As an Associate Professional Clinical Counselor (APCC) and a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (MFT), I have had the honor of working with underserved populations in both English and Spanish. My roles at Family Connections and CHAC (Community Health Awareness Council) provided me with valuable experience of the unique cultural needs of diverse communities, particularly Latine families. I am passionate about supporting the well-being of children, adolescents, and their families, and I see this nomination as a way to further align my efforts with ACA and ACAC's missions.

I am currently pursuing a PhD in Counselor Education and Supervision, which reflects my commitment to the field and my passion for the professional development of future counselors. My academic interests and clinical experience reinforce my desire to contribute meaningfully to ACAC and ACA governance.

As Governing Council Student Representative, I would be committed to ensuring that student perspectives are integrated into ACA's initiatives. I look forward to contributing

GOVERNING COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE, NORTH ATLANTIC REGION

Beth Fier

I am so honored to be nominated to serve as a member of ACA's Governing Council. Over the course of my career, I have gratefully accepted opportunities to work hard in service to the counseling profession, and I look forward to this new challenge. I have long believed that we cannot limit our work to the session room if we hope to effect lasting change for our clients - we must work hard and humbly to build up the communities beyond our workplace walls if we want to truly improve lives.

My experience is varied and began in a large nonprofit organization, followed by adjunct teaching, training clinical interns, and supervising LACs while maintaining a small private practice in my local community. In 2009, I was humbled to receive the New Jersey Counseling Association (NJCA) Tabler Award for Distinguished Service. However, some of my most treasured opportunities have involved training with NBCC-International as a trainer for their Mental Health Facilitator (MHF) program; aiding in NBCC-I's work to bring MHF to Rwanda; and alongside a dear colleague, providing MHF training in Japan following the 2011 tsunami/Fukushima disaster.

I am a longstanding member of ACA, have served on the NJCA executive board, and as past president of the NJ Multicultural Counseling Association (NJAMC), a division of NJCA. Presently, I chair the NJCA Public Policy & Legislative Issues Committee, having stepped into this role in 2022. Our committee's crowning achievement, with the support of many within and outside of NJCA, has been the passage of the Counseling

Association for Adult Development and Aging (AADA)

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Mary Chase Mize

I am honored to be nominated for election as President-Elect for the Association of Adult Development and Aging (AADA). AADA, to me, is more than a professional organization: it is a community of scholars, clinicians, advocates, and friends. I would be honored to give back to a place that has given me so much. I believe I possess several qualifications for the office of president-elect with AADA. I have been a member of AADA since 2015, when I first joined the American Counseling Association, and have been actively involved with the Older Adults Task Force for most of my time as a member. I earned my PhD in Counselor Education and Practice, MS in Clinical Mental Health Counseling, and MA in Gerontology from Georgia State University, and I am currently an assistant professor at Agnes Scott College in Decatur, GA. Alongside my work as a counselor educator, I also continue to hold a strong professional counselor identity. I currently manage a small private practice, where I specialize in working with older adults, adults across the lifespan experiencing major life transitions, and adults across the lifespan who are experiencing thoughts of suicide and suicide grief and bereavement. I want to serve as president-elect because I care deeply about ways in which AADA equips students, clinicians, educators, legislators, and anyone committed to adult development and aging with resources, meaningful learning opportunities, and network of diverse individuals with shared professional goals. In 2015, as a novice counselor-in-training who wanted to work with older adults, I found my professional home in AADA, and it continues to strengthen my own development. As president-elect, I will strive to support the flourishing of AADA. Thank you for your consideration.

Adrianne Trogden

It is a great honor to have been nominated to serve as the Governing Council Representative for the Association for Adult Development and Aging (AADA). This nomination reflects my long-standing commitment to the field of adult development and aging, as well as my dedication to the continued growth of our profession. I am eager to serve in this capacity and believe that my qualifications uniquely position me to contribute to the ongoing work of the association. Over the years, I have dedicated my career to supporting individuals through various stages of adult life, with a focus on trauma, substance use, and holistic well-being. My experience as a licensed professional

As AARC president-elect, I would focus on:

1. Expanding opportunities for emerging scholars and practitioners to engage in assessment and research
2. Fostering interdisciplinary collaborations to broaden our reach and impact
3. Enhancing AARC's role in shaping evidence-based counseling practices and policies
4. Strengthening our organizational infrastructure to support long-term growth

My leadership and service experiences, including leadership within AARC and service on the ACA Research and Knowledge and Publications Committees have prepared me to guide AARC into its next chapter. I am committed to building on our strong foundation while innovating to meet the evolving needs of our field. I would be honored to serve AARC in this capacity and contribute to our shared vision of excellence in counseling assessment and research.

TREASURER

Ye (Agnes) Luo

I am honored to be nominated for the Treasurer position. My involvement with the association spans back to 2017 when I first attended its annual conference as a doctoral student. I was attracted by AARC's focus on research and assessment and was immediately inspired by other prominent counseling researchers. Since then, I have been a consistent presence at every AARC conference. My service to AARC is extensive, including being the 2019–2020 Emerging Leader and later serving as the mentor for two years, serving the Awards Committee for one year, acting as the interim Web Master for two years, and serving as the Co-Chair for the Social Media Committee. In my three-year term on the Social Media Committee, I worked closely with the Executive Board and other committees to strengthen our virtual presence and foster member engagement on social media sites.

My involvement with AARC is complemented by my leadership roles in other professional settings. For instance, I have served as the Interim Executive Editor for the Journal of Professional Counseling: Practice, Theory, & Research and as the Treasurer for the Tennessee Mental Health Counseling Association. These roles have given me a comprehensive understanding of budgeting, financial reporting, and maintaining accurate financial records, which are crucial for the Treasurer position.

If elected, I am deeply committed to upholding the integrity of AARC's financial management. This includes preparing and presenting budgets, maintaining accurate financial records, and collaborating with the ACA Accounting Office. I aim to ensure our resources are used effectively. I am dedicated to fostering transparent communication, promptly addressing budgetary concerns, and contributing a perspective that is grounded in diversity and advocacy. AARC is not just an association to me; it is my professional home, and I am eager to contribute to its continued growth and financial stability.

Lena Salpietro

I am honored to be considered for the position of AARC Treasurer. I joined AARC in 2017, during my first year of doctoral studies, and presented my first professional presentation at the 2018 AARC Conference. This early connection to AARC laid the foundation for my continued engagement and commitment to its mission. AARC is the organization that resonates with me most, as it provides essential resources and fosters a strong

community that advances the field of counseling through rigorous assessment and research.

I would be honored to serve AARC in this capacity and contribute to its continued growth and success.

