

# *The CACREP Connection*

Welcome back to the CACREP Connection newsletter. We missed you!

The CACREP Connection is a bi-annual newsletter with timely information and relevant articles.

Don't forget to stay up to date with all things CACREP on our [website](#).



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## **Message from Amy Milsom, CACREP Board of Directors Chair**



Hello CACREP Community,

I am amazed at the number of significant events that have occurred since I assumed the role of Board Chair just three years ago. We have been through a lot in recent years, and CACREP makes great efforts to stay on top of the societal and legislative issues that impact counselors, counselor educators, and graduate students. In partnership with other counseling organizations, CACREP strives to be a source of information and support for counselor education programs as they navigate ongoing challenges.

In addition, CACREP wants to celebrate the successes that have resulted from collaborative efforts and professional advocacy, like the recent recognition of counselors as approved providers under Medicare. CACREP is committed to working collaboratively with others to advocate on behalf of the Counseling profession. Threats to professional Counselor identity still exist, and many of you are leading advocacy efforts in your programs, states, and professional organizations. As society is currently demanding greater attention to mental health, I hope we can continue to work together to prepare diverse and competent counselors who possess clear and strong professional Counselor identities. Thank you for your commitment to the Counseling profession and your ongoing efforts to support CACREP's mission.

-- Amy Milsom

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## **Public Notice of Accreditation Decisions: January 2023**

The Board met on January 12-14, 2023 and made the following January 2023 Accreditation decisions. [Click here](#) to see the decisions.

# Highlighting Innovative Practices

CACREP wants to highlight Counselor Education programs that are doing innovative and successful activities. Readers may find information they can use at their own programs. Contact [cacrep@cacrep.org](mailto:cacrep@cacrep.org) if you would like to highlight your program.

## CACREP and HRSA: Making Impacts on the Holistic Care Needs of Vulnerable and Underserved Clients

By: W. Bryce Hagedorn, Sheldon Aaron, & Jessie Yanson

Like many (most?) who pursue graduate counseling degrees, we (the authors) had a strong desire to make significant impacts on vulnerable and/or underserved people groups. Licensed and certified professional counselors reach into the dark and confusing corners of their clients' lives and do all that they can to light the spark of change, renewal, and healing. A commonality among those who pursue a doctoral degree in Counselor Education & Supervision is the recognition that "something is broken" in the various systems of care, in schools, and/or in society that warrant an impact on a systemic level (through such endeavors as teaching, research, service, supervision, leadership, and advocacy). As the first author, the "broken system" that I noticed as a professional counselor was that the people who had the most chronic and pervasive needs (those who were largely being served by the community mental health care system) were being served by those with the least amount of preparation and experience (often school interns and/or registered interns).

Clearly, those clinicians (of which I was one) were overwhelmed with the enormity of their clients' needs and often felt ill-equipped to make a clinical dent. Further, I saw how quickly many clinicians would exit the community mental health care system as soon as licensure was obtained. Be it the result of burn out, greener pastures, or some combination thereof, it became evident that something had to be done to engage and empower experienced clinicians to "stick around" to serve those who so desperately needed their advanced skills and expertise.

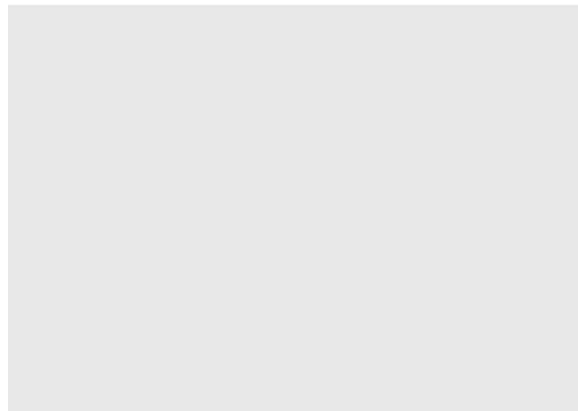
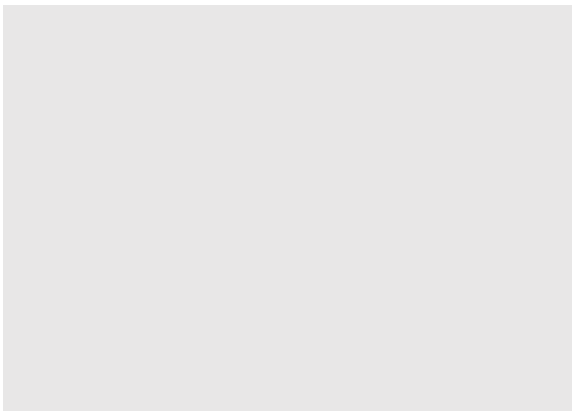
Want to continue reading? Click [here](#) for the full article.

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## Welcome New CACREP Board Members

Welcome to the three new Board members who were elected at the January meeting. Their terms will begin July 1, 2023.

In addition, new officers were elected by the Board. Beginning July 1, 2023, new Chair Earl Grey will be joined by Vice-Chair Cheri Meder and Treasurer Sonja Sutherland.





