





**Thank you to all
who participated in our
recent events!**

Save the Date April 4, 2024
**Integrated Career and Mental Health Support:
 A Cognitive Information Processing Approach**
 Dr. Seth Hayden
 4-5pm via Zoom
 Go to NCCDAonline.org for event details
 and to register!
 1 NBCC CE is available

In person *Face-to-face*
 Multiple locations
Bytes & Banter
 April 10, 2024
 8:30 am - 9:30 am




Follow us on social media for
more updates!



President's Message

Welcome everyone to this issue of the North Carolina Career Development Association's (NCCDA) newsletter.

In less than 2 months, my term as President of the North Carolina Career Development Association will come to an end. I am humbled and honored to have had the opportunity to serve career practitioners around the state. It feels like the time went by in a whirlwind with multiple opportunities to grow, learn, and meet career professionals dedicated to their work.



Belinda J. Wilkerson, EdD

Thanks to Emily Gomez and her hardworking and dedicated conference committee, our Spring conference at Shaw University was a success. Shout out to Morgan Ray and her amazing team members for their commitment to our program. Each speaker and presenter exceeded our expectations! We are so lucky to have talented and knowledgeable professionals in our midst.

As we move into Spring and prepare for our Executive Board transition meeting in May, I am deeply grateful for our current board members. They have tirelessly given of their time and talents to the mission of NCCDA. They are:

- Emily Gomez - President Elect
- Stacey Huffman - Past President
- Beth Hwang - Treasurer
- Johnette Smith - Secretary
- Andrea Wogoman - Communications
- Kelsey Hines - Best Practices Grant
- Mallory Harris - Community Outreach
- Ramchandra Athavale - Membership
- Victoria Hamill - Membership
- Amy Schroeder - Government & PR
- Brittany Grant - Archives
- Karen Ingram - Professional Recognition
- Nadia Chamberlin - Professional Recognition
- Carl Wallin - Professional Recognition
- Morgan Ray Stokes - National Career Development Month
- Allison Gibson - National Career Development Month
- Jamie Johnson - Continuing Education
- Cindy Haeck - Continuing Education
- Crystal Waters - Continuing Education



We are always seeking members to serve on the leadership team. Come join us as we discover the use of new technologies, explore best practices, and learn how to best serve our students and clients. Interested in learning more about being on the Executive Board? Attend our Bytes & Banter session on April 10th. Registration information can be found on this page.

NCCDA ANNUAL CONFERENCE | MARCH 8, 2024

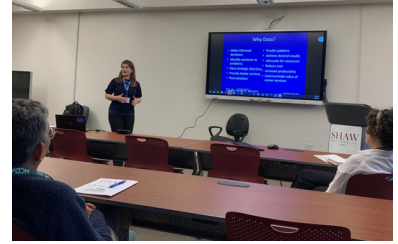


SPRING 2024 CONFERENCE
March 8, 2024 | Shaw University
Raleigh, NC

*Thank you to
all who
attended!*



UNLOCKING CAREER POTENTIAL:
Strategies for Growth and Achievement



Opening Keynote: Wesley Wade



Closing Keynote: Doug Mayes

NCCDA ANNUAL CONFERENCE REFLECTION by ALEXIS HILL

2024 Graduate Student Scholarship Recipient

Attending this year's NCCDA conference was a great experience. The theme of Unlocking Career Potential was portrayed throughout the conference breakout sessions. With many interesting topics, there were two sessions I thoroughly enjoyed. The first was "What's Your Why?: Having Powerful Conversations With Students Considering Graduate School" given by Amanda Brumfield, and the second was "Constructing Career Futures: Facilitating Students Building Career Self-Efficacy Through Life Design" by Yolanda Jarrett.

The breakout session led by Amanda Brumfield was exciting because of the work I do with students as a graduate assistant in the Career Development Center at NC State. I often encounter students who have either decided that they want to go to graduate school, or are toying with the idea of going to graduate school. This breakout session explored multiple approaches to ensuring that students considering graduate school are asked essential questions that help the student explore their reasoning behind the idea of attending graduate school including looking at timelines, cost of attendance, and also research that plays a big part in looking into the many options or alternatives that are out there. There are also resources shared that I look forward to sharing with the students I work with should they find themselves thinking about graduate school.

