

**(President's Message, 07.01.09)**  
**By Carolyn Rollins**

**From the President: ARCA Goals for 2009-2010**

I am so honored to serve as ARCA's president. The ARCA board is energized and has been hard at work assuring that ARCA's assets are protected and that its organizational business moves forward. The Board has set goals that are challenging and which will engage members in the "doing" of ARCA. Council chairs will seek to involve members in engaging directly in advocacy for persons with disabilities, advocacy for rehabilitation counseling professionals and credential, and promoting leadership development among new rehabilitation counseling professionals, or in the organizational work that enables these activities. ARCA is a member driven organization and our goal is to be responsive to the needs and interests of ARCA members. This can only happen if ARCA continues to be an organization in which members are empowered for leadership. Members' involvement keeps ARCA vital and relevant to the profession.

**ARCA's 2009-2010 GOALS**

ARCA will:

1. Promote the profession by actively advocating for the needs and benefit of persons with disabilities and for recognition of certified rehabilitation counselors in licensure and health care systems;
2. Promote professional cohesion and development globally through collaboration and partnerships; and,
3. Enhance member benefits by increasing rehabilitation counseling professionals' opportunities for participation in ARCA leadership and promoting leadership development among new rehabilitation counseling professionals.

The following activities will support accomplishment of these goals:

- Promote the profession by actively advocating for the needs and benefit of persons with disabilities and for recognition of certified rehabilitation counselors in licensure and health care systems.
  1. Maintain and increase visibility as an advocate on disability policy and rehabilitation issues.
  2. Maintain visibility as an advocate for the inclusion of certified rehabilitation counselors in licensure laws and in the health care reimbursement system.
- Promote professional cohesion and development globally through collaboration and partnerships.
  1. Improve internal and external communication networks.
    - a. Maintain an up-to-date website and list-serv.
    - b. Assess membership's interest in other social networking avenues.
  2. Strengthen networks with other organizations.
    - a. Support collaborative professional development initiatives.
    - b. Support collaborative initiatives for advocacy.
    - c. Strengthen international collaborative relationships.
- Provide improved member benefits by increasing rehabilitation counseling professionals' participation in ARCA leadership and promoting leadership development among new rehabilitation counseling professionals.

1. Increase rehabilitation counseling professionals' participation in ARCA leadership and programs.
  - a. Improve ARCA's mechanisms for membership recruitment and professional recognition.
  - b. Provide clear avenues for members' participation.
  - c. Identify a research and practice focus for the next year.
  - d. Promote a global focus on rehabilitation issues and the profession.
2. Increase rehabilitation counseling students' participation in ARCA leadership and programs.
  - a. Develop the student scholarship program.
  - b. Promote the development of ARCA student chapters.
  - c. Provide opportunities for students and new professionals to work in leadership roles in ARCA.

Opportunities, large and small, abound for members' involvement. Members should check the ARCA webpage regularly for opportunities to use their skills to benefit the profession and ARCA. Elective positions for which candidates are sought are posted on the webpage. The input and participation of members in accomplishing this year's goals are invited and welcomed. ARCA Board members serve as chair for the organizational Councils which perform ARCA's work. The Councils are:

Council on Organization, Administration and Management: *Frank Lane*

Council on Development and Collaboration: *Michelle Pointer*

Council on Public Policy and Legislation: *Carrie Wilde*

Council on Research & Knowledge: *Joe Keferl*

Council on Public Relations and Awareness: *NyKeisha Moore*

Council on Professional Preparation: *Yolanda Edwards*

### **ARCA Leaders Wanted.....Get on the ballot for the following positions:**

Chair, Council on Professional Preparation

Chair, Council on Public Relations and Awareness

### **ARCA Student Leaders Wanted.....for the following positions:**

Student Task Force Chair

Region I (Regional Representative, Associate Regional Representative)

Region III (Associate Regional Representative)

Region VI (Regional Representative, Associate Regional Representative)

Region VII (Associate Regional Representative)

Region X (Regional Representative, Associate Regional Representative)

For more information about each Council and contacting Council Chairs, go to the ARCA website (<http://www.arcaweb.org/Home/tabid/36/Default.aspx>). Please contact me ([carolyn.rollins@asurams.edu](mailto:carolyn.rollins@asurams.edu) or 229-430-2793) or any ARCA Council chair (see the ARCA Leadership tab) to give input and feedback, make suggestions, or volunteer your services for meeting ARCA's 2009-2010 goals.

Thank you for your support.

Carolyn Rollins