



THE NATIONAL CERTIFIED COUNSELOR

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL BOARD FOR CERTIFIED COUNSELORS

New Board Members for NBCC and Affiliates

The NBCC Board of Directors has elected two new members for that body.

Devika Dibya Choudhuri and Joseph D. Wehrman will serve three-year terms on the NBCC Board.



*Devika Dibya
Choudhuri*

Choudhuri is an associate professor in the Department of Leadership and Counseling at Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti. The topics of her courses include cross-cultural and multicultural counseling, and counseling for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender populations. She earned an A.B. in psychology and women's studies at Smith College in Northampton, MA, her master's in Counseling at the University of Vermont in Burlington, and her doctorate in Counselor Education and Supervision at Syracuse University.

Wehrman is assistant professor and coordinator of the community counseling program at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs. He teaches UCCS students, as well as cohorts from the Air Force Academy, using multiple formats, including online and video methods. He has also taught at The Citadel in Charleston, SC, and Northern State University in Aberdeen, SD. He earned his master's in Applied Behavior Analysis at St. Cloud State University in Minnesota, and his doctorate in Counselor Education and Supervision at the University of South Dakota.



Joseph D. Wehrman

The Center for Credentialing & Education (CCE) receives one new member this year.

Robert H. Pate Jr. was chosen for a five-year term on the CCE Board.

Pate, a former NBCC Board Chair, is professor emeritus at the University of Virginia, where he was a counselor educator, as well as chair of the Department of Human Services and associate dean for administrative services. He also serves as adjunct faculty for the Federal Executive Institute in Charlottesville. His master's in Guidance was earned at UVA, and his doctorate in Counseling and Personnel Services at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.



Robert H. Pate Jr.

Choudhuri and Wehrman succeed Kok-Mun Ng and Linda Foster on the NBCC Board, while Pate succeeds Dick Percy on the CCE Board.

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New Congress Keeps NBCC Busy

The Obama Administration and the new Congress have jump-started 2009 with a host of policy proposals, which has NBCC busy advocating on behalf of the counseling profession. Health care reform, the psychological components of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars, and other first-year agenda items are creating opportunities for opening federal programs to counselors. NBCC is working with federal lobbyists at Williams & Jensen to capitalize on these opportunities and advance federal recognition of counseling as a profession.

Medicare

Two bills to provide Medicare reimbursement of licensed counselors and marriage and family therapists (MFTs) have been introduced in the House and Senate. On March 23, 2009, Senators Lincoln (D-AR), Barrasso (R-WY), Durbin (D-IL), Inouye (D-HI) and Wyden (D-OR) introduced the Seniors Mental Health Access Improvement Act, S. 671, which is almost identical to last year's bill. The following day, a companion bill was introduced in the House by Representatives Gordon (D-TN), Napolitano (D-CA), and Lewis (D-GA). NBCC has increased its efforts to get such legislation recognizing licensed counselors under the Medicare program passed.

In order to coordinate efforts and capitalize on congressional activity centered on health care reform, NBCC joined the American Counseling Association (ACA), the American Mental Health Counselors Association (AMHCA), the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT), and the California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists (CAMFT) in a coalition. The coalition is working hard to increase the number of co-sponsors of this legislation and to secure the inclusion of its language in the broader health care reform package. The group has met with many elected officials already and has more than 150 meetings scheduled for the coming weeks and months.

NBCC encourages all NCCs to contact their representative and senators and ask them to co-sponsor this legislation. Just call the Capitol switchboard at 202-225-3121 and ask to be connected. Unsure who to contact? Visit <http://www.congress.org/congressorg/directory/congdir.tt> for an easy-to-use congressional directory.