The second breakout session that I attended led by Yolanda Jarrett explored life design career counseling. Though this breakout session was targeted to those who work with youth of school age, I found that the information and strategies shared could also be used with students in a college setting, especially those students who may be exploring majors or careers. Guiding students through self-efficacy in a career setting can look like exploring and capitalizing on the student's interests and guiding them through unlocking their potential as the theme of the conference mentions. This breakout session reassured me that the approach utilized with students should be tailored to meet them where they are in their journey. I thoroughly enjoyed my time at this year's NCCDA conference and hope that this was the first experience of many.

**NCCDA ANNUAL CONFERENCE REFLECTION by NANCY SIERRA**

2024 Graduate Student Scholarship Recipient

The 2024 NCCDA Conference was definitely one for the books! From insightful discussions on strategies for having meaningful conversations with students considering graduate school, to discussions on career pathways for undocumented K-12 and higher education students, and many other topics, I left the conference feeling inspired, energized, and excited. I particularly found Dr. Doug Mayes's closing keynote, "Unwritten Rules: What Social Science Can Teach Us about Hiring," to be very impactful.

Dr. Mayes's address delved into human capital theory, signaling theory, and the overall inequalities in the job search process. His words resonated with me as a first-generation college student. As a first-generation college student, I knew that there were a lot of 'unspoken rules' in higher education that impacted how I navigated my undergraduate institution. However, it was when I was in the job search process that I realized 'unspoken rules' would continue impacting me beyond my educational journey — they would also impact my career journey.

Later that day, I started to think about conversations I have had with the students and recent college graduates I worked with, and how excited and grateful I am to be part of their education and career journey. The 'unspoken rules' and inequities will continue to be part of our society, but career development professionals actively help students learn how to navigate the job search process through workshops, services, advising appointments, etc., so that students feel confident and prepared as they start or continue their career journey. I want to help students achieve their educational and career goals and thrive in the spaces they enter by assisting them in learning to navigate the job search process and workspace.

Dr. Mayes's keynote underscored the importance of being aware of the inequalities that impact students' career journeys. It also underscored, to me, the need to actively work towards creating a more inclusive and equitable environment for all students to thrive.

Thank you, Dr. Mayes, NCCDA, and all the presenters and guests for fueling my passion for career development. I am grateful for the opportunity to have attended the conference and for being a recipient of the Graduate Student Scholarship.

NCCDA ANNUAL CONFERENCE REFLECTION by ELENA ALVAREZ-RAMIREZ
2024 Graduate Student Scholarship Recipient

I was grateful and honored to have been awarded one of the NCCDA Grad Student Scholarships this year. One of the many benefits of this award was a ticket to attend their yearly conference. As it was my first NCCDA conference, I wasn't quite sure what to expect, but needless to say I was quite impressed. First of all, everyone was so kind and welcoming, especially my mentor, Jamie Johnson.

I am fairly new to the field of Career Counseling and the workshops offered were extremely helpful and beneficial. I learned so much at all of the workshops I attended, but in particular at the workshop "Pathways to Career Opportunities for Undocumented Students" by Alice Dolbow, Asha Patel, and Giselle Molinary Rivera. I received so many great resources that I am now equipped with to help an often underserved population in my area. In addition, the "AI & Career Development: Ethically Integrating AI into your Career Development Business/Practices" workshop by Kelli Carrol was greatly eye opening. Since then, I have begun incorporating more AI tools into my work as a career counselor. It has been so helpful for my students and myself.

I am greatly looking forward to the quarterly Bytes & Banter meetings and to growing my network of professionals in this field. Thank you NCCDA for selecting me, in addition to the other amazing recipients, for the scholarship. I look forward to a positive year of career development for my students and for myself.

CONGRATULATIONS!



