



AMERICAN REHABILITATION
COUNSELING ASSOCIATION

A Division of the American Counseling Association

SUMMER 2017



APPRECIATIONS AND UPDATES

FROM

**HENRY McCARTHY, PH.D., CRC, LPC
2016-2017 ARCA PRESIDENT**



Dear Colleagues and Friends,

ARCA had a busy Winter and fruitful Spring, so I am pumped to report on what has transpired during that time and to summarize some new developments and transitions about to begin.

**ARCA AT ACA ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA**

A primary reason I have been involved in ARCA for many years is the unique opportunity it offers rehabilitation professionals to be part of such a large, multi-dimensional event as the Annual ACA Conference. I immensely enjoy the variety of stimulating activities for personal and professional development the conference provides. I embrace the opportunities it offers our specialization of rehabilitation counseling (RC) to contribute to the awareness and professional skills of colleagues in other counseling arenas through interaction and collaboration. Added to this annual excitement about the conference were the attractions of its location this year in the San Francisco Bay area — one of my favorite environments. Even for those without these biases, I would wager the 2017 Conference was a great experience, especially the ARCA events!!

A priority guiding my choices in shaping the ARCA programs at the conference was supporting and partnering with the local disability community. It began with inviting two disability rights scholar-activists to be the presenters for our pre-conference workshops that offered members an opportunity to obtain two free CEUs in ethics. Jan Garrett (pictured above right) of the Pacific ADA Center in Oakland gave a thorough review and update of the Americans with Disabilities Act and its Amendments. Alex Ghenis of the World Institute on Disability in Berkeley explained the options of using

an Able Act account to manage and optimize one's disability income benefits. Both were excellent resources who spoke from their years of scholarship and direct personal experience.

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Publication Date: June 30, 2017

Instead of a reception at the hotel, we organized a sit-down dinner at Mozzarella, a neighborhood Italian-fare restaurant, where all of the staff were Deaf and used American Sign Language. It was an interesting immersion experience all around; and the staff appreciated our business and support. During the dinner, we formally recognized the exemplary work of three students, a rehabilitation counseling practitioner, and the authors of three research articles with our annual ARCA awards. [See pages 11-14 of this newsletter for details on these award winners.] The third partnership in our program schedule was a Disability Film Fest, which I believe was a first for a national conference on rehabilitation. We showed three short films, and the Paul K. Longmore Institute on Disability showed two videos they selected from past entries in their annual juried film fest called *Superfest*.



Along with student attendees, pictured here in front is Yolanda Edwards and in back from left to right are Paige Dunlap and Valerie Russell.

Many thanks to Yolanda Edwards, Valerie Russell, and Carrie Wilde who provided various forms of administrative assistance with the preparation and implementation of these three events. I am also enormously grateful to two local RC professors and ARCA members, Sandra Fitzgerald from San Francisco State University (SFSU) and Heather Brostrand from California State University—Sacramento (CSUS), who volunteered to work with me for several months of planning, loaned us A-V equipment, and facilitated arrangements with the local resources we collaborated with to create these fun, meaningful, and awareness-raising events.

Another encouraging experience for me was the active involvement by ARCA graduate student members in several of our events. These included: SFSU students Javier Garcia who recorded the workshops and assisted with the equipment and Alex Locust who facilitated discussion at the film fest; the four women who did fine presentations of their “Understanding Rehabilitation Counseling” projects sponsored by ARCA: Nayely Guerrero and Yelitza Perez from California State University-Fresno and Katherine Nieweglowski and Briana Hatton from Illinois Institute of Technology; Cory Johnson and Cy Lugo from CSUS and Richard Chapman from the University of South Florida who avidly participated in virtually all the ARCA events and educational sessions. Cheers to the eight or so students (I didn’t get a chance to meet them all!) from South Carolina State University who constituted the largest contingent from any university at our events.



Alex Ghenis and Henry McCarthy in front of the Ed Roberts Campus, a universally designed facility shared by a consortium of disability organizations, located in Berkeley

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ARCA'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE IN ORLANDO, FLORIDA, SEPTEMBER 14-17, 2017

In honor of our milestone anniversary as an association, several members of the Board have worked hard to organize a comprehensive continuing education conference for all interested professionals and students. Further details are given on pages 20-23 of this newsletter and on our website (www.arcaweb.org). Please register and attend, as well as encourage and enable others to do so. Let's make the marking of ARCA's 60th anniversary an educational, networking, and celebratory success.

UPDATE ON ARCA'S PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL, REHABILITATION COUNSELING BULLETIN (RCB)

After 17 years as Editor of RCB, Doug Strohmer is stepping down from that position. In my estimation, he has earned a comfortable spot in the after-life for all his dedication, efficiency, and skill in managing the smooth operations and scholarly standards that have solidified RCB's reputation as a much respected research journal in our profession. On behalf of the ARCA community at large, I warmly express great gratitude to Doug for his steadfast leadership and labor on our journal. Fong Chan and Tim Tansey were selected to take the helm and will begin their term as Co-Editors of RCB on July 1, 2017. We appreciate their past years of service on the Editorial Board and wish them much success in sustaining RCB's scholarly acclaim.



DISABILITY-RELATED COUNSELING COMPETENCIES

Over the past few decades, several different ACA Divisions or groups have developed counseling competencies related to their special interest area. These are published under the *Knowledge* section of the ACA website (www.counseling.org). Three doctoral students (Toni Saia, Camelia Shaheed, and Zeynep Yilmaz) at the University of Arizona noted that none of the lists dealt with disability, so they decided to advocate for the addition of a set of disability-related counseling competencies to this collection of resources.

They conducted some literature and online research and consulted with their faculty advisor, Linda Shaw, a Past-President of ARCA. They drafted a rationale and proposal for the development of such a list of recommended competencies, which they sent to me in March, asking if ARCA would support their advocacy on this effort. The ARCA Board voted at its March meeting to create a Task Force (TF) to pursue this goal of identifying disability-related competencies for the counseling profession at large. Clearly, there is a need

to fill the gap identified by these students with a comparable list of recommended skills and perspectives, that is focused on serving people with disability-related issues, and is easily accessible to counselors of all backgrounds and practice areas through the ACA website. As such, this effort and its eventual product of practice guidelines should be a reinforcing complement to the outcomes of the task force on the infusion of disability concepts into the revision of the CACREP curriculum standards. The latter task force of four counselor educators was organized in October, 2016; its expert members in rehabilitation counseling are Irmo Marini, another Past-President of ARCA, and Mark Stebnicki, a former ARCA Board member. ARCA is open to formative input and evaluative feedback from interested members with regard to the creation of the disability related competencies. Feel free to contact the Co-Chairs of the appointed task force, Marty Chapin of East Carolina University (chapinm@ecu.edu) and Linda Shaw of the University of Arizona (ishaw@email.arizona.edu) with your suggestions and relevant resources.

THANKS FOR THE OPPORTUNITY OF SERVING

On July 1st I will pass the baton to our incoming President, Michelle Bradham-Cousar, and will move into the Immediate Past-President position on the Board for the next year. I wish both Michelle and Noel Ysasi, who is our next President-Elect, much success and satisfaction in their time in leadership of ARCA. I extend the same sincere wishes to our incoming Board members: Jean Brahua, Megan Long, Sonia Peterson, and Tony Reyes. As you will read in their introductions on pages 16-17, they are a diverse group of talented professionals and scholars.

My continued best wishes go to the Council Chairs who will be remaining for another year or two of service on the Board: Paige Dunlap, Yolanda Edwards, Mary Huber, Valerie Russell, and Michelle Schein. Many thanks to our departing Board members for their service and support over the past few years: Jamie (Schutte) Kulzer, Taryn Richardson, Quiteya Walker, and Carrie Wilde. For the latter two individuals, it has been more than a few years: 8 for Quiteya and 15 for Carrie! Quiteya has enthusiastically served the ARCA Board as Student Representative, Secretary, and President. She is co-chairing our 60th Anniversary Conference with Michelle Bradham-Cousar, so we are fortunate she is still staying actively involved. Carrie has been a champion on the ARCA Board since 2002, and was brought out of her mere month-long "retirement" last August when she agreed to fill an unexpected vacancy in the Treasurer position, in which she has performed with admirable proficiency. Furthermore, she has acted as our informal historian by offering a depth of knowledge about our association and its connections with the profession that has been helpful in our addressing various issues that have come before the Board.