Veterans

Ever since legislation was passed in 2006, NBCC has been pressing the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to adopt standards for credentialing and employing counselors and MFTs. The process is very slow-moving and requires constant vigilance and advocacy to keep it moving forward. The VA has sent mixed signals about whether it is going to create separate qualification standards for counselors and MFTs, use existing ones or create some kind of single hybrid category for both professions. For its part, NBCC steadfastly advocates for separate qualification standards and a separate federal occupational series for the counseling profession.

In March 2009, the VA reported that it had completed its study of counselors

Counseling: An International Perspective

By See Ching Mey (Susie)

Dr. See is a professor at Universiti Sains Malaysia in Penang, Malaysia, and a member of the NBCC International Advisory Council.

In early 2009, I spent two months as a visiting scholar in residence at NBCC headquarters in Greensboro, NC. While I was there, I worked with the organization's international division, NBCC-I, and had opportunities to meet with many professionals in the counseling field and to explore the potentials for collaboration in the near future. My time there also allowed me to acquire an overview of the growth and development of the counseling profession in the United States, and to identify best practices in counseling that can be effective and relevant to Malaysia in particular, and to Asia in general.

I also had the opportunity to observe NBCC advocating for professional counselors in the United States. This was of particular interest to me. Malaysia has a law governing the registration and licensing of counseling professionals in the form of the Counselor Act 540 (1996). As I've sat on the regulatory Board of Counselors under this Act for the past nine years, I've become aware of the unrealized needs of the profession in Malaysia, such as advocating for specialization, skill training, and continuing

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From the Ethics Officer

NBCC Board of Directors Approves Certification Eligibility Policy

By Holly Hartwig Moorhead, NBCC Ethics Officer

As part of a regular review of NBCC policies and procedures, the NBCC Board of Directors approved the NBCC Certification Eligibility Policy Related to Criminal and Lesser Offense Convictions and Other Disciplinary Matters in June 2009. This policy dictates procedures for determining the eligibility of NBCC certification applicants making the following disclosures: a felony or equivalent offense conviction; any other criminal or lesser offense conviction; any governmental or professional disciplinary matter; or civil litigation(s) in which he or she has been named as a defendant.

Such disclosures do not automatically render an individual ineligible for NBCC certification. NBCC will investigate the disclosure to determine how it affects the applicant's professional activities and/or ethical responsibilities as a potential NBCC-certified counselor. The severity of the criminal or disciplinary matter, including any injuries that occurred to people or property, will be evaluated. Additionally, the amount of time that has passed since the criminal or disciplinary matter occurred will be considered, as well as whether any imposed disciplinary actions have been completed.

NBCC certification signifies to the public, clients and other professionals that certificants have agreed to abide by and comply with the ethical standards set forth by NBCC (i.e., the *NBCC Code of Ethics*) and that they have been vetted to ensure that their conduct, training and expertise meet or exceed professional standards. This newly approved policy identifies the criteria that will be used to review ethics disclosures and evaluate how such disclosures relate to certification eligibility.

For more information about the NBCC ethics program, visit www.nbcc.org/ethics.

Disciplinary Actions

The following NCCs were disciplined by NBCC pursuant to the NBCC *Ethics Case Procedures*. These matters represent final decisions by the NBCC Ethics Officer, Ethics Hearing Committee or Board Ethics Appeals Committee, in accordance with the NBCC *Code of Ethics* and *Ethics Case Procedures*.

Brown, Alycia Amy, #222009, Texas, Public Reprimand for violations of NBCC *Code of Ethics* Sections A.13, B.5, B.6 and B.16. Two-year (2-year) NCC certification suspension.

Burk, Sherry L., #45759, Colorado, Public Reprimand for violations of NBCC *Code of Ethics* Sections A.1, A.13, B.5 and B.9.

McCoy-Lamprecht, Dorothy, #38881, North Carolina, Public Reprimand for violations of NBCC *Code of Ethics* Sections A.16 and B.5, and NBCC *Ethics Case Procedures* Section A.7.

