



ARCA Goes to Pittsburgh:
Perspective from the E-Newsletter Editor

This first edition of the *American Rehabilitation Counseling Association E-Newsletter* is designed to provide a concise presentation of ARCA activities, events, and sponsored programs occurring at the American Counseling Association 2010 Conference. All activities have been carefully designed to promote the mission of the Association.

Indeed, as stated on the website, the American Rehabilitation Counseling Association (ARCA) is an organization of rehabilitation counseling practitioners, educators, and students who are concerned with continually improving the profession of rehabilitation counseling in its service to persons with disabilities. In pursuit of this mission, ARCA:

- Provides leadership in advancing the profession and science of rehabilitation counseling
- Promotes standards that represent the highest quality of professional rehabilitation counseling practice in a rapidly changing environment
- Provides research findings with direct application to the current and future practice of rehabilitation counseling
- Fosters dialogues and coordinates activities among rehabilitation counselors, educators, administrators, and other rehabilitation professionals within and among various specialty areas
- Engages in active collaborations and partnerships with other national professional organizations and with consumer groups

As you read the *E-Newsletter* you can see how the ARCA sponsored presentations reflect research findings, helping rehabilitation counselors to integrate research and practice. You will also notice the strong collaborative efforts and significant partnerships, as demonstrated in the Multicultural Social Justice Leadership Development Academy. Observe how the various ARCA activities are structured to promote dialogue: formally, through the ARCA Brunch and Business Meeting (Sunday); and informally through both the reception at the University of Pittsburgh (Friday evening) and the other opportunities for social networking. The vision of the current President has provided the inspiration for the spirit of inclusion and collaboration evident at this conference.

Take a moment and pursue the ARCA happenings highlighted herein and plan to meet Dr. Carolyn Rollins and the ARCA Executive Council, members of the ARCA student taskforce,

the many accomplished members of ARCA, and others dedicated to the rehabilitation profession.

Dr. Michelle P. Pointer, CRC, NCC, LCPC
E-Newsletter Editor
Chair, Council on Development and Collaboration

From the President's Desk:
ACA Conference 2010 Statement

The American Rehabilitation Counseling Association is truly on the move! As the 2009-2010 ARCA President, three goals have been identified. These goals can be found on our website. However, two of these goals are evident in the thread of ARCA contributions to the ACA 2010 Conference in Pittsburgh. Specifically the goals declare that ARCA will: (a) *Promote professional cohesion and development globally through collaboration and partnerships, and;* (b) *Enhance member benefits by increasing rehabilitation counseling professionals' opportunities for participation in ARCA leadership and promoting leadership development among new rehabilitation counseling professionals.*

We are as strong as our memberships and new ideas and collaborative planning has resulted in amazing contributions. Review the presentations. At the conference you will see evidence of the professional cohesion, observe strong leadership and leadership development, and choose from diverse opportunities for professional development.

Indeed, leadership development is exemplified in this *E-Newsletter*. For example, the editor of the ARCA Quarterly Newsletter and the co-editor of this *E-Newsletter* is the former student representative to ARCA! She made a commitment to ARCA service as a student and ARCA is invested in her growth and mentorship. Ms Moore now contributes through elected ARCA leadership and is investing in the growth of others. Make your commitment today.

Be sure that the ARCA Awards Reception is on your conference "Events to Attend" list while in Pittsburgh. The reception will be Friday, March 19, 2010. The ARCA in collaboration with Dr. Michael McCue and the Department of Rehabilitation Science and Technology at the University of Pittsburgh, to provide an exciting opportunity for achievement, networking and collaboration. Come to the reception then participate with ARCA throughout the conference.

Thank you for your support of ARCA. Your continued participation, membership, and involvement are earnestly appreciated.

Dr. Carolyn Rollins, CRC, NCC
ARCA President

University of Pittsburgh Welcomes ARCA

ARCA and the University of Pittsburgh's Department of Rehabilitation Science and Technology (RST) announce co-sponsorship of the ARCA Awards Reception on Friday, March 19, 2010 from 6:30 – 8:30 pm, to be held at the Ballroom of the University of Pittsburgh's William Pitt Student Union. The reception is open to ARCA members and will be attended by members of the southwestern Pennsylvania rehabilitation community.

In anticipation of ACA's Annual Conference in Pittsburgh, we chose to modify the timeframe and focus of Pitt's annual rehabilitation networking event to a joint event with ARCA. In addition to the ARCA awards ceremony, the 2010 RST/ARCA networking event will convene students, graduates, community partners, people with disabilities, public and private nonprofit rehabilitation agencies, and other members of the rehabilitation delivery system to meet and network in a social environment. We hope that this reception with ARCA will enable rehabilitation professionals outside of the Pittsburgh area to get to know and network with RST and its excellent partners.

