



THE NATIONAL CERTIFIED COUNSELOR

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL BOARD FOR CERTIFIED COUNSELORS

NBCC Adopts Revisions to Ethical Standards

The NBCC Board of Directors adopted revisions to the *Code of Ethics* and the standards regarding the provision of distance services. These revised policies went into effect March 1, 2013.

The new *Code of Ethics* is organized according to the following principles:

- NCCs take appropriate action to prevent harm;
- NCCs provide only those services for which they have education and qualified experience;
- NCCs promote the welfare of clients, students, supervisees or the recipients of professional services provided;
- NCCs communicate truthfully;
- NCCs recognize that their behavior reflects on the integrity of the profession as a whole, and thus, they avoid actions which can reasonably be expected to damage trust;
- NCCs recognize the importance of and encourage active participation of clients, students or supervisees; and
- NCCs are accountable in their actions and adhere to recognized professional standards and practices.

Associated with each principle are directives identifying minimum conduct standards for NCCs and applicants for NBCC certification. The new directives reflect a comprehensive review of the 2005 *Code of Ethics* standards, as well as important changes in the counseling profession. Existing conduct standards were revised for clarity, but reflect ongoing requirements. Additionally, new directives have been added to the *Code of Ethics*. These include directives
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At press time, NBCC was saddened to learn of the passing of Dr. Lloyd A. Stone. Dr. Stone was the first Chair of the NBCC Board of Directors, the first National Certified Counselor and an individual who supported the counseling profession throughout his life. The next issue of *The National Certified Counselor* will include a special tribute to Dr. Stone.

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NCC Application Requirements Changes

Part of NBCC's mission is to enhance the professional identity of National Certified Counselors (NCCs). NBCC accomplishes this goal in several ways, including evaluating and modifying degree requirements for the NCC credential. This ensures that certificants have a degree relevant to the current state of the counseling profession. The NBCC Board of Directors recently approved several application requirement changes.

Changes Effective 2013

Beginning with the 2013 applications, all coursework content must have a clear focus on counseling. NBCC supports and promotes the counseling profession by establishing standards requiring that counseling degrees and courses be uniquely identified with the counseling profession.

In June 2012, the NBCC Board of Directors approved changes to the 2013 coursework requirements for the following applications:

- NCC Application for Counselors Who Have Not Graduated From a CACREP-Accredited Program
- NCC/National Certified School Counselor (NCSC) Combination Application
- NCC Application for Students Who Are Not Attending CACREP Programs

Additionally, the NCC Application for State Licensed Professional Counselors requires a degree in counseling. Counselors using this application must meet the new degree title requirements. Please see page 3 of the application at www.nbcc.org/Assets/Certification/ncc-forLPC.pdf. Applicants with other mental health degrees should use the NCC Application for Counselors Who Have Not Graduated From a CACREP-Accredited Program.

Change to 2014 Applications

Beginning with the applications for 2014, the definition of a graduate degree with a major study in counseling is a degree in which a minimum of 48 semester hours of the degree credits in counseling cover at least nine counseling coursework content areas required by NBCC. The degree must include one course in professional orientation to counseling and at least six semester hours of supervised field experience in counseling.

This change will affect the following applications beginning July 1, 2013:

- NCC Application for Counselors Who Have Not Graduated From a CACREP-Accredited Program
- NCSC Application for Counselors Who Hold the NCC Credential
- NCC/NCSC Combination Application
- Certified Clinical Mental Health Counselor (CCMHC) Application for Counselors Who Hold the NCC Credential
- NCC/CCMHC Combination Application

If you have questions regarding these changes, please e-mail certification@nbcc.org with the subject line "Requirements Changes."

NBCC at 2013 ACA Conference

The American Counseling Association (ACA) will hold its annual conference at the Duke Energy Convention Center in Cincinnati, Ohio, March 20–24. As always, NBCC and Center for Credentialing & Education (CCE) staff will be present to inform conference attendees about our services and to celebrate and support all National Certified Counselors (NCCs). In addition, NBCC Foundation representatives will be on hand to answer your questions about the Foundation's work to enhance access to mental health services worldwide. Please visit us at booths 213, 215 and 217 in the exhibit hall to pick up your NCC name badge ribbon.

**We hope to
see you there!**

NCC CORNER

Why Obtain Supervision After Being Certified or Licensed?

NBCC believes that it is the responsibility of every practicing National Certified Counselor (NCC) to seek regular clinical supervision from a fellow NCC or other experienced master's- or doctoral-level mental health professional. Receiving supervision on an ongoing basis can not only improve your counseling but can also fulfill up to 25 of the 100 continuing education clock hours required for each five-year certification cycle. Documentation of these hours just requires a simple letter from the supervisor verifying the number of hours of direct supervision.

Why Seek Leadership Positions in the Counseling Profession?

The counseling profession is rich with many organizations. Leadership in our profession is both a service and a privilege. Most of all, it is a valuable learning experience. To honor this learning and service, NBCC awards up to 20 continuing education clock hours for leadership service during each five-year cycle. Leadership activities may include service with committees and boards such as licensure boards, the American Counseling Association (ACA) and NBCC. Documentation requires a newsletter showing the term of service and the office held, or a letter on the organization's letterhead.

School Counselor Association (ASCA) school counselor competencies, Council for Accreditation of Counseling & Related Educational Programs (CACREP) standards, NBCC's National Certified School Counselor Examination content requirements, and the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) standards. The study guide prepares users for the NCSCE, Praxis II school counseling specialty exam, NBPTS school counseling national certification exam, comprehensive school counselor education program exams, and state certification exams for professional school counseling. Highlights of the text include case scenarios, guided reflections, end of chapter and full-length practice tests with justifications for correct and incorrect responses, and a foreword written by the 2012-2013 ASCA president. The study guide can be purchased through the publisher, Amazon.com, Barnes and Noble.com or other bookstores.

