



A Division of the American Counseling Association

SUMMER 2018



FAREWELL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

***MICHELLE BRADHAM-COUSAR, ABD, CRC
2017-2018 ARCA PRESIDENT***

LEADERSHIP AND ADVOCACY FOR COUNSELORS

Within each of us is the potential for limitless vitality and wellness, yet our limiting beliefs about ourselves and our world today may hold us back and keep us stuck in familiar patterns, habits, and routines. Spending time and resources altering the external creates no lasting change.

Leadership is a certain kind of belief, which invokes a positive change to our minds. Leaders are fully involved and they focus on helping every member of the group to succeed. The components of successful leadership range from intellectual stimulation, individualized consideration, inspirational motivation and idealized influence.

By choice or by chance, counselors take on leadership roles in the counseling profession. In July, our ARCA leadership will meet on Capitol Hill to discuss initiatives with congressional staff at the white house and engage in conversations with the ACA Governing Council regarding a standardized practice for disability competency. Additionally, ARCA will respond on behalf of our members to our most recent conversations that relate to how we practice in the field.

In ARCA, we pride our self for being a division of the American Counseling Association (ACA). This means that our membership network does not just reside within the ARCA membership database; we can call on all 56,000 counselors to be part of this

great movement. ARCA has a unique formation in that we contribute to a voice of diversity throughout the counseling professions. We have perfected the Art of Professional Counseling for the last 62 years.

Join ARCA on important measures that impact our field. Join us for a morning reception and meet your legislators. ARCA does not watch things go by; we are making things happen.

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Publication Date: July 9, 2018



Finally, I want to take a quick moment to congratulate our new leaders to the ARCA platform. Congratulations to our newest elected officers to their respective offices. Dr. Michael Hartley will serve as ARCA's next President-Elect; Dr. Paige Dunlap will serve as Governing Council Representative; Dr. Valerie Russell will serve as Council on Organization, Administration and Management; and Dr. Maureen McGuire-Kuletz will serve as Council on Research and Knowledge to the Board. Each one of the elected leaders will bring a great deal of professional experience, enthusiasm, strength and leadership to their respective positions. I have abundant assurance that ARCA will continue to grow and succeed under their collective leadership. We are all excited about our incoming President, Dr. Noel Ysasi, as the 62nd President of ARCA. What an honor to be a part of this time in history.

Please log onto our website at www.arcaweb.org for more information about all of our events, elections and trainings.

Cordially,

Michelle Bradham-Cousar

Michelle Bradham-Cousar
ARCA President 2017-2018

GETTING ACQUAINTED WITH ARCA'S 2018-2019 PRESIDENT NOEL A. YSASI, PH.D., CRC



An Assistant Professor in the Department of Special Education and Rehabilitation Counseling at the University of Kentucky, Noel is also a Life Care Planner Associate and Rehabilitative Counselor with Irma Marini, Ph.D. and Associates in McAllen, Texas.

Noel earned his doctorate in Rehabilitation Counseling from the University of Texas-Pan American in 2015 and received both the NCRE and ARCA doctoral student of the year award. Noel has served as Council on Public Policy and Legislation (2014-2017) and as ARCA's President-Elect this past year (2017-2018).

ANNOUNCING ARCA'S 2018-2019 WEBINAR SERIES

ARCA is pleased to announce our "ARCA Disability Awareness and Competencies Webinar Series." This webinar series has been approved for 30 hours of CRC continuing education clock hours and 20 hours in ethics. The various webinars will take place over the next year. Below is information on our first one hour webinar!



ARCA members will receive notices of upcoming webinar presentations and can attend for free. There will be a small fee for the CRC Certificate of Completion. Credit will be awarded at the end of the series next May 2019 (or at such time as the individual decides to conclude the number of hours they want/need for CRC credit).

For questions or more information, contact the ARCA Office at arcaoffice@arcaweb.org.

"MICROAGGRESSIONS EXPERIENCED BY PERSONS OF COLOR, LGBTQ IDENTITIES, AND LIVING WITH DISABILITIES: IMPLICATIONS FOR COUNSELING" MAY 31, 2018

This one hour webinar was hosted by the Florida Association for Multicultural Counseling and Development (FAMCD), the American Rehabilitation Counseling Association (ARCA), and Florida Association for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Issues in Counseling (FALGBTIC) in collaboration to bring awareness to microaggressions and the mental health implications of them among minority groups.

The presenters included our own **Michelle Bradham-Cousar**, ARCA President 2017-2018, along with **Letitia Browne-James**, President of FAMCD, and **Rachel Henesy**, Graduate Student Representative of FALGBTIC.

So, what is a microaggression? "A microaggression is 'any comment, attitude, action, or gesture individuals experience as inappropriate or hurtful based on their personal history and characteristics'" (Sue, 2010). In today's society, microaggressions are directed towards many marginalized groups, whether people are cognizant of them or not.

This webinar was well attended by ARCA members. We look forward to offering more webinars in the future for our members. Stay tuned!



YOUR 2017-2018 ARCA LEADERSHIP

July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018

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YOUR 2018-2019 ARCA LEADERSHIP

July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019

ARCA OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	NOEL YSASI nysasi@niu.edu
PRESIDENT-ELECT	MICHAEL HARTLEY mthartley@email.arizona.edu
PAST PRESIDENT	MICHELLE BRADHAM-COUSAR fcabradham.cousar@gmail.com
TREASURER	CECILIA GUYTON drceciliaguytonfca@gmail.com
SECRETARY	MICHELLE SCHEIN michelle.schein@pitt.edu
ACA GOVERNING COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE Paige Dunlap	pndunlap@gmail.com

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APPRECIATIONS AND UPDATES

HENRY McCARTHY, PH.D., CRC, LPC
2017-2018 ARCA PAST PRESIDENT

Greetings!