**ELENA ALVAREZ -
RAMIREZ**

**2024 GRADUATE
SCHOLARSHIP
HONOREE!**

**Career Counselor at
Davidson-Davie
Community College**



Appalachian State



ALEXIS HILL

**2024 GRADUATE
SCHOLARSHIP
HONOREE!**

**Graduate Student
Assistant
College of Sciences**



North Carolina State



NANCY SIERRA

**2024 GRADUATE
SCHOLARSHIP
HONOREE!**

**Career Development Center
Pre-Professional Advising
Graduate Intern**



North Carolina State

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2023-2024 NCCDA AWARD WINNERS!

NCCDA values the work our members do each day to facilitate career development for students and professionals across North Carolina. Each year we recognize the outstanding work of members at our annual conference. Congratulations to this year's winners!

OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM AWARD

The Outstanding Professional Program Award recognizes programs within the industry who consistently and significantly contribute to the career development profession through dedicated service to clients, mentorship and supports fellow career professionals by staying current with new research and best practices in the field.



NCCDA Continuing Education Committee: Cindy Haeck, Jamie Johnson, and Crystal Waters (*not pictured*)

OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONAL AWARD

The Outstanding Professional Award recognizes an individual with 5+ years in the profession who consistently and significantly contributes to the career development profession through dedicated service to their clients or students, mentorship and support for fellow career professionals, and a personal commitment to staying current with new research and best practices in the field.



Ashley Basnight, Dare County Schools

NEW PROFESSIONAL AWARD

The New Professional Award recognizes an individual in North Carolina who has made a significant contribution to career development and has been in the profession for five years or less.



Morgan Ray Stokes, Shaw University

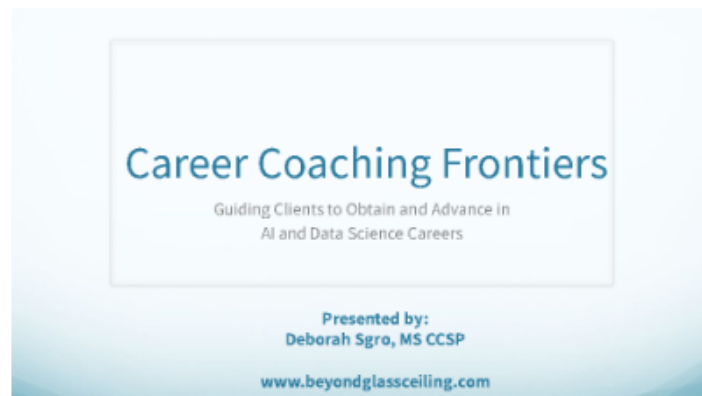
Check out our [website](#) to view resources from the conference!



AI & CAREER DEVELOPMENT: ETHICALLY INTEGRATING AI INTO YOUR CAREER DEVELOPMENT BUSINESS/PRACTICE

Originally shared during 2024 NCCDA Conference

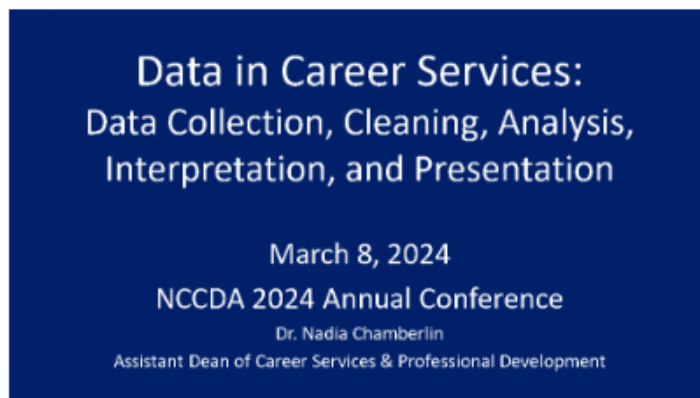
Resource: [Slides](#)



CAREER COACHING FRONTIERS: GUIDING CLIENTS TO OBTAIN AND ADVANCE IN AI AND DATA SCIENCE CAREERS

Originally shared during 2024 NCCDA Conference

Resource: [Slides](#)



