Thank you so much to all of the conference attendees, presenters, panelists, speakers, and volunteers. Special thanks to the fantastic inaugural conference committee and NCCDA exec board as well. I hope you all learned a lot, made good connections with colleagues, and left encouraged and energized to continue the wonderful work of career development through empowerment, inclusion, and equity. See you all next year!
- Deanna Knighton, Conference Chair and President-Elect

What I enjoyed about the conference was meeting new people. It's great to meet colleagues at other institutions and connect with up and coming professionals who are in graduate programs.
- Catherine Allen

As a first time NCCDA attendee, I immediately felt right at home! Whether individuals worked at institutions of higher education, K-12 school systems, private practices, or agencies, everyone was eager to ignite conversation and share their experiences. I really enjoyed the panel - truly a great way to start the conference! I appreciated the opportunity to choose and learn from a range of breakout sessions.
- Caitlin McCormick

Opening and closing keynotes were the best part of the conference. The variety of experiences and candid conversations on others’ lived experiences were really impactful to me.
- Mary Rosage

I enjoyed connecting with so many professionals committed to equity and student success! I really enjoyed the speakers who provided wonderful insight from there various backgrounds. Lastly, Jamila was A-MAZ-ING and I thoroughly enjoyed her keynote.
- Sheena Jacobs, NCCDA President

NCCDA Conference Scholarship Winners Tommy Petersen and Chanel Quick

Opening Keynote Panelists

NCCDA New Professional Award Winner Mary Rosage (r)

NCCDA Board Members
If you are in the same space as me, the 2018 NCCDA Conference came at a great time of year. It is so easy to get bogged down from the day to day activities in our offices and the hubbub within our own lives, but having this together at Elon to reinvigorate our energies and reignite our passions was so important. In thinking about what I wanted to share with you all, there were pieces revolving around diversity and inclusion that were ruminating in my mind when we met, that I thought would be helpful for all:

Addressing Student Presenting VS Perceived Needs

The overarching theme of the conference was so impactful; the panelists’ and keynote speaker’s vulnerability and openness were incredible to witness. One piece that I wanted to discuss within this article is the idea of multicultural competence within the work we do on a day to day basis. Some of us work with specific identity groups, so you will see common themes and trends. But need to also recognize the power of the individual story; just because someone has a similar background or lived experience, does not mean they react or conceptualize it in the same way as another person. Asking those great open-ended questions can assist in getting to know more about the person in front of you and how they interact in navigate through the various spaces they are in on a day-to-day basis.

Additionally, for those of us who are seeing individual clients from all backgrounds, it could be easy to make assumptions that they are experiencing difficulties based upon their identities. As a career development professional, it is important that we meet our clients where they are developmentally. That means not to impose our assumptions and automatic thoughts onto them. For example, if my client comes wanting to discuss reviewing their resume and personal statement, but I discuss only the impact of her criminal background, am I helping her meet the goals she has established for our session? (If you’re also wondering how I chose that specific example, that’s because I had this exact situation earlier in the semester).

While there are so many intersectional aspects of our lives that converge to make us a uniquely individual person, it is important to recognize client’s own self-perception in regards to their identity playing a role in the issues, challenges they may be facing. Had I spent our time focusing on the criminal background, I would not have been able to assist her best in polishing her resume as that certainly is not listed under her experience section. It was important for me as her counselor to understand her meaning making of the experience and support her in moving forward in her career path, but that does not mean that became the new goal of the session when she wanted to review her materials to apply to a graduate program.

Commitment to Further Learning

Conversations and presentations like what were had at the conference are necessary to provide the best service we can to our clients. However, that learning never stops. It is up to us to consistently familiarize ourselves with the goings on within our diverse clientele. There are many different online forums and webinars to learn from. Additionally, there are many publications from the Chronicle of Higher Education or other similar journals to see what is impactful. While professional development is often seen and experienced through conference attendance and presentation, continuing our education and going through the current research and literature can be just as valuable. With this, I want to make a charge to all of you this week; carve our time in your schedule, an hour, 30 minutes, whatever you can afford. Take that time and connect to a new journal article, reach out to presenters you could not meet at NCCDA and ask for their materials, or scroll through your newsfeed and see what support can be given to.

NCDA CHANGES TO POETRY & ART CONTEST DEADLINES

Due to the delayed launch date of the Poetry & Art contest, deadlines have been changed and extended!

Local Deadline: December 20, 2018 -- Local submissions should be submitted to county, district, or parish by this date.

State Deadline: January 20, 2019 -- Local winners should be submitted to the state coordinators by this date.

Please send to:
Amy Willard, 1227 Old Mill Road, Pinnacle, NC 27043

If you do not have a county wide or district wide contest then school or local winners need to be sent by the January 20, 2019 date as well.

February 2019 - State winners will be notified
(1st prize - $50, 2nd prize - $25, 3rd prize - $10; all winners receive a certificate)

April 2019 – National winners will be posted

Thank you for your help in making this a successful contest for the state of NC.
If you have any questions please feel free to contact awillard@wfu.edu.

Contest guidelines and other creative ways to celebrate are on the NCDA website: https://www.ncda.org/aws/NCDA/pt/sp/ncdmonth
MAKE YOUR LIST, CHECK IT TWICE!