The time of my presidency has truly flown by. I recall some of my goals that I regret I did not accomplish, but which I hope to pursue to some degree over the next year. I made efforts each month to maintain communication with members and to reach out to prospective members. During my personal travels this year, I visited a few campuses and attended some resource fairs and professional events to promote ARCA and hear what colleagues wanted to say and contribute. Some examples of my outreach activities include: (1) meeting with staff of the World Institute on Disability (WID) at the Ed Roberts Campus, an impressive, universally designed facility shared by a consortium of disability organizations, located in Berkeley; (2) attending a networking event for professionals while I was in Los Angeles that generated a few follow-up emails to me about disability issues; and (3) speaking with students and faculty of the Master's program in Rehabilitation and Clinical Counseling at Georgia State University in Atlanta (see photo). I have benefitted from enlightening conversation, correspondence, or consultation with many ARCA and ACA colleagues over the past year, including but hardly limited to: Marty Chapin, Dennis Gilbride, Steve Leierer, Peg Nosek, Patty Nunez, Dave Peterson, Catherine Roland, Linda Shaw, Bob Stensrud, Doug Strohmer, and Cirecie West-Olatunji. Apologies to those whose helpful exchanges with me I am not recalling at the moment. I very much appreciate Vickie Leeming, who has been a pleasure to work with in designing and producing our newsletters over the past few years.

Finally, I'd like to express my loving gratitude to my families (my wife, two sons, and four siblings) for their ongoing support, as well as specific assistance several times during the past year when I needed an outsider perspective or immediate feedback to guide me in my work.

Be well, continue doing good work, and keep in touch —

Henry McCarthy, President 2016-2017

HMccCar@lsuhsc.edu



GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY ~ APRIL 2017

*Pictured above, left to right by rows
 Row 1: Henry McCarthy, Paula Janssen;
 Row 2: Veronica Huttman and Nicole Slifcak
 Row 3: Olivia Lloyd
 Row 4: Jamian Coleman and Dr. Franco Dispenza
 Back Row: Dr. Dennis Gilbride*



Plan now for ACA 2018

April 26-29, 2018

Georgia World Congress Center

Atlanta, Georgia



For more information on past, present and future ACA conferences, visit:

www.counseling.org/conference



**YOUR 2016-2017
ARCA LEADERSHIP**

July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017

ARCA OFFICERS

PRESIDENT HENRY MCCARTHY
HMccCar@lsuhsc.edu

PRESIDENT-ELECT MICHELLE BRADHAM-COUSAR
fcabradham.cousar@gmail.com

PAST PRESIDENT QUITEYA WALKER
quiteya.walker@asurams.edu

TREASURER CARRIE WILDE
cwilde4@gmail.com

SECRETARY MICHELLE SCHEIN
michelle.schein@pitt.edu

ACA GOVERNING COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE
Paige Dunlap pdunlap@ncat.edu

ARCA BOARD MEMBERS

DEVELOPMENT AND COLLABORATION CHAIR
Yolanda Edwards edwardsyo@wssu.edu

ORGANIZATION, ADMINISTRATION, AND MANAGEMENT CHAIR
Valerie Russell..... verussel@fiu.edu

PUBLIC POLICY, PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION AND STANDARDS CHAIR
Noel Ysasi noel.ysasi@uky.edu

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND AWARENESS CHAIR
Jamie Kulzer j.kulzer@pitt.edu

RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE CHAIR
Mary Huber mary.huber@wright.edu

ARCA STUDENT TASK FORCE REPRESENTATIVE
Taryn Richardson taryn-richardson@uiowa.edu

ARCA REPRESENTATIVES TO CORE COMMISSION ON STANDARDS & ACCREDITATION
Glacia Ethridge
Jenelle Pitt

REHABILITATION COUNSELING BULLETIN (RCB) EDITOR
Douglas Strohmer..... dstrohmr@memphis.edu

ARCA NEWSLETTER EDITOR
Vickie Leeming arcaneewsletter@bex.net
(419) 841-8889 Office

**YOUR 2017-2018
ARCA LEADERSHIP**

July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018

ARCA OFFICERS

PRESIDENT MICHELLE BRADHAM-COUSAR
fcabradham.cousar@gmail.com

PRESIDENT-ELECT NOEL YSASI
nysasi@niu.edu

PAST PRESIDENT HENRY MCCARTHY
HMccCar@lsuhsc.edu

TREASURER JEAN BRAJUHA
jbajuha@restorererehab.biz

SECRETARY MICHELLE SCHEIN
michelle.schein@pitt.edu

ACA GOVERNING COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE
Paige Dunlap pdunlap@ncat.edu

ARCA BOARD MEMBERS

DEVELOPMENT AND COLLABORATION CHAIR
Yolanda Edwards..... edwardsyo@wssu.edu

ORGANIZATION, ADMINISTRATION, AND MANAGEMENT CHAIR
Valerie Russell..... verussel@fiu.edu

PUBLIC POLICY, PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION AND STANDARDS CHAIR
Sonia Peterson soniapeterson@email.arizona.edu

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND AWARENESS CHAIR
Megan Long mnlong92@gmail.com

RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE CHAIR
Mary Huber mary.huber@wright.edu

ARCA STUDENT TASK FORCE REPRESENTATIVE
Tony Reyes..... areyes7@wisc.edu

REHABILITATION COUNSELING BULLETIN (RCB) EDITORS
Fong Chan chan@education.wisc.edu
Tim Tansey ttansey@wisc.edu

ARCA NEWSLETTER EDITOR
Vickie Leeming..... arcaneewsletter@bex.net
(419) 841-8889 Office



ACA GOVERNING COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

BY
PAIGE N. DUNLAP,
PH.D., LPC, CRC, NCC, ACS, PVE

Greetings ARCA Community!

As the ARCA's representative to the ACA Governing Council, I want to ensure that I am keeping you abreast of the latest information and updates. The Governing Council met March 14-15, 2017 in San Francisco, California, during the annual ACA Conference. During this conference I was elected to ACA's Nominations and Elections Committee. I am looking forward to serving in this role during the coming year. Much of the two-day Governing Council meeting was spent in getting updates from various entities. Some of the highlights were as follows:

- The **Journal of Counseling and Development** will soon launch an app so the transfer of knowledge is quicker and more easily accessed.
- 2017 ACA conference registration numbers were well beyond that of Montreal and live streaming was up by 25%.
- Membership dues will increase by \$8 for professional members; \$3 for new professional, students, and retirees. Additionally the MSA fee charged to divisions will increase by 50¢.
- CACREP provided an update — they currently accredit more than 700 programs — including increased numbers of faith-based institutions; mini-guidebooks are available for download online to help programs prepare for accreditation; and the 2023 standards are currently being considered and the committees that will be working on the standards are currently being formed.
- NBCC provided a general overview of their mission and endeavors at the state, federal, and international levels.
- HPSO update – 82,827 counselors insured. ACA members receive a 10% discount.
- Targeted Task Group Update — The group is working on leadership development and how to add more diversity into the ACA (and subsequent divisions') leadership pipeline. Additionally, they will be conducting presentations and looking for other outreach strategies and best practices.

Several motions were made and passed at the conference, I have outlined these below:

- ✓ It was moved by the Audit Committee that the Governing Council approve the audited financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2016 as provided by RSM US LLP. **Motion passed.**
- ✓ It was moved by M. Jencius and seconded M. Drake-Wallace to approve the ACA Counseling Distance Learning Interest Network. **Motion passed.**
- ✓ It was moved by K. Butler and seconded M. Kocet to approve the Intimate Partner Violence Interest Network. **Motion passed.**
- ✓ It was moved by the Financial Affairs Committee that the Governing Council adopt the Fiscal Year 2018 Proposed Budget reflecting \$14,170,787 in Operating Revenues, \$14,130,230 in Operating Expenses, and excess Operating Revenue over Operating Expenses of \$40,557. **Motion passed.**
- ✓ It was moved by J. Daniels and seconded by N. Merchant that the American Counseling Association will promote the development of professional counselors, advance the counseling profession, and use the profession and practice of counseling to promote respect for human dignity and diversity by working with immigrants and their families as well as persons of all faiths to address the impact of raids and travel bans. Immigration raids and travel bans have an adverse impact on the people who are directly impacted by these actions and they can have catastrophic consequences on communities. Therefore, ACA stands in solidarity with immigrants, refugees, and communities of different religious faiths that have been directly or indirectly affected by this mandate. Given the immediate needs that are surfacing in communities, ACA seeks opportunities to include this issue as a focus in future trainings, podcasts, "Counseling Today" articles, and other opportunities to provide advocacy and training for counselors. **Motion passed.**