John J. (Jack) Schmidt, NCC, of Clemmons, North Carolina, announced publication of the sixth edition of his text *Counseling in Schools*, by Pearson Publishers. This latest edition is in production for release in 2013. Dr. Schmidt is professor emeritus of counselor education at East Carolina University and a past member of the NBCC Board of Directors.

Sue Waldman, NCC, CCMHC, LPC, of Montclair, New Jersey, contributed a chapter, "Don't Stop Believing in Yourself," to the recently published book *Jersey Women Mean Business—Big, Bold Business Advice* (Woodpecker Publishers, June 2012). The chapter was inspired by Waldman's private practice as a professional counselor and inspirational life coach for the past 19 years. The book can be ordered by contacting Ms. Waldman at 973-857-9090 or visiting www.CoachingToLove.com. Ms. Waldman also recently earned distinction as a Board Certified Coach through the Center for Credentialing & Education (www.cce-global.org/BCC) with specialty designations in executive/corporate/business/leadership coaching, health and wellness coaching, career coaching, and personal/life coaching.

NCC Network

Patricia H. Hasbach, Ph.D., NCC, of Eugene, Oregon, recently published a book with MIT Press, titled *Ecopsychology: Science, Totems, and the Technological Species*. This volume, coedited with Peter Kahn, takes on one of this century's central challenges: to embrace our kinship with a more-than-human world, "our totemic self," and integrate that kinship with our scientific culture and technological selves.

Contributors consider such topics as the innate tendency for people to bond with local place, a meaningful nature language, the epidemiological evidence for the health benefits of nature interaction, the theory and practice of ecotherapy, Gaia theory, ecovillages, the neuroscience of perceiving natural beauty, and sacred geography. Taken together, the essays offer a vision for human flourishing and for a more grounded and realistic environmental psychology.

This book can be ordered through Amazon.com and MIT Press.

Rita Schellenberg, Ph.D., NCC, NCSC, CCMHC, ACS, DCC, LPC, of Lynchburg, Virginia, is a professor and director of the school counseling program at Liberty University. Routledge/Taylor and Francis recently published her book *The School Counselor's Study Guide for Credentialing Exams*. It is the only study guide on the market based on the American

Update of Approved Continuing Education Providers



Newly Approved CE Providers

AK Counseling and Consulting, Inc; #6553; Athens, GA;
www.akconline.com

Alabama School of Alcohol and Other Drug Studies
(ASADS); #6600; Cullman, AL; www.asadsonline.com

Appalachian Gestalt Therapy Institute (AGTI); #6575;
Abingdon, VA; www.agti.org

Cooper Riis, Inc.; #6565; Mill Spring, NC;
www.cooperris.org

Elements Behavioral Health; #6580; Long Beach, CA;
www.elementsbehavioralhealth.com

Grace Harbor, Inc.; #6490; Newnan, GA;
www.graceharbour.net

Inner Balance; #6560; Northbrook, IL;
www.innerbalancenow.com

Mensana Publications, LLC; #6583; Rockville, MD;
www.mensanapublications.com

Person-Centered Tech, LLC; #6582; Portland, OR;
www.personcenteredtech.com

Seattle Therapy Center; #6588; Seattle;
www.efttraining.webs.com

Suicide Prevention Resource Center (SPRC) Training Institute,
Education Development Center, Inc.; #6581; Washington, DC;
www.sprc.org

The Center for Social Innovation; #6576; Needham, MA;
www.center4si.com

The Rosewood Institute; #6573; Wickenburg, AZ;
www.rosewoodinstitute.org

The University of Alabama – Birmingham Substance Abuse
Programs; #6589; Birmingham, AL;
www.uab.edu/medicine/substanceabuse

Voluntary Audits

The NCCs listed below have completed and documented a minimum of 130 hours of continuing education activities in the five-year certification cycle. By doing so, they have demonstrated a dedication to excellence and professionalism.

NBCC congratulates these outstanding NCCs.

Chelsey L. Docimo – Stamford, CT

Rosemary Horsley – Newtown, PA

CE Providers Not Renewing

The CE providers listed below have either informed NBCC that they will not be renewing their approved status or NBCC has not received their 2012 update or renewal. Providers interested in reinstating their NBCC-approved CE provider status should e-mail continuinged@nbcc.org.

Adler School of Professional Psychology; #4286

Alvernia University; #4518

American International College; #4490

Appelbaum Training Institute; #6046

Absolutions Counseling Center, Inc.; #6284

Boston University – Institute for Geriatric Social Work; #6378

Breining Institute – College for the Advanced Study of Addictive Disorders; #6078

California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists; #5306

Christopher J. Alexander & Associates; #6051

Clinical Addiction Research and Education Unit, Boston University School of Medicine; #6321

Faulkner University; #4504

HealthLinkRx Institute; #6499

Hobbs Institute for Growth, LLC; #6446

InnerWell Integrative Counseling Services; #6493

Junior/Community College Student Personnel Association of Texas; #5221

JustCare/TN Voices for Children; #6443

Louisiana Technical University; #4075

National Center for Death Education at Mount Ida College; #6228

NYACK College - Alliance Grad School of Counseling; #4547

Park Street Counseling; #6266

Planned Parenthood of Northern New England; #5661

Planned Parenthood of Northern Texas (PPNT); #6279

Prescott College; #4517

Professional Training Associates; #5916

RENEW Center for Personal Recovery, Inc.; #6373

Robertson Wellness; #6177

St. Frances Cabrini Hospital – Clinical Education Dept.; #5461

The Ranch; #6313

United Family Services; #6445

United States Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association; #6340

National Certified Counselor Trains Counselors to Serve Firefighters

It is not often that something truly unique and greatly needed emerges in the world of counselor education and training.