Naomi J. Wheeler

I am honored to be considered for the AARC Member-at-Large for Membership position. I have been a member of AARC for almost 10 years. In that time, AARC has been a welcoming and supportive professional space, where I learned from and was inspired by others in our discipline and grew my knowledge and skills as a researcher. As a member, I have actively contributed to AARC through service on conference committees, reviewing proposals, and presenting at and attending conferences. Related, I have also served on the Research and Knowledge committees for ACA and ACES, which add to my perspective for strengths and opportunities for our division and profession. Research is central to my identity as a counselor and counselor educator. As a doctoral student, I received the AARC Exemplary Research and Assessment award (2016) and this recognition (among many other experiences and mentorship moments) solidified my belief that I could produce meaningful research. Now, as an Associate Professor at Virginia Commonwealth University I aim to share my passion for research and build research efficacy and skills with our students. My skills with organization and communication, coupled with my passion for research make me well-qualified for the role of Member at Large-membership with AARC. As a member of the AARC council, I would strive to reflect and promote the AARC vision for the advancement of assessment and research in the counseling profession to include diverse counselors, educators, students, researchers, and professionals that share in that goal. I appreciate your consideration for this position and look forward to continued engagement with AARC in the year ahead!

Association for Child and Adolescent Counseling (ACAC)

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Maggie Parker

My name is Maggie Parker, and I am a long-time provider of child and adolescent counseling. I am grateful for the work that I do and am happy to support organizations that support other child and adolescent therapists. I served as a Trustee for the Board of ACAC in 2016–2018 and served as Secretary, President-elect, President, and Past President of the Virginia Association for Play Therapy. My goals for my potential presidency of ACAC include increasing member involvement and providing trainings, consultations, innovative research, and supports for child and adolescent therapists. I am an Associate Professor of Counseling and Human Development at the George Washington University and focus my research on examining the effectiveness of Child Centered Play Therapy, childhood trauma, and involving communities to enhance mental health supports for children and parents. I am excited for the opportunity to serve this great community providing essential services to this vulnerable population.

TRUSTEE, COUNSELOR EDUCATION

Amanda Winburn

I'm running for the position of Trustee-Counselor Education in the Division of Child and Adolescent Counseling (ACAC) because I am passionate about advocating for the mental health needs of children and adolescents. Over the last five years, I've had the pleasure of serving on both the Advocacy Committee (Co-Chair) and Emerging Leaders (Co-Chair), I believe that my experience with ACAC and my background in Counselor Education (Professor-University of Mississippi) make me well-suited to contribute meaningfully to the organization and its mission. If elected, my goal would be to use this opportunity to raise awareness, promote best practices, and support professionals working in this critical field. I appreciate your consideration and thank you for your support.

Michelle Hollenbaugh

Play Therapist/Supervisor, and Certified Autism Specialist. Regine earned her PhD in Counseling from the University of North Texas and her Master of Social Science in Counseling from the City University of Hong Kong.

As a trilingual (English, Cantonese, Mandarin) counselor and supervisor, she has extensive clinical experience in both Hong Kong and the U.S., working with clients of all ages and diverse cultural backgrounds in university community counseling clinics, private practice, and both general and special education settings. Her pro-bono work in a domestic violence agency and a correctional institution has equipped her with advocacy skills to support marginalized populations.

Regine specializes in working with neurodivergent individuals and addresses clinical issues related to relational trauma and bicultural identity development. Her commitment to child and adolescent counseling is evident in her passion for evidence-based child-centered play therapy (CCPT) and child-parent relationship therapy (CPRT), particularly for children and families facing adverse childhood experiences (ACEs). Her specialty in integrating expressive and experiential modalities in counseling effectively helps adolescent clients explore their cultural identities and address a wide range of clinical concerns.

Additionally, Regine has held leadership roles as a founding board member of the Hong Kong Academy of Play Therapy (HKAPT) and as a former Assistant Director of the University of North Texas Center for Play Therapy, where she collaborated with mental health clinicians worldwide to organize national and international conferences, multicultural webinars, and certification training.

TRUSTEE AT LARGE, MEMBER HEALTH

Bernie Rupe

I have 30 years of experience in the adventure therapy field and 15 years' experience working and managing Adventure Therapy programs. I am the founder and Executive Director of Chicago Voyagers, a non-profit charity providing free adventure therapy services to low-income youth of color. I hold these licenses and certifications: Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor, Nationally Board-Certified Counselor, Certified Clinical Trauma Professional and Certified Clinical Adventure Therapist. I have developed a research informed, community-based model for providing clinical services to those in need and presented workshops twelve times at national and international conferences and published research in the field. I am an officer on the Board of the Association of Experiential Education and also on the Outdoor Behavioral Health Council's Proposal Selection Committee for the Outdoor Therapy Symposium. I have been a member of ACA for almost 20 years.

After many years in the field, I am interested in giving back to our counseling community and feel confident I can be successful in the role of Member Health Trustee. Part of the trustee role is to interface and communicate with committees. I have extensive experience with this, having founded a charity and served on many committees – keeping them abreast of each other's work while also working with my board of directors. I have been reviewing proposals for the Outdoor Therapy Symposium for two andurden each 1 Tm9she for tof

trauma, attachment disorders, Autism Spectrum Disorder, and learning disabilities. Patricia lives in New Mexico with her husband and special needs son. In her free time, she enjoys gardening, mysteries, Kdramas, and cooking.

TRUSTEE AT LARGE, SCHOOL COUNSELING

Hibbah Agha

I worked as a school counselor as 7 years before stepping more into the private practice and counselor educator role. As School Counseling Trustee, I like to maintain this professional alignment with school counselors and advocate for their role.

GOVERNING COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE, ACAC

Emily Goodman-Scott

Dr. Emily Goodman-Scott has been an advocate for youth for approximately 20 years, including: special education teacher, school counselor, LPC, and professor-preparing the next generation of school counselors and mental health counselors. She is also a fierce advocate: working toward more equitable and just education systems.

She's been an ACAC leader for nearly a decade, including: President (2020–2021) and ACAC's Governing Council Representative (2022–2025). Here, she's contributed to ACA's vision, offering a voice for youth. Examples: (a) working with the current ACA

Association for Creativity in Counseling (ACC)

TRUSTEE

Daisy Zhou

I am honored to be nominated as a candidate for Trustee of the Association for Creativity in Counseling (ACC). The commitment to integrating creativity into our field has profoundly shaped my personal and professional journey. This integration is not just a theoretical framework for me; it's a practical approach I implement with clients, students, and advisees.

In my supervisor role, I employ drawing and sandtray activities to help supervisees engage in personal reflection, fostering deeper self-awareness. As a full-time counselor educator, I often showcase expressive art techniques in my classes and facilitate students' personal and professional development through creativity. I am also dedicated to researching the role of creativity in counseling and counselor education. My project on using creativity in group supervision aims to promote self-compassion among supervisees. These experiences affirmed my belief in the transformative power of creativity in counseling.

ACC has been my professional home due to its inclusive environment and rich resources. Attending the 2021 conference and participating in the 2022 World Creativity and Innovation Day (WCID) deepened my appreciation for this community. Since then, I have served on the conference planning committee and volunteered at the conference and the WCID every year. These experiences further solidified my sense of belonging and admiration for the leadership within ACC. As an emerging leader, I have also attended all the ACC board meetings during the past two years and am proud of the past and present of ACC. I look forward to creating a bright future with my colleagues at ACC.