Steinert, Rocky B., #3345, South Dakota, Public Reprimand for violations of NBCC *Code of Ethics* Sections A.8 and A.16, and NBCC *Ethics Case Procedures* Section A.7.

Wright, Donald T., #87168, Alabama, Revocation of NCC certification for violations of NBCC *Code of Ethics* Sections A.10, A.13 and A.16, and *Ethics Case Procedures* Sections A.7 and A.10.

Building Mental Health in China's Quake Zone

By John Bloom

Dr. Bloom is professor emeritus at Butler University in Indiana and a former Chair of the NBCC Board of Directors.

A truckload of bricks. Then another. And another. All traveling north through Chengdu, the capital of Sichuan province. Where are they headed? To the earthquake zone as part of the massive reconstruction effort following the devastating 2008 earthquake, believed to be one of the worst quakes in recorded history. More than a year later, the rebuilding of Sichuan province continues—brick by brick, day after day, 24/7.



Paul Yin, John Bloom, and their translator teach MHF skills in China's quake zone.

NBCC International's Mental Health Facilitator (MHF) training is a brick of a different sort. In late March and early April 2009, I was privileged to co-present the MHF program of skills and knowledge to 29 Chinese citizens at the Heart Tenders counseling center in Dayang, a city of 3.8 million people northwest of Chengdu.

Heart Tenders, headed by Dr. Helena Guo, recently opened its doors in a new Dayang shopping mall that gives it location, location, location. Teachers from local schools and Heart Tenders staff members participated in the four-day MHF training session and the one-day MHF training of trainers.

With the basic skills the MHF training provides, these 29 individuals have now become the building blocks of a new system that will address previously minimally met mental health needs and teach people, both young and old, proactive ways of addressing the many stressors in their lives. In fact, several of the teachers will apply their new skills in mental health classes that are already a part of their elementary school curriculum.

My co-presenter was Paul Yin, a highly respected teacher, scholar and counselor from Beijing who spent 22 of his 45 years in California. Paul translated my input and helped ensure that what I was presenting was culturally appropriate. He also added his valuable insights and shared his personal experiences working with some of the survivors and their families. I am honored to have worked with such a kind and passionate person.

A trip to the quake site was fit into the training schedule, giving me an opportunity to see firsthand the small portion of devastation open for public viewing. Many worse-hit areas were closed to the public or totally inaccessible, making an accurate fatality count impossible. However, it is believed that more than 80,000 lives were lost.

Knowing that MHF training has also been presented in Malaysia, Malawi and Bulgaria gives me some sense of the brickwork being laid by NBCC International in an effort to achieve parity between mental health and physical health issues worldwide. Brick by brick, this consciousness-raising effort taking place in our global community will help ease the stigma and shame surrounding not only mental disorders, but also everyday stressors.

NCCs Donate Books to Uganda

Thanks to generous donations made by NCCs, the NBCC International (NBCC-I) book-sharing project continues to grow and accomplish its goal of providing books and journals to countries around the world that are in need of counseling resources. Over the past several years, books donated by NCCs have helped to build much-needed reference libraries where none existed before. Access to resources is key to professional growth and development, and a recent donation to Africa is a prime example of this project's positive impact.

Uganda

In early February 2009, the Uganda Ministry of Education and Sports contacted NBCC-I to discuss the Ministry's newly created Department of Guidance and Counselling, and to ask for NBCC-I's assistance in structuring this new department. During the course of the conversation, NBCC-I offered a donation in the form of books. The offer was accepted and NBCC-I shipped 100 pounds of books to Uganda for use in the fledgling department. Following receipt of the shipment, the Commissioner of Guidance and Counselling sent a letter of acknowledgment stating: "The Ministry now wishes to extend its appreciation for the donation of textbooks by the Board [NBCC], a gesture that has been extended in a very timely manner.... These books have gone into forming the initial stock of reference materials for our counsellors.... Thank you very much."

NBCC offers a sincere thank-you to all NCCs for making this book-sharing project a success.