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✓ It was moved by J. Daniels and seconded by N. Merchant that ACA will create advocacy action statements on different human rights issues in order to provide counselors with the information they need to help advocate for equity and fair treatment for all people and groups in order to end oppression and injustice affecting clients, students, families, communities, schools, workplaces, governments, and other social and institutional systems. These statements will include the following information: ACA's position and an overview of the issue; rationale for the advocacy statement; the counselor's role in advocacy actions including ways of increasing awareness, suggestions for possible programs development, and counseling approaches that can be used; and references. **Motion passed.**

✓ It was moved by J. Daniels and seconded by M. Kocet that ACA affirms it is committed to nondiscrimination and prevention of harassment in all forms (verbal, physical, sexual, emotional, and psychological), including protections for transgender, gender non-conforming and LGBTQ+ individuals. We will work proactively with our divisions, branches, regions and our public policy efforts to support these protections. Our commitment includes but is not limited to: access to learning environments that are free of discrimination, bullying and harassment; access to restrooms and changing facilities that are safe and affirming for gender non-conforming youth and adults; and use of preferred names. ACA recognizes the stress and psychological impact of discrimination and is committed to helping counselors advocate for nondiscrimination policies and practices in their work settings and practices. ACA encourages counselors to utilize the ACA Advocacy Competencies and ACA's Competencies in Counseling with Transgender Clients when working with individuals, their families, and the organizational institutions that are impacted. **Motion passed.**

✓ It was moved by L. Meadows Morton, T. Duffey, and S. Giunta and seconded by M. Jencius that ACA invites AMHCA, NBCC, AASCB, and ACES to jointly develop a cover letter acknowledging two portability plan options and that the five organizations mutually respect the efforts in promoting the two plans for the licensure boards' consideration. **Motion passed.**

✓ It was moved by R. Roane and seconded by M. Kocet that ACA execute the two-pronged strategy outlined in the February 3 letter from the Special Committee on Portability with the expectation that the communication strategy will be implemented. ACA staff will provide an update on this execution at the July 2017 Governing Council meeting and beyond.

Communication Strategy

- ◆ Announce the ACA Portability Model and rationale (as well as the Portability Plan proposed by AASCB, ACES, AMHCA, and NBCC) to the membership through the website, press release, "Counseling Today" articles (when feasible with publication deadlines) and email to membership and state licensing boards.
- ◆ Include a brief statement on ACA's historical efforts toward portability (20/20, Building Blocks to Portability Project, our AASCB participation, etc.).
- ◆ Provide FAQs, preamble, and a rationale for the ACA model.
- ◆ Develop a plan to work with state licensing boards to roll-out the ACA model.

Motion passed.

✓ It was moved by the ACA Human Rights Committee they will create advocacy action statements, as approved by Executive Committee of Governing Council and executed by ACA Staff, on different human rights issues in order to provide counselors with the information they need to help advocate for equity and fair treatment for all people and groups in order to end oppression and injustice affecting clients, students, families, communities, schools, workplaces, governments, and other social and institutional systems. These statements will include the following information: ACA's position and an overview of the issue; rationale for the advocacy statement; the counselor's role in advocacy actions including ways of increasing awareness, suggestions for possible programs development, and counseling approaches that can be used; and references. **Motion passed.**

✓ It was moved by D. Osborn and seconded by J. Daniels that any proposed monetary increases to members (i.e., conference fees, membership dues) be accompanied by a detailed rationale and explanation for the increase in the annual budget proposal. **Motion passed.**

On a side note, ACA is looking forward to a fun-filled, educational conference in Atlanta, Georgia in 2018!! We hope to see you all there!

Paige N. Dunlap,
Ph.D., LPC, CRC, NCC, ACS, PVE
pdunlap@ncat.edu

END OF YEAR REPORT FROM THE COUNCIL ON ORGANIZATION, ADMINISTRATION, AND MANAGEMENT



**VALERIE RUSSELL,
PH.D, CRC, LMHC, NCC,
COUNCIL CHAIR**

As the 2016-2017 Board term comes to an end, I wish to report on what we have achieved this year.

- ✓ Collaborated with Joe Garro (our webmaster) to place current ARCA Bylaws on the new ARCA website.
- ✓ Incorporated suggested updates and additions in the Bylaws from ACA Bylaws Committee and Board member recommendations.
- ✓ Reviewed and updated Leadership Manual.
- ✓ Co-authored manuscript with selected ARCA Board members.
- ✓ Collaborated with Taryn Richardson, Student Task Force Representative, to review and provide suggested revisions to prospective university student organizations' Bylaws.
- ✓ Reviewed and scored ARCA Master Student of the Year Awards applicants.
- ✓ Reviewed and scored ARCA Student Organization of the Year Awards applicants.
- ✓ As an ARCA 60th Anniversary Conference Committee member, I worked in collaboration with Paige Dunlap, ACA Governing Council Representative, on developing the conference educational session guidelines and Call for Proposal.
- ✓ Worked with Mary Huber, Research and Knowledge Chair, and Henry McCarthy, ARCA President, to develop a procedure to use when choosing an editor for the RCB journal. As a result, the topic of revising the ARCA Bylaws emerged to make the initial appointment of the Editor be for three years instead of five which is currently written into the Bylaws.
- ✓ As the CEU coordinator for ARCA, I collaborated with Henry McCarthy to complete the CRCC Application so ARCA can receive approval to provide CEUs for the pre-conference workshops at ACA and future workshops. The CEU coordinator's duties and responsibilities have been added to the role of the Chair of the Council on Organization, Administration and Management.

Valerie E. D. Russell, Ph.D., CRC, LMHC, NCC
verussel@fiu.edu

THE MISSION OF ARCA . . .

The mission of the American Rehabilitation Counseling Association (ARCA) is to enhance the development of people with disabilities throughout the lifespan and to promote best practices in the rehabilitation counseling profession. ARCA's goal is to provide leadership that will encourage excellence in rehabilitation counseling practice, research, consultation, and professional development. ARCA is equally interested in eliminating attitudinal, political, and physical barriers so that more opportunities are available in education, employment, and community activities to people with disabilities. This is accomplished through public education, systems advocacy, and legislative action.

EXPLORE . . .

ARCA'S WEBSITE

<http://www.arcaweb.org>

Visit the website regularly for:

- Updates and News
- Calls
- Resources
- Links
- Forms
- Conference Information
- Newsletter Archives
- and more!

ARCA'S LISTSERV

arca@listserv.arcaweb.org



THOUGHTS FROM THE CHAIR OF PUBLIC POLICY, PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION AND STANDARDS

**NOEL A. YSASI, PH.D., CRC,
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY**

**AND COMMITTEE MEMBER, ALICIA BECTON, PH.D., CRC
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO**

The purpose of this council is to plan, direct, organize, coordinate, and facilitate mechanisms by developing and promoting the profession of rehabilitation counseling (RC) while acting as an advocate for higher standards in practice and education. Since the Fall 2016 newsletter, I have participated in several discussions concerning the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP), Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), Special Education, and Human Rights. I, alongside committee members, had the privilege of representing ARCA's mission of advocating for people with disabilities (PWDs) through the dissemination of updates on the aforementioned topics. Based on discussions with RC faculty, Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) directors from various states, and professionals working within the private sector of VR, we are proud to present the final newsletter covering public policy, professional preparation, and standards in RC.

When joining the ARCA team in 2014, the profession was confronted with the decision of the Council on Rehabilitation Education (CORE) to merge with CACREP. Specifically, there were concerns over the anticipated loss of professional identity and the uncertainty of where the profession would lie in the future. Although the merger presents various challenges, I believe the profession faces two pertinent dilemmas one of which has been absent from discussions. These concerns include: (a) loss of professional identity and (b) the vetting process of RC programs.

REHABILITATION COUNSELING AND THE LOSS OF PROFESSIONAL IDENTITY

Since WIOA and decreased funding across states has taken effect, many VR agencies are opting to employ individuals trained only at the baccalaureate level and, of greater concern, persons with undergraduate degrees outside the field of RC. Accordingly, various educators and practitioners have asked me, "Why should I maintain or seek the Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC) credential?" The answer is not simple and can be quite cumbersome in nature due to current changes with our accrediting bodies and recent legislation, e.g., WIOA. Furthermore, if all or most State VR agencies continue to opt out of the requirement for their counselors to obtain and maintain a CRC credential, the profession will undoubtedly experience a sharp decline of CRCs. Thus, I believe that a loss of identity is not solely the result of a

merger, but more likely due to the reduced number of RC graduate students and professionals seeking or maintaining a CRC — the very credential that defines who we are and what we stand for. To counter these issues, a few recommendations could be considered (a) RC graduate programs can make a unified effort to encourage their graduate students to pursue the CRC credential rather than completing a comprehensive examination for graduation requirements. Often times, a graduate program's comprehensive examination may cover each core area of their program, i.e., Counseling and Helping Relationships, Group Counseling and Group Work, etc., but may not necessarily provide a quantitative measure or thoroughly assess whether their students have obtained content mastery over each domain. Additionally, this not only acts as a method of "gatekeeping" to ensure only highly qualified rehabilitation counselors will be serving PWDs, but increases the number of CRCs within the profession.