As a Trustee, I will advocate for creative approaches in counseling and counselor education, ensuring ACC remains a vibrant space for innovation and collaboration. I am excited about the opportunity to contribute to this community.

GOVERNING COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE, ACC

Ruth Ouzts Moore

It is my honor to be nominated by the Association for Creativity in Counseling (ACC) for the position of Governing Council Representative. I have been on The Association for Creativity in Counseling board for 10 years. I served as secretary from July 2014–2016, president-elect from 2016-2018, president from 2018–2020, and past-president from 2020–2022. I served as the ACC Conference Program Chair from 2016–2018 and have served as Conference Program Committee Co-Chair from 2018 to the present. I started the Emerging Leader Program in 2015 and served as the Emerging Leader Committee Chair from 2015-2020. I am currently the Co-Chair of the ACC Awards, Emerging Leader, Grants, and Scholarship Committee and have served in this position since 2020. I was the recipient of the ACC Thelma Duffey Vision and Innovation Award in 2017, the ACC Professional Service Award in 2018, and the Lisa S. Sosin ACC Spirit Award in 2023. I am excited about the opportunity to serve on the American Counseling Association (ACA) governing counsel. I am eager to learn about and meet ACA's strategic goals, as well as how to address future issues that face the counseling profession.

of systemic, campus-wide approaches to supporting them. I'm eager to give back to the organization that has been a big support to me and to help ACCA continue its work.

Christy Schulze

I am very excited to be considered for the role of ACCA Treasurer. Working in college counseling has been incredibly rewarding, but it also comes with its share of challenges. During some of those tougher times, I came to truly appreciate the value of being part of ACCA. Coming from a smaller institution, I often felt isolated, but I found connection and community with colleagues from across the country when I attended the ACCA monthly support groups and educational seminars. This community provided me with a sense of renewal and a wealth of new ideas to improve the work we were doing at my home institution.

Attending my first Annual Conference several years ago was another chance to absorb the passion and enthusiasm of other college counseling professionals, and I began looking for ways to contribute and give back to the organization. I have been a member of the Social Media Committee for almost two years, working to increase ACCA's presence and visibility online. I am excited for the opportunity to continue serving the organization in a new capacity as Treasurer.

MEMBER-AT-LARGE – COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Hoyam Tanon

I am honored to be nominated for the position of Member-at-Large for the American College Counseling Association. This opportunity allows me to contribute to the vital work of supporting counseling professionals and enhancing the quality of services we provide to students. With nine years of experience in counseling and higher education, I have developed a comprehensive understanding of the challenges and opportunities in our field. My experience in counseling, teaching, and supervising counselors has equipped me to effectively address the diverse needs of students, staff, and faculty.

In various leadership roles such as clinical director, coordinator, and adjunct professor I have successfully led initiatives to enhance student services and promote mental health awareness on campus. My collaborative approach has fostered strong relationships with colleagues and stakeholders. I am dedicated to advocating for the counseling profession through my involvement with the ICA, where I focus on advancing policies that promote awareness and knowledge for counseling students and professionals regarding their advocacy roles. By collaborating with stakeholders and policymakers, I strive to create impactful initiatives that address the needs of those we serve.

My commitment to community outreach and advocacy for refugee and undocumented populations has deepened my dedication to supporting marginalized communities and promoting inclusivity within our counseling practices.

As a Member-at-Large, I aim to amplify the voices of counseling professionals within our association. I believe that through collaboration and shared leadership, we can enhance the resources and support available to our members. My goals include strengthening networks among counselors in community colleges, advocating for policies that enhance funding for counseling programs, and promoting the implementation of evidence-based practices.

understanding of mental health challenges on campus is one of my favorite and fulfilling things to do.

As a member of ACCA, I utilize resources, attend our conference, participate in our Community College monthly meetings, and utilize the ACCA community college survey results into my work to advocate for more staff and services. I have served my community in different volunteer capacities over the years. Currently, I serve as President of our local CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) Volunteer Board of Directors and on the Advisory Board for Nebraska Collegiate Prevention Alliance. I work closely with our state behavioral health workforce development center and received grant funds to expand our staff and resources at our campus. I am thrilled to have a potential opportunity to serve nationally on this committee.

GOVERNING COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE, ACCA

Raime Thibodeaux

Hello and thanks for taking the time to read all nomination summaries to inform your vote!!

A little bit about me: College counseling has been my professional career path since 2007 where I started off as a clinician then progressed to assistant director, then director roles, all at university counseling centers. As a first-gen student and Pell Grant recipient myself, I know the transformative power that college can have on one's life trajectory, and my work in college mental health has always come from a "pay it forward" perspective—to give to others the support that was given to me so long ago.

A little bit about my prior service: I have served in the roles of Secretary and then later on as President for ACCA in prior years. I was beyond honored to be nominated to serve in the role of Governing Council representative for this election cycle—this position feels like the natural next progression in my service to the profession.

If selected, I look forward to being of service to the profession, both with ACCA and as a connection point to ACA's governing council.

Kaethe D.B Hoehling

I am seeking the opportunity to serve as the ACCA Governing Council Representative for the upcoming term, 2025-2028. I am committed to working within our communities of practice to support students and their development. I have worked as a professional counselor for over 20 years and as the Director of Counseling Services within a higher education setting for almost 5 years. I am proud that ACCA adheres to a mission to promote social justice and I hope to join in the organization's efforts to elevate the collegiate experience towards equity, respect, and enhanced opportunities.

I am currently serving within my state branch of ACA/SAIGE (ArCA/ArSAIGE) as the division president and my current term will conclude in the summer of 2025. I then, with your support and vote, will be able to focus attention on the responsibilities of the Governing Council Representative position and bring my experiences with listening, leading, facilitating, and advocating. I also hope to bring certain lived experiences to this role. I have been both a 'traditional' and a 'non-traditional' learner, in that, although I began my path in higher education as a student straight from high school,

my educational and career path took turns and developments that placed me in a more 'non-traditional' role later. Life responsibilities and experiences placed higher education out of reach at certain periods of my life and I was, thankfully, able to return to degree seeking in different seasons and conditions of growth and change. I believe that having an appreciation for these experiences and varied perspectives as a learner and a leader within higher education will allow me to serve you, serve ACCA, honor diversity, and serve the missions present at the intersection of professional counseling and higher education. I appreciate your consideration and time.

Association for Humanistic Counseling (AHC)

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Bogusia Skudrzyk

I have had the honor of serving in membership and leadership capacities for ACA and its divisions for over 25 years; as a member and chair of various committees, as a President of ASGW, a presenter, and a writer. In addition, the 30 years of full-time experience as faculty, clinician, supervisor, have informed my professional identity anchored in humanistic values, theories, therapies, and approaches.

I have experienced firsthand the unwavering dedication of AHC members. I remain inspired by its leaders that cultivate a sense of community leading to transformation, through humanistic practices that remain anchored in valuing diversity, research and practice. Therefore, I would love to carry on with its mission, through humanistic group work. Words of Helen Keller, "alone we can do so little, together we can do so much", resonate with me as those illuminate the humanistic focus that AHC fosters. Maya Angelou's words- "there is no greater agony than bearing untold story inside you" remind me of the importance of remaining anchored in humanistic approaches so that

Illinois Association for Play Therapy, and I have completed numerous leadership trainings through the Illinois Counseling Association, American Counseling Association, and the Association for Play Therapy.

