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INTERNATIONAL COUNSELLING CONNECTION

A subsidiary program of CACREP

Fall 2013



## CHAIR'S MESSAGE



Dear Colleagues,

As the new Chair of the IRCEP Steering Committee, I'd like to welcome you to the Fall 2013 IRCEP Newsletter. These are exciting times for IRCEP. We are beginning to see significant progress in our effort to encourage excellence in the education and training of counsellors worldwide. In this edition of the newsletter, I would like to highlight some of the progress and changes.

The most significant change for IRCEP has been Becky Stanard's retirement as Chair of the IRCEP Steering Committee. As many of you know, Becky's contribution to IRCEP cannot be overstated. Along with the CACREP Board, Becky took an idea for an international registry of counsellor education programs and made it real. When IRCEP began, Becky was a committee of one. She worked with the CACREP staff to recruit a steering committee and in 2009 at the initial Steering Committee meeting in Argentina, IRCEP became a reality. Becky's efforts since that time have been tireless. Over the last year, 37 CACREP accredited programs have been added to the Registry. Becky's efforts also resulted in the registration of the first counsellor education program outside the US. Over the last four years, Becky's name has been synonymous with IRCEP. While I don't think I can begin to fill her shoes, I am grateful that she will continue to be involved with our effort to promote our profession on a global level.

IRCEP has also made some organizational changes based on our experience with promoting the registry that we believe will enhance our ability to work more closely with international counselling programs to help them understand and complete the application process. In order to streamline and facilitate work among steering committee members, we have reduced the committee to five (5) members and for the purpose of enhancing communication with interested programs and applicants we have created the role of IRCEP ambassadors who will be available to individually consult with these programs. We are excited about these changes and view them as an important step furthering IRCEP's vision of creating a vibrant and dynamic international registry.

There has been a flurry of activity since our last newsletter. We added Centro Argentino de Psicología Humanística y Counseling Holo-San Isidro to the Registry and we are currently reviewing Veer Bahadur Singh Purvanchal University (VBSPU) in India that has completed the application process. In

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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.



September, I attended the International Association for Counselling (IAC) conference in Istanbul, where I was pleased to find that IRCEP continues to gain greater recognition and momentum among counsellor educators worldwide. IRCEP also held a lunch for international students for the second year in a row, this time at the ACES conference in Denver. We had an excellent turnout and a lively discussion about how international students working on their doctorates in the US can promote IRCEP when they return to their home countries. We all left the meeting with a sense of renewed enthusiasm about the potential of IRCEP and the possibilities for transforming counselling worldwide.

There is no question that IRCEP is gathering energy. The vision of developing a community of counsellor educators and counselling programs as a catalyst for the global integration of our profession is becoming a reality. We look forward to sharing our journey with you.

Kind Regards,

*Rick Gressard*

Chair, ICREP Steering Committee



## IRCEP presented at ACA Conference 2013

Dr. Carol Bobby co-presented with Dr. Daya Singh Sandhu (co-chair of the ACA International Committee) at the ACA Conference in March 2013. This session focused on the internationalization of professional counseling. [Read more](#)

## IRCEP attended IAC Conference 2013 in Turkey

IRCEP was represented at the IAC Conference by the new Steering Committee Chair, Dr. Rick Gressard.



## Registry Decisions

IRCEP is excited to announce that its first international program, Centro Argentino de Psicologia Humanistica y Counseling Holos-San Isidro in Argentina, successfully completed the IRCEP review. Holos San Isidro was the first school of counseling in Argentina when counselling was approved by the Ministry of Education as a career. The program trains professionals in the discipline of counselling from the Person-Centered Approach and Humanistic Psychology. Students who graduate from this program are awarded a certificate of Consultor Psicologico Counsellor and are licensed to practice counselling in a variety of settings.