In addition, state VR agencies and private sector RC professionals are also a determining factor of where the profession may be in the near future. Simply put, State VR directors can encourage counselors to obtain the CRC credential which will in turn protect the profession from a declining CRC rate. Although, this may prove to be challenging without a financial incentive, other methods of encouraging counselors to pursue or maintain a CRC can be provided. For instance, providing a professional philosophy statement of why the credential demonstrates an agency's ability to employ highly qualified staff while recognizing counselors with the CRC credential during quarterly and yearly staff meetings increases professional identity, morale, and probability of higher closure rates. Furthermore, higher rates of counselors with a CRC credential enhances the identity and image of state VR agencies by demonstrating the level of commitment towards employing individuals with the necessary qualifications to serve PWDs.

RC GRADUATE PROGRAMS AND THE VETTING PROCESS

After researching several RC graduate programs, I believe the current graduate school admissions process is of great concern for the profession and possibly PWDs receiving VR services. Overall, RC graduate programs generally have lower admission standards than graduate programs of a related discipline. This often consists of

one or more of the following: (a) lower Grade Point Averages; (b) lower GRE scores (or programs do not require a GRE); (c) higher acceptance rate; (d) no writing sample required.

Consider a student who completed his/her undergraduate degree in 2016 with a 2.5 GPA, was accepted into a RC graduate program in 2017, and graduates with a GPA of 4.0 in 2019. Thus, we should be asking various questions based off this hypothetical yet very real scenario. For example, is the program reflective of what is generally seen in graduate school? Are students entering a program with low admission standards the result of their inability to enter other programs such as clinical psychology, school psychology, occupational therapy, or physical therapy? In other words, was it their only option or their genuine choice to apply to an RC program? Are the graduating students adequately qualified to provide vocational rehabilitation services to PWDs post-graduation? Will their closure rate be high if working in VR? What is the graduate program's pass/fail rate on the CRC examination? Although this topic is controversial in nature, our duty as advocates is to ensure the integrity of the profession by examining those who enter the RC field.

A program's ranking should not solely lie on the number of publications it produces, but rather on the quality of the students graduating from their program. In addition to the national exposure a program brings to increase program ranking, it should include admission criteria, and the pass/fail rate of a national certification and/or licensure examination — a general requirement for determining ranking. Programs with low admission criteria, high acceptance rates, and low national certification pass rates, should be self-motivated to make improvements as it affects the entire profession. For instance, decreased pass rates equate to a lower percentage of individuals with the CRC credential and affects the quality of services PWDs will receive if students are not adequately trained. It also hinders the image of a program when graduates are unable to demonstrate the skills necessary to provide high closure rates in state VR agencies. In the end, a program should be able to "bring its game, not just its name."

It should be noted however, that not all programs which maintain lower admission standards will disseminate lower caliber students. On the contrary, many students who enter a graduate program under a "probationary" status, often excel as a direct result of the admirable faculty who provide strong mentoring, advisement, and motivate students to rise above and overcome the challenges and expectations generally found in graduate school. In order to determine whether lower admission standards are indeed affecting the quality of graduating students entering the profession, research identifying predictive factors towards increased closure rates among state VR programs could be the first step. An additional research initiative could include assessing for predictive factors of CRC examination pass rates based off graduate program admission criteria.

FINAL COMMENTS

As this is my last year as Chair for Public Policy, Professional Preparation, and Standards Council, I would like to thank ARCA for allowing me the opportunity to serve in this capacity and for making me part of the ARCA family throughout my term. The current and former Presidents (Irmo Marini, David Staten, Quiteya Walker, and Henry McCarthy) provided outstanding support to ensure a successful transition. I would like to thank specifically Dr. David Staten for the kindness, mentoring, and friendship; I will always be grateful.

I would also like to thank Drs. Alicia Becton, Bryan S. Austin, Roy Chen, and Kristin Maxwell, for the outstanding commitment they have provided throughout my term as Chair. Without fail, each provided vast contributions to our newsletters and were committed to ARCA's overall mission and to the Council. I would like to specifically thank Dr. Alicia Becton and her husband Norman Becton, for the wonderful support they have provided while serving as Council Chair and my transition into the professional world of academia. Moreover, while serving in this capacity, I have always made a conscious effort to acknowledge those who have served in the United States Armed forces and thus, would like to formally recognize Mr. Norman Becton for his 20 years of dedicated and honorable service to the U.S. Military.

Lastly, I would like to formally thank each of the following members of our Board for their dedicated commitment to serving ARCA and the profession:

- ◆ Michelle Bradham-Cousar
- ◆ Paige Dunlap
- ◆ Yolanda Edwards
- ◆ Mary Huber
- ◆ Jamie Kulzer
- ◆ Taryn Richardson
- ◆ Valerie Russell
- ◆ Michelle Schein
- ◆ Carrie Wilde

When given the opportunity to serve a nationally recognized association, a state of uncertainty about one's individual ability to carry out the duties and responsibilities can ensue. Although this is a natural response, in my experience, each Board Member provided a warm and accepting welcome. I thank each of you for the professional working relationship and friendship we developed.

Noel Ysasi, Ph.D., CRC

noel.ysasi@uky.edu



**RECOGNIZING THE 2017 ARCA
SPECIAL AWARDS AND STUDENT AWARD WINNERS**

**DR. JAMIE KULZER, CHAIR,
COUNCIL ON PUBLIC RELATIONS AND AWARENESS**

The **Special Awards** include the Rehabilitation Counselor of the Year Award and the Vision Award. The **Rehabilitation Counselor of the Year Award** recognizes a rehabilitation counselor who has gone above and beyond serving clients. The **Vision Award** is presented to a student who through an essay identifies unique innovations that highlight the collaborative relationship between the specialty of rehabilitation counseling and the counseling profession at large. The **Student Awards** recognize outstanding Masters and Doctoral level rehabilitation counseling students. The Awards were presented at the 2017 American Counseling Association Conference in San Francisco, California, on March 16, 2017, during the ARCA Awards Dinner.

SPECIAL AWARDS

**2017 REHABILITATION COUNSELOR
OF THE YEAR AWARD**

**KATHLEEN LOCMELIS, CRC
PITTSBURGH PUBLIC SCHOOLS, PA**

Kathleen Locmelis wants to live in a community that acknowledges and values the worth of all people. She loves being a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor because it gives her the opportunity to support individuals with disabilities in exploring their skills and strengths to find employment and meet other goals and because she can advocate and work to help communities become more accessible. Her colleagues describe her as having a deep commitment to improving the lives of others and willing to challenge the status quo to improve the delivery of disability services, even if it may be met with resistance.



She credits her education, a Master's of Health Sciences degree in Rehabilitation Counseling from Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in New Orleans, for fueling her drive to support equal rights and opportunities for individuals with disabilities. Ms. Locmelis has worked in homes, institutions, disaster zones, day programs, and a community mental health center. Currently, she is part of a team in an innovative program with Pittsburgh Public Schools providing services to help prepare students with disabilities and their families for post-graduation success.

VISION AWARD

**ALICIA HEIM, UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA**

Alicia Heim is a second-year graduate student in the Clinical Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling program at the University of Pittsburgh. In addition to her academic pursuits, Ms. Heim is helping to promote the profession of counseling by serving as the Business Manager for the Pitt Counseling Student Organization. Ms. Heim has worked with young adults at a cognitive rehabilitation program providing clients with assistance in developing and pursuing cognitive goals.



Ms. Heim has recently begun her internship with Pittsburgh Public Schools where she is working with the school's transition counselors as well as independently providing psychoeducation on work readiness to students with cognitive disabilities. Ms. Heim enjoys working with adolescents and young adults with cognitive disabilities and hopes to continue working in this area upon graduation. In her free time, Ms. Heim enjoys traveling, cooking and reading crime novels.