While my experiences have prepared me to lead, my greatest strength lies in my unwavering passion for humanistic counseling. As a humanistic counselor and educator, I hold a deep belief in the potential for personal growth when individuals feel safe, supported, and understood. I am committed to the core tenets of humanistic counseling, and I have witnessed firsthand the transformative impact of meeting clients and students with empathy, authenticity, and respect.

If elected, I will embody the core conditions of empathy, genuineness, and unconditional positive regard to foster an inclusive, collaborative, and empowering environment where every member of AHC feels valued and heard.

SECRETARY

Jyotsana Sharma

I have been a member of ACA for many years, serving the organization and its divisions in various capacities. I have served on committees for the ACA and AMCD (Association for Multicultural Counseling and Development). Most recently I have been involved in service to the Association for Assessment and Research in Counseling (AARC), first as an Emerging Leader and member of the Diversity and Social Justice Committee (DISJ) and then as Chair of DISJ from 2022-2025. I joined the Association of Humanistic Counseling (AHC) in 2023. I was requested to co-chair the AHC awards committee due to my experience serving as a member of the awards committees for AMCD and Virginia Counseling Association (VCA). I continue to serve as the co-chair for AHC awards committee this year. I hope to continue my service to the profession through the position of Secretary for AHC moving forward. I have enjoyed all my service positions throughout ACA and its divisions and hope that I can continue to bring energy and passion to serve the counseling community.

Matthew A. Gonzales

I'm grateful for the opportunity to formally submit my application for Secretary to the Board of the Association for Humanistic Counseling. I became a student member of AHC in 2020, and I'm confident I found my community within our profession.

I have remained active within AHC by serving with the Webinar Committee, co-facilitating our Fireside Chats, chairing the '24 Conference Scheduling subcommittee, and serving as a co-coordinator for the '24 conference. Furthermore, being selected and serving as an AHC Emerging Leader was one of the most meaningful experiences of my career. This experience further confirmed my desire to continue to serve my AHC community as Secretary of the Board.

I have served in multiple positions which qualify me to serve AHC as Secretary. As the University of Oklahoma Online Clinical Coordinator, serving our students, faculty members, site supervisors, and other stakeholders has especially prepared me to be the Secretary for AHC. Among other duties, I am currently compiling documentation for and writing the clinical section of our initial CACREP application. Recently, as AHC Conference Scheduling Subcommittee chair, I communicated with many presenters,

created the schedule for the conference, and answered any questions presenters had related to scheduling. These experiences demonstrate my ability to work with, synthesize, and organize large amounts of information from disparate sources. They also show I collaborate well with others, and clearly and succinctly communicate important information with various groups of stakeholders.

As a voting member of the Board, I understand the stakes of this responsibility. I have an informed outlook that will consistently represent the needs of AHC membership. My decision-making process is directed by existential-humanism and social justice, meaning my votes will be cast to support counselors' and their clients' ability to authentically self-actualize and pursue liberation.

Thank you greatly for your consideration.

Association for Multicultural Counseling and Development (AMCD)

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Kristy Christopher-Holloway

I am seeking the position of president-elect for the Association for Multicultural Counseling & Development (AMCD) to continue my commitment to advancing multicultural counseling and humility. My past direct involvement with AMCD as the website and social media manager has allowed me to streamline communication efforts by establishing an efficient email system, that continues to be used. Additionally, my role as the professional development and social media chair enhanced a robust webinar series, meeting relevant continuing education needs for members. Currently, my role as the Southern Region Representative has equipped me with a deep understanding of AMCD's goals and operations.

Throughout my career, I have consistently demonstrated leadership in personal, professional, and academic settings, along with a strong dedication to service. My role as co-chair of the ACA of Georgia from 2022-2024 further highlights my commitment to fostering professional growth and advocacy within the counseling community.

As president-elect of AMCD, my primary goal is to provide strong support to the current president while gaining the insights and skills necessary to effectively lead AMCD in the future. I am dedicated to promoting multicultural competence and humility, enhancing professional development opportunities, and ensuring AMCD remains a leading force in the field of counseling.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Melanie Calhoun

I am running for the AMCD Student Representative position because I am committed to serving students and emerging professionals within our field. As the 2024-2025 ACA of Georgia Graduate Student Committee Chair, I have experience in leading student engagement and supporting professional development. Additionally, my role on the AMCD conference planning committee for the 2024 ACA Conference and Expo allowed me to support AMCD in promoting multicultural counseling by raising awareness, connecting with graduate students, and recruiting counselors to AMCD.

American Rehabilitation Counseling Association (ARCA)

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Alexis Duggan

I am a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC), Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC), and Doctoral Candidate with over ten years of experience in serving individuals with disabilities. I am seeking the office of president-elect to continue serving individuals with disabilities on a larger platform. I believe that adults and adolescents with disabilities should have access to independent living resources, be able reach their career aspirations, and have an enjoyable quality of life without the barriers that they often encounter. I have been a member of ARCA since 2017 and have had the opportunity to serve as student representative and attend several conferences where I have presented on topics to increase knowledge surrounding individuals with disabilities. I believe that the role of president elect would assist me in continuing this work for the disability

Angelica Woods-Smith

I have fourteen years of counseling experience, both in rehabilitation and mental health counseling and my current position allows me to integrate both worlds as the Director of Counseling, Disability and Testing Services at Northwest Mississippi Community College. For the first five years of my post-Masters career, with my CRC credential, I was as a VR counselor for the State of Tennessee and later recruited to supervise job coaches and employment specialists at a nonprofit that specialized in supported and customized employment for individuals with disabilities. In 2018, I transitioned to community mental health, where I obtained my LPC-MHSP credential in Tennessee and became a Clinical Supervisor of the CCBHC grant-funded program, Open Access. I later explored private practice for two years before I began my current position.

I am currently a doctoral student at University of Holy Cross for Counselor Education and Supervision and expect to graduate this Fall. I have presented at several conferences over the years, advocating for disability competency, ethics and best practices within the counseling education and profession. I am also a member of ACA, ACES, ARCA, and TCA professional organizations and serve as Membership Chair at West Tennessee Counseling Association.

I am seeking the position of Secretary of ARCA to continue my quest to advocate for this specialized profession in counseling, as well as continue my contribution to the rehabilitation field. As Secretary, I will bring my years of experience, my dedication, and success in leadership in this position.

Jinhee Park

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Allie Trambow Ledbetter

I am honored to be considered for the role of Student Representative for the American Rehabilitation Counseling Association (ARCA). As a counseling and rehabilitation student passionate about serving youth and adolescents with neurodevelopmental and intellectual disabilities, I am dedicated to advancing the field of rehabilitation counseling through advocacy, education, and service.