This is my final newsletter article and I'm pleased to share with readers some information, opportunities, and appreciations related to three important topics.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE DISABILITY-RELATED COUNSELING COMPETENCIES

Among the ARCA activities I have been immersed in over the past year, the most exciting has been the development of the *Disability-Related Counseling Competencies* (DRCC) and Co-Chairing, with Marty Chapin of East Carolina University and Linda Shaw of the University of Arizona, the Task Force that created them. Kudos go out to Marty and Linda who were great colleagues on this team and contributed much. The other members of the Task Force are: Michelle Bradham-Cousar of the Florida Education Department Vocational Unit; Richard Chapman of the University of South Florida; Margaret (Peg) Nosek of the Center for Research on Women with Disabilities, Baylor College of Medicine; Sonia Peterson of San Diego State University; Zeynep Yilmaz of the University of Arizona; and Noel Ysasi of Northern Illinois University. The developmental process for the DRCC spanned 14 months. It began when three students from the University of Arizona (Toni Saia, Camelia Shaheed, Zeynep Yilmaz), who were working on a project for a doctoral seminar taught by Linda Shaw, noted that on the ACA website there are several lists of counseling competencies (created by other ACA Divisions over the past few decades on various topics or client populations), but none of them dealt with disability. They decided to fill that gap. As a collaborative effort, these three women researched relevant resources and composed the original draft of the competencies. Because it was during my year as President, they asked me if ARCA would be interested in expanding, strengthening, and approving the eventual list of competencies. The Board voted in April 2017 to accept this project, and the Task Force was appointed to complete the process. For the next 12 months, the nine members of the Task Force worked within subcommittees and through numerous conference-call meetings to create the final draft. This was presented in April 2018 for review by the ARCA Board and formally approved by unanimous vote during its May 29, 2018 meeting. The DRCC was soon after submitted to the ACA Governing Council. We hope they will vote to endorse the DRCC during their July meeting and subsequently post it with the other lists of counseling competencies on their website.

The conceptual framework and values basis of the DRCC are articulated in the titles of its five sections: A: Understanding and Accommodating the Disability Experience; B: Advocacy for Persons with Disability and Support of Their Self-Advocacy; C: The Counseling Process and Relationship; D: Testing and Assessment; E: Working with or Supervising Persons with Disability in School, Employment, Community, and Clinical Settings. The document is quite comprehensive in addressing the scope of personal,

environmental, and intersectional issues that the disability experience can involve. Nonetheless, we hope that the format of the DRCC's content — expressed as lists of brief, action-oriented statements in five subsections — will make it easier for readers to comprehend and refer back to as a resource. Once it is formally published, we encourage all ARCA members to become active in spreading the dissemination and utilization of the DRCC by all counselors in all settings through presentations, training seminars, review articles, and other promotional opportunities. You are also encouraged to provide the Task Force and ARCA Board with feedback and recommendations as the dissemination and utilization activities continue over the coming months and years.

HELPING TO MAKE COMMUNITY POLICING FAIR, HUMANE, AND EFFECTIVE

As members of our healing profession, we are fortunate to be given the opportunity and responsibility to apply the coping perspectives and pragmatic skills of rehabilitation counseling (RC) to the challenges faced by not only our clients but also our communities. One such challenge that I believe can benefit from our problem-resolution ideology and skills is police brutality. Too many police officers have used excessive force with lethal outcomes when confronting non-violent citizens doing harmless activities in their own communities — like selling merchandise on the sidewalk, driving a car with a broken tail lamp, and playing with a plastic gun on a playground where none of the surrounding children or adults had expressed any concerns. I have been deeply disturbed by these unnecessary fatalities that were so preventable, if the officers pursuing these situations had used (1) respectful

communication to assess the situation and (2) basic human relations skills to address any misunderstandings or disagreements. It is literally tragic that, instead, the officers' judgment and behavior were misdirected by two dysfunctional characteristics that permeate much of contemporary police culture, training, and operations. In my estimation, these are: exaggerated, irrational fear of the danger posed by some socially marginalized members of their communities; and the consequent use of excessive force as a rather reflexive reaction to their fear of and implicit bias against such community members (the majority of whom are Black males or persons with atypical demeanor, appearance, or communication skills). Many of the latter are persons with various invisible disabilities.

I am interested in developing opportunities and strategies for RC to contribute to reshaping police protocol and culture, especially with regard to responding to community calls or encounters and to assessing more effectively the actual needs and threat levels in those situations. Counselors in general should have the sensitivity and skill to manage and consult on such situations; rehabilitation counselors in particular could have specialized knowledge to interpret and intervene in situations of expressed frustration or potential crisis, so as to avoid escalation of emotional conflict and mistreatment of persons involved who have cognitive, communication, or psychiatric disabilities. Since 2015 *The Washington Post* has been compiling a database called Fatal Force to track the number and demographics of the civilians who have been shot to death by police officers in the United States. In 2017, the total deaths numbered 987 (www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/national/police-shootings-2017). The researchers report that mental illness played a role in approximately 25% of the cases. Probably, other mishandled incidents involved police misperception of the responses to situations of confusion or stress made by persons who have an intellectual disability or who use sign language as their only means of communication. An initial step in the direction of exploring ways that RCs can serve as consultants or trainers for police departments or as alternative providers of crisis-management interventions happened at the ACA conference this April. Yolanda Edwards organized and moderated a session that ARCA sponsored on Disability, Race, and Law Enforcement: Advocacy for People Misperceived and Mistreated by Police. Aisha Rousseau (ARCA member and staff person in the Denver Mayor's Office of Disability Rights) and I each gave a presentation on our analyses of the problematic dimensions and remediation recommendations concerning this complicated and controversial topic. Michelle Bradham-Cousar and Yolanda Edwards served as panel moderators. We welcome correspondence from any ARCA members or their associates with experience or interest in any aspect of this quality of life vs. life and death issue from all relevant perspectives. We also hope to partner with organizations already advocating for systemic solutions to this problem of police relations with their local communities, which include RC's consumers.