With the country's growing awareness of the psychological risks undertaken daily by firefighters and other first responders, the time is right for the Firefighter Psychological Support (FPS) program, from Counseling Services for Fire Fighters (CSFF). CSFF was founded by Jeff Dill, a National Certified Counselor (NCC) and assistant fire chief in Inverness, Illinois.



Jeff Dill, NCC

The story of CSFF begins with Hurricane Katrina. When Katrina hit, Mr. Dill wanted to assist in Louisiana right away, but as an assistant chief, he was unable to go. Many firefighters returned from New Orleans traumatized by their experience and sought counseling services offered by their employee assistance program. Unfortunately, as they explained to Mr. Dill, many felt that the counselors did not understand firefighter culture.

This crystallized for Mr. Dill what his future path would be. He obtained

his master's degree in counseling from Argosy University and founded CSFF in 2009. He is dedicated to

educating firefighters and emergency personnel on the importance of behavioral health and firefighter suicide awareness. CSFF's first training was "A Day in the Life of a Fire Fighter." When licensed professional clinical counselor (LCPC) Sarah Gura attended one of those early workshops, she knew

she had found the work to which she wanted to devote herself. Ms. Gura and Mr. Dill, with the support of the Illinois Fire Chiefs Foundation, developed the CSFF-FPS counselor training program.



Sarah Gura

Ms. Gura says of the training, "This course is so unique and nothing like what is currently out there. We are the first to bring therapists and firefighters together to train clinicians and prepare them to work with firefighters."

As the program director of FPS, Ms. Gura takes pride in creating

a much-needed specialty within the counseling profession. Having heard from too many firefighters discouraged with therapy experiences, she has drawn on her own experiences counseling firefighters in developing the FPS fellowship curriculum.

The inaugural FPS training program will be held April 1, 2013, in Rolling Meadows, Illinois. The three-part, comprehensive, NBCC-approved training program for licensed counselors and other licensed mental health professionals includes:

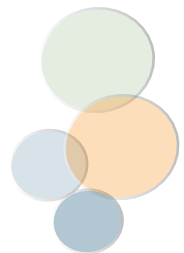
- 40 hours of classroom and experiential learning;
- 40 hours of supervised field exercise with on-duty fire department personnel; and
- 40 hours of supervised FPS clinical experience.

CFSS will award 80 NBCC-approved continuing education clock hours for completion of the program. NCCs can further claim up to 25 clock hours for clinical supervision received as part of the program. NCCs and other professionals interested in registering for the April training program or any of CSFF's other events should visit CSFF's Web site, www.csff.info.

Therapy Directory Offer Still Available!

Click the *Psychology Today* icon at the bottom of the NBCC home page for information on the Therapy Directory or a subscription to the magazine!

Visit www.nbcc.org today!



NBCC Adopts Revisions to Ethical Standards

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relating to social media, which recognize and regulate the increased use of social media in professional activities, including advertising.

The new *Code of Ethics* has also been released in an interactive version on NBCC's Web site, which allows users to filter directives according to professional activity subjects and topics, such as requirements related to confidentiality and group counseling. This filter facilitates the location of specific directives. Additionally, key words and phrases, underlined in blue, display a clarification or explanation of specific policy terms when selected.

The NBCC Board also approved changes to the *Practice of Internet Counseling*. That policy updated standards originally released in 1997 under the title *Standards for the Ethical Practice of Web Counseling*. Like the *Code of Ethics*, the *Practice of Internet Counseling* policy was reviewed and modified to recognize and be consistent with technological advancements. Due to the increasing number of providers and types of distance counseling services offered, the revised policy has been renamed the *NBCC Policy Regarding the Provision of Distance Professional Services*. The new policy acknowledges the following fundamental concepts:

1. Counseling through distance means presents unique ethical dilemmas to professional counselors;
2. Related technology continues to advance and be used more by increasing numbers of professional counselors; and
3. Use of technology by counselors continues to evolve.

In November 2012, current applicants and certificants were notified via e-mail about these important policy changes, allowing them time to review the new policy documents that went into effect March 1, 2013.

The new policies are available for review at www.nbcc.org/ethics. All certificants and applicants are encouraged to carefully review these documents.

Navigating Private Practice

Supervision: What's Your Strategy?

By J. Scott Hinkle

Supervision does not have to end at the university, or with licensure. The supervision and consultation process extends across the helping services spectrum, creating a safety net for counselors and clients. Supervision contributes to a sense of community throughout the counseling profession. Professionals at all stages of their careers can benefit from the advice and input of their colleagues, and supervision is a valuable tool for the practicing counselor.

Counselors licensed for independent practice can benefit from voluntarily seeking supervision. Supervision is one way counselors continue to educate themselves as professionals, gaining exposure to new ideas and views. Supervision helps a counselor to evaluate their own work and methods, thereby enhancing service to clients.

The supervisory relationship is also an important tool for preventing burnout, a very real problem for counselors in the trenches. Supervision provides a valuable support structure for a practicing counselor, facilitating a connection to the larger community of counselors and promoting self-care.

Many counselors-in-training do not put sufficient effort into selecting their supervisors, perhaps feeling that they have no choice in who will conduct the important task of providing their supervision. However, it is never too late to seek quality supervision. With mentoring opportunities that develop clinical skills, supervision is a critical link to success as a professional counselor, and can enhance a professional's career at any stage. There are a few basic considerations when selecting a supervisor, whether as a student, a candidate for licensure, or an established professional with many years of experience.