Throughout my academic and professional journey, I have actively pursued opportunities to gain diverse experiences and make meaningful contributions to the communities I serve. As Vice President of my program's Counseling and Rehabilitation Student Association, a PRN Clinical Counselor at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC), and a volunteer with several organizations that support youth, adolescents, and transitioning adults with disabilities, I have developed strong leadership, communication, and collaboration skills. These experiences have not only strengthened my ability to advocate for underserved populations but also fueled my passion for supporting fellow students in their professional development.

I obtained my PhD in Rehabilitation in 2018 from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale. My clinical experiences included being an adult outpatient counselor for a community mental health agency in Illinois. I currently serve as an assistant professor at the University of Iowa. At the university, I teach within the Department of Counselor Education in the Rehabilitation and Clinical Mental Health master Programs. I have also been involved in many national counseling related organizations including Vocational Evaluation and Career Assessment Professionals (VECAP) and CRCC.

Association for Spiritual, Ethical and Religious Values in Counseling (ASERVIC)

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Anita A. Neuer Colburn

As a long-time member and past board member of ASERVIC, I am honored to be nominated for President-Elect.

My multiple roles in the Counselor Education world are informed by my own spiritual journey, as I believe are yours. Incorporating this vital element of our uniqueness into our work promotes mutual understanding and growth in the presence of potential discord and confusion. We have much to learn from one another and teach each other about ethical integration, regardless of our own identities and orientations. I hope to help nurture our members' own spiritual awareness as they integrate religion and spirituality into their counseling, teaching, supervision, and leadership roles.

Our ongoing development can also be enriched by communing with other like-minded helping professionals. One of my hopes for ASERVIC is that we find ways to network with other practitioners committed to the ethical integration of religion and spirituality in the helping process.

ASERVIC members are the heart of our organization and remain committed to the challenge of finding ways to be truly inclusive of all religious/spiritual belief systems. I will encourage our members to find ways to prioritize and operationalize inclusivity within their personal workspaces and outward toward the greater counseling community. As Desmond Tutu stated, "the world has great instinct for goodness, rebirth, mercy, beauty, truth, freedom, and love." The commonalities among world religions and the vast array of spiritual belief systems affirm this possibility and create a foundation upon which true equity and inclusion can and must be accomplished. My hope is that ASERVIC will continue to grow and that our members will be light in darkness, hope in doubt, and faith in fear... for each other, and for those whom we serve.

Thank you for considering me for this important role in our organization.

SECRETARY

Michelle Hollomon

I hope to contribute to the ongoing value ASERVIC provides to the professional counseling community through advocacy, leadership, and education. Spirituality is a salient part of identity and a pathway to personal growth. I value the opportunity to

counseling, multicultural issues in counseling, accessibility, and student success. My current research explores questions of theology on induvial and corporate meaning making.

I believe in the importance of integrating religion and spirituality into counseling practice and addressing the harms of religious trauma. My work as a professor and clinician aligns with the principles and values of ASERVIC and I look forward to serving as secretary for the organization. It is my hope to not only add my voice to the conversation around spiritual, ethical and religious values in counseling, but to also serve as a voice for others.

Odalis Romero

I am seeking the position of Secretary for ASERVIC to contribute my extensive background in counseling and education, as well as my passion for integrating spiritual, ethical, and cultural values into practice. I not only have professional counseling experience but am also completing my doctorate in counselor education and supervision at Liberty University. I have had the opportunity to be committee chair in an ACA and an FCA committee. I also have had the opportunity to present at both FCA and ACA conferences. One thing about me is that I am passionate about the profession and am always eager to lend a helping hand for the professional organizations to continue to flourish, which is what can expect from me as your ASERVIC secretary.

Sapna Singh

Mary K. Whiting

As a doctoral candidate in Counselor Education and Supervision at the University of Texas at San Antonio, my research focus on religious and multicultural counseling aligns seamlessly with ASERVIC's mission to empower the exploration, development, and expression of spiritual, ethical, and religious values in counseling. My work, recognized by consecutive ASERVIC Research Awards in 2023 and 2024, demonstrates a commitment to advancing this mission through rigorous academic inquiry.

My role as ASERVIC Graduate Student Representative and Co-Chair for the Emerging Leader Program has provided invaluable insights into the organization's operations and needs. These experiences have prepared me to take on the responsibilities of secretary with a deep understanding of ASERVIC's goals and challenges.

Active membership in ACA, ACES, and TCA has broadened my perspective on the counseling profession, enabling me to effectively represent ASERVIC's interests in collaborative efforts with other organizations. This multifaceted involvement enhances my ability to contribute to ASERVIC's aim of integrating ethical considerations across various counseling specialties.

My counseling PLLC, has allowed me to work with clients who have experienced suboptimal care and has sharpened my awareness of the critical need for culturally humble, spiritually integrated counseling – a core focus of ASERVIC.

As secretary, I would leverage these experiences to support ASERVIC's mission, ensuring that our organizational practices and initiatives consistently reflect our commitment to the counseling profession.

GRADUATE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Elizabeth Humphrey

As a Licensed Professional Counselor and a current PhD Student in Counselor Education and Supervision, I highly value integrating spirituality and religion into clinical practice, supervision, and teaching. As a therapist, I have seen firsthand how ignoring this essential part of client identities can lead to missing out on accurately knowing and treating our clients. As a supervisor, I have been privileged to introduce my supervisees to the value of discussing religious and spiritual experiences with clients. I have previously served on professional organizations including my local chapter of Chi Sigma Iota and previously as part of the Georgia College Counseling Association, The American College Counseling Association Graduate Students and New Professionals (GSNP) Committee, and the Georgia College and University Suicide Prevention Coalition. In addition to my role as a PhD student, I work at a private practice specializing in developmental and religious Trauma. I hope to continue to grow the field of religious trauma with my dissertation research. As the graduate student representative for ASERVIC, I hope to help bring more awareness about ASERVIC to others and to help provide a student perspective to the organization.

Margaret Poandl

As a doctoral student with a clinical mental health counseling background, I've witnessed the healing and transformative power of religion and spirituality in session. Accordingly, my research interests include spirituality and posttraumatic growth (PTG), as I am passionate in exploring the ways that counselors can guide individuals towards transcendence. I am interested in a board position as Association for Spiritual, Ethical, and Religious Values in Counseling's (ASERVIC) graduate student representative because of this passion, and I would be honored to help advocate for ASERVIC's values within the counseling profession. Clinically, I have worked in a variety of settings over the past 12 years, including inpatient, community, educational and private practice, and I am trained in eye-movement desensitization and reprocessing (EMDR). As a doctoral student, I have published a paper on using EMDR to promote PTG, presented twice at ASERVIC's national conference in June, and received three research grants over the past six months, including one from ASERVIC, to further my PTG research aims. I strongly believe in the value of research of strengths-based and trauma-informed approaches that incorporate spirituality and religion in order to best serve counselors and their clients. I feel that these qualifications, along with my desire to help serve an organization that promotes values near and dear to my counselor heart, make me an excellent fit for the graduate student representative role. Thank you for your consideration.