2017 STUDENT AWARDS

2017 WINNER FOR MASTER'S STUDENT OF THE YEAR

KARA MORONI
NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
DEKALB, ILLINOIS



Kara Moroni is currently a second year student in the Rehabilitation Counseling program at Northern Illinois University and will be graduating in May. She has been a Graduate Research Assistant for her entire program focusing on stigma and disability, sexism in vocational rehabilitation, and clinical supervision and job satisfaction. Ms. Moroni is the past President of the Rehabilitation Counseling Student Association (RCSA) at NIU. She worked to develop the Constitution and Bylaws for RCSA, which lead the organization to become recognized as an official NIU student organization. RCSA's mission is to advocate for individuals with disabilities and educate the community about Rehabilitation Counseling.

Ms. Moroni is currently working at two internship sites: The Eval Center in Westchester, IL and Independent Rehabilitation Services, Inc. in Naperville, IL. At The Eval Center she has been conducting vocational testing with a wide population of clients to help them learn more about themselves through assessment and reach their educational and vocational goals. Her other internship site, Independent Rehabilitation Services, Inc., is a private sector company where she helps Workers' Compensation claimants find alternative employment that fits their physical restrictions. Ms. Moroni's interests are vast and growing continually. She is excited to continue to advocate and empower people with disabilities in the field of Rehabilitation Counseling.

2017 WINNER FOR DOCTORAL STUDENT OF THE YEAR

ANNEMARIE CONNOR
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN



Annemarie Connor is a doctoral candidate in Rehabilitation Counselor Education in the Department of Counseling, Educational Psychology, & Special Education, at Michigan State University. Her clinical background is in occupational therapy, and her research and teaching interests focus on evidence-based, interdisciplinary assessment and intervention, and the biopsychosocial aspects of disability. Her topical area is neurodevelopmental disabilities, with an emphasis on transition-age youth. Annemarie's dissertation examines the social, self-efficacy, and psychological wellness outcomes of a group intervention targeting work-related social functioning among young adults with autism. Annemarie's research and teaching experience includes instruction and supervision at the undergraduate and master's levels, program evaluation for the State of Michigan's department of vocational rehabilitation, and curriculum development.

Annemarie has published six peer reviewed articles and one book chapter in the areas of pre-service counselor development, vocational rehabilitation, clinical supervision, and emerging practice areas. Annemarie's service commitments include serving as student representative for the National Council on Rehabilitation Education, a reviewer for the American Occupational Therapy Association's evidence exchange, and a university writing fellow.

She will transition to a faculty position as an Assistant Professor of Rehabilitation Science at Florida Gulf Coast University in May, where she will teach and continue her interdisciplinary research. Annemarie has an incredibly supportive husband and two adventurous children who have rearranged their lives to facilitate her development as an educator, scholar, and researcher.



ARCA 2017 RESEARCH AWARDS
BY MARY HUBER, PH.D., CRC, CHAIR,
COUNCIL ON RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE

Congratulations to the ARCA Research Award Winners for 2017. The ARCA Research Award recognizes and honors high quality, empirical research in the field of rehabilitation counseling. Below are the First Authors of the Articles that won this year's Research Awards.

FIRST PLACE
TIMOTHY TANSEY, PH.D., CRC
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

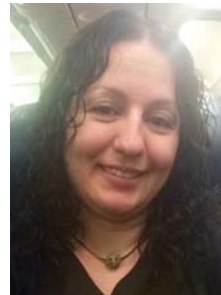


Dr. Tansey received his Ph.D. in Rehabilitation Psychology from the University of Wisconsin—Madison. He is an Associate Professor in the Rehabilitation Counselor Education program at the University of Wisconsin—Madison. Dr. Tansey has over 20 years of experience as a

rehabilitation counselor, educator, or rehabilitation researcher. He has published over 50 peer reviewed articles in the areas of evidence-based practices in vocational rehabilitation, self-regulation and self-determination, and applying novel technology in vocational rehabilitation and rehabilitation counselor education. Dr. Tansey has extensive experience in adapting technology and utilizing social media for knowledge translation and dissemination activities.

He is currently the principal investigator, co-principal investigator, or co-investigator, on five federally-funded research or national technical assistance center grants from the U.S. Department of Education, U.S. Department of Labor, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (Social Security Administration and the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living and Rehabilitation Research). These current projects, totaling over \$50 million dollars, seek to ascertain evidence-based practices in the vocational rehabilitation of youth with disabilities; identify employer practices in the recruitment, hiring, retention, and promotion of persons with disabilities; and provide technical assistance to state vocational rehabilitation toward increasing competitive, integrated employment of persons with disabilities living in areas of extreme poverty. Dr. Tansey serves on the editorial boards of *Rehabilitation Counseling Bulletin*, *Rehabilitation Research, Policy, and Education*, and the *Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation*, and as an ad hoc reviewer to numerous other journals.

SECOND PLACE
JENNIFER SÁNCHEZ, PH.D., CRC
THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA



Dr. Sánchez is an assistant professor in the Department of Rehabilitation and Counselor Education at The University of Iowa. She received her Ph.D. in Rehabilitation Psychology from the University of Wisconsin—Madison and her M.Ed. in Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling from Florida Atlantic University. Dr. Sánchez has 10 years of

experience working, serving, and conducting research with individuals with serious mental illness (SMI), cognitive impairments (e.g., TBI, IDD, Alzheimer's), and substance use disorders (SUD), as well as co-occurring conditions. Her specializations include rehabilitation counseling/psychology, neuropsychology, and clinical supervision. Clinically, Dr. Sánchez has worked in settings such as inpatient psychiatric facilities, Veterans Administration (VA), state hospitals and agencies, schools, and community mental health centers.

Her current line of research centers on factors that promote recovery, community integration, and quality of life of individuals with neuropsychological conditions. She has published 15 peer-reviewed articles and presented approximately 50 concurrent and poster sessions at local, national, and international conferences. As an early career professional, Dr. Sánchez has already been awarded over \$150,000 in research funding through various internal and external grants to support her ongoing research projects. Committed to the field of rehabilitation, Dr. Sánchez is currently the Chair of the Diversity Committee in APA's Division 22 (Rehabilitation Psychology), Co-Chair of the Council on Psychiatric Rehabilitation of the National Council on Rehabilitation Education (NCRE), and serves as an ad hoc reviewer for several of the leading rehabilitation and counseling journals.

**THIRD PLACE
I-CHUN HUANG, PH.D.,
CRC
NATIONAL CHANGHUA
UNIVERSITY OF
EDUCATION IN TAIWAN**



I-Chun Huang is an Associate Professor in the Graduate Institute of Rehabilitation Counseling at the National Changhua University of Education in Taiwan. Dr. Huang graduated from the Leeds University in the United Kingdom, with a specialty in special educational needs and assistive technology. She teaches courses in research methods, qualitative research, vocational evaluation, assistive technology and medical rehabilitation to students pursuing Master's level studies.

2017 ARCA JAMES F. GARRETT AWARD WINNER



**MARGARET (PEG) NOSEK, PH.D.
BAYLOR COLLEGE OF MEDICINE
HOUSTON, TEXAS**

Margaret (Peg) Nosek, Ph.D., is a Professor in the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Baylor College of Medicine, Senior Scientist at TIRR Memorial Hermann Research Center (Houston, TX), and Executive Director of the Center for Research on Women with Disabilities (CROWD). She is also Adjunct Professor in the College of Nursing at Texas Woman's University, Houston. She holds a Master's degree in Rehabilitation Counseling and a doctorate in Rehabilitation Research from the University of Texas at Austin.

Over the past three decades, Dr. Nosek has been recognized internationally as an authority on the health of women with physical disabilities. She has conducted many large, federally-funded studies, including pioneering work on disparities in health and access to healthcare experienced by women with mobility impairments, particularly in the areas of sexuality and reproductive health, mental health, abuse prevention, and weight management. Her research team is now experimenting with delivering health promoting interventions to women with disabilities in the online virtual world of Second Life.

Dr. Nosek lives with spinal muscular atrophy, a severe congenital physical disability, and is a disability rights activist. She has worked closely with Justin Dart and others in the independent living movement, and has been honored as a "Disability Patriot" by the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities.



*Henry McCarthy presents
Peg Nosek with the
James Garrett Career
Research Award*



**UNDERSTANDING
REHABILITATION
COUNSELING (URC)**

The video produced by students of Northern Illinois University, Rehabilitation Counseling Program for their URC project a few years ago is on YouTube.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-sKRUiPZkbQ>



UPDATE FROM ARCA STUDENT TASK FORCE REPRESENTATIVE

TARYN RICHARDSON, M.A., CRC

Greetings everyone!