One of the most important qualifications for a clinical supervisor is good clinical experience. Too many supervisors have little or no clinical experience. If your potential supervisor is not active in at least a limited private practice, carrying a small case load in a community agency, or consulting with clinicians on challenging cases, you should cross this person off your list of potential

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A Shared Enthusiasm: An American Student's Perspective of Counselor Education in Malawi

By Paul H. Smith and Wendi K. Schweiger

The Guidance, Counselling and Youth Development Centre for Africa opened its doors in 2007, in Lilongwe, Malawi. Since this time, GCYDCA staff led by Dr. Kenneth Hamwaka, under the guidance of a board of directors comprised of African ministers of education, has dedicated itself to developing and implementing programs that benefit African youth. This has included developing counselor education diploma and degree programs. GCYDCA has also implemented the Mental Health Facilitator (MHF) program in schools in partnership with NBCC-I and has been instrumental in advising NBCC-I in other collaborations in Africa.

GCYDCA staff and board members have warmly hosted NBCC Board members and NBCC/NBCC-I staff visiting for meetings to further develop collaborations. Likewise, NBCC Board members and staff have hosted Dr. Hamwaka during trips to the United States. One of NBCC-I's purposes is to facilitate the development of international relationships, and during his most recent trip, Dr. Hamwaka was invited to Wake Forest University. He was welcomed by students and faculty, and his conversation with one student led to a mutual opportunity for GCYDCA and that student, Paul Smith. Below are Paul's reflections on his time at GCYDCA.



Paul H. Smith

As I look back on my time in Malawi during the summer of 2012, my memories are filled with many occasions of generous hospitality.

Malawi is known as the Warm Heart of Africa, and my time at GCYDCA certainly demonstrated why. I was welcomed into GCYDCA to observe the counselor education program and compare it to U.S. programs. Months prior, I met the director of the center, Dr. Kenneth Hamwaka, during an NBCC-I visit to the counseling department of Wake Forest University. After conversing with him about my research project, I applied for and was granted funding by the Richter Memorial Fund, which supports graduate students at Wake Forest University conducting international

research. Being a student in a U.S. counseling program made my research question especially salient and appropriate: How does this particular counseling program in Malawi differ from mine? It was as much a research question as it was an opportunity to expand my understanding of counselor education in our global environment.

As I reflect on what I learned during this journey, I note the differences of programming and the commonalities in the spirit of counseling I found at GCYDCA. There were sociocultural differences present in the content of classes, occupations of the students, and modalities of teaching. Much of the counselor education focus in Malawi is centered on African youth, health-based interventions, and training of employed teachers and NGO (nongovernmental organization) workers. While I experienced differences in the nature of counselor education in Malawi and in the United States, the shared spirit of counseling transcended the

vast geographical divide. In addition, the enthusiasm about the profession at GCYDCA was infectious and hopeful.

I am thankful for this unique opportunity to spend time with counselors on the other side of the globe, observing the differences in the education program and the strands of commonality that connect us all. As I move forward in my counseling journey, I hope to carry with me the lessons I learned in Malawi, of the need to be culturally humble and intellectually curious wherever I work. I am deeply grateful for learning these principles in the beautiful and hospitable locale of Malawi.

Mr. Smith is a master's student in Wake Forest University's Department of Counseling. Dr. Schweiger is the associate vice president of NBCC International.

Supervision: What's Your Strategy?

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Counseling Institutes in Argentina and Malawi

Old Dominion University, with the assistance of NBCC International, will be offering professional counseling institutes for counselors, professors and supervisors. The purpose of these institutes is to give counselors from the United States an opportunity to visit Argentina and Malawi and render professional services, such as supervision, diagnosis and treatment, and to lay the groundwork for those participants to return in the future and volunteer in a professional capacity.



The Argentina institute, in collaboration with the Holos Sanchez Bodas Center, in San Isidro (near Buenos Aires), will take place October 23–November 12, 2013.



The Malawi institute, in collaboration with the Guidance, Counselling and Youth Development Centre for Africa, in Lilongwe, is scheduled for January 22–February 11, 2014.

For more information, contact Dr. Theodore Remley at tremley@odu.edu.

Thank you once again!

Your generous contributions to the NBCC International and NBCC Foundation book donation program have made it possible to send counseling books and other resources to countries worldwide, most recently Kenya, Malawi, Turkey and Uganda.

We need your help to continue fulfilling requests. Please send gently used counseling books and journals published after 1995 to:

NBCC-I
3 Terrace Way
Greensboro, NC 27403.

All donations are tax deductible. Please e-mail any questions to nbccinternational@nbcc.org.

supervisors. Without experience, how can a supervisor give you realistic suggestions for dealing with complex clinical situations? Supervisors too distant from the action may have platitudes to share, but if they have lost their edge or never had it, the outcome of your supervisory experience could be suspect. David Powell, an internationally known supervisor, warns against selecting a supervisor who has little credibility—to teach, one must know, and to know, one must practice.

Dr. Powell suggests that the best supervisors teach by example, modeling clinical competencies. Will your supervisor allow you to watch him or her counsel a client? Any hesitancy with this request should raise a red flag about your potential supervisor selection. Is your supervisor strictly an academician? If so, reconsider and look for a supervisor with actual counseling experience.

Supervision can be a rewarding experience at any stage in a counselor's career. And remember, you do have a choice where you go for your training and counselor education—select institutions that have credible clinical supervisors, as well as academics. As a licensed professional seeking voluntary supervision, you have complete control over the selection of a supervisor. With no looming deadlines or requirements, you are completely free to take your time finding a supervisor who is right for you.

Dr. Hinkle is the director of professional development for NBCC.