New Branch Offices in Three European Countries

NBCC is expanding its international endeavors with three new branch offices in Europe.

V.G.& E.C.-Career Associates, a vocational guidance and educational consulting center in Athens, has agreed to host NBCC Greece. The center already is the Greek provider for the Global Career Development Facilitator (GCDF) training program and will now expand its efforts to promote the profession of counseling in Greece.

The GCDF provider in Germany, IUK, has signed a similar agreement to add the role of NBCC Germany. IUK plans to use the GCDF as a foundation for a variety of training programs and initiatives in Germany, including programs covering change management, diversity in counseling and mental health issues.

NBCC Italy was born as a result of the initiative of one professional association there—PREPOS—and it is meant to represent the interests of all the counselors in the country. Growing out of a 2008 U.S.-Italian bilateral conference in Florence, NBCC Italy plans to promote counseling as a recognized profession, survey the existing counselors to create a job description and introduce the GCDF program in Italy.

All three offices also list the organization of conferences and close interaction with other NBCC offices among their top goals.

These new entities are in addition to NBCC European branch offices in Romania and Bulgaria as well as a regional European office in Geneva.

“Those new offices are a sign of the strong interest with the professionalization of the counseling activities in the European countries. NBCC’s methods are perceived as a viable option next to other European models of action, especially in a moment when the European society is looking for standards of practice and quality framework,” explains Dr. Andreea Szilagyi, associate vice president for NBCC International.

GOT NEWS?

If you would like to submit an item for NCC Network, refer to the guidelines and deadlines on our Web site:
www.nbcc.org/newsletter/guidelines.

Counseling: An International Perspective

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education to promote effective and quality helping service. There is also the need for a relevant code of ethics.



Susie See

As economic development blooms in Asia, Asians have more educational opportunities. This in turn

opens up a wider range of jobs and career choices. Such a rapid pace of change also allows or requires people to switch jobs or careers frequently. However, when faced with such opportunities and choices, many often do not make wise decisions. Thus, there is a greater need now than ever before for skillful Global Career Development Facilitators (GCDFs) to advise individuals on their career choices, and companies on their job placements. The present GCDF training program, with its country-specific sections containing experiences and content relevant to the local labor market and available resources, has its place here.

The future of the counseling profession is in our own hands and it can be boundless if borders are open and experiences shared to establish sustainable universal values, standards and quality of service that will help all people who are facing challenges to their mental health.

Question: What Does NBCC and My NCC Credential Do for Me?

Answer: There are many benefits to being an NCC. Some, like saving money on insurance rates, are immediate, while others are somewhat less obvious, but no less important. The list below highlights just some of the ways that NBCC and the NCC credential are working on behalf of NCCs.

- Advocacy efforts on the federal level for inclusion in government programs.
- Client referrals through Find a Counselor, NBCC's referral service linking potential clients to nearby NCCs.
- Credential portability—The NCC and test scores travel with the credential holder in the event of a move inside or outside of the United States.
- Up-to-date information about current professional credentialing issues and events through NBCC's newsletter, The National Certified Counselor.
- Enhanced professional accountability and visibility.
- The assurance of a national standard developed by counselors, not legislators.
- NBCC's participation in the National Fair Access Coalition on Testing (FACT) directly supports the rights of NCCs to use testing instruments in practice.
- Availability of liability insurance at excellent rates through Lockton Affinity.
- Online verification of national certification to third-party payors through the NBCC Registry.
- Access to continuing education information and opportunities.
- Ideas and information for promoting NCC status at work.

Voluntary Audits

The NCCs listed below have completed and documented a minimum of 130 clock hours of continuing education in a single certification cycle. By doing so, they have demonstrated a dedication to excellence and professionalism. NBCC congratulates these outstanding NCCs.