Samantha M. Turner

Katie Hinkle

I received an MA in Clinical Mental Health Counseling (May 2023) and am currently pursuing a PhD in Combined Counseling and School Psychology. Throughout my masters I had an interest in learning about integrating clients' spiritual/religious beliefs into the counseling space, thereby taking additional coursework on topics of Counseling and Spirituality. Additionally, I chose a masters-level internship site that further enhanced my knowledge, skills, and clinical experiences in ethically integrating religious and spiritual beliefs and practices into counseling.

This continues to be an interest as I pursue my PhD. Currently, I am facilitating a qualitative research project on the benefits of collaboration between faith leaders and counseling psychologists to mutually support clients from faith backgrounds presenting with mental health conditions that necessitate the involvement of a professionally trained and licensed mental health practitioner. I will explore the beliefs, values, training, scope of practice, and treatment procedures of both religious leaders offering counseling to practitioners and counselors/psychologists that also provide direct services to clients.

I strongly believe that the inclusion of the client's spiritual and religious faith can be a source of hope and meaning and has the potential to create a therapeutic environment that recognizes and honors the client's values and available resources to promote healing, resilience, and post-traumatic growth. Furthermore, I am trained in Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) and take a trauma-informed approach with my clients at Redemption Counseling Center (RCC) as a Licensed Associate Counselor. Many clients seek treatment at RCC because of the faith integration offered throughout all stages of the treatment process. It is my hope to contribute to the community of likeminded professionals all seeking to better understand the complexity of religious and spiritual integration in the mental health field and serve the ASERVIC community as a student representative.

Nikki McBride

As a graduate student at Ashland Theological Seminary (Ohio) I was initiated into the Chi Sigma Iota honors society after academically excelling my first semester and maintaining work and life balance. Prior to starting my college career, I was a member of Youth With A Mission (YWAM) where I served the ministry as a leader in training programs and outreach teams as my call in the Great Commission. As a current active member of Grace Church, I serve in the Youth Group ministry as I believe it is of vital importance to invest in the future generations and the Church.

My intention to run as a board member is to be a part of the ASERVIC team and grow in leading positions as I begin my counseling career. In doing this, I can promote ASERVIC's values and commitment while being an agent to the counseling field as a graduate student during my internship. I believe this first step in serving as a member of the ASERVIC board will direct me in the continuation of building the counseling industry with quality people in an association that agrees with my personal professional identity and spiritual values.

Andrew Acuna

Candidate information not available.

Christopher B. Townsend

I am Christopher Townsend, a servant leader, employing my gifts to improve the human condition. Integrating spirituality into clinical practice is necessary to assist seekers of wellness. Clients present to therapy with beliefs and practices that are intervention resources for the counselor. During the past 24 years, my most memorable counseling cases are centered in spirituality work across mental health and addictions disciplines. In my religious practices I have served the church and community for the past 14 years with spiritual guidance and interventions to resolve conflicts. My travels have taken me to African countries to train clinicians in the Mental Health Facilitation (MHF) model. These clinicians provide the MHF training to community leaders of Muslim and Christian faiths. My first publication, titled Respecting Religion and Spirituality in Evidenced-Based Practices, was published in Counselor: The Magazine for Addiction Professionals, 4(14), pp. 10-17. This article captures my philosophy of integrating spirituality as a therapeutic resource for healing. Most recently, I presented with colleagues at the 2024 ASERVIC virtual conference on Spiritual Bypassing. I'm currently collaborating with colleagues to address other gaps in the literature to address spiritual conflicts that are not addressed by behavioral health. As a subject matter expert in Multicultural Counseling at The University of the Cumberlands, I teach students to include spirituality as a part of their clinical work, allowing clients to teach them about their beliefs. This allows the counselors to better intervene in a more culturally responsive manner. Joining the ASERVIC board will allow me to continue advocating for this critical aspect of the counseling profession. I bring leadership as a past Director of a behavioral health and wellness clinic, past Treasurer of the National Board for Certified Counselors Foundation, and current member of the ACA Governance and Board Operations Committee.

Heidi L. Henry

It is an honor to be running for the ASERVIC Board member position. I first began my membership in ASERVIC in 2016 and shortly after, I assumed and maintained leadership positions within the organization. I have served as Assistant Editor and Editor of Interaction, ASERVIC's newsletter for a combined 4 years. Then I served as a member of the Spiritual and Religious Values Committee, and for the past three years, I have been the Secretary for ASERVIC. I believe my involvement in these roles is evidence of my dedication to advancing ASERVIC and its mission of infusing spiritual, ethical, and religious values into the counseling profession. In addition to my involvement in ASERVIC, I have also served in various leadership positions in state and regional counseling associations.

I am currently an Assistant Professor at St. Bonaventure University, a Licensed Professional Counselor, and have counseled in both clinical and school settings. During both my clinical and teaching experience, I have approached clients and students with cultural humility, affirming those whose religious and spiritual beliefs differ from my own. Through my experience in ASERVIC, I have come to appreciate how the organization's leadership has also valued diverse religious and spiritual perspectives and sought to bridge gaps among populations historically marginalized by religious institutions. If elected to the ASERVIC Board, I will work to continue the vision of recognizing the value in all religious and spiritual perspectives, while promoting the ethical use of religion and spirituality in the counseling profession.

Association for Specialists in Group Work (ASGW)

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Yanhong Liu

I am honored to be nominated as a candidate for President-Elect of the Association for Specialists in Group Work (ASGW). My journey with the ASGW began in 2019 when I fell deeply in love with engaging group work training and research. Through later leadership roles and experiences with the ASGW, I developed a profound understanding of the association, and its mission and values. I have served as the Vice Chair and Chair of the

in reintroducing accessible continuing education opportunities and the creation of the Doctoral Internship Manual. These leadership roles have reinforced my commitment to building infrastructure that supports both professional and social development for our members.

As President-Elect, I will focus on amplifying the advocacy initiatives already being carried out on an individual level while collaborating with other organizations to broaden our collective impact. I plan to advance anti-racist and anti-oppressive initiatives that address institutional inequities while fostering sustainable partnerships that elevate marginalized voices. My transformational leadership style and team-player approach will help foster deeper connections within our organization and the broader community. It would be my utmost honor to build on our revolutionary legacy.

REPRESENTATIVE, RETIRED/LIMITED MEANS

Colette T. Dollarhide

Anna Baird

International Association of Addictions and Offender Counselors (IAAOC)

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Counselor, an editorial board member for Teaching and Supervision in Counseling, ad-hoc reviewer for Counselor Education and Supervision, and she serves as a member of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC) Foundation mental health advisory council.

She is a licensed professional counselor, approved clinical supervisor, certified clinical trauma professional, and vice president elect of American Educational Research Association (AERA) Division E. Dr. Haynes-Thoby would be honored to serve as an American Counseling Association Governing Council Representative for the International Association for Resilience and Trauma Counseling. She is eager to bring her commitment and service to the post.