NBCC GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS UPDATE

November's elections did not bring significant change to the nation's capital. While Democrats retained the presidency and gained seats in both chambers, control of the government remains divided, with Republicans controlling the House, and Democrats in charge of the Senate. Consequently, the challenges facing the counseling profession in 2013 are much the same as the previous year.

The new Congress will spend the beginning of the year trying to balance the budget while managing partisan divisions. Major revisions to the tax code, defense and health care are possible. NBCC will navigate the evolving environment and seek to integrate counselor priorities into pending legislation.

Veterans

On December 17, 2012, NBCC staff members attended a meeting of the Military and Veterans Mental Health Interagency Task Force. The task force was created by the president's August 31, 2012, executive order, Improving Access to Mental Health Services for Veterans, Service Members, and Military Families. The meeting included Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Undersecretary for Health Dr. Robert Petzel, Department of Defense (DOD) Undersecretary for Health Dr. Jonathan Woodson, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Administrator Pamela Hyde, staff members from the White House Domestic Policy Council, and additional agency staff members. NBCC was one of only seven groups in attendance.

The meeting provided an excellent opportunity to raise concerns about regulatory and policy barriers to counselor employment in the VA and DOD. NBCC shared recent data that shows only 29 counselors were employed by the VA through August 2012, and only nine counselors were brought on during the recent hiring initiative. The information was used to demonstrate the unacceptably slow pace of counselor hiring. Participants were also made aware of policies hampering counselor employment and promotion within the DOD. NBCC offered specific proposals to improve recognition and integration, and followed up by submitting formal written recommendations to the task force.

On November 29, 2012, NBCC attended the VA's mental health stakeholders meeting, which provided an opportunity to meet the new VA mental health chief, Dr. David Carroll. The previous chief, Dr. Antonette Zeiss, stepped down from the position at the end of the year.

Defense

On November 29, 2012, the Senate adopted an amendment to the 2013 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) by Sen. Inhofe (R-OK), directing the secretaries of Defense and Veterans Affairs to "develop a plan to ensure a sustainable flow of qualified counselors to meet the long-term needs of members of the Armed Forces, veterans, and their families." NBCC submitted a letter of support for the amendment and pressed the House and Senate Armed Services Committee staff to maintain it in the final conference report. Unfortunately, the amendment was rejected in conference, but NBCC will work with Sen. Inhofe's staff to pursue the issue in 2013.

On October 11, 2012, the Army Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) released a memo clarifying grandparented requirements for professional counselors. The ASAP had placed a temporary hold on the hiring of professional counselors until these requirements could be established. The new requirements allow counselors who were employed by ASAP, or who had already entered the application process prior to the release of Army Directive 2011-09, to be privileged as independent providers if they hold a master's degree from a regionally accredited institution, pass the National Clinical Mental Health Counseling Examination (NCMHCE), and hold the highest level of licensure in their state. The grandparented requirements offer counselors who are ASAP employees or prospective employees an alternative to the CACREP degree requirement established in Army Directive 2011-09, which set hiring and privileging standards for professional counselors.

Medicare

NBCC continues to pursue legislation to provide Medicare reimbursement of professional counselors, in

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NBCC GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS UPDATE

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collaboration with our counseling and marriage and family therapy partners. Our coalition's legislation expired with the end of the 112th Congress, and requires reintroduction in the new session. The coalition met with staff of our Medicare sponsors in the Senate, Sens. John Barrasso (R-WY) and Ron Wyden (D-OR), to discuss plans for 2013. There is potential for congressional action on the Medicare program this year, and the organizations are laying the groundwork for inclusion of our language in any viable vehicle.

Minority Fellowship Program

NBCC has met with congressional offices to advocate for continued funding of the SAMHSA Minority Fellowship Program (MFP). The program has been targeted for reduction or elimination in recent funding cycles, including a 25-percent cut in the president's budget this year. NBCC is working with the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT) and will join a coalition of all participating organizations to fight for program funding in 2013.

Health Resources Services Administration

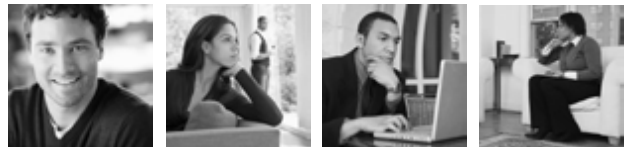
On October 31, 2013, NBCC and American Mental Health Counselors Association (AMHCA) representatives met with staff members from the Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA). The meeting's purpose was to discuss potential funding sources for the counseling profession,

similar to the Mental and Behavioral Health Education and Training grants currently available to social work and psychology programs. The discussion was productive and provided a good opportunity to educate the agency about counselors and create an avenue for future partnerships.

Journal of Counseling and Development

The January edition of the Journal of Counseling and Development includes an article titled "The Role of Government and Lobbying in the Creation of a Health Profession: The Legal Foundations of Counseling." The article, included in a special edition recognizing the 30th anniversary of the Council for Accreditation of Counseling & Related Educational Programs (CACREP), provides an extensive legislative history of the counseling profession. All NCCs are encouraged to read the article to learn more about the challenges and opportunities facing the profession.

National Certified Counselors who are interested in advocating for the counseling profession and receiving more communications on government relations activities are encouraged to join the NBCC grassroots network. To sign up, send an e-mail to advocacy@nbcc.org with "Grassroots" in the subject line and your contact information with NCC ID in the text.



Let Our Expertise Protect Yours.

Learn about and Apply for

Professional Liability insurance at our convenient online Insurance Center.

www.nbcc.lockton-ins.com



Insurance Program Administered by Lockton Risk Services

Reintroducing i-counseling



CCE is proud to announce the relaunch of www.i-counseling.net, an online continuing education resource for counselors. At i-counseling.net, there is no pressure to complete a course. You can come and go as your schedule permits, and you have the opportunity to correct errors without having to repurchase the assessment.

