**PRESIDENT’S REPORT – 2018-2019**

**42nd Annual Conference**

**Alexandria, Virginia**

**September 21-25, 2019**

****September 2019

Dear ACCTA Colleagues,

Welcome to the Annual ACCTA Conference on beautiful King Street in Alexandria, Virginia! We are thrilled that you have decided to join us! This year’s conference theme, *From Surviving to Thriving:*

*Engaging Your Power Within through Connection, Leadership and Identity*, is timely given the reflections of Training Directors/Coordinators throughout the last few years about the complexity of our roles within our centers and the intersections of leadership and identity. This conference comes at a time when we are ready for some connection and ACCTA love! We get to spend time together, learning, supporting each other, sharing our wisdom, struggles, and success. I hope you take this opportunity to rejuvenate, grow, and connect with other training directors on similar journeys.

In this first year as the official president, I have been struck by the amount of time and energy our membership provides in the service of others. Not only have we dedicated our lives to holding space for others and their growth, but we also do it at the national level through service to ACCTA. This could be in the form of a thoughtful email response to a supervision question, to serving on the board or by offering to consult with someone who reaches out for help on our listserv. My heart is full as I end year one of my presidency and I hold tremendous gratitude to all who make ACCTA so amazing. This organization runs well because of the people. I invite you to review the highlights and organizational goals in this document. Additionally, you will find more detail about what ACCTA did this last year in the [Conference Reports](https://www.accta.net/2019-conference-reports) and especially in the [2018-2019 Board of Directors, Committee and Activity Reports](https://asaccta.memberclicks.net/assets/conference/2019/Reports/board%2C%20committee%20and%20activity%20report%2018-19%20conference.docx) documented on our site. Reviewing the reports from your colleagues will help you understand the work that occurs behind the scenes with ACCTA, as well as help you find which committee or board you may want to serve on. ☺

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**Gratitude**

Your ACCTA board is amazing! Every board is different, but what remains the same throughout all of my experiences on multiple configurations of the board is the collective talent, wisdom, creativity and dedication that ACCTA board members display!

**Dr. Natasha Maynard-Pemba**, Past-President, has been a force within our organization for many years! She will be leaving the board after serving for 9 years. Although we are sad to see her roll off board duties, we are eternally grateful for the amount of work and love she has poured into ACCTA. She has been a consistently calm and wise leader, from who we all have learned so much! Dr. Maynard-Pemba has been my sounding board and reality tester throughout my first year as president. I cannot imagine making it this year without her mentorship and support. During her past-president year, she acted as a consultant for the president and the board as well as serving in the role of Communications for ACCTA. In addition, she led the nominations and voting process for ACCTA this year. Thank you Dr. Maynard-Pemba for your commitment and service to ACCTA!

**Dr. Brigid Cahill**, Secretary, has been an invaluable source of information for this board and membership. She is a longstanding member of the board and frequently acts as historian given she knows all things ACCTA! She also is skilled at capturing the multiple layers of discussion on board calls and creating concise minutes for membership to stay connected to what work the board is doing. Dr. Cahill also does so many behind the scene tasks to help the organization run such as maintaining the board Dropbox, organizing ACCTA reports, and managing all ACCTA correspondence. Please see her Secretary’s Report at [Officers’ Reports](https://www.accta.net/2019-conference-reports). Thank you Dr. Cahill. We are so grateful for your service and will miss you on the board so much!

**Dr. Diane Sobel**, Treasurer, has worked so hard this year to make the transition from one Treasurer to another. Let me just say, it is not as easy as one would think!! The amount of details necessary and the amount of time she gave to ACCTA to get the information transferred was impressive. She worked collaboratively with the former Treasurer, Dr. Terri Rhodes, who was also gracious in giving ACCTA more time to make sure that everything was completed as necessary. During her first year as Treasurer, Dr. Sobel managed our budget, keeping it healthy and strong for ACCTA’s current and future plans. Please see her Treasurer’s Report at [Officers’ Reports](https://www.accta.net/2019-conference-reports). I am so grateful to Dr. Sobel for her dedication to ACCTA, her heart and attitude. I am also grateful she has one more year of her term as Treasurer!