Margaret Gibson Ellison
Atlanta, GA

Lori A. Fedorczyk
Shippensburg, PA

Samuel Alan Zack
Rockville, MD

NBCC is 44,000 NCCs strong and is using that strength to affect change and promote the counseling profession. It takes dedication and determination to be among the best—enjoy the pride of being a National Certified Counselor.

New NCCs: Tips for Keeping Track of Continuing Education Documents

It's a long time between initial certification and the end of the first certification cycle. Many new NCCs are not accustomed to requesting and storing continuing education (CE) documents for the workshops, conferences and trainings they attend. That can really hurt five years down the road when it is time to document the 100 clock hours of CE required for recertification.

All new NCCs are sent an NBCC CE file folder for organizing and storing CE documents. This folder has an oversized top tab that makes it easy to find and is specifically designed to fit in a normal desk file drawer. NCCs who can't find or may not have received a folder can e-mail

the Recertification and CE Department at recertification@nbcc.org to request a replacement.

Want other tips for taking good care of those precious CE documents? Consider scanning and storing them electronically, or keeping two sets of records (one at home and one at work). Remember: Getting a system in place now will pay off when it's time to recertify.

Newly Approved CE Providers

American College Health Association, #6397
Linthicum, GA

Association for the Advancement of Psychosynthesis (AAP), #6403
Somerset, KY

Association for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Issues in Counseling (ALGBTIC), #1027
Gainesville, FL

Awake Mind, LLC, #6408
Crestone, CO

Continuing Education Training Institute (CETI), #6409
Mobile, AL

CPP, Inc., #6405
Mountain View, CA

Graduate Art Therapy Program—Eastern Virginia Medical School, #6399
Norfolk, VA

Kenneth P. Gaughan, #6402
Hyattsville, MD

Massachusetts Department of Mental Health, Northeast Area, #6387
Tewksbury, MA

Michigan State University, #4541
East Lansing, MI

PsychEdCourses, #6407
Victoria, VA

Psychological Services Institute (PSI), Fordham University, #6406
New York, NY

Reformed Theological Seminary, #4539
Jackson, MS

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✦ The Center for Credentialing & Education (CCE) recently launched its newest credential, the Thinking for a Change Certified Facilitator (T⁴CCF). The T⁴CCF was developed in partnership with the National Institute of Corrections (NIC) and the authors of the Thinking for a Change (T⁴C) curriculum, and funded through a grant from the Department of Justice. To earn the T⁴CCF, candidates must successfully complete the NIC-approved T⁴C group facilitator training and have experience applying this evidence-based, cognitive behavioral program to offender populations. A two-part assessment determines a candidate's understanding of the T⁴C group facilitator core competencies and measures the level of skill demonstrated in applying those concepts. The application for the T⁴CCF credential is available online at <http://www.cce-global.org/credentials-offered/t4ccf>.

✦ CCE is accepting applications for the Human Services–Board Certified Practitioner (HS–BCP) credential. Applications received prior to November 15, 2009, will be reviewed under grandparented requirements. Individuals providing direct service to clients (human service practitioners) are encouraged to apply during this special period and participate in the norming examination process. (Please note that pass/fail criteria does not apply for those taking the norming exam.) After the

November deadline, the HS–BCP credential criteria will include specific coursework requirements, more stringent degree and experience requirements, and a passing score on the examination. Qualified individuals are invited to take advantage of the grandparented requirements and assist CCE with this exciting final phase of credential development. More information about the HS–BCP is available at <http://www.cce-global.org/credentials-offered/hsbcp>.

✦ The Iowa Board of Behavioral Science has selected CCE to review the education portion of counselor and marriage and family therapy licensure applications. CCE currently provides similar review services for the South Carolina Board of Examiners for Licensure of Professional Counselors and Marriage and Family Therapists, and the Colorado Board of Licensed Professional Counselor Examiners. During challenging economic times, outsourcing application review to CCE is an effective tool for cutting operating expenses while enhancing quality control.