The new and improved i-counseling offers easy login and course selection, certificate storage and—best of all—it's affordable.

Board Certified Coach (BCC)

The Board Certified Coach (BCC) credential from the Center for Credentialing & Education (CCE) is right for practitioners with backgrounds in a variety of disciplines, including counseling. For National Certified Counselors (NCCs) working in the field of coaching, the BCC complements their existing professional credentials and shows a commitment to this exciting, developing field.



BCCs have met educational requirements, passed a psychometrically sound coach-specific examination, and obtained valuable experience in the field of coaching and professional peer references. BCCs adhere to an accountable and enforceable *Code of Ethics*, and commit to continuing education. BCCs can further demonstrate high qualifications in particular areas through one or more of the following specialty designations: Executive/Corporate/Business/Leadership Coach, Health and Wellness Coach, Career Coach, and Personal/Life Coach.

For more information or to apply, visit www.cce-global.org/BCC.

CCE Adds New HS-BCP Exam-Only Option

The Center for Credentialing & Education (CCE) recently implemented the Human Services-Board Certified Practitioner (HS-BCP) exam-only option, an opportunity for employees of human services organizations and eligible students in academic programs to take the HS-BCP examination prior to applying for the credential. The HS-BCP exam-only option is available through participating human services organizations and education programs. Participation requires a designated coordinator, who assists with the HS-BCP exam-only application process and submits completed applications to CCE on behalf of the applicants.



Examinees who pass the exam under this option do not earn a credential. However, they will have the opportunity to transfer the score to a separate HS-BCP credential application. Human service education programs further benefit by the opportunity to measure the performance of their students against national norms.

Interested representatives of human services organizations or programs can e-mail cce@cce-global.org or call 336-482-2856 for more information. For more on the benefits of the HS-BCP, visit www.cce-global.org/HSBCP.

Approved Clinical Supervisor (ACS)

As discussed in the article “Supervision: What’s Your Training and Continuing Education Strategy?” (page 6), both new and experienced counselors benefit from clinical supervision by a fellow clinician with proper training and prior experience. Choosing a clinical supervisor is not a decision to make in haste. It is important to choose a clinician who can assist you in relevant areas of specialization and who has experience providing supervision to counselors at your clinical skill level. The Approved Clinical Supervisor (ACS) credential from the Center for Credentialing & Education (CCE) is now in its 15th year of identifying experienced clinical supervisors at the top of the field. The ACS demonstrates that a supervisor possesses specific skills, experience and training in clinical supervision.

Thomas Garcia, an ACS from the University of South Florida who was profiled in the winter 2012 *CCE Connection*, offers the following insights: “An Approved Clinical Supervisor should be a personable individual possessing vast empirical and theoretical knowledge of mental health counseling and beyond. Effective clinical supervisors are always available to their supervisees.”



Thomas Garcia

Mr. Garcia goes on to say that the Approved Clinical Supervisor (ACS) credential is an important indicator of supervisory competence: “A clinical supervisor should be compatible, flexible, empathic and adaptable. Choosing a clinical supervisor with the ACS credential will only confirm ... a well-researched and well-informed decision.”

For more information on the ACS, visit www.cceglobal.org/acs. For a listing of ACS credential holders, visit www.cce-global.org/Pub/Search.

NBCC Presents Professional Development Institutes at CCME Annual Symposium

The Council of College and Military Educators (CCME) began in the 1970s in California to share ideas for how institutions of higher education can best serve the needs of service members seeking a college education. It has grown from a regional to a global organization, and its annual symposium attracts not only educators, but also counselors who work in colleges and universities serving the educational needs of the nation’s military.

CCME invited NBCC to present four professional development institutes during this year’s symposium in San Diego in late February. NBCC presented on the following topics:

- The Importance of Personality in Career Choice: Utilizing the BeMIS (Behavioral Management Information System) in Educational Counseling
- PTSD (Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder) and TBI (Traumatic Brain Injury): Implications for Education and Career Counselors
- The Value of Certification in the Military Community
- The Global Career Development Facilitator—Quality Career Guidance Services

The presentations were given by Dr. Sandra Winborne, education program manager for the Defense Activity for Nontraditional Education Support (DANTES); Don Howard, regional director, Louisiana and Arkansas, Troops to Teachers program; NBCC Developer Dr. Daniel R. Collins, and retired U.S. Coast Guard Lt. Cmdr. Marilyn Dykman, NBCC Foundation Scholar and director of the University of New Mexico Veterans Outreach Center.

NBCC was honored to assist this prestigious global organization in helping our nation’s military members find their way to career and personal success.



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Teaching, Supervision and Clinical Opportunities in Bhutan

The Royal University of Bhutan, in collaboration with NBCC International, has established teaching, supervision and clinical opportunities in beautiful Bhutan, an idyllic Asian country nestled in the Himalayas.

Academic and clinical settings include a new counselor education program and the development of college and career counseling centers in a university setting.

For information, contact Dr. J. Scott Hinkle at hinkle@nbcc.org.



Volunteer Service Learning Opportunities in Bhutan

Bhutan's Ministry of Health, in collaboration with NBCC International, is offering volunteer service learning opportunities in the national hospital's psychiatric department. Inpatient and outpatient opportunities with a diverse population are available for a minimum three-month commitment beginning summer 2013. Minimum requirements are a U.S. counseling license and five years' clinical experience.

For more information, contact Dr. J. Scott Hinkle at hinkle@nbcc.org.