**Aaron Mertes**

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**Want to read more about  
our new Board members?  
Click below.**

**[Click Here](#)**



**John Steward**



**Carlos Del Rio**

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## **IRCEP Seeking Part-Time Program Director**

The International Registry of Counsellor Education Programs (IRCEP) is seeking a part-time Program Coordinator. The IRCEP Program Coordinator executes the vision and mission of IRCEP and maintains the International Registry of Counsellor Education Programs. The Program Coordinator promotes and provides global support for the professionalization of counseling and quality assurance in counselor education. This is a contract position and may be fulfilled remotely. Click [here](#) to learn more about this position and apply.

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## **New CACREP Staff Members**



### **Meet Khairi Scott**

**About:** Khairi was born and raised in Philadelphia, PA and enjoys helping others. If he could choose one word to describe himself, it would be "servant." He believes through servant leadership; we can make the world a better place.

**Work Experience:** He possesses a strong background in accreditation, science, customer

service and has experience teaching professional development workshops. In his spare time, he volunteers as a Hospice Coordinator that creates procedures for terminal illness support and end-of-life palliative care tailored to each person's individual needs.

**Fun Fact:** A fun fact about Khairi is that he is a videographer for weddings, birthdays, engagements, and other special events.

**Aspirations:** He is excited about joining CACREP and looks forward to using his skills to help advance the mission of the organization.

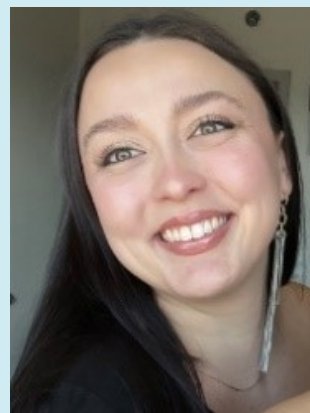
## Meet Vivian Gray

**About:** Vivian was born and raised in Alexandria, VA. She went to Longwood University and graduated in 2020 with a Bachelor of Arts in communications with a concentration in digital media and a minor in sociology.

**Work Experience:** After graduating she worked at a nonprofit organization located in Arlington working as their communications specialist.

**Fun Fact:** Vivian is a foodie who loves to try new places. Her favorite restaurants in Old Town are Le Refuge, Kismet and Faccia Luna. Her shorkie, named Bella, loves to accompany her on long walks. In her spare time she loves to read and go thrifting.

**Aspirations:** Vivian looks forward to working on communication projects like reimplementing the newsletter, revamping the website, creating a stronger social media presence, and more. While also learning more about the accreditation process.



Welcome to CACREP Khairi and Vivian!

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## CACREP Awards

### For students:

Do you have a professor, site supervisor, practitioner or friend who lives and breathes Professional Counseling? Do you have a mentor or peer who inspires you to seek leadership positions in counseling?

If so, put this person in the spotlight! CACREP is accepting nominations for both the Martin Ritchie Award for Excellence in Advocacy and the Carol Bobby Pioneer Award for Visionary Leadership.

Please see [\*\*nomination information\*\*](#) for how to highlight these special professionals.

### For faculty:

Do you have an amazing doctoral student who deserves recognition for their leadership and excellence? Nominate them for the [\*\*Carol Bobby Pioneer Award for Visionary Leadership\*\*](#).

Which mentor, community leader or peer inspired you to become a leader in Professional Counseling? Nominate them for the [\*\*Martin Ritchie Award for\*\*](#)

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## Counseling Compact Commission Rules Committee

CACREP strongly supports the concept of creating a licensure compact for counseling and applauds efforts to enhance portability of licensure across state lines. Establishment of the Counseling Compact represents incredible progress toward this goal. However, as is the case with much legislation, the Counseling Compact legislation has a potential loophole that would render individuals trained as clinical social workers or clinical/counseling psychologists eligible for the privilege to practice as counselors in any other Compact State. This was not the intention of the Counseling Compact legislation, and the rulemaking process offers the Compact Commission an opportunity to close this unintended loophole.

Want to continue reading? Click [here](#) for the full article.

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## Public Board Member Opening

CACREP is seeking a Public Board Member beginning July 1, 2024. A public members serves on the CACREP Board to represent the public, and the consumers of counseling services provided by CACREP graduates. They cannot be a member of the counseling profession or a faculty/staff member at an institution with CACREP-accredited programs. If you know of an individual who has an interest in counseling or accreditation, and would be a good fit for the CACEP Board, please consider asking them to send in an application. Click [here](#) for the application.

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## How to Write a CACREP Self-Study Virtual Workshop

This interactive workshop will address the process of preparing to write your CACREP Self-Study under the 2016 CACREP Standards. It covers the initial planning phase through the actual development and submission of a Self-Study Report (SSR). Attention will be given to the 2016 CACREP Standards, Policies, program evaluation, and the assessment of student learning. Participants will have the opportunity to view examples from real self-studies and to ask individualized questions.

This workshop has a required minimum enrollment in order to be held. If there are not enough registrants, CACREP will **CANCEL** this workshop. If the workshop will be held, registrants will be notified by close of business May 5, 2023. This will be the **LAST** 2016 Standards workshop we will put on.

Please note that sessions related to applying for accreditation or reaffirmation of accreditation under the CACREP 2024 Standards will occur at a later date.

Click [here](#) to learn more.

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