



January 31, 2017

Dear CACREP Liaison:

A focal point of the CACREP Standards is professional counseling identity. In fact, an entire section is devoted to this topic. The standards state that counselor educators identify with the counseling profession through membership in professional counseling organizations and by showing evidence of professional development, professional advocacy and service, and research and scholarly activity. The standards also state that, “students actively identify with the counseling profession by participating on professional counseling organizations and by participating in seminars, workshops, or other activities that contribute to personal and professional growth”

As the counseling profession has matured and grown in its public recognition, both CACREP and the American Counseling Association wish to thank your program faculty for the important services you provide to continually improve our profession. We thank you because we recognize that it is our counselor preparation program faculty who educate our future professionals, provide invaluable volunteer services for the betterment of communities locally, nationally, and abroad, and conduct research to determine our effectiveness. We thank you because we recognize that it is our counselor education program faculty who have strengthened the counseling profession by ensuring that our future professionals graduate with a strong professional counselor identity and understand the importance of practicing within the boundaries of the ACA Code of Ethics, staying abreast of new trends and practice issues through attendance at professional conferences and reading professional publications, understanding legal liabilities that they may face.

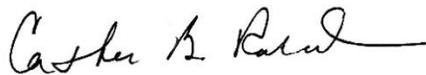
As partners, ACA and CACREP have worked together for over 35 years to strengthen the counseling profession with you and continue to do so today. For example, ACA publishes the flagship journal for the counseling profession (*Journal of Counseling & Development*), holds an annual conference where counselors can continue their professional education, gain new knowledge, and hear about new research results. ACA also provides student members with CACREP required liability insurance at no additional charge, as well as career services such as resume critiques and mock interviews.

Likewise, CACREP offers research grants to both students and faculty and has recently published its first book geared toward prospective students ([A Guide to Graduate Programs in](#)

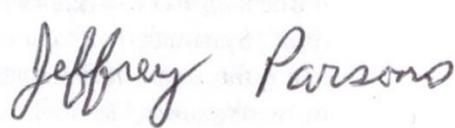
Counseling). CACREP also offers continuing education opportunities at ACA conferences on professional training issues in counselor education, as well team member and team chair training sessions for those faculty members interested in doing reviews for CACREP.

As your program begins its spring term, we encourage your counseling faculty and students to visit both the CACREP and the ACA websites and to learn more about the benefits and services available to your program. For information on the many benefits of faculty or student membership with ACA, please visit www.counseling.org. For more information about the accreditation standards and processes provided by CACREP or the new book, please visit www.CACREP.org.

Sincerely,



Catherine B. Roland, ACA President



Jeffrey Parsons, CACREP Chair



Richard Yep, ACA CEO



Carol Bobby, CACREP CEO