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2012 GCDF SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT



Brittany Prioleau

A graduate of the University of South Carolina, **Brittany Prioleau** is enrolled in the master's in clinical mental health counseling program at North Carolina State University. Having a strong support system enabled Ms. Prioleau to reach her educational goals and instilled in her a passion for serving and helping others. Career counseling allows her to live this passion by assisting others with their career aspirations. After graduation, she plans to follow this path and pursue a career in workforce development.

1. What led you to pursue a career in counseling?

From a young age, I was taught ... the importance of helping and serving others. It was a career exploration inventory that introduced me to the helping professions as possible career choices. As I reflect back, I realize the role that the tool played in identifying my strengths, interests and values as they relate to counseling. I was not fully introduced to ... career counseling until my first postgraduate employment opportunity. I obtained a position as program specialist dealing with unemployment claims and job development with the Employment Security Commission of South Carolina. I found ... people of all ages from diverse backgrounds were dealing with life-changing events such as the loss of employment. I realized that ... career-related issues can be directly related to various other life issues.

2. What does becoming a National Certified Counselor (NCC) mean to you personally? Professionally?

Becoming a National Certified Counselor would be a steppingstone into a career of counseling. Successful completion of the National Counselor Examination for Licensure and Certification (NCE) will be a testament to my competency and knowledge of the counseling profession. For me, becoming a National Certified Counselor ... will be a culmination of my perseverance, hard work and determination.

3. What impact has the NBCCF scholarship had on your life? What does it mean to you personally and professionally? How did you feel when you learned that you'd won? How will you use the funds and award to contribute to your community?

Being awarded this scholarship has had a direct impact on my life and on the meaning behind the work that I engage in. The scholarship will assist me financially in taking the next step towards becoming a National Certified Counselor and reaching my career goals. When I received the phone call from [NBCCF Board Chair] Dr. Byxbee notifying me that I had won, I was shocked beyond belief. I immediately notified my family, who expressed their proud sentiments. It made me aware that the work I am doing in the community and in my school environment truly matters and is making an impact. I am extremely grateful and thankful for the opportunity to utilize this award to pursue my career aspirations. I also plan to use funds to attend conferences, such as the American Counseling Association (ACA) annual conference, to further develop and build my competency in the areas of counseling and development. I hope that the knowledge gained will aid me in becoming a more efficient counselor, to better meet the needs of my community and clients. I believe that this award highlights the work that is being conducted in the areas of career development on all levels.

Support a Foundation Scholar!

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Arnold Ross	In memory of Steve Portman

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Meet the Minority Fellowship Program Advisory Council



Sandra I. Lopez-Baez, Ph.D.
NCC, ACS, CCMHC, LPC
Chair

Dr. Lopez-Baez is a professor in the counseling and educational leadership programs at Montclair State University. Over the past 30 years, she has been a counselor educator and supervisor, practicing clinician, researcher, and consultant. Her work has included undergraduate- and graduate-level teaching, as well as medical education, program development, research activities, consultation (cross-cultural), and counseling individuals, couples and groups in a private practice setting. Her research interests include diversity, multicultural issues, outcome measurement after “growth” experiences, and the neurobiology of connection related to discrimination. Dr. Lopez-Baez has been an active participant in national, regional and state professional associations, serving as president of both the Ohio Association for Multicultural Counseling and Development, and Counselors for Social Justice, a division of the American Counseling Association (ACA). She has published in peer-reviewed journals, and has delivered presentations at regional, national and international conferences. Dr. Lopez-Baez is a National Certified Counselor (NCC), a Certified Clinical Mental Health Counselor (CCMHC) and an Approved Clinical Supervisor (ACS), as well as a licensed professional counselor in Ohio, Puerto Rico and Virginia. She is a member of ACA, the Association for Multicultural Counseling and Development (AMCD), the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (ACES), and Chi Sigma Iota International Counseling Honor Society.



Philip Clarke, Ph.D.
NCC, LPC

Dr. Clarke is an assistant professor in the Department of Counseling at Wake Forest University, where he teaches courses on addictions and advanced counseling skills.

Dr. Clarke is a National Certified Counselor (NCC)

and a licensed professional counselor in the state of North Carolina. His research and writing interests include wellness and development, substance abuse, supervision and teaching, and individuals diagnosed with dementia and their caregivers. He currently provides individual and group counseling for clients living with dementia and their caregivers at Wake Forest Baptist Health.



Gloria Dansby-Giles, Ed.D.
NCC, NCSC, NCCC, ACS, LPC

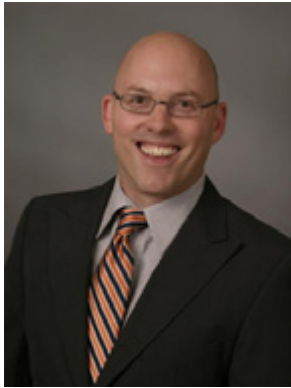
Dr. Dansby-Giles is a professor of counselor education at Jackson State University. She is a National Certified Counselor (NCC), a National Certified School Counselor (NCSC), a National Certified Career Counselor (NCCC) and an

Approved Clinical Supervisor (ACS). Dr. Dansby-Giles has served as southern regional vice president and ethics chair for the American School Counselor Association (ASCA). She has also served on the Mississippi Board of Examiners of Licensed Professional Counselors.

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NBCC FOUNDATION UPDATE

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**Michael M. Kocet, Ph.D.
NCC, LMHC**

Dr. Kocet is associate professor and student affairs program director of the Department of Counselor Education at Bridgewater State University. Dr. Kocet earned his Ph.D. in counselor education from the University of

Arkansas and completed a graduate certificate in dispute resolution at the University of Massachusetts Boston. He is a licensed mental health counselor and a National Certified Counselor (NCC). His professional areas of interest include ethical issues in counseling; counseling gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender clients; and grief counseling. He is the author of numerous journal articles and book chapters on ethics and diversity issues. Dr. Kocet served as a member of the American Counseling Association (ACA) Ethics Committee (2001-2007) and as chair of the ACA Ethics Code Revision Taskforce (2002-2005). He is past president of the Association for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Issues in Counseling (ALGBTIC). He has presented at local, state and national conferences on counseling and student affairs, and is sought as a national speaker and consultant on ethical issues in counseling.



