

GCCA Conference Business Meeting • January 26, 2021

Attendees: Chris Wheelus, Cheri Mattox-Carroll, Amanda Kort, Amy Laughter, Andre Griggs, Dorothy Morgan, Gina Barthelemy-Morton, John Frevert, Katie Jones, Mark Taracuk, Nikita Robinson, Pat Mooney, Ruth Hagemann, Shannon Nix, Tamara Grosz, Traci Westin, Alma Keita, Mayi Dixon, Predita Howard, Tara Holdampf, Shubha Chatterjee, Alma Keita.

The Business Meeting was opened by GCCA President, Gina Barthelemy-Morton at 8:10 am

Minutes

The minutes were provided to conference attendees in advance. A short review of the minutes was presented by secretary Cheri Mattox-Carroll. Dorothy Morgan made a motion to approve the minutes and seconded by Amy Laughter. All in favor. Minutes accepted.

Treasurer Report

Treasurer Amy Laughter covered the main components of the treasurer report. The beginning balance was \$10,692.64 on 1/2/20. The ending balance is recorded at \$8,514.76 on 12/31/20. Ms. Mattox-Carroll made a motion to approve and Ms. Morgan seconded. All in favor, treasurer report approved.

GCCA Treasurer Report - 2020

Date	X	Ch#	Recipient	Purpose	Amount
01/01/20				Beginning Balance	10,692.64
01/22/20	x	1114	Nainyn Designs	Conference T-Shirts	-944.46
01/22/20	x	*	Deposit	Membership Fee - Shannon Stephens	35.00
01/29/20	x	1115	Dr. Jonathan Orr	Keynote Speaker Honorarium - GCCA Conf.	-200.00
01/30/20	x	1116	Dr. Dan Rose	Ethics Speaker Honorarium - GCCA Conf.	-200.00
01/30/20	x	1117	Mark Douglas Taracuk	Presidential Grant Award Winner - GCCA Conf.	-250.00
01/30/20	x	1118	Gina Barthelemy-Morton	Display Port Adapters/Reimbursement	-23.97
01/30/20	x	1119	Broome's Hall of Fame Trophies	Conference Awards	-202.93
01/31/20	x	*	Deposit	Conference Registration Checks	2,025.00
01/31/20	x	*	Deposit	King & Prince Raffle Check	300.00
01/31/20	x	Draft	Bank of America	Check Imaging Services Fee	-3.00
02/28/20	x	Draft	Bank of America	Check Imaging Services Fee	-3.00
03/16/20	x	1120	CMC Global	Clerical & Consulting Fees GCCA Conf.	-1,698.90
03/17/20	x	*	Deposit	CMC Global Revenue	11,505.00
03/17/20	x	1121	King & Prince Beach & Golf Resort	Conference Payment for Hotel Use/Banquets	-12,390.82
03/31/20	x	Draft	Bank of America	Check Imaging Services Fee	-3.00
06/23/20	x	*	Deposit	Membership Fee - Rebecca Schilling	35.00
08/03/20	x	1122	Web South Solutions	Website Maintenance	-144.00
08/31/20	x	Draft	Bank of America	Check Imaging Services Fee	-3.00
10/08/20	x	1123	NBCC	ACEP Annual Maintenance Fee	-150.00
10/30/20	x	Draft	Bank of America	Check Imaging Services Fee	-3.00
11/17/20	x	1124	Perry Francis	Honorarium NE Workshop	-200.00
11/30/20	x	Draft	Bank of America	Check Imaging Services Fee	-3.00
12/08/20	x	*	ZELLE Payment	NE Workshop Registrations Fees	175.00
12/08/20	x	*	ZELLE Payment	GCCA Conference Registration - Sylvia Shortt	100.00
12/09/20	x	*	Deposit	Membership Fees	70.00
12/31/20				Current Balance	8,514.76

Announcement of Award Recipients :

Professional Leadership: Adebayo Onabule, EdS, LPC, NCC, CPCS - Augusta University

Nominated by: Traci Westin

Bayo is a strong professional who leads by example. At Augusta University's Student Counseling & Psychological Services, Bayo quietly serves in key clinical and nonclinical roles with patience, grace, and aplomb. His work ethic is among his myriad strengths. He is typically the first to arrive in the mornings (despite his on-foot commute) and the last to leave at the end of the day. As a staff counselor, he carries a full clinical load, caring for undergraduate, graduate and professional students. In addition to providing brief individual therapy, he also co-leads a weekly interpersonal process group, and conducts triage and crisis appointments. As the outreach coordinator, Bayo leads SCAPS' efforts to stay connected to the university community. During the pandemic, this vital role has required creativity and ingenuity. Bayo has collaborated with colleagues and campus partners to create virtual psychoeducation and informational services. No doubt, his efforts have kept us visible and relevant during these unprecedented times. Most recently, Bayo has assumed the role of clinical supervisor for SCAPS' newest clinicians. He takes new responsibility very seriously and is working hard to build his competence and confidence as a supervisor. His investment in this process will forever transform this young clinician and better the counseling field. Bayo clearly shoulders a heavy load. He works with confidence and positivity and without complaint. Bayo is a professional leader, a trusted and admired colleague, and a capable clinician whose efforts deserve praise.