✦ The CCE *Ethics Case Procedures* and the Approved Clinical Supervisor (ACS) *Code of Ethics* were recently updated. Credential holders were notified of the updates and corresponding changes to the application. ACSs who did not receive notification are asked to

please contact CCE and provide current contact information, including an e-mail address.

✦ CCE recently completed a project on behalf of the Association for the Treatment of Tobacco Use and Dependence (ATTUD) in which CCE facilitated the creation of an accreditation process for tobacco treatment specialist training programs. CCE has also been asked to provide management and administrative services for another of ATTUD's programs. To learn more about ATTUD, visit www.attud.org.

Visit www.cce-global.org or call 336-482-2856 for more information about CCE's programs and services.

DCC
Distance Credentialed Counselor™

The first group of Distance Credentialed Counselors are currently recertifying their credentials, having reached the end of the five-year certification cycle.

For detailed information regarding the DCC and its recertification requirements, visit the CCE Web site at www.cce-global.org/credentials-offered/dccrecert.

New Congress Keeps NBCC Busy

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and MFTs and was moving forward with “a new occupational category, or categories, for MFTs and LPCs.” It was a promising first step, but failed to clarify whether there will be sufficient professional identity through separate categories or whether there will be a new occupational series assigned by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management. Further advocacy has uncovered that a separate qualification standard for each profession is likely, but it is unclear if an occupational series will be forthcoming. An occupational series is necessary for the counseling profession to be fully recognized by the federal government. NBCC is working with members of the Medicare coalition—ACA, AMHCA, AAMFT and CAMFT—to obtain independent classifications for each profession.

TRICARE

In January 2008, President Bush signed the FY 2008 Defense Authorization legislation, Public Law 110-181 (H.R. 4986), which mandated a study by the Institute of Medicine (IOM) to examine the training and licensure of counselors and their qualification for independent practice within TRICARE. After a year of inactivity, the IOM created the “Committee on the Qualifications of Professionals Providing Mental Health Counseling Services under TRICARE,” which held its first meeting on April 9, 2009. NBCC, the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) and ACA were invited to speak at the meeting on behalf of the counseling profession. Dr. Thomas Clawson represented NBCC, Dr. Carol Bobby represented CACREP and Dr. David Kaplan represented ACA. The meeting was designed to provide the Committee with an understanding of the task at hand, as well as information about the counseling profession. There will be several more meetings over the next year prior to the Committee issuing a final report. NBCC will press the Committee for a report that fairly and accurately represents the training and qualifications of professional counselors.

Defense Department Substance Abuse Program

On February 24, 2009, Senator Claire McCaskill (D-MO) introduced the “SUPPORT for Substance Use Disorders Act,” S. 459, to enhance the substance use treatment system within the Department of Defense (DOD). The bill provides for a comprehensive review and report on the treatment of substance abuse disorders in the Armed Forces; the establishment of a Center of Excellence for substance use disorders within the DOD; and an independent study of substance use disorders in the Armed Forces to be undertaken by the IOM or another independent organization. A key component of the legislation is ensuring a well-trained and qualified pool of substance abuse professionals.

NBCC contributed to the development of S. 459 and has endorsed the bill. This strong legislation is needed to improve the DOD Substance Abuse Program (SAP), which over the past year has taken steps that resulted in limited job and promotion opportunities for counselors. NBCC will continue working with counselors, DOD personnel and Congress to provide counseling professionals in the SAP with the same practice rights enjoyed by mental health professionals.