The Department of Rehabilitation Science and Technology (RST) was formally established at the University of Pittsburgh in September of 1994. It is housed within the University of Pittsburgh's School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences (SHRS) along with many rehabilitation departments and programs including occupational therapy, physical therapy, athletic training, communication science, audiology, dietetics, health information management.

The RST offers three Master's degree programs (Rehabilitation Counseling, Rehabilitation Technology, and Orthotics and Prosthetics), and a Doctoral program in Rehabilitation Science. Rehabilitation counseling students participate daily with students, faculty and clinicians from other rehabilitation disciplines, providing an excellent learning environment for emulating real-world rehabilitation teamwork. This model also enables us to promote and demonstrate the profession of rehabilitation counseling across other professional rehabilitation disciplines.

In addition to comprehensive professional training, our program requires specialty course work and clinical field experience in assistive technology (AT). Students take two AT courses, along with a hands-on practicum in assistive technology. Most students qualify for a graduate Certificate in Assistive Technology.

Clinical activity is conducted at the state-operated vocational rehabilitation facility, Hiram G. Andrews Center (HGAC), located in Johnstown, PA. RST faculty and students are instrumental in the development and delivery of programs in AT and cognitive skills enhancement to adults with cognitive disabilities. The second clinical location, the Center for Assistive Technology (CAT), (associated with the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center), has evolved to become a model of AT service delivery.

At our Bakery Square research laboratory, RST hosts three NIDRR Rehabilitation Engineering Research Centers (RERCs) – Telerehabilitation, Wheelchair Transportation Safety (WTS), and Spinal Cord Injury. Outcomes of these technical and engineering solutions applied in clinical settings enable individuals with disabilities to increase community participation and achieve their goals in life. Research is also conducted at the Human Engineering Research Laboratory (HERL), which is home to the VA Center of Excellence on Wheelchairs and Associated Rehabilitation Engineering, and the University of Pittsburgh Model Center on Spinal Cord Injury.

Dr. Michael McCue, University of Pittsburgh

Thanks to Pitt's Rehabilitation Counselor training program, round trip transportation will be provided by the University of Pittsburgh. Please meet us in the lobby of the Westin in Pittsburgh on Friday, March 19, 2010 at 6:00 PM. Reserve your space. Contact: Dr. Michael McCue, or Dr. Carolyn Rollins (mmccue@pitt.edu; Carolyn.rollins@asurams.edu).

ARCA Sponsors Rehabilitation Sessions

Several ARCA sponsored sessions are planned for the 2010 ACA Conference. Of special significance is the 90-minute session on the CRCC 2010 Code of Ethics, scheduled for 5:00 PM – 6:30 PM on Sunday, March 21, 2010. Specific information on this and the other *ARCA Sponsored Sessions* are included in this *E-Newsletter*.

All meeting days, times, and rooms are subject to change. Please review the *ACA Program Guide, Addendum, and Conference Daily* for final meeting information.

Presentations

Putting CRCC's Top 10 Code of Ethics Changes into Practice (Sunday, March 21, 5-6:30 PM)

Main Presenter: Patty Nunez, MA, CRC, CDMS, CCM
Co-Presenter: Dr. Cindy Chapman, CRC

This presentation highlights the major changes that are a part of the new 2010 CCRC Code of ethics, and reviews how those changes translate into what a professional needs to do in their practice to be in compliance with the Code of Ethics. Emphasis is on the application of the top 10 changes.

Predictors of Attitudes Toward Disability and Employment Policy Issues Among Undergraduate Students at the University of Nairobi (Monday, March 22, 2010, 7:30 AM)

*Main Presenter: Dr. George I Mamboleo, CRC
Alabama A & M University*

Persons with disabilities in Kenya face many barriers to integration due to barriers such as societal negative attitudes. Attitudes toward disability and organizational policies among University of Nairobi undergraduate students were studied. The study reveals less positive general attitudes toward persons with disabilities among Kenyan students.

Applying Research Regarding Employers' Use of the Internet to Improve Employability of Rehabilitation Clients (Saturday, March 20, 2010, 3:45 PM)

*Main Presenter: Dr. Illana Lehmann, CRC, NCC
University of Massachusetts*

Research will be presented regarding how employers legally use the internet to screen job applicants. Practical advice will be provided as to how rehabilitation counselors can increase employability of their clients through the intentional use of social networking sites, blogs, and e-mail, and how to find and address "digital dirt".

