



2023 Annual Conference

February 7 – 9, 2023
Le Pavillon Hotel
New Orleans, Louisiana

Tuesday, FEBRUARY 7

5:30 – 6:30 pm

Welcome Reception

Wednesday, FEBRUARY 8

8:00 – 8:30 am

President's Welcome

AASCB President Denauvo Robinson welcomes attendees to our return to in-person programming.

8:30 – 9:30 am

Keynote Panel Discussion: Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Access in Counseling

Cheryl Henry, M.Ed. – *Executive Director, West Virginia Board of Examiners in Counseling*
Chung-Fan Ni, Ph.D., CRC, LPC - *Associate Professor in Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling, Western Oregon University*

Denauvo Robinson, PhD – *President, AASCB*

Dr. Beverly Smith, PhD, LPC (GA & AL), NCC, CCMHC, ACS, NCSC, CFT, BC-HSP, BCC, MAC, CPCS, BC-TMH, BCPCC, CCTP – *CEO, AMHCA*

Moderator: **Kevin Doyle, Ed.D.** – *Past President, AASCB*

Bringing together four distinct voices in counseling, this panel discussion will examine the importance of diversity, equity, inclusion, and access in counseling and particularly within counseling boards. Panelists will discuss how they are working to ensure these issues remain at the fore while discussing obstacles and solutions and where we go from here.

9:45 – 11:00 am

State Board Administrators and Board Members' Forum

If you have just joined your state licensing board or if you have been a member or administrator of a board for many years and want to help others learn from your experience, please join us for a Board Member and Board Administrator Forum. This informal and informative session will include a brief history of AASCB, reasons why state boards are needed, and characteristics of effective board members and administrators. You will also have time to network with your fellow state licensing board administrators and board members to share ideas, information, and concerns.

11:15 am – 12:15 pm

Concurrent Sessions

Clinical supervisors: Scaffolding novice professional counselors

M. Sylvia Fernandez, Ph.D. – *President & CEO, CACREP*

Kelly Duncan, Ph.D., NCC, LPC – *Executive Director, ACES*

Counselor and counseling supervision are integral in the preparation and professional development of pre-license professional counselors. Supervisors are responsible for initiating the novice professional counselor into the counseling profession, ensuring the integrity of counseling services provided to clients by the supervisee, and ultimately protecting the welfare of clients served by the supervisee. Attention will be given to the provision of supervision in-person as well as in the digital/distance environment. This session will identify the characteristics, role and responsibilities of a clinical supervisor, and the clinical supervisor qualifications necessary to support professional counselors and to protect the public. Effective counseling clinical supervisors support licensing boards in their regulatory duty and obligation.



11:15 am – 12:15 pm

Concurrent Sessions, continued

CRCE Licensure Parity & Impact on Individuals with Disabilities

Pam Shlemon – *Executive Director, CRCC*

Cayte Anderson, PhD, CRC, LPC – *Director of Research, Stout Vocational Rehabilitation Institute*

Kyle Walker, MRC, CRC, CRL, CPM – *Executive Director, Stout Vocational Rehabilitation Institute*

Rehabilitation Counseling is a specialization of the counseling profession with the merger between to major accrediting bodies, the Counseling on Rehabilitation Education (CORE) and the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP), completed on July 1, 2017. While rehabilitation counselors receive the same graduate-level education in counseling fundamentals as other counselors, the profession also requires specialized coursework addressing various aspects of disability. Since the early 2000s, the accreditation and certification standards for rehabilitation counseling have been recognized as having parity with their equivalents in general counseling by the ACA (Travydas, Leahy, & Zanskas, 2009). As an entry-level exam for licensure in some states, the CRCE is viewed as equivalent to the National Counselor Examination (NCE), governed by the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC) and associated with the National Certified Counselor (NCC) credential.

Today, mental illness is a leading cause of disability in the United States and across the world. The demand for Certified Rehabilitation Counselors is on the rise. However, exclusion of licensure parity for CRCE across many licensing boards, including states with the highest rate of individuals with disabilities, excludes CRCs from practicing in the various settings. At a time when the need for licensed counselors is at a record high, there is no reason to unnecessarily narrow the path to licensure for those professionals who are otherwise qualified. This session will provide rationale and recent research supporting the recommendation that the CRCE be considered equitable to the NCE by state licensing boards.

Board Leadership Changes: How to Make a Smooth Transition

Andrea Brooks, PhD, LPCC-S – *Former Board Chair, Kentucky Board of Licensed Professional Counselors; Program Director and Associate Professor, Lindsey Wilson College*

Hannah Coyt, PhD, LPCC-S, NCC, CCMHC - *Board Chair, Kentucky Board of Licensure for Professional Counselors; Assistant Professor, Western Kentucky University*

As the leader of the board, the Board Chair role is a crucial position. While all boards differ in the length of the term for this position, a fact that remains consistent is that terms expire, and new chairs are eventually appointed/elected. This session aims to review how the Board Chair and Chair-Elect can create a smooth transition that keeps the functions of the board operating at a productive level.

12:30 – 2:00 pm

Lunch Session: Overdose Rescue Pack Narcon

Dr. Peter DeBlieux – *Chief Experience Officer, University Medical Center New Orleans; Executive Director, Spirit of Charity Foundation*

An introduction to the Overdose Rescue Pack Narcon Program developed by the Spirit of Charity Foundation and housed at the University Medical Center in New Orleans Louisiana.

2:00 – 3:00 pm

AASCB Business Meeting, I

Hear reports from AASCB's Board and standing committees, an update on the Strategic Plan, and candidate statements from those running for the 2023-2024 Board.