Newly Approved CE Providers

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S.A.F.E. Alternatives®, #6396
Fenton, MO

Spaulding for Children, #6398
Southfield, MI

Spiritual Care Services, LLC, #6401
Boiling Springs, NC

The Monroe Institute, #6391
Faber, VA

The WhyTry Organization, #6400
Orem, UT

ThedaCare Behavioral Health, #6395
Menasha, WI

Troy University - Pensacola Campus,
Southeast Region, #4540
Pensacola, FL

Virginia (Gina) Campbell, #6394
Timonium, MD



NATIONAL BOARD FOR
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Insurance Program Administered by Lockton Risk Services

Ellis Amdur, NCC, of Shoreline, WA, recently published a trilogy of books. Each is available in a family version, for those with a seriously mentally ill family member, and a professional version, intended for social services personnel working in psychiatric hospitals, group homes, shelters, substance abuse treatment facilities, mental health agencies, or in private practice. The titles of the family-oriented versions are *Lifelines in the Dark: Communication Strategies for Reaching the Person Behind the Symptom*; *Standing Tall, Staying Calm: Keeping Self-Control*; and *In the Eye of the Hurricane: Calming and De-escalation of Aggressive Family Members*. The titles for clinical use are *Lifelines in the Dark: Communication Strategies for Reaching the Person Behind the Symptom*; *Centering: Standing with Grace and Strength in Crisis Situations*; and *Grace Under Fire: Establishing a Culture of Safety and Learning the Skills for Calming and De-escalating Aggressive Individuals* (with separate versions for inpatient and outpatient practice). These books are available from www.careinaction.com.

Carolyn Croom Baker, NCC, of New Haven, CT, recently published *Preparing for College Admissions: The Ultimate Guide for Parents and Students* (First World Publishing), which shows parents, students and new counselors how to organize the application process and select the right college, and offers strategies for funding a great education. Character development is a major focus. This book can be ordered from Amazon.com, Barnes and Noble, or Achievement Works (www.achievementworks.com).

Judith Barr, NCC, CCMHC, of Brookfield, CT, has released *A Recession Regression: Finding the Root of Our Relationships with Money* (Professional Development Resources), a home-study course to help professionals assist their clients during these challenging economic times. Through examples

from current life events, therapists will recognize how their clients' childhood experiences affect their emotions and behaviors related to money and the recession. They will also begin to comprehend the impact that an individual's relationship with money has on the world, and how healing one's own relationship with money can help on a global scale. This course is intended for health and mental health professionals, and offers one continuing education (CE) credit. For more information, please visit <http://www.judithbarr.com/PowerAbusedPowerHealed/pages/home-study.htm>.

Patricia S. Lemer, NCC, of Pittsburgh, PA, is the editor of the recently released book *EnVISIONing a Bright Future: Interventions That Work for Children and Adults With Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD)*. This informative resource is a combination of theory and practice from two dozen experts, and elaborates on a biomedical and sensory processing approach to healing attention deficits (ADD and ADHD), learning disabilities (LD), pervasive developmental disorders (PDD), nonverbal learning disabilities (NLD), Asperger's syndrome and autism. Her contributions to the book include the emphasis given to the importance of visual processing dysfunction in ASD, and ideas for how to integrate biomedical and sensory therapies into the counseling relationship. The book is available at Amazon.com and through the publisher at www.oepf.org.

Neresa Minatrea, NCC, of Bowling Green, KY, was recently listed as a finalist in the Delta Society's 2008 Beyond Limits Awards. Dr. Minatrea's animal-assisted therapy work (which incorporates her beagle mix, Mitzi Ann) spans a variety of settings ranging from correctional facilities to medical facilities. This counselor-canine team was recognized and nominated in the Animal-Assisted Therapy and Practicing Professionals category.

Rita Schellenberg, NCC, NCSC, of Suffolk, VA, recently authored *The New School Counselor: Strategies for Universal Academic Achievement* (Rowman Littlefield Education Publishers). The text introduces "standards blending," a systems-focused crosswalking strategy that aligns school counseling programs with academic achievement missions. Chapters include relevant research, key players, practice applications, and major developments shaping contemporary school counseling in a school reform environment. The text also includes a CD-ROM with a Microsoft Office school counseling data reporting system. The School Counseling Operational Plan for Effectiveness (SCOPE), and the School Counseling Operational Report of Effectiveness (SCORE) walk users through accountable programming from conception to evaluation. Embedded links access data sources, core academic standards and American School Counselor Association (ASCA) standards. Pre-formulated worksheets provide instant data analysis. SCOPE and SCORE include essential reporting components recommended by ASCA, the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP), and school accountability initiatives.

