relationships with ARCA colleagues and expanding opportunities for employment and professional growth.
- **LISTSERV** alerting rehab counselors to legislative actions and ARCA activities. To subscribe send an email to arca@listserv.arcaweb.org and enter SUBSCRIBE ARCA in the message field.
- Professional recognition through Association Awards.
- Opportunities to network on an annual basis at conferences and annual membership meetings.

Membership Options

Professional: Individuals who hold a master's degree or higher in counseling or a closely related field from a college or university accredited by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation.

Regular: Individuals whose interests and activities are consistent with those of ACA, but who are not qualified for professional membership.

New Professional: Status is applicable only to current student members who have graduated in the past 12 months. Status is good for one year.

Student: Individuals who are enrolled at least half time in a college or university program.

Retired: Members who are retired from the counseling profession and have been active ACA members for the past five consecutive years.

ARCA Only: You can join ARCA, a division of ACA, without joining ACA. Doing so will give you all the benefits of membership in ARCA only; you will not receive any ACA benefits. If you are joining a division only (ARCA), a division processing fee of \$10 will be added to your ARCA membership dues.



A Report from the Chair, Council on Development and Collaboration

Henry McCarthy

To pursue the mission of the Council on Development and Collaboration, I seek out opportunities to network with related organizations and stakeholder constituencies to build greater awareness of ARCA and productive possibilities of partnering with us. In June 2014, I attended the annual conference of the Texas Rehabilitation Association (TRA), which also served as the 2014 meeting of the Southwest Region of the National Rehabilitation Association, so there were participants from Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas, as well as Mississippi.

I was delighted to reconnect with the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) Commissioner Janet LaBreck, who delivered one of the keynote addresses. We had met in July 2013 at the annual conference of the National Association of Multicultural Rehabilitation Concerns in New Orleans. For interested participants at that conference, I had organized a community-service activity that concluded with a luncheon (see photo) where a local high school student was paired with a conference attendee for mutual exchange about their career interests and the rehabilitation counseling profession. Commissioner LaBreck (pictured second on the right) was very interested in the training program in hospitality employment for at-risk youth that runs the restaurant I had strategically chosen for our mentoring lunch, Café Reconcile (www.cafereconcile.org). I updated her on the expansion of this model that is currently implemented by two other such culinary vocational rehabilitation programs in New Orleans, Café Hope and Liberty's Kitchen (www.cafehope.org and www.libertyskitchen.org respectively). All operate lunchtime restaurants that are highly patronized by employees of nearby businesses and others in the broader community.



Among the other highlights for me at the TRA conference were: learning from practitioner colleagues from across the region about their State VR Agency activities and challenges; comparing issues and strategies with fellow educators from other rehabilitation counseling programs; meeting enthusiastic students from many of those programs; and swimming each morning at the Galveston beach across the street from the conference hotel. I also really enjoyed the presentation on humor and disability by our own

Jennifer Wiebold, Chair for the Council on Organization, Administration and Management, and ARCA colleague, Penny Willmering.

For my presentation, I showed a film I made of my dear friend and former Department Head at LSUHSC, Susan Daniels, who passed away in 2011. *Susan Daniels in Her Own Words: Creatively Managing Disability and Embracing Life* showcases Susan speaking with her unique pizzazz and insight about her experiences as a polio survivor since early childhood and her ideas shaped from decades of service as a rehabilitation educator, program manager, and disability rights activist. Topics covered in the film include: changes in rehabilitation practices and societal attitudes/images about disability; disproportionate effects that minor shifts in the context surrounding disability can have on the capacity to live independently; relationships between rehabilitation consumers and providers; advocacy for genuine access and equality for persons with disability; the continual process of adapting to disability-related challenges; and her personally devised low-tech assistive devices. In the session's follow-up discussion that I facilitated, I was able to elaborate on these topics and some of her related achievements. For example, I explained her major leadership role in creating the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act (1999). As Deputy Commissioner for Disability Policy in the Social Security Administration (SSA), she helped shepherd this legislation through Congress and energized the consumer buy-in for this law that is gradually, but effectively, reducing the financial disincentives

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to work that are experienced by many people who are recipients of SSA's disability benefits programs that constrictively yoke health insurance with income benefits.