RECOGNITION FOR NOTABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GROWTH, VITALITY, AND IMPACT OF ARCA

I'd like to recognize several ARCA members, past and present, for their special contributions to our Association. I'll begin with acknowledging with appreciation all those who have stepped up to serve as ARCA President. There are too many to name within this article, so I have appended the list following this article. If anyone finds any errors or has accurate information going further back than I was able to go in my historical research, please contact me. Two of the many highly respected rehabilitation educators, scholars, and practitioners on this list are Dennis Maki and Vilia Tarvydas. For several years, they donated the royalties from some of their co-edited textbooks to ARCA, for which generosity we are most grateful. Incidentally,

the current edition of one of those books, *The Professional Practice of Rehabilitation Counseling (Second Edition 2017)*, was co-edited by Vilia M. Tarvydas and Michael T. Hartley, our incoming President-Elect. This fine textbook contains many chapters written by ARCA members.

Another special bequest was made several years ago by Charlene Kampfe who was also esteemed as a compassionate rehabilitation educator and scholar. The Charlene Kampfe Fund is dedicated to — and directed by — student members of ARCA. For the ARCA Student Session at the 2018 ACA Annual Conference, Richard Chapman organized a panel of some Board members to share their reflections and recommendations concerning career development. Then we facilitated a brainstorming activity for small groups of students to suggest and prioritize their desired activities for the future of the ARCA student group and their use of the Kampfe Fund.

For many members and RC colleagues, a prominent asset of ARCA is our peer-reviewed scholarly journal, *Rehabilitation Counseling Bulletin (RCB)*. It takes great dedication, time, and expertise to produce such a respected research resource. We are so grateful to the many ARCA members and RC colleagues over the years who have contributed to the journal as Editorial Board members, guest reviewers, and authors. Special appreciation goes to those who have taken on the demanding job of RCB Editor. Currently serving in that volunteer role are Fong Chan and Tim Tansey. At the ACA conference in April, Doug Strohmer received accolades and a plaque for his long and productive tenure as Editor (2001-2017). Other prior RCB Editors have included: Marceline Jacques, Brian Bolton, Randy Parker (3 times!), Norm Berven, and Edna Szymanski. In addition to the above leaders, we

extend our gratitude to all those who regularly maintain their membership and otherwise support us by attending and presenting at our conferences, recruiting new members, being ARCA's representative to other rehabilitation counseling organizations, producing the newsletter, improving the website, and other ways of assisting and promoting our Association.

On June 30, 2018 my five-year tenure in various positions on the ARCA Board will be completed. It has provided me with many opportunities for professional growth and service, for which I am grateful. I want to thank all of you who have helped, supported, and inspired me as I tried my best to strengthen and advance our Association and be of service to its members, as well as the RC profession at large, the disability community, and related stakeholders.

Soon I will be starting new volunteer activities that have been on my bucket list for decades. I will also be soaking up the nurturance of nature and the creativity of culture as I do more leisure traveling. To all ARCA members, especially to the remaining and incoming Board members, I offer energy and encouragement. Best wishes in successfully seizing the opportunities and addressing the challenges that will be important to ARCA's future.

Be well, continue doing good work, and peace to all —

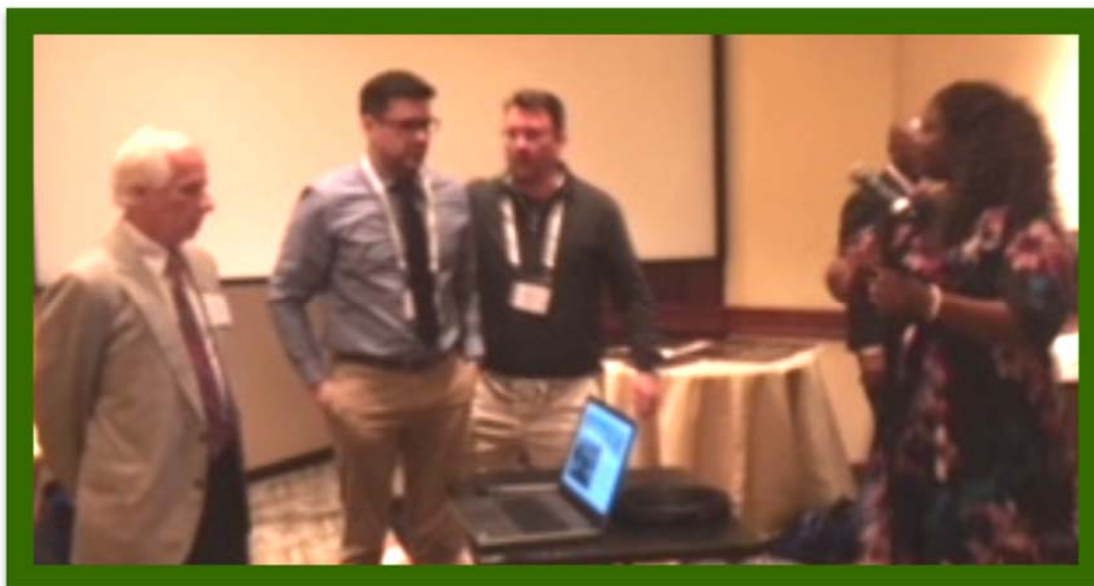
Henry McCarthy, Ph.D., CRC, LPC

Past President (2017-2018)