Poster Presentations

Current Status of Rehabilitation Counseling: Comparative analysis of Characteristics Across Counseling Professions (Saturday, March 20, 2010, 2:00 PM)

*Main Presenter: Dr. Jeong Han Kim, CRC,
Ball State University*

This study aims to expand rehabilitation counseling professionals' knowledge and understanding of the unique characteristics of the field relative to other counseling areas, as well as potential sources of common misperceptions that can lead to confused professional identity. Characteristics regarding labor market trends, educational preparation, and licensing rules are compared.

From Learners to Leaders: Applying an Action Research Model in Teaching Group Counseling Concepts and Skills (Saturday, March 20, 2010, 4:00 PM)

*Main Presenter: Dr. Chad Betters, CRC, CDMS, CVE
Winston-Salem State University
Co-Presenter(s): Robyn L. Lowery, MA, CRC, LPC-Board Eligible*

This session discusses the current body of group counselor education literature, as well as shares independent research findings utilizing action research methodology. Details regarding how rehabilitation counselors in training most effectively learn to develop and implement critical needs in groups as well as recommendations for group counseling education are presented.

Factors influencing HIV Positive Latino Men's Use of VR Services (Sunday, March 21, 2010, 3:00 PM)

*Main Presenter: Dr. Paul Datti, CRC
University of Scranton*

The Latino community is disproportionately affected by both HIV/AIDS and unemployment yet is underserved in the vocational rehabilitation arena. This presentation will review a unique study that specifically examined variables associated with vocational rehabilitation service use by Latino men with HIV/AIDS as well as ethnic subgroup differences among them.

**Council on Social Justice:
ARCA Sponsored Presentations**

The ARCA will participate in the Multicultural Social Justice Leadership Development Academy on Friday, March 19, 2010. Register via jessica.a.ebert@gmail.com by **Friday February 26, 2010**. The CEU's are free!

Workshop # 12: Implementing Multicultural-Social Justice Leadership Strategies When Advocating for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Dr. Reginald J. Alston, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Regine Rucker

*Dr. Jerry Fisher, CRC, LPC, UTPA
Dr. Eva Miller; Endlantia Casares*

E-Newsletter Editors

Editor - Dr. Michelle P. Pointer
Co-Editor - Nykeisha, Moore
Co-Editor - Dr. Carolyn Rollins

Please direct comments on the E-Newsletter to Dr. Michelle Pointer, at mpointer@coppin.edu

ARCA Award Reception and Presentations

Dr. Michael McCue and the University of Pittsburgh has provided an excellent venue to honor and celebrate our members' achievements and promote networking and collaboration among rehabilitation professionals from across the nation, as well as the opportunity for ARCA members, students, and rehabilitation professionals across the regions to inform rehabilitation leaders of their interests and concerns.

During the ARCA Awards Reception on Friday, March 19, 2010, many dynamic individuals will be recognized. The air will be filled with many special contributions, words of gratitude, and recognition. In addition, the following Annual

awards will be presented:

- *2010 ARCA Research Award*, which recognizes and honors high quality, research in the field of rehabilitation counseling
- *2010 James F. Garrett Award* for a Distinguished Career in Rehabilitation Research, which recognizes excellence in research contributions over one's career
- *2010 Rehabilitation Counselor of the Year Award*, which recognizes an outstanding individual who has contributed to improving the lives of persons with disabilities, and in doing so, has made a substantial contribution to the practice of rehabilitation counseling

The ARCA Executive Council encourages the membership and guests to join us in recognizing leadership and dedication of excellence!

Student Activities

Get Ready! Get Ready! Get Ready! Get Ready! The 2010 ACA conference will serve as a vehicle for students to showcase their work, enhance their professional development, and a chance to meet, mingle, and network with professionals and other students within the field of rehabilitation counseling.

The ARCA Reception features Master's and Doctoral level students selected to showcase their outstanding work. This will be a great opportunity for students to interact with presenters individually by having meaningful discussion pertaining to his/her research and possibly establish opportunities to collaborate on future publications and/or conference presentations..

During the student forum, doctoral and master level students will present their original work related to rehabilitation issues and compete for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prizes. All winners will be presented a monetary award, tickets to the ARCA brunch, and a one year ARCA-only membership. If you are looking for snap shots of outstanding research on current rehabilitation trends, look no further. The ARCA Student Forum is the place to be on Saturday, March 20th, from 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Students who are looking for ways to become more involved with ARCA on a local, regional, or national level and/or have ideas on increasing students' visibility and voices, are invited to come and be prepared to meet and greet Quiteya Walker.