In Galveston, I distributed membership information on ARCA and some copies of our well-respected, peer-reviewed scholarly journal, *Rehabilitation Counseling Bulletin*. I do these targeted distributions at each conference I attend. As of this writing, I am planning a lunchtime networking event for counselors who register for a workshop to be offered in New Orleans by Cirecie West-Olatunji, Immediate Past President of the American Counseling Association. I will be listening to what is on their minds about the directions of the counseling profession and talking up ARCA's interest in partnering with them and the organizations to which they belong. Students in my courses at Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center (LSUHSC) will be there, doing their own promotional activities for their participation in ARCA's current "Understanding Rehabilitation Counseling" campaign developed by our Past President, Paul Toriello.

Do let me know if you have ideas or suggestions and would like to work with me on activities to promote ARCA's collaboration with rehabilitation consumers, practitioners, educators, policy makers, and advocates.

Thanks and be well.

Henry McCarthy
hmccar@LSUHSC.edu
 (504) 568-4320
 Louisiana State University
 Health Sciences Center
 New Orleans, Louisiana



Meet the ARCA Chair for the Council on Public Policy, Legislation, and Human Rights

Noel A. Ysasi

It is with great pleasure that I introduce myself as the new ARCA's Public Policy, Legislation and Human Rights Council Chair. I obtained my Master's in Rehabilitation Counseling from the University of Texas Pan American and I'm currently obtaining my doctorate degree. As a representative, my main functions are to promote the rehabilitation counseling profession and serve as an advocate for equal access and quality services for individuals with disabilities by focusing on public policy, legislation, and human rights. Since being selected I have participated in two conference calls to prepare for the responsibilities associated with this role. Furthermore, with the approval of Dr. Staten and the Executive Council, I have fulfilled the three standing committees to be governed by the following individuals:

Legislation — Dr. Alicia D. Brown
 California State University, Fresno

Special Education — Dr. Roy Chen
 The University of Texas Pan-American, Edinburg

Human Rights — Dr. Bryan Austin
 University of Idaho, Boise

Each individual has contributed to this column.

**WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT (WIOA)
 NEWS AND RESOURCES**

In regards to recent legislation impacting the disability and rehabilitation field, President Obama signed the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) into law on July 22, 2014. A bipartisan and bicameral piece of legislation that reauthorizes federal workforce expansion and job training programs for the next six years, it substitutes the dated Workforce Investment Act of 1998. The WIOA supersedes the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 and amends the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act, the Wagner-Peyser Act, and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The Act takes effect on July 1, 2015, the first full program year after enactment.

The approval of the new WIOA legislation will authorize Congress to fund federal workforce programs between fiscal years 2015 through 2020. This new law is aimed at increasing opportunities, particularly for those facing barriers to employment, and invests in the important connection between education, training, and support services needed to succeed in the labor market. Additionally, the focus of economic growth within communities is a key element impacting individuals with disabilities, their families, and professionals among many others.

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What does this legislation mean for the rehabilitation profession?

Existing law specifies that if a state's Comprehensive System of Personnel Development (CSPD) does not require VR personnel to meet the highest State or national standards for such positions, the state must note how it will move toward that objective. This provision has been removed from the WIOA and substituted with language directing the "establishment and maintenance of education and experience requirements to ensure personnel have a 21st century understanding of the evolving labor force and the needs of individuals with disabilities" (Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act, 2014). Furthermore, the education and experience requirements to be established would include:

- "attainment of a bachelor's degree in a field of study reasonably related to vocational rehabilitation to indicate a level of competence and skill demonstrating basic preparation in a field such as vocational rehabilitation, counseling, social work, psychology, disability studies, business administration, human resources, special education, supported employment, customized employment, economics or another field that reasonably prepares individuals to work with consumers and employers; and
- demonstrate paid or unpaid experience for not less than one (1) year in direct work with individuals with disabilities, in a setting such as an independent living center, or direct service or advocacy activities, or direct experience as an employer, small business owner or human resources person where the person is involved in hiring, recruiting or training persons with disabilities; or
- attainment of a master's or doctoral degree in a field of study such as vocational rehabilitation counseling, law, social work, psychology, disability studies, business administration, human resources, special education, management, public administration, or another field that reasonably provides competence in the employment sector, in a disability field, or in both business-related and rehabilitation-related fields."

WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT (WIOA), 2014

The qualifications of VR personnel would still have to be consistent with any relevant state or national licensure, certification, or other prerequisites for a profession. However, there will no longer be the requirement that if a state does not oblige the highest state or national

credential for VR professionals, it is required to move in that direction. In lieu, the amendments open up the profession of vocational rehabilitation practice to persons with multiple educational backgrounds including professions outside the field of vocational rehabilitation. Does this benefit people with disabilities or hurt them by removing the necessary skills and qualifications that we as rehabilitation professionals have been trained to do? What would John Holland say?

THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (CRPD)

Another issue of importance for the rehabilitation counseling community is the signing of CRPD in Congress. The United Nations Convention of Human Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD or "international disability treaty") is being considered in Congress for ratification (CRPD, 2014). The purpose of CRPD is to "promote, protect and ensure the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights by persons with disabilities" (WHO Action Plan "Better health for persons with disabilities" FAQ, p. 3, 2011). This treaty, initially signed by 156 countries, signifies the importance and worldwide value of human rights for people with disabilities (WHO Action Plan "Better health for persons with disabilities" FAQ, 2011). Contact your senators and ask them to vote for the CRPD (CRPD, 2014). Dr. Austin, Member of the Human Rights Standing Committee, is currently monitoring this issue as well as the Affordability Care Act (ACA) as it relates to access and quality of healthcare, but also VR services. The standing committees will continue to work diligently to main the ARCA community informed.

It is my honor to serve as ARCA's Public Policy, Legislation and Human Rights Council Chair. I hope to make a meaningful contribution to the rehabilitation and counseling field. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, comments, or concerns.

Kind regards,

Noel A. Ysasi, PhD Candidate, CRC
 Chair, Public Policy, Legislation, and Human Rights
naysasi@utpa.edu

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

U.S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration WIOA Resource Page: <http://www.doleta.gov/wioa/>

U.S. Department of Education OCTAE WIOA Facts Page: <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ovae/pi/AdultEd/wioa-reauthorization.html>



Call for Nominations

**Dr. Jamie Schutte,
Council on Public
Relations and
Awareness Chair**

NOMINATE TODAY!

We are seeking nominations for the 2015 American Rehabilitation Counseling Association (ARCA) **SPECIAL AWARDS** and **STUDENT AWARDS**. The Special Awards include **The Rehabilitation Counselor of the Year Award** and **The Vision Award**. **The Student Awards** recognize outstanding masters and doctoral level rehabilitation counseling students. For more information about the awards, including the criteria for nomination, please visit the ARCA website at www.arcaweb.org.

**NOMINATIONS MUST BE EMAILED TO:
DR. JAMIE SCHUTTE** at ics85@pitt.edu

**DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS IS
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2014**

Awards will be presented at the 2015 American Counseling Association Conference and Exposition in Orlando, Florida on March 11 to 15, 2015, during the ARCA Reception. Award recipients are encouraged to attend the conference.

REHABILITATION COUNSELOR OF THE YEAR

The 2015 ARCA Rehabilitation Counselor of the Year Award recognizes an outstanding individual who has contributed to improving the lives of persons with disabilities, and in doing so, has made a substantial contribution to the practice of rehabilitation counseling.

Candidates will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Candidate has made a significant contribution to the field of rehabilitation counseling and has improved the quality of life for persons with disabilities;
- Candidate has been highly recognized by professional peers and colleagues for exemplary efforts in working with persons with disabilities in a public or private rehabilitation setting;
- Candidate has demonstrated use of innovative techniques that have practical application for achieving positive and successful rehabilitation outcomes with clients and consumers; and

- Candidate has documented a distinguished record of initiating, motivating, leading, and coordinating activities related to a professional counseling association that focuses on persons with disabilities.