HMCar@lsuhsc.edu



Shown here at this year's ACA Conference in Atlanta, President Michelle Bradham-Cousar presented Henry McCarthy, Past President, with the President's Award for his service to ARCA.



*Shown here at this year's ACA Conference in Atlanta, ARCA's presidents from the past, the present and the future together. From left to right, **Henry McCarthy**, Past President for 2017-2018; **Noel Ysasi**, President-Elect for 2017-2018 and President for 2018-2019; **Michael Hartley**, 2018-2019 President-Elect, and **Michelle Bradham-Cousar**, President for 2017-2018.*

PRESIDENTS OF ARCA



1958-59	Salvatore DiMichael	2015-16	Quiteya Walker
1959-60	William Usdane	2016-17	Henry McCarthy
1960-61	Abraham Jacobs	2017-18	Michelle Bradham-Cousar
1961-62	Lloyd Lofquist	2018-19	Noel Ysasi
1962-63	C. H. Patterson	[2019-2020]	Michael Hartley
1963-64	William Gellman		
1964-65	Daniel Sinick		
1965-66	John McGowan		
1966-67	John Muthard		
1967-68	Marceline Jaques		
1968-69	Martin Acker		
1969-70	Leonard Miller		
1970-71	Gregory Miller		
1971-72	Richard Thoreson		
1972-73	George Ayers		
1973-74	Lawrence Feinberg		
1974-75	George N. Wright		
1975-76	Tom Porter		
1976-77	Ray Ehrle		
1977-78	Bob Johnson		
1978-79	Frank Touchstone		
1979-80	Donald Linkowski		
1980-81	Kenneth Reagles		
1981-82	Dan McAlees		
1982-83	Stanford Rubin		
1983-84	Kenneth Thomas		
1984-85	Paul McCollum		
1985-86	Edna Szymanski		
1986-87	Randall Parker		
1987-88	Brian McMahan		
1988-89	John Thompson		
1989-90	Ross Lynch		
1990-91	Dennis R. Maki		
1991-92	Martha Walker		
1992-93	Jeanne Patterson		
1993-94	John Dolan		
1994-95	Linda Shaw		
1995-96	Michael Leahy		
1996-97	William Richardson		
1997-98	Vilia Tarydas		
1998-99	Donna Falvo		
1999-00	Chow Lam		
2000-01	Deborah Ebener		
2001-02	Ellen Fabian		
2002-03	Susanne Brayere'		
2003-04	Tim Jankowski		
2004-05	Betty Hedgeman		
2005-06	Jan LaForge		
2006-07	Irmo Marini		
2007-08	Patty Nunez		
2008-09	Yolanda Edwards		
2009-10	Carolyn Rollins		
2010-11	Frank Lane		
2011-12	Carrie Wilde		
2012-13	Joe Keferl		
2013-14	Paul Toriello		
2014-15	David Staten		

THE MISSION OF ARCA. . . .

The mission of the American Rehabilitation Counseling Association (ARCA) is to enhance the development of people with disabilities throughout their 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.

DOUG STROHMER RECEIVES 2018 PRESIDENT'S AWARD

**FOR HIS WORK AS EDITOR OF RCB (17 YEARS!) AND
YEARS OF SERVICE TO ARCA**



Shown here (left) at this year's ACA Conference in Atlanta, Henry McCarthy receives the award on behalf of Doug Strohmer (below) who received the ARCA President's Award recognizing his work as RCB Editor and Years of Service to ARCA. Dr. Strohmer served as Editor of the RCB for 17 years!



Rehabilitation Counseling Bulletin (RCB) 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. Fong Chan and Tim Tansey now serve Co-Editors of RCB. To subscribe go to: <https://online.sagepub.com/cgi/activate/basic>

RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE COUNCIL

A FAREWELL MESSAGE FROM MARY HUBER, PH.D., CRC 2017-2018 COUNCIL CHAIR

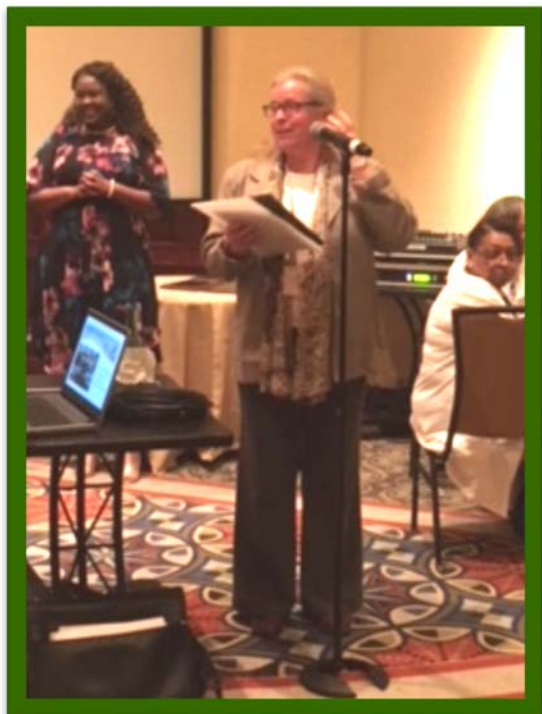


It has been my pleasure to serve as the 2017-2018 Chairperson for the Research and Knowledge Council for ARCA. I completed my three year term this summer and want to encourage anyone in the field to apply for positions on the ARCA Board. It is a great way to serve our community and to network and work with others across the country. Thanks to all the other members on the Board for making this past three years productive and fun!

