

✓ Greetings from the IRCEP Steering Committee Chair



Dear Colleagues,

When I first became involved with the IRCEP Steering Committee about six years ago I started to develop a vision of what IRCEP might be. It was a grand vision and, at times, I wondered if we could really pull it off. The possibility of creating a global community of counselor educators and counselor education programs that could facilitate the development of and transform our

profession seemed so lofty as to be unrealistic. Having previously been involved with international efforts, I knew the time and effort it would take to make a difference.

Having been involved with IRCEP during its early development has helped me appreciate all that has transpired this last year. The vision we shared back in 2009 is truly becoming a reality. With the CACREP Board's recent approval of international counseling programs in India, South Africa, and Singapore, IRCEP now has a presence on four continents and seven countries. In addition, as evidenced by recent inquiries, the level of international interest in IRCEP is growing rapidly.

The CACREP Committee met this spring at the IAC conference in Victoria, British Columbia to discuss the steps we can now take to further the IRCEP vision. The possibilities seemed almost endless and the next steps are exciting! Following the meeting we implemented the IRCEP Ambassador program that will provide counselor educators with the opportunity to join us in promoting the internationalization of the counseling profession. If you are interested in joining the IRCEP movement, please check with the CACREP staff about becoming an Ambassador. We will be holding an Ambassador training educational session at the SACES conference in October. We will also be continuing our support for international students and CACREP programs on the IRCEP Registry at a reception at the NCACES conference in St. Louis. Please look for the IRCEP Steering Committee members and staff at both conferences to find out more about how you can support and benefit from IRCEP.

Another upcoming effort will be the development of an IRCEP Fellowship program in which an international student will have the opportunity to work with the IRCEP Steering Committee and CACREP board and staff to develop expertise in program accreditation and quality assurance. We are looking to formally announce the program at the regional ACES conferences with an application process beginning in the spring.

In addition to the ACES regional conferences, Carol Bobby, Sachin Jain, and I will be attending the Association of Psychological and Educational Counsellors of Asia-Pacific (APECA) conference in Singapore this December. In addition to making a keynote presentation on international quality assurance, we look

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JOIN Our Community

Become a fan of ICREP on [Facebook!](#) We can reach a wide audience quickly with important updates on ICREP and other counselor education matters. Recent facebook posts have focused on the TriCare recommendation and notice of training sessions.



forward to celebrating the addition of TCA College's counseling program to the Registry. TCA College is located in Singapore and is the first program in the Asia-Pacific region to join IRCEP. We are excited to have a program in Singapore and to have a chance to meet their faculty and share their accomplishment.

In the midst of our excitement about what IRCEP has become, I want to take this opportunity to thank the programs and the supporters who have contributed to IRCEP's success. We appreciate your support and look forward to working closely with you in the future. The vision would not have become a reality without you!

Kind Regards,

Rick Gressard

Chair, ICREP Steering Committee



IRCEP joins LinkedIn

IRCEP has created a [LinkedIn group page](#) for our programs and supporters. The purpose of the page is to create a community that continues to inform, connect, and inspire counsellor educators/students who are interested in promoting the internationalization of the counselling profession. We invite you to actively participate on this page by:

- Sharing topics and challenges facing the internationalization of the counselling profession;
- Inviting other counsellor educators and/or counselling students to network and connect either live or online;
- Providing information that will inspire people to get involved in IRCEP; and
- Posting for study abroad, cultural exchange and research opportunities, and even paid positions in the "Jobs" area.

IRCEP reaches India

When VBS Purvanchal University learned that its application for inclusion on the IRCEP Registry had been reviewed and approved by the CACREP Board, it organized a celebratory conference and invited representatives from IRCEP to attend along with faculty from other counseling programs in India. Drs. Gressard, Sachin, and Bobby attended and during their visit they met with the President of the National Assessment and Accreditation Council to discuss ways to promote and strengthen the counseling profession in India.

IRCEP presented at ACA Conference 2014

Drs. Gressard, Jain, and Bobby presented at the ACA Conference held in Hawaii in March 2014. This presentation, sponsored by the ACA International Committee, focused on the internationalization of professional counseling.

IRCEP presented at IAC Conference 2014 (Victoria, British Columbia)

The IRCEP Steering Committee Members presented *Counselling Across Borders: IRCEP's Role in Connecting People for Collaborative Educational Endeavors* at the IAC Conference in Victoria.

IRCEP and Counseling Today

Drs. Jain and Gressard published an article in the [May 2014 edition](#) of *Counseling Today* about their recent trip to India.



Registry Decisions

IRCEP is excited to announce the recent approval of international counseling programs in India, South Africa, and Singapore. IRCEP now has programs on four continents!

Veer Bahadur Singh Purvanchal University

The Veer Bahadur Singh Purvanchal University (VBS University), an affiliating-cum-residential university, located in Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh (northeast India) was established in the year 1987 by the U.P. State Universities Act 1973. The University received the UGC recognition under 2f in the year 1988 and under 12B in the year 2001. Their graduates complete four (4) semesters in two (2) academic years, complete supervised field practice and are awarded a Masters of Applied Psychology. Students have opportunities to work with HIV infected and AIDS patients and organize Mental Health Awareness Programs in the nearby villages.