**ACCTA BOARD:** I am so incredibly fortunate to work with an amazing board of directors. **Drs. Randal Boldt, Daniela Burnworth, Amber Cargill, Cheryl Forster, Mollie Herman, Broderick Leaks, Durriya Meer, Jen Petro, Cecilia Sun and Jod Taywaditep** have contributed wholeheartedly personally and professionally toward their roles on the board. There are so many things I can highlight but it would take a few pages in this report. So I will say that they stayed on top of their board roles, were timely and thorough as well as offered to help others when they were struggling. They truly took their service to ACCTA seriously and worked hard. We will see their collective efforts come to life during our conference in Virginia. We also want to always remember that the board does this while maintaining their busy jobs as training directors/coordinators. Please review their contributions for this year in the [2018-2019 Board of Directors, Committee and Activity Reports](https://asaccta.memberclicks.net/assets/conference/2019/Reports/board%2C%20committee%20and%20activity%20report%2018-19%20conference.docx). Numerous other members of ACCTA have also contributed significantly to the work of the organization through our Standing Committees, additional liaison relationships, and by volunteering for specific tasks. ACCTA has and will continue to thrive because of its members’ dedication and willingness to give to the organization.

**Debbie Nolan and Greg Brooks**, what would we do without their help throughout the year and of course, leading up to the conference! Thank you both and your whole team at AMC Source, who have been incredible supports to ACCTA for our website, membership listserv, membership and conferences. They are great champions for our organization and we are grateful for their support and genuine energy for their love of ACCTA!

**Conference Host Coordinator and Team:** First and foremost, we must give a huge shout out for our most consistent conference host coordinator, **Dr. Terri Rhodes**. She has a long history of ACCTA Conference planning and coordinating the host committee. We are SO fortunate to have her! Dr. Rhodes also works closely with Debbie Nolan, the ACCTA Board, and many others to help us have a smooth, fun and meaningful conference. I also want to thank our amazing conference hosts, **Drs. Amber Cargill, Mark LaSota, Jenny Lloyd, Allie Minieri, David A. Petersen and Shatina Williams.** Our VA/DC hosts have been working behind the scenes to help membership enjoy all that Alexandria and the Washington D.C. areas have to offer through excursions and dinner arrangements. They have also facilitated conference logistics including registration, getting the conference giveaway, and posting much of the useful information on the conference webpages. They also helped me get the D.J. for our first ACCTA Dance!! ☺ Thank you all for all of the work you’ve done for our 2019 conference.

**Dr. Charisse Williams,** our Pre-Conference Host, is taking the lead and hosting our 3rd annual ACCTA pre-conference. This new group of TD/TC’s are fortunate to experience her energy and expertise as they enter our organization. Thank you so much for your service to ACCTA!

**SCD**: **Drs. Debra Crisp (co-chair), Diane Hayashino (co-chair), Bethany Riddle, Tanya Brown, Belinda Hinojos, Sterling Watson, Shane Chaplin, Alexis Melville and Pam Moore.**

Thank you to this amazing team, who despite some changes in membership this year, continued to carry forward the mission of the SCD and provide so many valuable resources and experiences to ACCTA. You work for our organization is seen and felt. We appreciate you and all you bring to ACCTA!

Thank you to all of our liasisons!!

**2018-2019 Liaisons to other Organizations**

You are welcome to review the [Liaison Reports](https://asaccta.memberclicks.net/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=134:liaison-reports&catid=20:site-content&Itemid=179) available on our website.

* [Association for University and College Counseling Center Directors](http://www.aucccd.org/conference-benefits) (AUCCCD) – **Dr. Carmen Cruz,** Denver, CO: October 14-17, 2018.
* [Council of Chairs of Training Councils & Board of Educational Affairs](http://www.cctcpsychology.org/)) (Fall & Spring) – **Dr. Carmen Cruz**, Washington, DC: November 2018 and March 2019.
* [Council of Counseling Psychology Training Programs](http://www.ccptp.org/2017-annual-meeting-dates-announced) (CCPTP) Midwinter Meeting – **Dr. Carmen Cruz,** San Antonio, TX, January 31-February 3, 2019.
* [Association for the Coordination of Counseling Center Clinical Services](https://www.accccs.org/) (ACCCCS)– **Dr. Maryjan Murphy,** Denver, CO, May 20-23, 2019.\*
* [American Psychological Association (APA) Convention](http://www.apa.org/convention/future.aspx). – **Dr. Carmen Cruz**, Chicago, IL: August 8-12, 2019.
  + Division 17/SCP Board & Business Meetings
  + Counseling Psychology Specialty Council/Synarchy Meeting
  + American Psychological Association (APA)
  + APPIC Membership Meeting
  + Council of Counseling Psychology Training Programs (CCPTP) Business Meeting