The best to all of my colleagues,

Mary Huber, Ph.D., CRC
mary.huber@wright.edu

At the ACA Atlanta Conference, Dr. Huber was presented with the ARCA Presidential Award for Chairing the Council on Research and Knowledge. Dr. Huber was definitely taken by surprise and was very honored with this recognition.



Shown here are Michelle Bradham-Cousar, ARCA President, in the back/left corner and Mary Huber at the microphone receiving her award.



AN UPDATE FROM MAUREEN MCGUIRE- KULETZ, ED.D., CRC 2018-2019 COUNCIL CHAIR

RFI FOR RSA TRAINING GRANTS

Colleagues,

A Request for Information (RFI) on the Future Direction of the Rehabilitation Training Program was posted in the Federal Register on May 4, 2018 and is open for comments until July 3, 2018.

The U.S. Department of Education (Department) is requesting input on the portfolio of grants supported under the Rehabilitation Training Program, specifically those supported under the Rehabilitation Long-Term Training, Rehabilitation Short-Term Training, and Innovative Rehabilitation Training authorities to determine whether the activities funded under the Rehabilitation Training Program are aligned with the goals of the Department and the needs of State vocational rehabilitation (VR) agencies. We will use the information gathered in response to this request for information (RFI) to determine whether any changes are needed in designing and implementing grant activities under this program, including the specific mix of activities supported each year.

ARCA will be submitting a response on behalf of the membership but individual responses are strongly encouraged.

**Comments must be received on or before
Tuesday, July 3, 2018.**

The specific web address for posting comments is
<https://www.regulations.gov/document?D=ED-2018-OSERS-0026-0001>.

Maureen McGuire-Kuletz, Ed.D., CRC
Research and Knowledge Council Chair
mkuletz@gwu.edu

Mary F. Lovley, Chief, Training Programs Unit
Training and Service Programs Division, RSA
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ARCA'S LETTER TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION JULY 2, 2018

WRITTEN BY MAUREEN MCGUIRE-KULETZ, Ed.D.

APPROVED BY THE ARCA BOARD

PREFACE

Maureen McGuire-Kuletz worked diligently on getting this letter of response drafted up. The ARCA Executive Board then reviewed and approved the following letter.

However, there are a couple of issues overall. It appears that the Department of Education is asking for responses to a list of very specific questions. About 30 in total. Although our response is strong, we don't know if it will be approved for review as it does not meet all of their specifications.

That said, the below letter was submitted to the Department of Education by the deadline of July 3, 2018.

THANK YOU

We want to thank Maureen for spearheading this initiative. She did 95% of the work!



July 2, 2018
Department of Education
IDED-2018-OSERS-0026

RE: Request for Information Regarding Changes to the Rehabilitation Training Program Submitted by: The President and Board Members of the American Rehabilitation Counseling Association

In 2016, 17.9% of persons with a disability were employed. In contrast, the employment-population ratio for those without a disability was 65.3%. While the 10.5% unemployment rate for persons with a disability has remained steady, the rate for those without disabilities has declined (Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2017).

Rehabilitation counselors with master's degrees possess the specialized knowledge, skills, and mindset necessary to effectively provide job placement services within state vocational rehabilitation agencies for persons with physical, mental, developmental, cognitive and/or emotional disabilities. With a holistic approach that includes individualized job assessment, accommodations, and support to remove societal barriers to restore functionality, which are necessary to ensure the most productive return to work (CRCC, 2018). The aforementioned services are offered by highly qualified rehabilitation counselors in state vocational rehabilitation agencies enable persons with disabilities to secure employment and meet the goals as outlined in the Rehabilitation Act, as amended by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. A meta-analysis conducted by Frain (2006) found that counselors with advanced education had better employment outcomes for persons they served. Funding to support scholars to receive training to serve in state vocational rehabilitation agencies allows individuals who might not otherwise have the ability to financially obtain this education.

The American Rehabilitation Counseling Association respectfully requests the continuation of support for graduate level training and funding of vocational rehabilitation counseling programs and when necessary to support bachelor-level funding only for individuals with specialized training in undergraduate rehabilitation service and only for states which hire bachelor-level graduates. With increased numbers of persons with disabilities as well as the focus on youth with disabilities requiring services under WIOA, qualified rehabilitation counselors are needed now more than ever before.



ARCA GOVERNING COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

**PAIGE N. DUNLAP,
PH.D., LPC-S, CRC, NCC, ACS, PVE**

Greetings ARCA Community!