The South African College of Applied Psychology

The South African College of Applied Psychology is a Leading Accredited provider of academically rigorous and practically applied Counselling and Psychology courses. SACAP is inspired by a vision of an empowered society, knitted by confident, self-aware individuals in healthy relationship with self, family and community. SACAP contributes significantly to the fulfilment of this vision by empowering our students to grow in themselves and to positively impact the lives of others. In this way SACAP plays a critical and positive role within South African communities and our society at large. SACAP's broad range of counsellor training programmes include: Higher Certificate in Counselling and Communication Skills, Advanced Certificate in Counselling and Communication Skills, Diploma in Counselling and Communication and Bachelor of Applied Social Science.

TCA College

TCA College, a religious Christian College/Seminary, located in Singapore was established in 1979 by Reverend Dr. Naomi Dowdy for the purposes of promoting the Gospel message and to prepare leaders for churches and the Christian community. TCA College is endorsed and recognized by the Singapore Association for Counseling (SAC). Both the Post Graduate Diploma in Counseling and the Master of Arts in Counseling (MAC) are faith-based counselor training programs that are designed to prepare graduates to become skilled, competent and professional counselors for the community and churches. Their training is the inclusion of spirituality in counseling and the integration between counseling, psychology and theology. The graduates of the MAC program complete 54 credit hours in two to three academic years (and up to seven years for part-time students) and complete a supervised field experience. Students enrolled in the Postgraduate Diploma in Counseling program complete 36 credit hours in one to two academic years and complete a supervised field experience.



Special Invitation to CACREP programs to join IRCEP

IRCEP would like to extend an invitation to CACREP accredited programs to join the IRCEP Registry. This special invitation is only available through January 31, 2015. Join now for 2015 and get the rest of 2014 free! The abbreviated application and annual sustaining fee of \$200 must be submitted by January 31, 2015. Please contact the CACREP office for more information.

IRCEP Launches Ambassador Program



IRCEP is excited to announce a new program for counsellor educators interested in fostering excellence in the education and training of professional counsellors worldwide. The IRCEP Ambassador Program is designed to offer opportunities for counsellor educators to be involved in promoting the internationalization of the counselling profession. The program serves to recognize the vision of developing a community of counsellor educators and counselling programs as a catalyst for the growth of the profession globally. The Ambassadors will collaborate with IRCEP staff to promote IRCEP's vision, mission and core values. If you are interested in becoming an IRCEP Ambassador please contact the CACREP office for more information.



SACES Conference 2014

IRCEP is holding two sessions at the SACES Conference on Saturday, October 11th.

8-9:00am Counselling Across Borders: IRCEP's Role in Connecting People for Collaborative Educational Endeavors

9-11:00am IRCEP Ambassador Training: Invite Only

NCACES Conference 2014

IRCEP will be hosting a reception at the NCACES Conference for international students and CACREP programs on the IRCEP Registry. If you are interested in attending this event please contact the CACREP Office for more details.

APECA Conference 2014

IRCEP has been invited to present at the Association of Psychological and Educational Counsellors of Asia-Pacific (APECA) Conference in Singapore this December. To learn more about APECA please click [here](#).



Innovative counsellor training solutions in South Africa

By Laura Fisher, Strategic Development Manager, The South African College of Applied Psychology

"On the 6th of July this year, South Africa's leading weekend newspaper, the Sunday Times, ran a headline article entitled "South Africa's sick state of mental health". The article highlighted how a recent investigation into the mental health status of South Africans found that one third of the nation suffers from mental illness and about 75% of those will not get help (Lund et al cited in Sunday Times, July 6th, 2014). The nation has once again been profoundly reminded that the range and depth of community mental health needs is radically disproportionate to the capacity of health services to deliver on these needs (Petersen, 2004, p. 38; Vogelman, Perkel, & Strebel, 1992)." [Read more...](#)



Tuko Pamoja (We are Together)

By: Ashley Nemiro, Ph.D. Candidate at North Carolina State University

"In May 2012, following my first year in my Ph.D program at North Carolina State University, I went to Bukavu, eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) to conduct research on

the efficacy of trauma therapy on the general health the alleviation of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder symptoms among women victims of sexual gender based violence. DRC has been plagued by conflict and is currently among the poorest in the world, with 80% of its population living in poverty. Bukavu, on the border of DRC and Rwanda, is now home to many internally displaced persons that have fled their home villages due to the long-standing war and extreme violence." [Read more...](#)



Classroom Guidance in K-12 Schools: Essential Tool for Prevention of Mental Health Issues

By: Rima Sehgal, Fulbright Scholar

"All around the globe, people are aware of the benefits of sending children to school for social, behavioral, personal and academic development. The organizational structure of a school includes a principal, other administrative staff, and teachers. If you were to ask anyone about those roles, one would find consistent answers that are quite close to the truth. However, if the same is asked about a counselor's role in a school you begin to get a greater range of answers." [Read more...](#)