**Conference Highlights**

This year’s conference theme, *From Surviving to Thriving: Engaging Your Power Within through Connection, Leadership and Identity*, was created as a result of reflecting on key issues impacting a TD/TC’s professional lives including power/disempowerment issues, the complexity of our roles within our centers and the intersections of leadership and identity. The Board also reflected on member feedback about feelings of doubt and fatigue related to our roles. The theme invites us to explore how the current political climate, major national and international events have affected us and our work as trainers and leaders. My hope is that the conference programming will inspire you and that you will also find informal spaces to engage in conversations that add to your leadership style and perspective as well as feel validated in your identity within our professional roles and also our personal identities. I am blown away by our membership’s talent and willingness to share that with ACCTA at our conference. This year’s programming will include information and discussions highlighting the following areas:

* Reflections on identity and our roles as supervisors, leaders and training directors
* Dealing with tragedies on our campuses and supporting one another
* How to connect with others and oneself while doing tough emotional and social justice work
* Being resilient and finding meaning as a TD/TC in a divisive culture
* Highlighting specific nuts and bolts ways to improve our training programs

I would like to highlight several of the conference programs.

* Our speaker, **Dr. Theo Burnes,** will be providing us with guidance with regards to our theme in his keynote entitled, *Trailblazing as Leadership: Sustaining Training Excellence in Challenging Times,* kicking off our conference on Sunday morning*.*  The program promises to be interactive, validating and engaging. His expertise in clinical supervision, social justice and leadership are the perfect combination for what we need to inspire us this year.
* We will offer 4 unopposed CE earning programs that include the Keynote Address, Diversity Scholars presentations, Passages, and an SCD sponsored program. The SCD program is to help us process our experience of the National Museum of African American History and Culture excursion. There will also be four concurrent CE session times with a total of twelve presentations. An ACCTA thank you to all members who will be presenting during the conference and supporting this year’s theme! Membership will have an opportunity to earn up to 12 CE’s at this year’s conference.
* This year we are also offering the 3rd annual ACCTA Pre-Conference for new training directors/coordinators. The intention is to provide targeted unopposed programming for new training directors prior to the conference, which will help them to obtain relevant and helpful beginning TD/TC information to lead their programs.
* One additional highlight of the conference is to be able to host an excursion that could accommodate our entire conference attendee group. Consistent with ACCTA values is lifelong learning and growing around issues of multiculturalism and diversity. I believe this experience will be moving for many members and I look forward to connecting about our processes.
* Conference feedback from last year’s conference survey was very positive. We hope to continue offering what membership has found to be helpful and meaningful and also improve the conference from year to year. Even as ACCTA grows we will forever strive to meet the need for inclusivity and connection. This is central to the legacy and initial leaders of ACCTA, who we want to respect and move forward their intentionality.
* We are also very fortunate that APA’s Commission on Accreditation will provide our members the APA Self-Study and Site Visitor workshops on Wednesday after close of our Conference.
* For any other conference information, please visit the [conference homepage](https://asaccta.memberclicks.net/2019-conference) on our site.

**2018-2019 Goals – Internal Business**

In response to input from the membership as well as Board discussion, the ACCTA Board identified a number of internal goals for the 2018-19 year that are listed below:

1. **Continue to provide support to members seeking accreditation:** Through our newly formed Accreditation Workgroup and informational support regarding the SoA and related documents, the board is focused on continuing to support members given the change in the imbalance for internship programs. Last year, the board created an informal position on the board to respond to member questions and concerns about accreditation. Our desire is to pay particular attention to those sites that are emerging programs, that do not have interns and/or not APA accredited yet, given it is particularly challenging for these sites to get established. The board will continue to respond to each call for comment from the Commission on Accreditation, APPIC and other training councils providing feedback that reflects membership concerns. A positive outcome of this process is that ACCTA feedback, along with other training councils, led to APPIC establishing a new membership category to aid in creating a new internship training program.
2. **Website Analysis**: The Board goal was to create a website ad hoc team to review the site to evaluate user friendliness as well as to update the site as necessary. Dr. Leaks was the lead on this during the last year and created a website survey to assess membership’s experience of the website. This will remain a goal for next year and the plan is to recruit a few members who want to be involved in updating the site. The primary goals are to improve the usefulness of the Training Resources part of the site, ADA compliance & updating technology as necessary.
3. **ACCTA and TD/TC Culture**: The Board discussed the current trends for TD/TC via the annual survey and conference feedback. The goal is to continue to focus on how to maintain key and fundamental aspects of ACCTA culture and history, while increasing number of new programs and supporting new TD/TC’s. We also strived to explore how to address the issue of pervasive doubt and fatigue in our membership and address this via the conference theme and conference programming offerings.
4. **Design, Plan and Implement the 2019 Conference**: *From Surviving to Thriving:*