As ARCA's Representative to the ACA Governing Council, I want to ensure I am keeping you abreast of the latest information and updates. The Governing Council has been busy over the last few months, convening via conference call and at the 2018 ACA Conference in Atlanta, GA. I have been elected for the upcoming year to the Executive Committee of ACA. I will also Chair the Compensation Committee. Here are some of the highlights from the meetings:

❖ **ASCA is no longer a division of ACA**

Here is the statement: **"American Counseling Association and the American School Counselor Association Announce New Collaborative Relationship."** The American Counseling Association (ACA) and the American School Counselor Association (ASCA) have agreed to forge a new collaborative relationship. As of April 1, both organizations will operate independently and autonomously – a formal recognition of the existing relationship was voted on by the ACA Governing Council on March 21, 2018. ACA and ASCA will continue to work together on common advocacy issues. ACA is committed to meeting the needs of all professional counselors and school counselors will continue to have a home at the American Counseling Association. For more information, visit the Frequently Asked Questions about the new ACA-ASCA relationship."

❖ **Approved a Resolution on Mental Health Care and Advocacy Focused on Gender-Based Harassment among Girls and Women that was submitted by the Human Rights Committee.**

The resolution commits the ACA staff and leadership team, in conjunction with the Executive Committee, to assess which of the following specific actions will be feasible for the organization to take in the next 18 to 24 months:

- Charge a specific group/task force of volunteer leaders to develop culturally responsive competencies for counseling girls and women who have experienced gender-based harassment;

- Promote school and clinical mental health counselors, college counselors, and other professional counselors working with girls and women as primary stakeholders in gender-based harassment prevention, treatment, and advocacy;
- Support and initiate short- and long-term actions that promote awareness of gender-based harassment including, but not limited to, articles in *Counseling Today*, podcasts, webinars, and continuing education opportunities. .

❖ **Approved a Resolution on Trauma-Focused Mental Health Care and Advocacy that was presented by the Human Rights Committee.**

The resolution articulates ACA's stance in solidarity with counselors who counsel and advocate on behalf of people who have been directly or indirectly affected by trauma. The resolution publicizes resources that ACA makes available to counselors to support them in this work, including ACA publications, the Traumatology Interest Network, and the ACA Trauma and Disaster Mental Health Training Program, as well as a link to the American Psychological Association's (APA) Trauma Competencies.

❖ **Revised ACA Policy 407.1 to clarify that Past Presidents are not eligible to run for the office of President-Elect.**

❖ **Approved the audited financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2017, as provided by RSM US LLP.** The results of the audit demonstrate that ACA has proper internal controls and processes in place, validating the integrity of the ACA financial information.

❖ **Approved the slate of candidates for 2019 – 2020 ACA President-Elect, which was vetted by the Nominations and Elections Committee.**

The candidates for the office of President-Elect are: Judy Daniels, S. Kent Butler, Sue Pressman, and Brandé Flamez.

❖ **Appointed a new editor-elect for the *Journal of Counseling & Development*.** Matthew Lemberger-Truelove was appointed to serve as Editor-Elect,

beginning on July 1, 2018 and ending on June 30, 2019. He will then serve as JCD editor for a three year term beginning on July 1, 2019 and concluding on June 30, 2022.

❖ **Adopted a new policy titled “Alignment of Entity Codes of Ethics with the ACA Code of Ethics.”**

This policy requires that the code of ethics of any entity chartered by ACA must be aligned with the *ACA Code of Ethics*. Before taking effect, any revision to a chartered entity’s code must be submitted to the ACA Ethics Committee. To ensure that all codes of ethics are brought into alignment, the ACA Ethics Committee will conduct a review of all existing codes of chartered entities during the next few years.

❖ **Adopted a new Mission, Vision, Core Values, and 2018-2021 Strategic Plan that outline a multi-year, comprehensive plan to address issues of critical and strategic importance over the next four years.** Three strategic drivers are:

- Advocacy: Give voice and representation to counselors, the profession, and consumers.
- Practice Support: Ensure that counselors have the resources they need to be successful in the practice of professional counseling.
- Relevance: Provide recognized leadership and credibility for current and emerging counselors, in the mental health arena, and for the media, public policymakers, and consumers.

Details about the plan will be rolled out through a comprehensive communications plan.

❖ **Approved a member dues increase for FY2019, in accordance with ACA Policy 201.3, which requires that all dues increases approved by the Governing Council must be based on the recommendation of the Financial Affairs Committee.** The dues increase will provide the resources necessary for ACA to achieve its strategic priorities and goals. The increase will ensure that ACA can support the programs, services, and strategic initiatives that are valued by our members. The dues increases are:

- \$6 for Professional/Regular members (to \$185 per year)
- \$3 for Student/New Professional/Retiree members (to \$102 per year)
- \$3 for New Professional 2 members (to \$132 per year)

❖ **Approved the Fiscal Year 2019 proposed budget reflecting \$13,662,637 in Operating Net Revenues, \$13,656,550 in Operating Expenses, and excess Operating Net Revenues over Operating Expenses of \$6,087.**

In addition to the previously mentioned dues increase, the FY19 budget assumes:

- A \$7 increase in conference registration for Professional and Regular members.
- A \$3 increase in conference registration for Student and New Professional members.
- An increase of \$0.50 per member for division managed service agreement fees.
- An increase of \$2.50 per member for division journal processing fees.

❖ **Approved a revision to ACA Policy 301.7, clarifying the circumstances under which the ACA Governing Council will take positions on issues of conscience.** The previous policy prohibited the Governing Council from taking positions on issues that transcend professional identity. The revised policy asserts that ACA “engages in advocacy efforts that are congruent with our ethical guidelines, core values, mission, vision, and strategic plan, which includes advocating for professional counselors, the counseling profession, human rights, and social justice issues. In doing so, the American Counseling Association advocates for the promotion of mental health and wellness among clients and communities. The Governing Council selects advocacy issues to educate ACA members and the public on related evidence-based and practical strategies.”

