

GCCA Minutes • March 23, 2018 • Middle Georgia State University

Present: Angela Wheelus, Alicia Dorton, Amy Laughter, Tonja Simmons, Ruth Hagemann, Erica Madoni, Elizabeth Humphreys, Jenease Horstead, Andre Griggs, Shubha Chatterjee, Brittany Bing, Katie Bigalke, Dorothy Morgan, Gina Barthelemy-Morton, Cheri Mattox-Carroll

Absent: Chris Wheelus, Predita Howard, Pat Mooney, Evonne Jones, Shawntell Phoenix-Martin

Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order at 10:05 am

Welcome

A welcome was made by President Brittany Bing. A check in was done by all members, with introductions and recollections of favorite areas to visit.

Minutes

Minutes were presented by secretary, Cheri Mattox-Carroll. Minutes included the pre-conference meeting, business meeting, and new council member meetings. An electronic version was previously sent to members; however, paper copies were provided at today's meeting. Jenease Horstead made a motion to approve the minutes, Angela Wheelus seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Amy Laughter reported that the bank balance, debits and credits have been reconciled. There is a balance of \$10,541.17. All bills have been paid. One vendor has yet to pay following the conference. Casey Earle indicated that all debts were paid to CMC Global though payment has not yet cleared. \$14,000 was conference revenue. Ms. Mattox-Carroll made a motion to have the Treasurer's Report approved, the motion was seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Membership and Listserv Report

Andre Griggs reports that GCCA has 189 members with several who have been members for numerous years. Membership has increased with the conference. Discussion ensued as how best to retain members via emails and outreach efforts outside the conference. Concerns were verbalized in regard to lower workshop attendance or little participation in GCCA outside of annual conference. Tonja Simmons asked members how to put out the message valuing members as well as ways o better serve and encourage participation in other events. Since the regions have changed, Katie Bigalke encouraged more connection with the colleges in those new regions. She suggested coming up with regional listserv to better connect with region schools during the year and to support each other and work as consults. This is an opportunity, she said, to connect with those area representatives we do not know. Ms. Simmons looked upon this venture as a means to engage in more events that generate CEUs in her area. It is also an opportunity to find LPC experts in the area who might offer workshops in other areas through collaboration. In addition, Dorothy Morgan has reached out to private practice psychologists who might be available to present, though they can be costlier. She mentioned one psychologist who presents on Counselor

Self-Care, an upcoming workshop. Andre Griggs mentioned Theresa Johnson might be interested. It was noted that there is a lot happening with challenges to pharmaceuticals. We need to address addiction on the college campus and use council listserv mentioned Brittany Bing. Katie Bigalke mentioned PESI, which pays \$29.99 for certificates, though it was mentioned that PESI does not support CEUs for LPC.

Social Media/Website:

Ms. Humphreys reported no new Facebook requests. All workshops offering CEs can be promoted on the website and Facebook even if GCCA is not hosting the activity. May make a Facebook post and create a hyperlink to regional reps. Ms. Hagemann reminded members of the Twitter account as well. Problems with firewall issues with GCCA listserv was reported. May have issues with servers as well. Plans are underway to investigate. Open positions for counselors can be posted on GCCA site.

CE Report

Chris Wheelus absent but reported CEs have been approved quickly upon receipt of program proposals.

Fundraising: No Report

Grants/Awards/Nominations

No report from Angela Wheelus. The form for nominations currently is transmitted to Erica Madoni. This list can be viewed publicly. Can embed president grant in website using a Google form.

Old Business

Recommendations for future: Open the floor for suggestions and feedback. Mr. Wheelus sent recommendations following the conference business meeting in which the meeting seems to get continuously longer, thus taking away from the next session. Recommendations are being considered to shorten it as it pertains to awards and vendor presentations. It was suggested that vendors speak during the Friday breakfast proposed Ms. Madoni. Amy Laughter proposed putting regions together at breakfast and suggesting vendors sponsor a type of continental breakfast to encourage regional networking on Wednesday morning to kick off conference. This might encourage more to spend an extra night. New members might have an easier transition as well. While this was attempted this year, reported Ms. Wheelus, it was difficult to sustain attention.

2018 Conference: Recommendations made to invest in speakers for each room to enhance sound. Aging GCCA computers discussed. Social Worker and Psychologist forms discussed.

Protocol for requesting funds for CE events was discussed. Ms. Bing created a form for flyer requests, honorariums and funding requests. The CE chair will approve for appropriate programs. Once approved, an honorarium can be offered. Time frame of 30 days is best practice. Proposal sent to CE chair via website. Items can be purchased for a workshop and receipts submitted. Money taken at event can be deposited locally to GCCA via Bank of America and

deposit receipt emailed to treasurer. Gas and mileage reimbursement discussed. A \$200.00 honorarium does not always have to be the norm as some speakers will accept reimbursement for travel instead. Regarding non-GCCA members who want CEs must pay with the standard being \$20.00. However, if host provides a meal or snack, the cost may be higher for the participant. GCCA sponsored events can recruit additional members for GCCA, perhaps by charging \$35.00 for an event. May consider paying \$20.00 for CEs and an additional \$35.00 for GCCA membership at the same time. A template and CE approval exists on website. It was proposed that workshops can be replicated at other regions if speakers are willing.

New Business

- 2019 Conference will be held January 29 (Tuesday Evening Council Meeting) through Friday, February 1
- Breakfast on January 30
- Members discussed an increase in conference fees from \$190 to \$200. This will be left for discussion and vote during the 2019 conference business meeting. King and Prince costs will increase incrementally, which could justify hike. This is tabled until 2019 conference.
- Erica Madoni made suggestions for themes such as “Encourage -Engage -Empower”

Regional Reports

Central Report by Tonja Simmons. No report, though questions fielded in regard to process and procedure. Proposed initiating ways of networking, reaching out for connections to colleges with counseling programs. Workshops would benefit students.

Southern Report by Shubha Chatterjee: No plans yet with psychiatrist for the next planned event. Past event garnered 120+ participants, yet with a weather delay, 80+ attended. Considering Event Brite for better registration experience.

Midwest Report by Gina Barthelemy-Morton: No Report. Fewer response from some schools. It was suggested to have greater time to advertise and reach regional contacts. Increase networking was proposed. Gather emails addresses for peer schools. Meet and Greet Breakfast could be considered. Engage with peers to garner direct email addresses and personalize promotions to other counselors in region.

Northwest Report by Dorothy Morgan: Contacting schools in region. Planning additional emphasis on outreach. GA Highlands Connect. March 28-30 on the Rome campus. Counselor Self-Care planned for April.

Midwest Report by Jenease Horstead: No report. Planned future collaboration to generate ideas for future activities

Northeast Report by Evonne Jones. No report

Coastal Report by Katie Bigalke: Reported on an abstract for future untitled program this summer. Multiculturalism and ethics, a 3-hour program. This program will be discussion based, with a review of APA, multicultural, interactive case studies will be the basis.

At Large Report by Alicia Dorton: Partnering with Gordon in Barnesville. Fort Valley offerings on campus. Theme: Clinical Mental Health

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 12 noon. Angela Wheelus made a motion and Brittany Bing seconded. All in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned. The next meeting time and date was discussed for July. Members agreed the next council meeting will be on June 14 in J157 at Central Technical College in Macon

Respectfully submitted by Cheri Mattox-Carroll, GCCA secretary