DATA IN CAREER SERVICES: DATA COLLECTION, CLEANING, ANALYSIS, INTERPRETATION, AND PRESENTATION

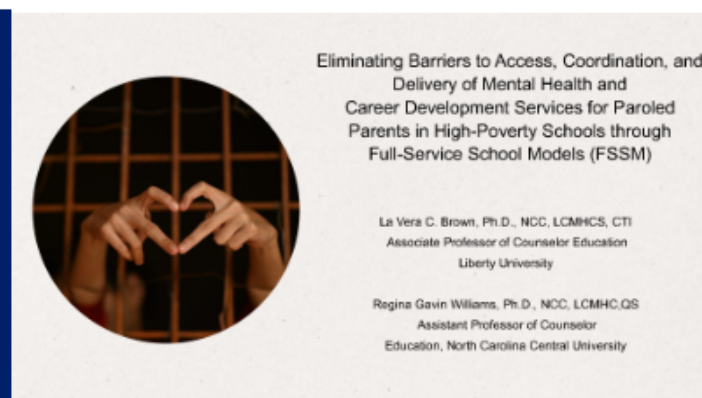
Originally shared during 2024 NCCDA Conference

Resource: [Slides](#)

NEURODIVERSITY & DISABILITY RESOURCES

Originally shared during 2024 NCCDA Conference

Resource: [PDF Document](#)



ELIMINATING BARRIERS TO ACCESS, COORDINATION, AND DELIVERY OF MENTAL HEALTH AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT SERVICES FOR PAROLED PARENTS IN HIGH-POVERTY SCHOOLS THROUGH FULL-SERVICE SCHOOL MODELS (FSSM)

Originally shared during 2024 NCCDA Conference

Resource: [Slides](#)



UNLOCKING CAREER POTENTIAL: PATHWAYS TO CAREER OPPORTUNITIES FOR UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS

Originally shared during 2024 NCCDA Conference

Resources: [Slides](#), [PDF Document](#)

What's Your Why?: Having Powerful Conversations With Students Considering Graduate School

Amanda Brumfield
Professional Development & Career Coach
Honors Carolina Program
UNC Chapel Hill



WHAT'S YOUR WHY: HAVING POWERFUL CONVERSATIONS WITH STUDENTS CONSIDERING GRADUATE SCHOOL

Originally shared during 2024 NCCDA Conference

Resource: [Slides](#)

NCCDA Member Benefit



Member Spotlight

With close to 100 active members, NCCDA wants to recognize members in various capacities in the career field. Stay tuned for future spotlights!



Member Spotlight



ELIZABETH BARTELL, M.ED IS THE CAREER DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR (CDC) AT CENTRAL ACADEMY OF TECHNOLOGY & ARTS (UNION COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS).

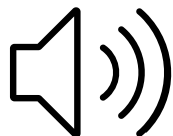
Read more about her story on nccdaonline.org.



NCCDA Career Podcast



This episode features a conversation with Yoko Kono, Director of Careers and Partnerships at the College Board, and Aurelia Moss, an experienced educator and middle and high school counselor. The conversation is led by NCCDA's Celeste Hall. Celeste has a long history with NCCDA including serving as the Trustee for School Counselors and Specialists on the NCCDA Board.



[Listen here!](#)



The 2024 CTE Summer Conference will be held **July 15-19, 2024**, at the Twin City Quarter (Benton Convention Center and Marriott Winston-Salem).

You can find information about the agenda, hotel, parking, and payment information here: www.ctesummerconference.com

What can you expect this year?

- Collective sessions for collaboration across curricula
- Keynote speaker Tuesday @ 1 p.m.
- Hands-on experiences
- 3 full days of content for all program areas
- Additional options for walking tours and networking events in the city
- CTE Curriculum Resource showcase
- Interactive conference app

Questions? For questions about CTE Summer Conference please contact the CTE Professional Development Team at ctepd@dpi.nc.gov.

Spring 2024 Newsletter Co-Editors: Belinda J. Wilkerson & Andrea Wogoman