❖ **Resolved to create a digital/online repository of all Governing Council motions approved by past, current, and future councils.** The digital/online repository will be located at a prominent/visible location on the ACA website, in a clearly identified category for easy accessibility. Motions may be recorded in the online repository by categories determined by staff (e.g., budget/financial, advocacy, etc.). The repository will include information such as the dates motions are approved, the subject of the motion, and the language of the original motion. The repository will include motions dating back to 1952.

❖ **Endorsed proposed “Counselor Education and Supervision Training Clinic Guidelines” as submitted by the Professional Standards Committee in response to a need for standardized training clinic standards across counselor education programs.**

❖ **Charged ACA staff and the ACA Executive Committee to examine five of the eight strategies in the “Call for Action to Prevent Gun Violence in the United States of America” developed by the Interdisciplinary Group on Preventing School and Community Violence and propose how ACA can actively respond to, and support, the strategies.** The strategies were endorsed by ACA in February 2018. The five strategies determined to be relevant to the counseling profession include:

- A national requirement for all schools to assess school climate and maintain physically and emotionally safe conditions and positive school environments that protect all students and adults from bullying, discrimination, harassment, and assault.
- Adequate staffing (such as counselors, psychiatrists, psychologists, and social workers) of coordinated school- and community-based mental health services for individuals with risk factors for violence, recognizing that violence is not intrinsically a product of mental illness.
- Reform of school discipline to reduce exclusionary practices and foster positive social, behavioral, emotional, and academic success for students.
- A national program to train and maintain school- and community-based threat-assessment teams that include mental health and law enforcement partners. Threat-assessment programs should include practical channels of communication for persons to report potential threats, as well as, interventions to resolve conflicts and assist troubled individuals.
- Removal of legal barriers to sharing safety-related information among education, mental health, and law enforcement agencies in cases where a person has threatened violence.

Paige Dunlap, Ph.D., LPC-S, CRC, NCC, ACS, PVE
ARCA Governing Council Representative
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Coming in July
ARCA's Conference
Album on the
ACA Conference &
Expo

“The Future of
Counseling”
Held April 26–29, 2018
in Atlanta, Georgia



For more information, visit:
www.counseling.org





UPDATES FROM YOUR PUBLIC POLICY, PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION AND STANDARDS CHAIR

SONIA PETERSON, PH.D., CRC, LPCC

RECENT CHANGES AFFECTING MASTER'S LEVEL REHABILITATION COUNSELOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS



Do you have questions about the recent changes with the CORE/CACREP merger, state counselor licensing requirements, and coursework requirements for The Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC) exam? **Are you** a faculty member in a Rehabilitation Counseling Program or a student pursuing a master's degree in Rehabilitation Counseling in need of information about what coursework meets the standards for CACREP, the CRC exam, and the National Certified Counselor (NCC) certification? **Do you** want to

make sure that your master's degree program leads you or your students on a path to the opportunities that the specialization in Rehabilitation Counseling, certification, and licensure bring?

Let ACA and ARCA help you to gather the information you need!

It's not as complicated as it seems.

- ✓ The CACREP standards for master's degree programs in counseling <http://www.cacrep.org/section-2-professional-counseling-identity/>;
- ✓ The coursework required for the CRC <https://www.crccertification.com/eligibility-requirements>; and
- ✓ The coursework required for the NCC <http://www.nbcc.org/Certification/NCC> are all very similar and include the following basic required coursework:
 - Human Growth and Development Theories in Counseling
 - Helping Relationships in Counseling
 - Group Counseling Theories and Processes
 - Career Counseling and Lifestyle Development
 - Assessment and Testing in Counseling
 - Research and Program Evaluation
 - Professional Counseling Orientation and Ethical Practice
 - Social and Cultural Diversity
 - Supervised Counseling Field Experience (Practicum: 100 clock hours over a full academic term that is a minimum of 10 weeks and Internship: 600 clock hours of supervised counseling internship in roles and settings with clients relevant to their specialty area)

For a full description and website links to CACREP standards, CRC requirements, NCC requirements, and links to state counselor licensing boards please see the document available on the ARCA website. This

document includes links to details on required coursework, labor market information regarding job opportunities for certified and licensed counselors, supervision requirements, and exam requirements. Please click on:

<http://www.arcaweb.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/TableofCACREPCRClicensureAndRequirements.pdf>

WHY PURSUE THE NATIONAL COUNSELOR CERTIFICATION (NCC)?

Mental health counselor licensing requirements currently vary greatly from state to state. However, these requirements are actively changing due to the efforts of advocacy groups and professional organizations such as the ACA. Licensure portability refers to the ability of a professional counselor licensed at the independent practice level to transfer their license to another state or U.S. jurisdiction when the counselor changes residence to that state or jurisdiction. **NCC may likely be the standard required for license portability from state to state** and has been endorsed by The American Counseling Association Governing Council and CACREP:

<http://ct.counseling.org/2017/06/aca-continues-push-forward-licensure-portability/>

<http://www.cacrep.org/news/cacrep-endorses-amhca-nbcc-aascb-aces-portability-statement/>

ACA AND ARCA MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS FOR STUDENTS

Are you a student looking for liability insurance for your required internship? The American Counseling Association (ACA) student membership is the best value in counseling. ACA Master's Level students receive liability insurance coverage as part their membership. Students gain access to all the career and professional resources available to practicing counselors, including the **Counseling Today** journal. Visit <https://www.counseling.org/membership/aca-and-you/students>

