

**VIRGINIA COUNSELOR'S
ASSOCIATION
CONVENTION 2002
"COUNSELORS: ARCHITECTS OF
HOPE –
ENGINEERS OF PROMISE"
November 13 – 15
Williamsburg, Virginia
The Williamsburg Marriott**

Members of VACES will be well-represented at VCA Presentations this fall. See information on sessions of special interest on page 3.

Make your plans to attend now!

Reservations may be made by calling the Williamsburg Marriott at either of the following telephone numbers:

1-800-442-3654
or
1-757-220-2500

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The President's Corner

By *Renee Staton*

What an exciting year. Whether you're enjoying the fact that it's not so hot and humid these days, or just hitting your stride in a busy semester, I hope the fall season presents you with a refreshing change.

The VACES Board Members made the most of the summer and are now gearing up for the VCA convention in November. We look forward to the opportunity to continue our conversations about advocacy for the profession. Please plan now to join us for the VACES meeting at the convention. We can use that time to think strategically about how to meet our professional needs and goals. The meeting time should be posted in the convention program.

During our July retreat, we spent a considerable amount of time discussing state regulations regarding supervision training for LPC supervisors. We hope eventually to provide general guidelines for defining comprehensive training experiences for counselor supervisors in the state. We developed a preliminary list of core competencies that we believe are fundamental for supervision training, and we'd like to continue to explore this topic. This is one more item that we'll include on our agenda for the November meeting. I encourage your involvement in this important conversation.

At VCA we'll also have information available regarding the 2003 Virginia Counseling Graduate Student Association Conference. If you haven't participated in this conference before, then join us this year and prepare to be energized and educated by a group of dynamic graduate students. If you're a "veteran," then welcome back. We hope you're planning to attend, or better yet, to present again this year. We encourage graduate students from across the state to submit proposals or at least plan to attend. This conference, quite simply, is a hit each year. Don't miss it!

Also, I'd like to welcome Dr. Kathleen May to the VACES Board. Dr. May, whom many of you may remember provided an outstanding keynote address for the 2000 Graduate Student Conference, will be serving as VACES liaison for counselor educators. Welcome Kathleen!

The VACES Board also extends best wishes and good luck to Dr. Shari Sias who served well and faithfully as VACES secretary for several years. Dr. Sias graduated from the College of William and Mary. We know she will continue to make admirable contributions to the profession. Congratulations Shari, and best wishes!

Finally, I look forward to seeing each of you at the VCA convention.

As always, if you have any questions or ideas to share, please contact me at statonar@jmu.edu. And don't forget to check out the VACES website: <http://cep.jmu.echterlg/>.

My best wishes to you for an exceptionally peaceful and productive autumn.

Renee

AN UPDATE FROM VSCA

Change is in the air in the area of school counseling across the commonwealth!

By Linda Grubba: VACES School Counseling Liaison

First, we congratulate and welcome Selinda Gilcrest as the new School Counseling Specialist in the state Department of Education. Selinda brings both experience and expertise to her new position. We look forward to meeting her at the VCA Convention and are hoping that she will be able to join us to talk about her new role.

More good news from Richmond: the SOL writing team has given a final draft to the Board of Ed., and it is expected that they will vote on the acceptance of these standards this fall. Once this happens, the SOL's will then be open to public comment at meetings around the state. All of us need to be ready to speak at our local meetings in support of the School Counseling SOL's. Please be proactive now in identifying a team of people representing your community who would be willing to speak in favor of these important standards. We will need parents, teachers, counselor educators, students and other "stakeholders" who have an interest in the quality of school counseling programs in our state.

Please mark your calendars now for the VSCA Conference to be held on March 13 and 14 at the West Richmond Marriott. Again this year, VSCA will join with VACES to sponsor a Job Fair. A flyer will be sent to all Counselor Education programs publicizing this event. Please encourage your students to attend. It is a great opportunity to meet with representatives from a number of school districts from across the state.

Again this year VSCA will offer the Graduate Student Membership Scholarships. Be thinking and talking with your colleagues now about possible recipients for this recognition. More information about deadlines for candidate submissions will be forthcoming.

VACES Goes to VCA

As is so often the case, the VACES Board members will be highly visible among the counseling professionals who will be making presentations at the upcoming VCA Convention this November. Here's a preview of their topics, dates, and times!

User-Friendly Approach to Incorporating Feminism into the Counseling Process

Renee Staton co-facilitates this session designed to help practitioners use feminist principles to involve individuals and families in the empowerment of women and girls. Thursday: 10:45 time slot.

Hope in Hard Times: Finding the Survivor in a Crisis Story

Lennie Echterling and colleagues from JMU will assist participants with specific techniques for helping someone discover strengths, identify resources, and envision a future beyond the trauma. Thursday: 10:45 time slot.

Developing Professional Identity Through the Virginia Counseling Graduate Student Conference

Tammy Davis and Tammi Milliken will present information about the annual Graduate Student Conference and other information related to professional development. Thursday: 2:15 time slot.

Emotional Intelligence: It is What We are All about and It Makes a Difference!

Linda Grubba will help participants explore the theory of emotional intelligence and the implications it has for school counseling programs. Thursday: 3:45 time slot.

Climbing the Ivory Tower: Helping Doctoral Students Become Faculty Members

Renee Staton, Tamara Davis, Victoria Foster, and Steve Nielsen team up for this all-VACES session that provides a forum for the discussion of strategies for successfully navigating the terrain from the role of graduate student to that of faculty member. Thursday: 3:45 time slot.

Clients with Serious Physical Illness: Regaining a Sense of Control over Life

Steve Nielsen co-facilitates a session dealing with psychoneuroimmunology and a holistic therapeutic model for assisting clients with serious physical illness. Please note that this is scheduled for the same time that Steve is to be in the Ivory Tower workshop as well...this should be interesting! Thursday: 3:45 time slot.

ASCA National Model: A Blueprint for School Counseling Programs

Tammy Davis will join several colleagues in a session that focuses on the new draft of the American School Counselors Association National Model for School Counseling Programs and its implications for school counselors across the nation. Friday: 9:30 time slot.

Do You Really Need to Speak the Language? Working Toward Multicultural Competency

Renee Staton presents this session designed to offer a forum for exploring the idea of multiculturalism in counseling and to provide specific suggestions for developing increased self-efficacy as multiculturally competent counselors. Friday: 2:15 time slot.

Mark Your Calendars Now for the 2003 Graduate Student Conference!

Contributed by Tammy Davis

The Virginia Counseling Graduate Student Conference is scheduled for February 21, 2003, with the tentative location being the University Center at the College of William and Mary. Last year's conference, the largest ever, featured 32 presentations from graduate students in eight counseling programs from across Virginia. Over 150 students and faculty members attended dynamic sessions that spanned all areas of counseling.

Information about proposals as well as general information about the conference will be mailed to all graduate counseling programs by October 1st. In addition, look for information at the VCA Conference at the VACES table! If you do not receive information by mail or would like to be on the listserv for updates, please email Dr. Tammy Davis at DrD4unc@aol.com.