Ray Stallings, NCC, of Lexington, NC, recently published *My Saluda Seasons* (Wordclay Publisher) in which the author, a counselor for 37 years, reflects on his early career in education and counseling. *My Saluda Seasons* can be ordered through Amazon.com and Barnesnoble.com, or purchased from the author at rstallings@triad.rr.com. All of the author's proceeds from the sale of the book will be donated to the Saluda (NC) Public Library.

Nicole S. Urdang, NCC, of Buffalo, NY, has launched www.holisticdivorcecounseling.com, a Web site offering free support and resources for anyone going through divorce or other life transitions and challenges.

New Web Site in the Works; Donations on the Rise

The NBCC Foundation continues to grow and expand. A new Foundation Web site is being created to provide counselors and the public with information about the ongoing activities of the organization. In addition to updates on NBCCF programs and funding, the Web site will allow individuals to make contributions online and will also serve as a place to recognize the Foundation's generous donors. Information about the new rural and military scholarships, as well as applications for both, will also be featured on this new site, which is expected to launch in August 2009.

In other Foundation news, fundraising is rising in concert with programming. Donations to the Foundation have increased by almost 50 percent in the first quarter of 2009, totaling \$10,769. Already this year, 268 individuals have made donations, out of which 14 contributed \$100 and five contributed \$500 or more.

To visit the new NBCC Foundation Web site, slated to go live in August 2009, go to www.nbcc.org and click the Foundation button on the left side of NBCC's home page.

NBCC would like to thank the following people for generously supporting the NBCC Foundation. The NBCC Foundation is dedicated to promoting mental health through the advancement of professional counseling and credentialing.

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NBCC FOUNDATION UPDATE

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March–May 2009

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Anna Marie Yates	Doug & Anna Marie Yates, 40th anniversary

To support the foundation's work with a donation, please contact David Bergman at
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TEL: 336-547-0607
E-mail: foundation@nbcc.org

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March–May 2009

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NEWS FROM NBCC HEADQUARTERS

Linda Foster New NBCC Vice President



Linda Foster

Former NBCC Board Chair Linda Foster has joined the staff as Vice President for Professional Practice. In announcing the new appointment, NBCC President and CEO Thomas Clawson reports that Foster will supervise credentialing services, ethics and professional advocacy. She will also be involved in government relations, professional relations with other disciplines and strategic planning.

Foster served on the Board from July 2004 through June of this year and had previously served as Chair of the Test Development Committee.

She comes to NBCC from the University of Alabama-Birmingham, where she was an assistant professor and clinical coordinator in the counseling education program. Her research and publication interests include professional credentialing, identifying school counselor tasks and teaching research methods to school counselors. She has also worked as a school counselor at the elementary, high school and college levels.

Foster earned her master's at UAB and her doctorate from Mississippi State University.

Staff Change

In another staff change, Executive Vice President Ted Iliff has left NBCC and will return to Washington, DC, to start a consulting business. Iliff headed NBCC International and also served as corporate communications director. While no longer on the NBCC staff, Iliff will retain links to the organization by serving as an advisor to the President/CEO.

Mental Health Observances

AUGUST

National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month

SEPTEMBER

6-12: National Suicide Prevention Week

OCTOBER

Let's Talk Month

National Domestic Violence Awareness Month

5-11 Mental Illness Awareness Week

8 National Depression Screening Day

10 World Mental Health Day

The National Board for Certified Counselors, Inc. (NBCC®) values diversity. There are no barriers to certification on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation or national origin.



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