Throughout this year, I worked with the **Understanding Rehabilitation Counseling (URC) program**. Dr. Henry McCarthy and I collaborated to determine the focus of this year's URC program, which was completing an advocacy project in collaboration with a local partner or mentor. We had a number of great submissions this year. Of those submissions, our 2016-2017 winners were from Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) and California State University, Fresno (CSU-F). Student representatives presented their projects during our student session at ACA's Spring Conference. The advocacy project by Katherine Nieweglowski and Briana Hatton from IIT was entitled "Sharing Stories of Recovery to Combat the Stigma of Mental Illness." Nayely Guerrero and Yelitza Perez from CSU-Fresno named their project "Solid Foundation: Advocating Your Voice through Self Protection." It taught martial arts and assertiveness skills to young adults with developmental disabilities. All of these students were able to make connections in their local community to provide awareness to disability-related issues and an avenue for persons with disabilities to self-advocate. Congratulations again and thanks for your contributions to the profession! Stay tuned for announcement of ARCA student activities for 2017-2018.

NEW STUDENT CHAPTER!



I also have worked to increase student involvement in ARCA. Thus, I am happy to announce we have a new student chapter! Congratulations and a warm welcome to the Rehabilitation Counseling Program at Western Washington University in Bellingham, Washington!

ARCA'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE

I want to personally invite everyone, especially students, to ARCA's 60th Anniversary Conference. It will be held in Orlando, Florida, September 14 — 17, 2017. Visit our website for more information (www.arcaweb.org). Attending this conference will allow you to network with fellow colleagues and leaders in the field.



Pictured here from left to right: Taryn Richardson, Yelitza Perez, California State University—Fresno; Nayely Guerrero, California State University—Fresno; Briana Hatton, Illinois Institute of Technology; Katherine Nieweglowski, Illinois Institute of Technology; and Henry McCarthy

So far, six individuals expressed interest in serving as a student volunteer! They have all been sent information regarding duties and expectations and the registration process. I also am currently waiting to hear back from UIOWA's College of Education regarding providing complimentary gifts for student volunteers. I am also pleased to report Annemarie Conner, 2017 ARCA Doctoral Student Award recipient and former NCRE Student Rep., is willing to participate on a special panel at the conference as the student representative. I have also encouraged the incoming Student Task Force Representative, Tony Reyes, to get involved regarding student-related affairs for the upcoming ARCA Conference.

In closing, I would like to say it has been a pleasure serving as the 2015-2017 Student Task Force Representative. Please join me in welcoming the 2017-2019 Student Task Force Representative, Tony Reyes. Best of luck in your future endeavors and thanks for your service to ARCA!

Best,

Taryn Richardson, M.A., CRC

taryn-richardson@uiowa.edu

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR NEW ARCA BOARD MEMBERS



**JEAN BRAJUHA,
MHS, CRC, CCM**

TREASURER

I am the Vice President of Restore Rehabilitation, a privately owned and operated vocational and medical case management company, based in Owings Mills, MD. My specialization is Workers' Compensation and ensuring that the best quality case management services are provided to assist injured employees in the proper treatment to return to work. Currently, I supervise a highly experienced team of medical and vocational case managers as well as oversee daily operations, customer relations, and new program implementation.

Previously, I served for approximately five years as a Board Member with the Chesapeake Association of Rehabilitation Professionals in the Private Sector, a division of the International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals. My background includes vocational counseling and expert witness work in the private sector. I obtained a Bachelor of Science degree from Towson University (Towson, MD) and a Master's degree in Rehabilitation Counseling from Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center (New Orleans, LA). I am a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor and Certified Case Manager.

Jean Brajuha
jbajuha@restorerehab.biz



**MEGAN LONG,
MHS, CRC**

**CHAIR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS
AND AWARENESS**

I am honored to join the ARCA Board in July! I received my Bachelor's degree in psychology (cum laude) from the University of New Orleans. I graduated from the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in New Orleans with a Master of Health Sciences degree in Clinical Rehabilitation and Counseling in May, 2016. I interned with Louisiana Rehabilitation Services and have a background as an employment specialist.

Since graduation, I have worked for Texas Workforce Solutions-Vocational Rehabilitation Services and as a counselor in an acute care psychiatric unit at Chabert Medical Center in Houma, LA. In my current role, I work with those who are deemed to have a severe impediment in their ability to care for themselves and those who may be a danger to themselves or others. Often, the challenges of returning to work or other vocational issues are at the center of the topics I focus on with my clients. I am eager to continue to promote this profession to colleagues as well as future colleagues! I cannot wait to work with you!

Megan Long
mnlong92@gmail.com



**SONIA PETERSON,
MA, CRC, LPCC**

**CHAIR OF PUBLIC POLICY,
PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION
AND STANDARDS**

I am a third-year Ph.D. student in Rehabilitation Education and Counseling at the University of Arizona, with only my dissertation to complete. I received my Master's degree in Rehabilitation Counseling at the University of Iowa. I am a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor and a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor in California. Also, I earned a certificate in Rehabilitation Administration through San Diego State University. My research interests include transition from school to work for youth with disabilities, universal access in higher education, psychiatric disabilities, and the State/Federal vocational rehabilitation (VR) system. I have more than 16 years of experience as a counselor, supervisor, and manager in the California State VR system.

My most recent collaborative projects in California have included: managing a local pilot program of Social Security disability benefits counseling services, being a member of the Workforce Education and Training Committee for the Mental Health Services Act in San Diego County; and serving on the Board of the San Diego Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities. Through my career I have gained extensive experience developing, reviewing, and implementing policies and best practice guidelines which affect services for individuals with disabilities by collaborating with other professionals and community members at the local, state, and national level to improve opportunities for individuals with disabilities. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve on the ARCA Board!

Sonia Peterson

soniapeterson@email.arizona.edu



**ANTONIO REYES,
MS, CRC, CDMS**

**CHAIR OF THE
STUDENT TASK FORCE**

My name is Tony Reyes, and I am excited to be serving ARCA as the new Student Task Force Representative on the Board! I am a Ph.D. student in Rehabilitation Counselor Education at University of Wisconsin—Madison. I completed a Master's degree in counseling with a specialization in rehabilitation counseling at California State University, Los Angeles, and have a Bachelor's degree in English from Yale University. My current research interests are demand-side rehabilitation, aging and work, and workplace social skills.

Professionally, I have worked as a vocational counselor providing case management, job placement, labor-market research, and plan-development services to workers with disabilities through several Federal and private-sector programs. I have also worked as a Social Security vocational expert and as an expert in various Workers' Compensation and personal injury cases. I was led to work as a rehabilitation counselor out of a desire to help and to serve others; and I continue to be inspired by the many great people who are working in and contributing to our field.

Tony Reyes

areyes7@wisc.edu

MEET OUR NEW REHABILITATION COUNSELING BULLETIN (RCB) CO-EDITORS



**FONG CHAN,
PH.D., CRC**

Fong Chan, Ph.D., CRC, is a professor and Director of Clinical Training (Ph.D. Program) in the Department of Rehabilitation Psychology and Special Education, University of Wisconsin-Madison. In addition, he serves as the Co-Director of the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Effective Vocational Rehabilitation Service Delivery Practices. Dr. Chan is a licensed psychologist, a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor, a Fellow in the American Psychological Association, and a National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research Distinguished Research Fellow.

Dr. Chan has more than 28 years of experience conducting rehabilitation health research in the topical areas of psychosocial aspects of disability, TBI rehabilitation, multicultural counseling, employer practices, evidence-based practice, outcome measurements, and program evaluation. He has published more than 250 refereed journal articles and book chapters and is also the editor of three textbooks. These are: *Case Management for Rehabilitation Health Professionals*; *Counseling Theories and Techniques for Rehabilitation Health Professionals*; and *Understanding Psychosocial Adjustment to Chronic Illness and Disability: A Handbook for Evidence-Based Practitioners in Rehabilitation*.

Fong Chan, Ph.D., CRC
chan@education.wisc.edu



**TIMOTHY TANSEY,
PH.D.**

Dr. Tansey received his Ph.D. in Rehabilitation Counseling Psychology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2001. He is an assistant professor in the Rehabilitation Psychology program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Dr. Tansey has over 15 years experience as a rehabilitation counselor and rehabilitation researcher. He has published over 30 peer-reviewed articles in the areas of vocational rehabilitation of veterans with disabilities, self-regulation, stress adaptation, and applying novel technology in vocational rehabilitation and rehabilitation counselor education.