It's the most wonderful time of the year—the season for professional counselor conferences! I know, some of us are already getting excited about the upcoming holiday season; however, I am more excited about my recent experience attending the annual NCCDA conference at Elon University. That is somewhat surprising in that, if you had asked me a year ago about attending this particular conference I would have said, "Oh, no—I'm not going to be a career counselor".

Or am I?

As a graduate student in the school counseling program at Campbell University, my attendance at this year’s conference is largely happenstance. Having enjoyed my career development class last semester, I was eager to learn more. I wanted to better understand how to help students with career concerns; so, it made sense for me to jump at the opportunity to join the organization and help with the newsletter. But, in all honesty I was a bit nervous about attending the conference. Would I relate to the counselors and topics, given my counseling focus is not in the career arena?

The answer is a resounding "Yes"! As I listened to the inspiring panel discussion, the keynote speaker, Dr. Jamila Simpson, participated in breakout sessions, or simply chatted with other counselors during lunch, I never once felt that I did not belong. So much of what was shared could be applied in school or clinical settings. My mindset shifted—I am going to be a career counselor, in almost any client setting. After all, the tasks associated with work and career are critical parts of everyone’s life that need to be effectively managed if one is to have a satisfying life. There is an undeniable connection between career, personal, and well-being concerns. Every counselor, whatever their area of specialty, will work with clients or students with career-related concerns—and associated mental health concerns. A "basic awareness of career development process and interventions is essential" for every counselor in every setting (Shallcross, 2013). And what better way to increase awareness than by joining NCCDA or attending the next conference?

Counselors, counselor educators, and counseling graduate students have a number of opportunities from which to choose during counseling conference season(s). One counseling educator, who has a passion for career, recently told me that she has never attended the NCCDA annual conference simply because other conferences take place around the same time. Which made me wonder what career counselors can do to encourage more participation from counselors in other fields. I thought about how I seemed to stumble upon the opportunity to be at the conference and attributed it to "The Lord works in mysterious ways". Which then made me think about how my pastor encourages us to personally invite people to church, as they might not otherwise choose to go on their own.

So, I want to challenge NCCDA members. Make your list, check it twice—regardless of who is naughty or nice—who can you invite to the next career development conference or event? Consider gifting a counselor with a membership to NCCDA!

References


Submitted by Karen Driggers
M.Ed. in School Counseling Candidate, Campbell University

FREE SYMPOSIUM FOR NCCDA GRADUATE STUDENTS

Exploring Data Science: A Symposium for Minority Students – Master of Science in Analytics | Institute for Advanced Analytics | NC State University Saturday, January 19, 2019

Open to NCCDA Member Students—Meals and refreshments included

Go to https://analytics.ncsu.edu/?page_id=14041 for details
GOVERNOR ROY COOPER DECLARES NOVEMBER NORTH CAROLINA CAREER DEVELOPMENT MONTH

State of North Carolina
ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR
NORTH CAROLINA CAREER DEVELOPMENT MONTH
AND
NORTH CAROLINA CAREER DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR DAY
2013
BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Career Development Coordinators in Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs in North Carolina's public schools are committed to helping students explore their potential in personal, healthful, educational, artistic, vocational, and lifetime learning and career development within the National Career Development Guidelines Framework; and

WHEREAS, Career Development Coordinators provide the supporting materials to ensure our schools meet the national standards and competencies established by the National Career Development Association; and

WHEREAS, Career Development Coordinators support the missions of North Carolina's CTE programs by providing curriculum resources and services that help students succeed in HS, college and/or careers, family readiness, and as productive members of society; and

WHEREAS, Career Development Coordinators encourage students to make informed decisions regarding their post-high school years, which may include vocational employment in a skilled or craft occupation, further education at a vocational program, community college, or university; and

WHEREAS, Career Development Coordinators support the work of Career and Technical Student Organizations, ensuring student learning based on intentional competencies, career development education is a critical component to improve enrollment, rate achievement, and improve graduation rates; and

WHEREAS, Career Development Coordinators assist students in understanding the 14 Career Clusters in the National Career Clusters Framework, which is made up of 75 Career Pathways to ensure all students career, college, and citizen readiness through career and development education, CTE students gain the critical thinking, creativity, problem solving, teamwork; and interpersonal skills necessary to thrive in the modern business world and contribute to the vitality of our state and nation;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, R. ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim November, 2013 as "NORTH CAROLINA CAREER DEVELOPMENT MONTH" and November 14, 2013 as "NORTH CAROLINA CAREER DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR DAY" in North Carolina, and strengthen our support for all students.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the city of Raleigh this twenty-ninth day of October in the year of our Lord two thousand thirteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-third.

Governing

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the city of Raleigh this twenty-ninth day of October in the year of our Lord two thousand thirteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-third.

North Carolina Counseling Association 2019 Annual Conference
Counselors Committed to Advocacy
February 20 - 22, 2019
Durham Convention Center
Durham, NC

Featured Speakers Include:

- Dr. David Kapla - Chief Executive Officer, North Carolina Counseling Association
- Dr. Valda Acevedo - Assistant Professor of Educational Counseling, University of North Carolina, Greensboro
- Dr. Robert Trudie - Assistant Professor of Educational Counseling, North Carolina State University
- Dr. Cary Monge - Assistant Professor of Educational Counseling, University of North Carolina, Greensboro

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