Military and Government Counseling Association (MGCA)

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Neil Duchac

It is an honor to be considered for the position of President of the Military and Government Counseling Association. I have been a member of this branch for several years and previously served on the board of directors. The Military and Government Counseling Association has an important job of advocating for Armed Services members, their families, and government employees at various levels, from local to state and federal governmental roles. Considering the significance of communication, outreach, advocacy, and support, I feel that I could do an excellent job providing leadership. Previously, I worked for the state of Ohio for 15 years in various positions. Additionally, I am a veteran of the United States Navy, having served as an electrician's mate aboard the USS America (CV-66). Much of my career outside of academia has focused on providing clinical services to veterans and their families.

SECRETARY

Necole Gonsahn

I am honored to submit my candidacy for the role of Secretary within our esteemed association. As a dedicated new professional with a deep commitment to supporting the well-being of our military and government personnel, I believe I am well-suited to contribute effectively in this capacity.

My background includes previous service in a component of the US Army Reserves. Through this time, I was able to develop a passion for military members and their families. I have homed in on this passion as a scholarly researcher, conference presenter, and graduate student. I believe this this position will allow me the opportunity to continue to develop these skills on a broader scale. As a graduate assistant, graduate representative for the Lookout Counseling Association and Tennessee Mental Health Counseling Association, I have demonstrated skills necessary to effectively organize and plan events through successful communication.

Furthermore, I am committed to fostering a collaborative and supportive environment within our association. I understand that the role of Secretary goes beyond administrative duties; it involves serving as a reliable point of contact and a trusted source of support

for our members. I am dedicated to being responsive and approachable, ensuring that all members feel heard and valued.

If elected as Secretary, my priorities will include:

1. Ensuring accurate and timely recording of meeting minutes and decisions.
2. Streamlining communication and information dissemination to enhance member engagement.
3. Supporting the executive team in coordinating and organizing events and meetings.

I am enthusiastic about the opportunity to contribute to our association's mission and to support the valuable work we do for our military and government personnel. Thank you for considering my candidacy. I look forward to the opportunity to serve you as Secretary and to work together to advance our collective goals.

GRADUATE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Samantha Robertson

I am a 14-year veteran. I have worked for the Air Force, Army and Marine Corps as a sexual assault victim advocate.

I am currently a student in a Clinical Mental Health Counseling program. Additionally, I hold an M.A. in Psychology with a certification in Criminal Justice. The military and government agencies have always been my passion and focus.

DIRECTOR

Edward (Franc) Hudspeth

Military and Government Counseling Association's (MGCA) members I am seeking election as a Director for MGCA. I have been a member of the American Counseling Association (ACA) for over 23 years. I received my doctorate in Counselor Education & Supervision, from The University of Mississippi in 2009. I have been a Licensed Professional Counselor since 2004 and Registered Pharmacist since 1989.

Over the past decade, I have served in various ways several ACA divisions from state to regional to national levels. From treasurer to president-elect to president, I have served in whatever way I could be of use. Over the past nine years, I have had the opportunity to serve at the state and national levels for MGCA. I am currently Past-President of MGCA and Co-Editor of MGCA's Journal of Military and Government Counseling.

Because I know that at some point, as counselors and counselor educators, most will eventually work with or teach a service member, veteran, their family, and/or first responder, I believe that service to MGCA is a way to support the needs of the association as it strives to support the needs of counselors and counselor educators working with service members, veterans, their families, and first responders. As a Director, I aspire to help promote the organization as its leadership and members fulfill the mission of MGCA. I know that working with service members, veterans, their families, and first responders requires specific training, an awareness of military and first responder culture, and insight into the unique ethical challenges that may present when working with these individuals.

Tom Ayala

As a seasoned licensed professional counselor practicing rural mental health in Oregon, I am honored to submit my candidacy for the role of Director within the Military and Government Counseling Association (MGCA), a division of the American Counseling Association. My professional journey has been deeply influenced by a commitment to serve our nation's veterans and to elevate the standards of the counseling profession, both of which align with MGCA's mission to enhance the quality of counseling services provided to military personnel, veterans, and government employees.

With a focus on serving combat veterans in my office, I also am dedicated to the local VA Home skilled nursing facility, where I provide counseling services to some of the most vulnerable members of our veteran community. This experience has instilled in me a profound respect for the resilience of veterans and a dedication to advocating for their

I have over 26 years of military service and served on several different levels of leadership in the military and civilian organizations. I been humbled with the opportunity to serve as president, vice-president, and board of directors on several non-profit organizations and association. The military has provided with several leadership training and experience, molding me into a proactive empathetic transformation leader who puts people first and always serving. I am a minority in that I have several ethnicities and have been all over the world and this has taught me the importance of cultural sensitivity. Serving on the Military Government Counseling Association Board of Directors will provide an avenue to relentlessly advocate for LPCs in the federal and military system!

Sarah Mossa

As a military counselor through MOS and Tricare I believe that I embody the role of advocate for our military service members and their dependents. I'm volunteering for the position as Director which works on subcommittees. As President of the Illinois Counseling Association and Immediate Past President, I have worked on numerous committees over the last four years including Finance Committee, Conference Committee, By-Laws Committee Meetings, and overall handling the daily operations of the State level organization. I assisted ACA MW region chair on the conference committee for ACA 2024 conference. I currently sit on IL IDFPR's ethics board. I believe my experiences are in alignment with the needs of this position, and I am happy to provide service.

Icey Davies-Clark

The advancement of mental health care for military personnel, veterans, and their families is critical to the well-being of our nation. As the spouse of a veteran and a dedicated public servant, I am honored to be nominated for the position of Director at the Military and Government Counseling Association (MGCA).

My goal as a Director is to further MGCA's mission by advocating for comprehensive mental health support and education within military and government communities.

I hold a Masters in Science Administration with a concentration in Health Services Administration and a Master of Education in Clinical Mental Health Counseling specializing in Military and Veteran Counseling from the College of William & Mary. I am also a certified health and wellness coach. My professional work is rooted in a strong commitment to social justice, education, health, and wellness. As a Licensed Graduate Professional Counselor (LGPC) and National Board Certified Counselor (NCC), I am passionate about helping individuals navigate the complexities of life transitions. My expertise includes trauma and crisis intervention, with a specialized focus on military-involved populations. I am also deeply interested in areas such as loss, grief, and resilience.

I have worked extensively with local governments, serving transition-age youth and adults in educational, rehabilitative, and correctional environments. I believe education plays a pivotal role in providing effective guidance and counseling. My leadership experience includes managing teams of educators, case managers, and community organizations to support individuals and families during critical transitional phases. Driven by compassion and a commitment to service, I aim to uphold MGCA's objectives in partnership with the American Counseling Association (ACA), ensuring that those who serve and the underserved receive the care and support they deserve.

Sean Merchant

Sean has been a full-time counselor for under a year at a nonprofit in the Chicagoland area that has focused on assisting Veterans and their families. He retired last year from the Navy Reserves and prior active service in the Navy for a combined service of 24 years. Last year, Sean graduated with a master's in clinical mental health counseling. Sean has been in the helping services for over a decade as a case manager and program manager for a housing grant that assisted veterans and their families in finding and establishing stable housing in a challenging metropolitan housing landscape. He served on several Continuums of Care and committees advocating, networking, and assisting in addressing veteran homelessness. Sean served on the VA FHCC Lovell's Stakeholders Advisory Council and is serving on the Lake County Suicide Prevention Task Force.