Ms. Quiteya Walker, the new Student Task Force Chair, has worked hard to secure regional and associate representatives across the United States. She is interested in discussing students' concerns, needs, ideas, and even challenges. She is currently in the process of securing a convenient location and time for the meet and greet.

Any student interested in attending the meet and greet are encouraged to send an email to Ms. Walker at quiteya-walker@uiowa.edu.

walker@uiowa.edu. Upon confirmation of the place and time, a courtesy email will be sent to all interested students.

As we are students today we are practitioners and educators of tomorrow! Let's continue to build our legacy through attendance and representation. See you in Pittsburgh!

Nykeisha Moore
E-Newsletter Co- Editor
Chair, Council on Public Awareness and Relations

ARCA Brunch and Business Meeting

The ARCA Brunch and Business Meeting is an exciting occurrence. In addition to great fellowship and a good meal, reports on the activities of your leadership are shared. Council Chairs will provide individual reports and are interested in your questions and feedback.

This year, there is a proposed by-law change and your presence and participation in the meeting is especially warranted. Be sure to join the ARCA Executive Council on Sunday, March 21, 2010 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

PROPOSED BYLAW CHANGE for VOTE by ARCA MEMBERSHIP

The ARCA Executive Council will be asking ARCA members to vote on two bylaw changes at the membership meeting at the ACA conference in Pittsburgh.

The first motion, put forth by Patty Nunez and Carrie Wilde, is to amend bylaw, Article II, section 3, Membership.

The motion is to **remove** category d: *Provisional - Open to persons who have not previously been members of ARCA and who possess a minimum of a master's degree in rehabilitation counseling or closely related area, from a recognized college or university, or who are graduate students in a recognized program in rehabilitation counseling. Provisional memberships are valid for one year and are nonrenewable.*

And **replace** category d with: *New Professional- New professional is someone who has graduated with a masters or a doctorate within the past 12 months. Status is good for one year.*

And **add** category e: *Retired- members who are retired from the counseling profession and have been active ACA members for the past 5 consecutive years.*

Comment: The New Professional and Retired member categories are currently functional membership categories and the

by-laws had not been modified to reflect the change in membership.

The second motion, put forth by Patty Nunez and Carrie Wilde, is to amend bylaw, Article XIII, section 1, Publications.

The motion is to **add** category e: *The RCB editor will hold a minimum of one meeting per year with the editorial board and report the results of the meeting to the Executive Council.*

Comment: The ARCA strategic plan requires the Executive Council to establish research priorities for the next year. The ARCA Executive Council should be working collaboratively with the RCB Editor and the Editorial Board to establish research priorities. The Executive Council has a responsibility to its membership to ensure that their needs are communicated to the editorial board and are reflected in RCB as areas of importance to the profession

Questions concerning the proposed bylaw change can be directed to Frank Lane and he can be reached via email at lane@iit.edu or via telephone at (312) 567-3500.

*Frank J. Lane, CRC
Chair, Council on Organization, Administration & Management*

Snapshot of Planned Events

Friday

- ARCA Board Meeting on Friday, March 19, 2010 from 8:00-5:30 pm
- ARCA Awards Reception on Friday, March 19, 2010 from 6:30 – 8:30 pm, to be held at the Ballroom of the University of Pittsburgh's William Pitt Student Union.

Saturday

- The ARCA Student Forum on Saturday, March 20th, from 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Sunday

- ARCA Brunch and Business Meeting on Sunday, March 21st from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.



Special thanks go to the American Counseling Association who make all of ARCA's planned events come together for the 2010 Annual Conference.

The ACA 2010 Annual Conference & Exposition will be held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania March 18-22, 2010. All planned conference events will convene at The David L. Lawrence Conference Center, which is adjacent to the Westin Conference Center hotel.

The address for the Conference Center is 1000 Ft. Duquesne Blvd., Pittsburgh, PA 15222. Individuals may visit the web address below to learn more about conference, registration, travel, lodging, and to obtain detailed information of education sessions and other planned events: <http://www.counseling.org/Conference/About/TP/Home/CT2.aspx>

STAY INFORMED!

Be sure to visit ARCA's official website at:

<http://www.arcaweb.org/>

Visit the website regularly and find out about:

- ARCA Leadership
- Legislative Updates
- Calls for Proposals
- Conference Information
- Newsletter Archives
- Latest Happenings