VISION AWARD

The 2015 ARCA Vision Award recognizes an essay written by a student member of ARCA that best expresses the theme: ***What unique contribution or innovation does the interaction or synergy between the specialty of rehabilitation counseling and the profession of counseling provide?***

Essay submissions may be traditional or use alternative format such as Photovoice that presents the student's original thoughts on the specific contribution or innovation, informed by the knowledge base and scholarship in the field; but not a report of a research paper or review of the literature per se, nor an opinion piece.

In addition to being recognized at the annual ARCA Reception, the winning essay will be published in the *Rehabilitation Counseling Bulletin* and the author will receive a \$1,000 award.

2015 STUDENT AWARDS

The 2015 ARCA Student of the Year Awards recognizes students for their outstanding contributions, academic achievements, and commitment to the rehabilitation counseling profession. Both a current Master's student (in their second year or beyond) and a current Doctoral student are recognized.

Candidates must be in good standing at their University and have a minimum GPA of 3.0. Candidates will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Involvement in professional organizations, campus activities, and the graduate community;
- Contribution to knowledge through research, teaching, and scholarship; and
- Contribution to the graduate community.

In order to be considered, students must be nominated by a faculty member. A completed nomination packet consists of the following:

- Candidate's Curriculum Vitae and Transcript; and
- Letters of support: one from an academic faculty member at the candidate's University and one from an individual who has personal knowledge of the candidate's character and involvement in the field of rehabilitation counseling.



**A “Call” from
ARCA Student Task
Force Representative**

Katie Wachtel



Call for Nominations

**Keith Wilson, Ph.D.,
CRC, Council on
Research and
Knowledge Chair**

CALL FOR STUDENT PRESENTATIONS!

We are pleased to announce the opening for the call for student presentation proposal submissions to be held as part of the ARCA sponsored presentations at the 2015 Annual ACA Conference and Exposition to be held in Orlando, Florida, March 12 to 15, 2015.

ARCA will invite proposal submissions which focus on effective strategies and innovations in education, research, practice and policy as it relates to the rehabilitation counseling profession. This includes; but is not limited to, the impact of technology (communication and social networking), programs, transition, evaluation, and practices.

NOMINATIONS MUST BE EMAILED TO:
Katie A. Wachtel at kawachte@uncg.edu

DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS IS:
Friday, October 31, 2014

For more information, visit the Awards/Conference Information link on the Home page of the ARCA website at www.arcaweb.org

or use the link below
<http://www.arcaweb.org/wp-content/uploads/2015StudentPresentationCallforProposal.pdf>

**Keep Up-to-Date via
“The Rehabilitation Counseling
Bulletin (RCB)”**

As a member of ARCA, you receive free online access to *Rehabilitation Counseling Bulletin (RCB)* as a member benefit which features articles important to rehabilitation counseling practitioners in counseling, education, or research settings. Each issue includes original empirical research, theoretical essays, comprehensive literature reviews, intensive case studies, research critiques, and media reviews. You can access RCB online at <http://rcb.sagepub.com>.

NOMINATE TODAY!

2015 ARCA RESEARCH AWARDS

Nominations are now being sought for the 2015 American Rehabilitation Counseling Association (ARCA) Research Awards, which recognizes and honors high quality, research in the field of rehabilitation counseling. Research published in peer-reviewed outlets in the 2014 calendar year, or publications not yet available prior to last year’s call for nominations will be considered.

Nominations must be emailed to kbwilson@siu.edu and must include a full APA reference of the publication, and an electronic copy, link, or pdf file of the complete research article/work. **DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS IS FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2015.**

**2015 JAMES F. GARRETT
DISTINGUISHED CAREER IN
REHABILITATION RESEARCH AWARD**

Nominations are being sought for the 2015 **James F. Garrett Award** for a Distinguished Career in Rehabilitation Research, which recognizes excellence in research contributions over one’s career. The nominee may or may not be retired in order to qualify. Nominee’s published research should span at least 15 years and focus on rehabilitation counseling. Nominations should include supportive evidence for the nominee, e.g., letters, samples, vitae.

Please send nominations by **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2014**. Electronic/email nominations are preferred to: kbwilson@siu.edu, however hard copy nominations will be accepted if postmarked prior to November 7, 2014 to:

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Southern Illinois University Carbondale,
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(Phone) 618-453-7313 or (fax) 618-453-1646