Dr. Tansey has extensive experience in adapting technology and utilizing social media for knowledge translation and dissemination activities. He has been awarded several research grants aimed at assessment of self-regulation, factors affecting vocational outcomes of persons with disabilities, and developing leadership skills in persons with disabilities. Dr. Tansey is a co-principal investigator on the Advanced Rehabilitation Research and Training in Traumatic Brain Injury project (2013-2018).

Timothy Tansey, Ph.D.
tntansey@wisc.edu



RCB VISION STATEMENT ON THE NEXT PAGE

REHABILITATION COUNSELING BULLETIN VISION STATEMENT

As the flagship journal of ARCA, *Rehabilitation Counseling Bulletin* has contributed significantly to our knowledge base of the psychosocial and vocational adjustment process associated with chronic illness and disability, both in terms of theory building and clinical applications. Without a doubt, *Rehabilitation Counseling Bulletin* is the premier journal as publication outlet for researchers in rehabilitation counseling and related disciplines.

As editors for *Rehabilitation Counseling Bulletin*, we have several major goals for the journal. First and foremost, we want to build on the current success of the journal as the premier publication outlet for rehabilitation counseling researchers and continue to improve the substantive and methodological rigor of manuscripts published in the journal. To achieve growth, we need to reach out to a larger pool of social science and behavioral researchers in the United States and around the world who conduct psychosocial and career development research related to chronic illness and disability.

We understand the success of the journal depends on attracting a pool of submitted manuscripts of sufficient quantity and quality to maintain high publication standards. We intend to build upon the efforts of the current editor, Dr. Doug Strohmer, of *Rehabilitation Counseling Bulletin* who has increased the pool of submissions and the corresponding rejection rate. By infusing global and cross-disciplinary perspectives to the journal, our goal is to increase the critical mass of psychosocial and vocational rehabilitation researchers who would consider submitting their work to *Rehabilitation Counseling Bulletin*; thus enabling as high a number of manuscript submissions — and increased selectivity — comparable to other outlets such as *Journal of Occupational Rehabilitation, Disability and Rehabilitation*, and *Rehabilitation Psychology*.

To promote quality of reviews and excellence in published works, we will seek to add several strong methodologists who are well known for their expertise in substantive areas of rehabilitation counseling to the board and invite experts from other disciplines to serve as ad hoc reviewers when needed.

Lastly, a personal goal as the editors of *Rehabilitation Counseling Bulletin* is to have the opportunity to help foster the development of rehabilitation researchers with disabilities and researchers from diverse racial and cultural backgrounds. We will strengthen our efforts, through the development of a mentoring program, to help expand the capacity of rehabilitation researchers from these groups as capable consulting reviewers and editorial board members.

To accomplish these goals, in addition to our efforts on the journal, we are building capacity of the journal through the inclusion of a number of other talented scholars. Professor Jill Bezyak, from the University of Northern Colorado, will serve as the Associate Editor. Professor Bezyak's primary responsibilities will be to assist authors in the scientific presentation of their ideas. Professor Connie Sung, from Michigan State University, is a highly respected scholar and well known in the international rehabilitation counseling researcher community. Professor Sung will serve as the associate editor of international submissions. She will provide assistance to authors whose manuscripts are publishable but require additional editorial assistance and encourage submissions from international authors. Finally, Professor Ebonee Johnson, from the University of Iowa, will be joining the board as the test review editor and Ms. Kanako Iwanaga, a Research Associate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, will be serving as book review editor.

In summary, we want to position the journal to attract a wider interest among rehabilitation health researchers both nationally and internationally. We will work toward promoting the journal to be influential in shaping healthcare and disability policies that are pertinent to improving the quality of life of people with disabilities. And most important, we want to be responsive to the information requests and expectations of ARCA membership for the journal.

It is an honor to be selected to follow in the footsteps of the legendary editors including: Brian Bolton, Norman N. Berven, Randall Parker, and Douglas Strohmer, and to serve as the next editors of *Rehabilitation Counseling Bulletin*.

Fong Chan, Ph.D., CRC
chan@education.wisc.edu

Timothy Tansey, Ph.D.
tntansey@wisc.edu

As a member of ARCA, you receive free online access to *Rehabilitation Counseling Bulletin* (RCB) featuring articles important to rehab counseling practitioners in counseling, education, or research settings.

Go to the SAGE website society member subscriptions activation page (<https://online.sagepub.com/cgi/activate/basic>) and enter your ARCA Member Number in the appropriate field, select American Rehabilitation Counseling Association from the drop-down menu, and click Submit. Follow the instructions to complete your user set-up. Once complete, you can access RCB online at the RCB website (<http://rcb.sagepub.com/>). Please note, your online access begins with your first print issue. New members should wait to receive their first print issue before attempting to register for online access.

ARCA's 60TH ANNIVERSARY PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE
"ADVOCACY, COUNSELING, TRAINING, AND RESEARCH FOR
INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES"

SEPTEMBER 14-17, 2017



Caribe Royale Orlando Convention Center
Orlando, Florida

The ARCA conference is a unique occurrence which happens every 10 years; this year marks ARCA's 60th Anniversary. This conference offers certified rehabilitation counselors, mental health counselors, licensed professional counselors, nationally certified counselors, licensed social workers, public and private practitioners, state VR professionals, human resources professionals, administrators, graduate students and undergraduates an educational and professional opportunity to network, engage, and learn with peers about working with individuals with disabilities.

The three-day conference, held at the Caribe Royal Orlando Convention Center in Orlando, Florida, will feature prominent and well-known counseling professionals as keynote speakers, panelists and workshop facilitators.

The conference theme, *"Advocacy, Counseling, Training, and Research for Individuals with Disabilities,"* will be explored by university professors, graduate students, agency staff, and other experts in counseling, counselor education, and mental health to help conference attendees make a greater impact on education and services provided to individuals with disabilities.

Visit the ARCA website at www.arcaweb.org and click on ARCA's 60th ANNIVERSARY PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE for details.

ARCA'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2017

Our pre-conference workshops will precede the conference and offer either six (6) hours or three (3) hours of continuing education for CRC and NBCC. Registration and separate payment is required for these sessions.

PROFESSIONAL ETHICS (6 CEUs)

MENTAL HEALTH DISASTER RELIEF (6 CEUs)

NCMHC EXAM PREP COURSE (3 CEUs)

CACREP SELF-STUDY WORKSHOP

CONFERENCE SESSIONS & FEATURED SPEAKERS

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 TO SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2017

The conference theme, "**Advocacy, Counseling, Training and Research for Individuals with Disabilities,**" will be explored in our three days of sessions by university professors, graduate students, agency staff, and other experts in counseling, counselor education, and mental health to help conference attendees make a greater impact on education and services provided to individuals with disabilities.

We are pleased to announce the following featured speakers for this year's conference:

Gerard Lawson, President, 66th President for ACA

David Kaplan, ACA Chief Professional Officer

Shon Smith, Past President of Florida Counseling Association and AMCD President-Elect

Michelle Bradham-Cousar, President-Elect, ARCA's 61st President

**ATTENDEES WILL BE ABLE TO EARN
UPWARDS OF 17 HOURS OF CEUs FOR
CRC AND NBCC**

HOTEL INFORMATION AND RESERVATIONS

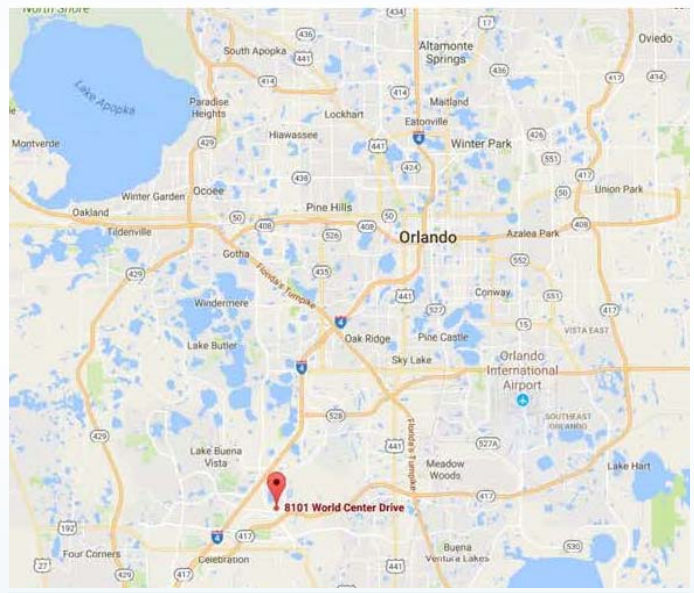
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Mention **ARCA 60TH ANNIVERSARY**



CONTACT US

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us at arca2017conference@gmail.com.