**Atsuko Seto, Ph.D.
NCC, ACS, LPC**

Dr. Seto is an associate professor in the Department of Counselor Education at The College of New Jersey. She currently serves as the program coordinator for the marriage, couple and family counseling and

therapy program, and the educational specialist degree in marriage and family therapy program. She holds a doctorate in counselor education from the University of Wyoming, and a master's degree in counseling from Chadron State College in Nebraska. She is a National Certified Counselor (NCC) and an Approved Clinical Supervisor (ACS). Dr. Seto is a 2002 NBCC International Fellowship recipient and collaborated with helping professionals in Japan in the wake of the Tohoku earthquake and tsunami.

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and Literature**

NBCC Minority Fellowship Program Update

The NBCC Foundation is pleased to announce that the initial application cycle of the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program (MFP) is well underway. Announcements of this opportunity were disseminated in late 2012 by the NBCC MFP partner organizations, the Council for Accreditation of Counseling & Related Educational Programs (CACREP), the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (ACES), the American Counseling Association (ACA), the American Mental Health Counselors Association (AMHCA), Chi Sigma Iota, and NAADAC—the Association for Addiction Professionals. This outreach resulted in many applications being received by the February 28 deadline.

Following careful review of eligible applicants by a committee of NBCC and Affiliates staff members holding the National Certified Counselor (NCC) credential, the NBCC Minority Fellowship Program Advisory Council (MFPAC) will make the final selection of fellows. Chaired by Dr. Sandra Lopez-Baez, this five-member group is made up of Dr. Philip Clarke, Dr. Gloria Dansby-Giles, Dr. Michael Kocet and Dr. Atsuko Seto, all distinguished counselors with extensive experience with and commitment to underserved minority populations. In addition to approving the eligibility criteria and the dissemination plan of the NBCC MFP, the MFPAC selects and supports fellows; creates policy for administration of the program; supports program planning, monitoring and evaluation; and provides education and leadership to the counseling profession.

The NBCC MFP includes a mentorship program for fellows. Interested NCCs with doctoral degrees and experience with underserved minority populations are invited to apply for this volunteer opportunity. To learn more about the mentorship program, please e-mail foundation@nbcc.org with the subject line “NBCC MFP mentorship.”

The Foundation looks forward to awarding the first fellowships this April, and plans to announce the second round of NBCC MFP fellowships in the fall. For more information on the NBCC MFP, please visit the Foundation’s Web site at www.nbccf.org/mfp.

NBCCF HS-BCP Scholarships a Success

In November 2012, the NBCC Foundation announced a scholarship opportunity for Human Services-Board Certified Practitioner (HS-BCP) credential holders. Thanks to generous support from the Center for Credentialing & Education (CCE), the Foundation added this program and the Global Career Development Facilitator (GCDF) scholarship to its well-established program portfolio.



The Foundation offered both a bachelor’s- and master’s-level scholarship to HS-BCPs. Credential holders with an interest in counseling who were pursuing a bachelor’s degree in a helping field or a master’s degree from a program accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling & Related Educational Programs (CACREP) were eligible to apply.

From more than 20 applications, the Foundation named two recipients. Jennifer Altieri, of Littleton, New Hampshire, received the master’s-level HS-BCP scholarship, and Ryan Maddux, of Glen Allen, Virginia, received the bachelor’s-level HS-BCP scholarship. Ms. Altieri is a graduate of Lyndon State College and is enrolled in the clinical mental health counseling program at Plymouth State University. Currently working as the program director for a residential school and community-based services organization for emotionally disturbed adolescents, she has a passion for helping those suffering from mental illness. She looks forward to completing her degree and providing quality service to youth and families. Mr. Maddux is pursuing a human services degree at Old Dominion University and works as a training specialist in local government, helping unemployed individuals gain job skills. Upon graduation, he intends to pursue a career in counseling and continue helping individuals obtain gainful employment in his community.

The Foundation will open the application period for the 2014 HS-BCP scholarships in November 2013. To learn more about the HS-BCP scholarship, please visit the Foundation’s Web site at www.nbccf.org/programs.

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The National Certified Counselor is published three times per year: winter, spring and fall. It is distributed free of charge to NCCs by NBCC®.

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NBCC FOUNDATION UPDATE

NBCCF Announces Dr. Lloyd A. Stone Pinnacle Society



Dr. Thomas Lovett

The NBCC Foundation Board of Trustees is pleased to announce the Dr. Lloyd A. Stone Pinnacle Society, created to honor his enduring legacy and continuing influence on counselor certification. The Pinnacle Society recognizes donors who make substantial investments (\$50,000 or more) in the NBCC Foundation. The founding member of the society is Dr. Thomas M. Lovett.

For more information, please contact NBCC Foundation Executive Director Sherry Allen at allen@nbcc.org or subscribe to the Foundation newsletter by sending an e-mail to foundation@nbcc.org (subject line: newsletters).

Thank You!

The NBCC Foundation thanks the sponsors of the second annual Family First campaign:

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- Body-Mind Awareness

To learn more about these sponsors, please visit the Foundation's Web site at www.nbccf.org.

GOT NEWS?

If you would like to submit an item for NCC Network, refer to the guidelines and deadlines on our Web site.

[www.nbcc.org/
Newsletter/Submissions](http://www.nbcc.org/Newsletter/Submissions)

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