Sean was raised in a military family, living in over half a dozen 'homes' and making

HSA and the Department of Veterans Affairs that supports the development of mental health, wellness, and suicide prevention coalitions for Service Members, Veterans, and their Families.

Elizabeth Prosek

Hello, MGCA Members! My name is Elizabeth Prosek (PhD, LPC, NCC) and professionally I am an Associate Professor and Professor-in-Charge for Counselor Education at Penn State University. My nomination to serve MGCA as a Governing Council Representative is an intentional decision towards advocacy for the members of the division and populations for whom we collectively serve. In the role of MGCA Governing Council Representative, I aim to offer reasonable and relevant recommendations towards the functioning of ACA on behalf of the interests of MGCA members. My goal is to promote continued efforts of professional counselors in serving clients associated with MGCA. In the past, I have served MGCA as a director and led the task force for developing the exemplary practices for counseling military populations. I am honored to have the opportunity to serve the members of MGCA in the Governing Council role, which allows for larger-scale systemic changes in policies that uplift professional counselors working with military and government-related clients.

Society for Sexual, A□ectional, Intersex, and Gender Expansive Identities (SAIGE)

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Clark D. Ausloos

As a queer counselor, educator, and researcher, my work has consistently centered on advocating for and supporting queer and trans youth, and their families. My passion lies in creating affirming, culturally responsive spaces where marginalized voices are uplifted and celebrated. From my early research on school counselors' competence in working with trans students to my ongoing scholarship on the mental health needs of queer and trans youth and families, I have remained committed to dismantling oppressive structures and advancing equity within the counseling profession.

In addition to serving in academic and clinical roles, I have authored multiple peer-reviewed articles and book chapters that directly address the unique challenges faced by queer and trans folks, with a focus on strength and celebration. My scholarship explores topics such as the harassment and discrimination experienced by trans youth, intersectional advocacy for queer refugee youth, and culturally responsive strategies for working with gender-expansive clients and their families. I have also worked extensively with families to provide education and tools that promote acceptance and support for their queer and trans children.

These efforts have led to recognition within the field, including awards for service and leadership from SAIGE, as well as invitations to present at numerous national and international conferences. As president-elect of SAIGE, I will continue to champion inclusive, affirming practices for queer and trans youth and families, fostering resilience and empowerment within these communities. My leadership is rooted in collaboration, visibility, and a deep-seated commitment to ensuring that mental health professionals

am excited to bring my expertise, passion, and advocacy to this vital role within SAIGE, helping to further our collective mission of advancing social justice and affirming care for LGBTGEQIAP+ people.

GRADUATE STUDENT TRUSTEE

Amanda A. Cole

As a Queer graduate student pursuing a doctorate in Counselor Education and Supervision, I am honored to be a candidate for the SAIGE Graduate Student Representative. My passion for the field, combined with my commitment to advocating for graduate students and LGBTGEQIAP+ clients, makes me a strong applicant for this role.

Throughout my academic journey, I have developed a deep understanding of the unique opportunities and challenges facing counseling students. I am committed to representing the diverse needs and perspectives of my peers, ensuring that their voices are heard. I believe that by fostering a supportive and inclusive community, we can empower future counselors to make meaningful impact in the lives of LGBTGEQIAP+ clients and the profession at-large. I am eager to collaborate with other graduate students from across the country to advance the SAIGE mission of belonging, equity, and liberation.

Having been a member of SAIGE since 2021 and SAIGE Ohio since 2018, I have seen firsthand the ways in which this organization provides graduate students with ample opportunities for advocacy, engagement, and mentorship. This not only promotes strong counselor identity development, but also has direct impact on client care throughout the country. I am a current Graduate Student Senator for my university and have held multiple leadership positions at the state level. I am confident in my ability to contribute to SAIGE's goals and am prepared to expand my reach to the national level. My counseling work has largely been dedicated to advancing clinical practice that promotes positive outcomes for gender expansive youth, especially within the context of family counseling. I am truly grateful to be part of the counseling profession. Being a graduate student has enriched my life in many ways and I want to give back to the field that has given me so much.

Rebecca L Sutter

I'm a 2nd year Clinical Mental Health Counseling student at Southern New Hampshire University (GPA >3.9) and have recently started my practicum at Enrichment Wellness, LLC in Rockville, Maryland. Personally, I identify as a Queer, Intersex woman, and at 57, technically qualify as a Queer Elder. I have a strong history of interest and engagement in the LGBTGEQIAP+ community, having volunteered over the years for the Trevor Project, HRC and the Whitman-Walker Clinic in Washington, DC.

I am transitioning from a lengthy, successful career in IT, where I serve as the CTO of a large non-profit organization, to pursue my passion for providing mental health support for neglected and marginalized members of my community. My studies included courses on counseling families and sexuality issues, as well as CACREP-mandated diversity and ethics, which I hope to employee in my practice.

I would like to serve as the Graduate Counseling Representative for SAIGE in order to deepen my knowledge of issues affecting all LGBTGEQIAP+ individuals beyond my

advance the mission of SAIGE, to bring my perspective and experiences into leadership, and to be a visible advocate for both the rights and well-being of all members of the LGBTGEQIAP+ community.

After completing my internship, I plan to focus my residency on serving LGBTGEQIAP+ clients and become an LCPC. Serving as the Graduate Counseling Representative for SAIGE aligns perfectly with my professional goals and personal commitment to our community.

Iris Wilson-Farley

My name is Iris Wilson-Farley, and I am thrilled to have been nominated for the role of Graduate Student Representative on the Board of the Society for Sexual, Affectional, Intersex, and Gender Expansive Identities (SAIGE). I am currently a first-year graduate student seeking my Masters in Clinical Mental Health Counseling. Counseling is a new career path for me, after spending the last 33 years in customer service, project leadership, and human resources (HR) roles, including 22 years focused on career development, leadership coaching, and diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives. I am excited by the prospect of lending my life experience and organizational leadership skills in service to the work of SAIGE.

If elected to this role, it will not be my first volunteer leadership role. I have previously led committees at the local and national levels for an addiction-related nonprofit, and I currently volunteer as a leader in my church, focused on personnel matters and development of HR procedures. I have also served as the Vice President of Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility (IDEA) for the Northeast Illinois Council of the Boy Scouts of America from 2022 through 2023. (I stepped away from that role to make time for my counseling education.)

My passion for the work of SAIGE is informed, in part, by my identities as a trans woman and a lesbian. I see involvement in SAIGE, and volunteering for a leadership position, as important ways to advocate for my LGBTQIA+ community in the counseling profession. For me personally, involvement in SAIGE represents an opportunity to engage with and learn from queer community members and allies about their work with clients and their experiences as counselors.

I am grateful and excited for this advocacy opportunity, and I sincerely appreciate your support.

TRUSTEE, MULTICULTURAL AND SOCIAL JUSTICE CONCERNS

Rebecca Goldberg

Dr. Rebecca Goldberg holds a ion.