IRCEP has a total of 37 CACREP-accredited programs on the Registry:

Argosy University Chicago, IL	The College at Brockport, State University of NY
Eastern Michigan University, MI	Trinity Western University, British Columbia, CA
Florida International University, FL	Universidad Ibero Americana, Ciudad de Mexico
Indiana University, IN	University of Alabama, AL
Monmouth University, NJ	University of Connecticut, CT
Montclair State University, NJ	University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, TX
North Carolina Central University, NC	University of Mississippi, MS
North Carolina State University, NC	University of Missouri – St. Louis, MO

Northern Kentucky University  
Plymouth State University, NH  
Portland State University, OR  
Clemson University, SC  
Indiana State University, IN  
Loyola University Maryland, MD  
Minnesota State University – Mankato, MN  
Regis University, CO  
Rider University, NJ  
Southern Connecticut State University, CT  
Stetson University, FL  
Texas Tech University, TX

University of Montana, MT  
University of Nebraska at Kearney, NE  
University of North Alabama, AL  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, NC  
University of North Carolina at Greensboro  
University of Vermont, VT  
University of West Georgia, GA  
University of Wyoming, WY  
Walsh University, OH



## Steering Committee Updates

### Restructuring of IRCEP

IRCEP recently undergone organizational changes related to the application review process and compilation of the Steering Committee. The restructuring will include steering committee, organizational liaisons, and ambassadors/consultants.

IRCEP would like to thank Drs. Stanard, Amat, Owen, Sullivan and Vera for their dedication and commitment to promoting excellence within counselor education.

Please join us in welcoming the newest Steering Committee members, Syntia Santos, a doctoral candidate at North Carolina State University and originally from Honduras and we are currently seeking an committee member from the European region. Dr. Gressard was appointed chair of the IRCEP Steering Committee after serving as the CACREP liaison to the committee and Drs. Jain and Nwachuku will continue to serve on the committee for an additional one-year term. Individuals from BACP, NBCC, CACREP and ACA will serve as organizational liaisons (non-voting members) to the committee. In response to the growing number of requests from programs, IRCEP has created a new group of participants who will serve as ambassadors/consultants. These individuals will be asked to assist programs in completing their applications and/or reviewing completed applications.

### First Application from Asia

IRCEP is excited to announce that it has received its first application from Veer Bahadur Singh Purvanchal University (VBSPU) in India. The application is currently being reviewed by the Steering Committee and is scheduled for CACREP's January 2014 Board Meeting.



## ACES Conference 2013

IRCEP hosted an international student luncheon for all international master's and doctoral level counseling students who are the ACES Conference.



## Promoting Social Justice and Empowerment in Northern Thailand's Hill Tribe Villages

By Fayth M. Parks, Georgia Southern University

"In January 2013, I was invited to travel to Northern Thailand on a humanitarian project

because of my expertise in cultural competency and disparities in rural education and health care access. South Carolina Rotary #7770 district's purpose was delivering educational supplies to Hill Tribe villages. Joining their purpose with a Rotary district in Chiang Mai, Thailand, this was as much a transcultural exchange as it was aid work." [Read more](#)



## Take Steps in Developing Cross-Cultural Competency

By: Ryan William Green, Long Island University at C.W. Post

"It had been nearly three hours of traveling by bus battling the copious amounts of fine-grain sand to reach our destination: a settlement located a few miles from the main road that was a testament to the human spirit as well as proof that a few thousand dollars can change peoples' lives. As we pulled up, we saw countless orphaned children in brightly-washed clothing, cheering, singing, and waving with exuberance that we had arrived." [Read more](#)



## Angela D. Coker Conducts Research in Gaborone, Botswana

By Angela D. Coker, University of Missouri – St. Louis

"Angela D. Coker, associate professor of Counseling and Family Therapy at the University of Missouri – St. Louis recently served as a sabbaticant at the University of Botswana during the 2013 Spring semester. There she conducted ethnographic research on her study "Counseling Across Cultures", a look at counseling practices in Botswana. While in Gaborone, Dr. Coker was hosted by the Counselling and Human Services program within the Department of Educational Foundations. The purpose of her visit was to explore how culture informs the practice of counseling within Botswana's geographical, historical, and social contexts. Other areas of research included examining issues related to women and learning more about indigenous research methods, which include the use of proverbs and rituals." [Read more](#)

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IRCEP c/o CACREP  
1001 North Fairfax Street  
Suite 510  
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US

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