*** Outstanding Professional Contribution to Knowledge:** Mark Taracuk - Georgia Southern University

Nominated by: Lauren Patterson

I would like to nominate Mark Taracuk for the Outstanding Professional Contribution to Knowledge Award. Dr. Taracuk's 2020 dissertation was on increasing college students' positive attitudes toward transgender and gender diverse individuals along with increasing participants' willingness to engage in social action on behalf of marginalized individuals. This dissertation, which is under final review for publication in an international journal, has participants watch a specific episode of Star Trek. The purpose of the specific episode is that the script relates to gender diversity in the plot without explicitly discussing transgender and gender diverse rights. The goal is to start the conversation and increase participants' empathy without using buzz words or phrases like social justice. Dr. Taracuk utilized a research method called the Solomon four-group design to help increase validity with pre- and post-testing and to evaluate social desirability responding. The four-group design is not utilized often as it typically requires twice as many participants, but has been shown in quantitative research as an outstanding tool to really elevate research. Ultimately this study helped clarify that simple media interventions such as specific episodes from Netflix with intentional content and messaging can be used in an outreach and educational capacity to help college students increase awareness, understanding, and empathy in an effort to increase social justice. These strategies can ultimately allow for conversations and interventions on racism, sexism, transphobia, inequality, and social justice to occur in a broader context in university environments.

*** Graduate Student Meritorious Service:** Marquetta Green & Randy LaMons - Augusta University

Nominated by: Traci Westin

This nomination is to recognize TWO outstanding graduate students at Augusta University. Marquetta Green and Randy LaMons are working toward their master's degrees in counselor education. While

juggling the myriad responsibilities of a demanding academic program and navigating the universal pressures of a viral and racial pandemic, the pair teamed up this fall with Student Counseling & Psychological Services (SCAPS) to establish a weekly peer-led support community for Black and Brown students at AU. Marquetta, a graduate assistant at SCAPS, handpicked her classmate Randy to partner with her on the new virtual initiative they dubbed Our Voices Matter. They researched existing college programs for guidance, collaborated on a meaningful name for the group, worked to spread the word around a largely empty campus, facilitated a mock session with SCAPS staff members, and bravely waded into the uncharted waters of virtual peer support at AU. Marquetta and Randy were thoughtful about how to present and conduct the weekly video meetings for an underserved population of students. Under their leadership, AU's Black and Brown students now have a safe space to connect and share experiences with their peers during a time of exposed racial injustice, anxiety, grief, and isolation. Marquetta and Randy have provided a service to Black and Brown students that SCAPS clinicians cannot. They remain dedicated to the ongoing growth and development of the Our Voices Matter peer community, which is continuing this spring, and AU is stronger because of their commitment. SCAPS is grateful for their meritorious service and wishes to recognize their meaningful contributions. Thank you, Marquetta and Randy!

*** Clinical Program of the Year:** Georgia Southern University/Mark Taracuk - Georgia Southern University
Nominated by: Lauren Patterson

I would like to nominate Dr. Mark Taracuk for the Clinical Program of the Year Award. What started as a conversation in Winter 2020 about increasing prevention efforts to address attitudes and behaviors related to masculinity and sexual assault in college-aged men turned into the program Creating Champions in Summer 2020. Dr. Taracuk designed the Creating Champions workshop as a three-hour interactive and informative program for male-identified individuals at Georgia Southern University. This prevention program is designed to confront harmful gender norms through intentional evaluation and increasing mindful masculinity. The workshop helps individuals deepen their understanding of harmful masculine norms in society, gain new perspectives, and provide tips, tools, and inspiration to empower everyone to make a difference. Core elements of the program include addressing myths about masculinity, training participants in bystander intervention, and to deepen the university's efforts to prevent sexual assault and violence.

*** Sylvia Shortt Counselor of the Year:** Nikita Robinson - Georgia Southern University Armstrong Campus
Nominated by: Amanda Kort & Jodi Caldwell

Nikita has dedicated several years to building the suicide prevention program at Georgia Southern University. She not only is a QPR trainer but also works to promote this training on campus to Nursing students, sorority life and staff and faculty. She has also helped in getting these same programs and trainings offered on all campuses- including Suicide Prevention week and monthly QPR trainings to all staff and faculty. She wears many hats within her job at the counseling center such as; case manager (or your go-to person when you need resources), Suicide coordinator, Field experience coordinator, SOAR liaison, TRio Liaison and counselor. She spends countless hours putting together proposals that have helped to start in the development of a Postvention team at Georgia Southern University. Nikita is always willing to help even if it means sitting outside at a table offering resources to students. She is someone that I admire and who I have learned so much from in the short time we have worked together. She deserves this award for her dedication, handwork and collaborations.

-Amanda Kort

I am writing to give my strongest recommendation to Nikita Robinson for the GCCA Counselor of the Year Award! I have had the privilege of knowing Nikita and working with her for over a decade. Nikita truly personifies the diversity of skills, experiences and roles that come with being a Counselor.