For a minimal additional fee, students can join the American Rehabilitation Counseling Association (ARCA) division of ACA. ARCA student membership has many benefits including networking opportunities with other students, faculty, and rehabilitation professionals and access to the **Rehabilitation Counseling Bulletin**. Please click on <http://www.arcaweb.org/member-sign-up/>

ADDITIONAL UPDATES AVAILABLE ON THE ARCA WEBSITE

Please visit the ARCA website Public Policy and Legislation page at <http://www.arcaweb.org/public-policy-and-legislation/> for details and website links to relevant information on the CORE/CACREP merger, updates on the status of counselor license portability, and legislative updates. Please also visit the ACA website Government Affairs page for legislative updates affecting our counseling profession and the clients we serve at <https://www.counseling.org/government-affairs/public-policy>

Thank you for letting me be of service as your ARCA board member, and please feel free to contact me with any questions, concerns, or with any information you would like to share with ARCA members!

Sonia Peterson, Ph.D. CRC LPCC

Chair, Council on Public Policy, Professional Preparation and Standards
slpeterson@sdsu.edu



Start or Join a Discussion Today!

Ask or Answer Questions with Your Peers!

See the Latest Discussions

See Recent Shared Files

Who are the Most Active Members?

Join our Community at
<https://community.counseling.org/home>

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>



FOR ARCA BUSINESS

In February 2018 we "opened" an ARCA office managed by Vickie Leeming. Vickie has over 15 years of experience in association management. She will be our "Office Manager." Therefore, you now have an avenue to reach out to the ARCA leadership via Vickie with your ideas, suggestions, concerns, questions, etc.

AND, we are always looking for articles, etc. for our newsletters. Submissions for our Fall 2018 issue are due by September 15.

Also, because we rely on email addresses to communicate with our members, if you have any changes to your contact information, especially your email address, please let us know.



**YOU MAY CONTACT
VICKIE LEEMING, ARCA
OFFICE MANAGER, AT
arcaoffice@arcaweb.org**

ARCA'S WEBSITE

<http://www.arcaweb.org>

- Updates and News
- Resources
- Links
- Forms
- Conference Information
- Newsletter/Album Archives
- Listserv
- and more!

2018 STUDENT AND SPECIAL AWARDS

The ARCA Student of the Year Award recognizes students for their outstanding contributions, academic achievements, and commitment to the rehabilitation counseling profession.

2018 WINNER OF THE MASTER'S STUDENT OF THE YEAR AWARD

Ms. RIGEL PIÑÓN
TEXAS



Rigel Piñón is in her final year in the Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling program at University of Texas Rio Grande Valley and will be graduating in May. Ms. Piñón has been an outstanding student considering her numerous employment, leadership and advocacy, and volunteer activities.

Rigel has been around persons with disabilities began at age seven since her mom became totally blind. Rigel learned at a young age how to be a caregiver and has assisted help her mother in her duties as the President of the local National Federation for the Blind. This has given Rigel numerous rich experiences as she has immersed herself in the world of persons who are blind or visually impaired. She has moderated conferences, presented at them, demonstrated assistive devices for persons who are newly blind, and participates in every single fundraiser to raise money for the Federation. Rigel volunteers with children who are adopted, neglected, or in harm's way as a Court-Appointed Special-Advocates (CASA) and testifies on their behalf in court when necessary.

Ms. Piñón has also volunteered as a job coach and later educational coach with the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) rehabilitation services. Because of her exemplary work, TWC hired her as an educational coach working one-on-one with college students by going to their classes and taking notes. Ms. Pinon has learned that 9 of her 20 students made the honor roll at their college. Her students are comprised of persons with autism, cerebral palsy, blind, and intellectual disabilities. Ms. Piñón has worked as a research assistant since 2017 and has two first author peer-reviewed publications. Last September she was awarded the graduate research paper of the year by the International Academy of Life Care Planners in St. Louis. She aspires to obtain her Ph.D. in our field and has applied for admission to UTRGV's doctoral program this fall.

The 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.

2018 WINNER OF THE REHABILITATION COUNSELOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

DR. ROSE ANGELOCCI
LOUISIANA



Dr. Rose Angelocci is a highly productive and effective counselor, consultant, trainer, supervisor, and advocate for persons with disabilities, with a definite focus on those with vision loss. For many years she worked at the Training, Resource and Assistive Technology Center (TRAC), a service agency that is a joint partnership between the University

of New Orleans and Louisiana Rehabilitation Services (LRS), the State VR agency in Louisiana. She provided direct services for many LRS clients who were referred to TRAC for vocational evaluation, career counseling, or specific vocational training. The latter specialized programs included intensive instruction in (a) assistive technology; (b) Braille; and (c) entrepreneurship and small-business development. In addition, she designed and operated two separate residential programs on campus to provide independent living and community mobility skills training: one program for adult clients who recently acquired vision loss and a summer program for blind high school students about to transition to higher education or employment after graduation.

After becoming blind during her senior year of high school, Rose earned a 4.0 GPA for both her Bachelor's degree in Rehabilitation Services and her Master's degree in Rehabilitation Counseling from the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in New Orleans. While working as a professional rehabilitation counselor, she continued her studies and completed her Ph.D. in Counselor Education. She maintains several credentials, including her CRC and Louisiana Licensed Professional Counselor. Currently, Dr. Angelocci is employed as the Assistant Project Coordinator for the Louisiana Deaf-Blind Project for Children and Youth and is a consultant to numerous organizations.

Congratulations!