TO REGISTER NOW!

**VISIT THE ARCA WEBSITE AT:
WWW.ARCAWEB.ORG**

Or use the following link
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oeidk=a07edv2xiae4fca7ac0&oseq=&c=&ch=](https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07edv2xiae4fca7ac0&oseq=&c=&ch=)

ARCA'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE

REGISTRATION

**EARLY BIRD DEADLINE EXTENDED!
JULY 21, 2017—REGISTER TODAY!**

YOUR REGISTRATION INCLUDES:

- ◆ Up to **17 hours of CEUs** for counselors (applied through NBCC) and Certified Rehabilitation Counselors (applied through CRCC)
- ◆ **Networking Reception** ~ Friday, September 15
- ◆ **Legacy Reception** ~ Honoring ARCA's Past Presidents will be held Saturday, September 16
- ◆ **State of the Profession Town Hall Meeting**

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

Early Bird	\$150
After July 21, 2017	\$175
After September 13, 2017	\$200

NCMHCE Exam Prep Course (3 CEUs)	\$150
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CONFERENCE ONLY

The Conference Registration Rates below do NOT include the Pre-Conference Workshops

ARCA Professional/Regular Member Rates

Early Bird	\$220
After July 21, 2017	\$270
After September 13, 2017	\$320

ARCA Student Member Rates

Early Bird	\$170
After July 21, 2017	\$195
After September 13, 2017	\$270

ARCA Retiree Member Rates

Early Bird	\$190
After July 21, 2017	\$240
After September 13, 2017	\$290

Non-Member (Professional/Regular/Student/Retiree) Rates

Early Bird	\$270
After July 21, 2017	\$320
After September 13, 2017	\$370

CONTACT US

For all specific registration questions, please contact Vickie Leeming, Registration Committee at arcaregistration@bex.net.

SPONSORS AND EXHIBITS

We invite our members to consider sponsoring and/or exhibiting at this year's conference. As a sign of our gratitude, we will showcase your organization as a faithful promoter and supporter of enhancing the lives of persons with disabilities.

CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

We have developed the following sponsorship levels. Each offers the sponsor special recognition, exhibit space, ad space, and possible complimentary conference registrations.

Diamond Level	\$10,000+
Platinum Level	\$5,000+
Gold Level	\$3,000+
Silver Level	\$2,000+

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

We are also offering our college and universities an opportunity to also participate as a sponsor. Each level offers special recognition, ad space and complimentary conference registration(s).

Gold Level	\$2,500
Silver Level	\$1,000

ADVERTISEMENT SPACE ONLY

Quarter-Page	\$250
Half-Page	\$350
Full Page	\$500

SPONSORSHIP FORM ON NEXT PAGE

On the next page you will find the details of each sponsorship level and payment arrangements.

**DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS
THURSDAY, JULY 15, 2017**

CONTACT US

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us at arca2017conference@gmail.com.



ARCA 60TH ANNIVERSARY PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE

“Advocacy, Counseling, Training and Research for Individuals with Disabilities”

SEPTEMBER 14-17, 2017

CARIBE ROYALE ORLANDO CONVENTION CENTER, ORLANDO, FLORIDA

CORPORATE/COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY SPONSORSHIP FORM

COMPANY NAME _____ **PHONE NUMBER:** _____

CONTACT NAME _____ **PLEASE PROVIDE NAMES OF BOOTH PERSONNEL:**

EMAIL ADDRESS _____ **1)** _____

WEBSITE ADDRESS _____ **2)** _____

Please see below for general information on exhibit space, ad sizes and submission, and conference registration details

CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP LEVELS*

- | | TOTAL(S) |
|--|-----------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> “Diamond Sponsorship” of \$10,000 will receive naming rights, exhibit space, special recognition, double-page ad in the conference program book, and four (4) complimentary conference registrations | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> “Platinum Sponsorship” of \$5,000 will receive exhibit space, special recognition, a full-page ad in the conference program book, and two (2) complimentary conference registrations | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> “Gold Sponsorship” of \$3,000 will receive exhibit space, special recognition, a full-page ad in the conference program book, and a one (1) complimentary conference registration | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> “Silver Sponsorship” of \$2,000 will receive exhibit space, special recognition, and a half-page ad in the conference program book | \$ _____ |

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY SPONSORSHIP LEVELS*

- | | TOTAL(S) |
|--|-----------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> “Gold Sponsorship” of \$2,500 will receive special recognition, a full-page ad in the conference program book, and two (2) complimentary conference registrations | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> “Silver Sponsorship” of \$1,500 will receive special recognition, a half-page ad in the conference program book, and one (1) complimentary conference registration | \$ _____ |

ADVERTISEMENT SPACE ONLY *(Please check the ad space size desired/note dimensions provided)* \$ _____

- \$250** quarter-page 3¼" wide x 4¾" tall
 \$350 half-page 6¾" wide x 4¾" tall
 \$500 full-page 6¾" wide x 9½" tall

*Upon receipt of payment a Registration Promo Code will be sent to the Contact Person identified above **GRAND TOTAL** \$ _____

GENERAL INFORMATION/SUBMISSION AND PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS ~ DEADLINE IS JULY 15, 2017

EXHIBIT SPACE: YES, as an Exhibitor, our Booth will require ELECTRICAL CONNECTION. Please note, exhibit space includes one 6' skirted table and two (2) chairs. Only TWO (2) daily booth personnel are included in breaks and lunches.

COMPANY LOGO/AD SUBMISSION: Please email company logo and/or ad (black/white, portrait orientation) in .jpg, .gif, or .pdf format for conference publications to ARCA2017Conference@gmail.com

PAYMENT SUBMISSION: Please indicate payment method below:

- Check/Money Order Enclosed (make check payable to the *American Rehabilitation Counseling Association*)
 Request Invoice or Credit Card Option

GENERAL QUESTIONS? Contact Dr. David Staten at:
ARCA2017Conference@gmail.com

BILLING OPTIONS (INVOICE OR CREDIT CARD)?
 Contact Jean Brajuha, ARCA Treasurer at
ARCA2017Conference@gmail.com

Please submit your completed form with your payment (check or money order made payable to the American Rehabilitation Counseling Association) to:
 Jean Brajuha, ARCA Treasurer
 9311 Town Place Drive, Owings Mills, MD 21117

BENEFITS OF JOINING ARCA

INFORMATION (WWW.ARCAWEB.ORG)

- Website reports on issues and trends that affect rehabilitation counselors
- Web-based newsletter highlighting profession updates, ARCA activities, legislative issues, and professional opportunities
- Listserv alerting rehabilitation counselors to legislative actions and ARCA activities
- Annual membership meeting

CONTINUING EDUCATION

- Subscription to our quarterly peer-reviewed scholarly journal *Rehabilitation Counseling Bulletin* (RCB)
- Webinars
- Continuing education credits for peer reviewing submissions to RCB or reading articles in RCB

NETWORKING

- ARCA sessions and programs at the annual ACA conference provide opportunities to network with colleagues old and new in both professional and social settings
- Support to develop an ARCA chapter at your college/university or in your local/regional community, or to establish an interest group, to address immediate issues and enable grass-roots participation
- Stimulating interactions with professionals who share similar goals

LEADERSHIP

- Serve as a committee member on an ARCA council or ad hoc special task force
- Serve as an elected officer or Council chair for ARCA

EMPLOYMENT

- Build relationships with ARCA colleagues and expand opportunities for employment and continued professional growth

MENTORING

- New members can be paired with seasoned colleagues and leaders sharing similar background or interests

AWARDS

- Masters and Doctoral Student of the Year
- Counselor of the Year
- Research Award
- Career Research Award
- Presidential Service Award
- Vision Award
- Understanding Rehabilitation Counseling competition

RESEARCH

- Opportunities to collaborate on research projects and present findings at the annual conference
- Learn about current research and how it applies to practice through conference presentations and articles in RCB
- Conduct and promote dissemination of research relevant to rehabilitation counseling

ADVOCACY

- ARCA advocates for the rehabilitation counseling profession through collaboration and partnerships with consumer groups, professional associations, legislators, and other stakeholders
- ARCA advocates for equal access to quality rehabilitation counseling services to people with disabilities through public policy, legislation and promotion of human rights

TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP

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

A New Professional is someone who has graduated with a masters or a doctorate within 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 5 consecutive years.

DIVISION PROCESSING FEE

To join ARCA without joining ACA, a processing fee of \$10 will apply.



To learn more, visit

<http://www.arcaweb.org/member-sign-up/>