I cannot say enough about all that Nikita does for our team and our students. As our staff Case Manager, Nikita not only networks with our local, state, and regional community services, but she also carries a caseload of therapy clients. Nikita has forged an array of relationships with community services that enable her to ensure our students can be connected in a warm therapeutic way to hospitalization options, food resources, housing resources, legal assistance, and more! Her genuine passion for our clients and interpersonal warmth make it hard for anyone to say no when she reaches out for assistance on behalf of one of our students.

As a therapist, Nikita has earned a reputation amongst our student body that makes her one of the most frequently requested counselors on our staff. No matter how busy she is with her many roles at the university, her clients are always in great hands.

As a campus partner, Nikita is one of the most recognizable faces of the Counseling Center. As her Director, I am regularly asked if she can serve on campus-wide search committees, various campus work-committees, and for approval to reach out to her for consultation. The many Georgia Southern departments that regularly rely on her expertise speak to her professionalism and recognized authority on mental health and community services. Most recently, Nikita was asked to serve on the Search Committee for the Dean of Students, she was asked to help establish the first food bank on Georgia Southern's main campus, she has chaired multiple Counseling Center search committees, and has been appointed as the Team Lead for our JED Campus evaluation and she has continued to serve on the university's BAT.

As a Director who has supervised many, many clinicians, I can say that Nikita has been one of the most solid staff members with whom I have had the honor to work. She brings a vast array of knowledge, past work experiences, clinical skills, and more. Just as important, she is an incredible person who is a joy to be around.

I could not imagine a more deserving recipient of this honor, and hope that your award committee agrees!

-Jodi Caldwell

* Advocacy Award: No Nominations

* College Counseling Director of the Year: No Nominations

Nominations for New Council

It was suggested that any positions that remained unfilled following the meeting could be filled at a later date to include current representatives that are not conference participants.

Executive Officers:

A call was made for President Elect. While it is traditional for someone from the council to be nominated it is not stated in bylaws, explained past president Angie Wheelus. A call for nominations ensured for the three-year term: President Elect/President/Past President. Angie Wheelus nominated Katie Jones. Cheri Mattox-Carroll seconded nomination. All in favor. Katie Jones elected as President Elect.

Treasurer: The position of Treasurer is a 2-year term. Ms. Amy Laughter as current treasurer has been doing a wonderful job. Ms. Laughter would remain in the position, but would offer up the position to someone who wished to join the council. Mark Taracuk nominated himself. Angie Wheelus reminded attendees that other positions are open to include a CE position as well. Ms. Laughter accepted this position.

Secretary: Alma Keita and Dorothy Morgan suggested Cheri Mattox-Carroll remain as secretary for GCCA. She accepted.

Membership/Listserv: Andre Griggs and Jenease Horstead will co-chair.

Webmaster/Social chair: Lizy Humphrey indicated interest in remaining in both positions

Archivist: This position is available. A call for archivist nominations were made. With no nominations or volunteers for the position, a description and call for an archivist will be placed on the listserv and GCCA website. Founders or long-term members will be sought. The archivist maintains bylaw and any updates to the bylaws. Maintains all minutes, treasurer reports, award recipients, and members. Ms. Shortt was in process of scanning and digitalizing all GCCA history pieces. Past information and photos to be collected to archived. Someone with a heart and passion is sought to continue to the position.

Fundraising Chair: Ms. Barthelemy-Morton nominates Tara Holdampf. She did not accept the nomination. The fundraising chair is responsible for reaching out to organizations. There is a \$500 fee for attendance at the conference. Some budget cuts reduced the number of represented agencies from 7-8 and 4-5. The list is on the back of the program. Vendors are recruited by phone or letter of invite. With no nomination accepted, possible persons for the position will be recruited via the website.

CE Chair: Now vacant. Mark Taracuk nominated by Angie Wheelus. The nomination was seconded. Mr. Taracuk accepted the nomination.

Regional Representatives:

A call for a NE regional rep: No nominations

NW region: Any nominations? Dorothy Morgan indicated she would continue in this role unless another wished to take on this position. Alma Keita and Cheri Mattox-Carroll supported her continuation in the role for the NW region. So moved.

Mideast region: Traci Westin was nominated for Mideast citing her positive input, has great ideas and team player contribution. Ms. Westin accepted the nomination.

Midwest region: Gina Barthelemy-Morton nominated Mayi Dixon. Any other nominations? Angie Wheelus seconded and Cheri Mattox-Carroll provided a third nod for endorsement. Ms. Dixon accepted the nomination.

Central region:

Coastal region: Call for nominations. Amanda Kort indicated she wishes to continue in this role

Southern region: Shubha Chatterjee will continue in this role.

Rep at large: Nikita Robinson will continue in the role. Tara Holdampf accepted as regional rep. at large.

Central rep, Northeast rep, archivist, and fundraiser council positions remain vacant and will be placed on website. Nominations and volunteer quest shared on GCCA Listserv.

No new business. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Cheri Mattox-Carroll, GCCA Secretary