3:15 – 4:00 pm

Facilitated Roundtable Discussions

Join fellow attendees for facilitated roundtable discussions around a variety of issues:

Hot Topics in the States

Legislative Concerns at the State Level

Sharing Best Practices in Discipline

The Value of Cultural Humility Training for Staff & Board Members



4:15 – 5:15 pm

Concurrent Sessions

Building Relationships with Pre-Licensed Counselors and Faculty: The value of Communication and Connections between Regulatory Boards and Counselor Education

Kelly Duncan, Ph.D., NCC, LPC - *Executive Director, ACES*

Margaret Lamar, Ph.D., LPC, LPCC, NCC - *President-Elect, ACES*

Holly Hartwig Moorhead, Ph.D., NCC, LPC - *CEO, Chi Sigma Iota*

Counselor Education programs focus upon providing quality preparation for those aspiring to enter service as a licensed professional counselor, not only for public protection but also to optimize the wellbeing of clients served by counselors by preparing counselors to practice competently and effectively. When regulatory boards and counselors are able to communicate and share information to ensure counseling competence, the public and the counseling profession are best served. Join us for a discussion about counseling educational standards, what regulatory boards would like counseling faculty and students to know, and how regulatory boards and counseling organizations can work collaboratively to ensure licensed professional counselors are providing high quality, ethical services to the clients they serve. Counselor Education programs focus upon providing quality preparation for those aspiring to enter service as a licensed professional counselor, not only for public protection but also to optimize the wellbeing of clients served by counselors by preparing counselors to practice competently and effectively. When regulatory boards and counselors are able to communicate and share information to ensure counseling competence, the public and the counseling profession are best served. Join us for a discussion about counseling educational standards, what regulatory boards would like counseling faculty and students to know, and how regulatory boards and counseling organizations can work collaboratively to ensure licensed professional counselors are providing high quality, ethical services to the clients they serve.

Overview of Development and Results for the National Clinical Mental Health Counseling Examination

Callie Marino, EdS, MS, NCC, LCMCH – *Vice President, Credentialing and Quality Assurance, NBCC*

Unber Ahmad, PhD – *Director of Assessments, NBCC*

The National Board for Certified Counselors, Inc. and Affiliates released the new format of the National Clinical Mental Health Counseling Examination in Fall of 2022. The exam's new format was carefully sculpted to ensure a high-fidelity examination with the test content representing a counselor's clinical case load. This session will present an overview of the examination content development including a description of item writing, narrative writing, and implementation of bias and sensitivity review. Special attention will be given to presenting the results from the initial administrations of the examination along with an explanation of scoring and standard-setting procedures and validation evidence.

The Trauma of Leadership

Dr. Beverly Smith, PhD, LPC (GA & AL), NCC, CCMHC, ACS, NCSC, CFT, BC-HSP, BCC, MAC, CPCS, BC-TMH, BCPCC, CCTP – *CEO, AMHCA*

This is a mini-session for the awareness of trauma informed leadership. We will discuss the intersectionality of trauma and leadership to promote trauma integrative care. This session will outline self-care strategies for the leader, team members, and the organization for resiliency and through lens of sensitivity. Lastly, we will increase our awareness of compassion fatigue and burnout to avoid pitfalls to emotional maintenance and well-being for a global impact. This is an interactive session to equip attendees with tools for the leadership of self-care that influence the culture and climate of the spaces we occupy.



Thursday, FEBRUARY 9

8:00 – 9:15 am

AASCB Business Meeting, II

2023-2024 Board Election and Affiliate Reports

9:30 – 10:45 am

The Interstate Compact for Counseling: Update and Next Steps

Lynn E Linde, Ed.D. – *Executive Director, Center for Counseling Practice, Policy and Research, ACA*

Isabel Eliassen – *Policy Associate, The Council of State Governments*

The Interstate Compact for Counseling provides a legislative solution to portability and allows counselors to practice across state lines through the use of a privilege. As of September 2022, 17 states have joined the Compact and the Commission, which administers the Compact, has been created. This session will provide specific information about the Commission's work and the legislative efforts in states looking to join the Compact. The Interstate Compact for Counseling provides a legislative solution to portability and allows counselors to practice across state lines through the use of a privilege. As of September 2022, 17 states have joined the Compact and the Commission, which administers the Compact, has been created. This session will provide specific information about the Commission's work and the legislative efforts in states looking to join the Compact.

11:00 am – 12:15 pm

Becoming a Licensed Counselor: From Grad School to Post-Licensure

Ryan Pickut, LPCC-S – *Clinical Director of Residential Services, Maryhaven*

Tobi Zavala - *Executive Director, Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners*

Tommy Black, Ph.D., LPC - *Georgia Composite Board for Professional Counselors, Social Workers, and Marriage & Family Therapists*

This session will outline key part in the process to become a licensed counselor. Each state has the same basic process which follows this linear plan: grad school, exam, license, post-license work. In this session, we will answer frequently asked questions about each section all in one place. The final drafts for each section can be uploaded onto a webpage on AASCB's website which would serve as the only one place where all of this information is held for the counseling profession. Right now, the information is dispersed between educational entities (universities/CACREP/etc), professional counseling organizations, license boards, and others. Our goal is to condense all frequently asked questions for each section on the journey to independent practice as a licensed counselor.

12:15 – 12:45 pm

Awards Presentation and Closing Remarks

2:00 – 4:00 pm

AASCB Hangout LIVE

Join fellow attendees for an in-person AASCB Hangout! Reflect on the conference, catch up with colleagues, and talk about what's next for AASCB and the counseling field.