*Engaging Your Power Within through Connection, Leadership and Identity.* Dr. Theo

Burnes is the keynote speaker. The Board reviewed and incorporated member feedback

from the 2018 conference evaluation results for this year’s conference. Please refer to

conference highlights above for further information.

**2018-2019 Goals – External Business**

1. **Continue to attend to Internship Match issues through the Council of Chairs of Training Councils (CCTC) & APA Board of Educational Affairs (BEA)**

The Match imbalance has shifted and is stabilizing for intern applicants. The new issue related to the Match is being called the “Accredited Internship Shortage.” In general, training sites may see fewer applicants as more sites are created and applicants do not feel the pressure they had been feeling about the Match. ACCTA continues to support programs in gaining accreditation via listserv support, training resources (e.g. CCTC’s Internship Matrix), conference programming, and APA workshops. APPIC continues to support the development of internship sites through their grant program as well as creating a new membership category to obtain APPIC membership.

APPIC opened a public comment, obtained feedback from training communities and had dialogues about how the rebalance of the Match has impacted the creation of new internship programs. Specifically, the membership criteria to have 2 interns on site has proven difficult for many sites as they are developing a training program. As a result, APPIC developed and subsequently membership voted (98%) to create a new membership category, Provisional Membership. Programs must meet all membership criteria other than two interns on site. The status is time-limited and programs can go through a maximum of three consecutive Match selection cycles. Provisional programs have all rights and benefits of APPIC membership, except for voting rights and eligibility for election to the Board. The first applications to be considered are planned for spring 2020.

1. **ACCTA leadership will be involved in the design and implantation of two national conferences in 2020: Counseling Psychology Conference (CPC) & Council of Chairs of Training Councils (CCTC).**

The Counseling Psychology Conference (CPC) is held every 6 years and the Council of Chairs of Training Councils (CCTC) conference is held every 10 years. ACCTA is a sponsor of both conferences and has significant involvement in both meetings. Specifically, ACCTA leadership will be selected to attend the CCTC 2020 conference.

**ACCTA Committee and Activity Highlights**

Your colleagues are doing so many amazing things for ACCTA and the training community to support intern development. Please review the [2018-2019 Board of Directors, Committee and Activity Reports](https://asaccta.memberclicks.net/assets/conference/2019/Reports/board%2C%20committee%20and%20activity%20report%2018-19%20conference.docx) as this will provide you a huge glimpse into ACCTA work, values, activity and culture. Consider joining any of the committees listed! The Standing Committee Meetings Breakfast during the conference is a great way to find out more.

**Conclusion**

Clearly, ACCTA is a wonderful organization with people who want to connect, lead and make an impact in their personal and professional lives! It is filled with training directors who are eager to serve. This is what makes ACCTA continue to thrive year to year and be well-respected among training councils.

I am so incredibly privileged that you, ACCTA, elected me and have faith in me as a leader. I cannot be more grateful. As I reflect back to my first ACCTA in 2000 in Wintergreen, Virginia as a Diversity Scholar, I am emotionally moved by being back in Virginia, 19 years later serving as your ACCTA President. What an honor and ride in life. I like to say “sometimes it takes a while to catch up to how people see you.” Well, that is my experience in ACCTA. People in ACCTA could see more of me than what I could in terms of my leadership potential. I feel seen, heard and valued in ACCTA. The more I have attended other training council meetings nationally throughout this last year and seen myself with leaders in our field, I have reminded myself of how you see me and felt more empowered to represent ACCTA with my voice, our collective voice.

Thank you for trusting me and allowing me to serve as your president this last year. I look forward to my second year and continuing to move us forward. I cannot wait to see most of our membership at our upcoming conference and engaging in meaningful dialogue and engagement around our work as training directors and advocates.

Respectfully submitted in solidarity by:

Carmen Cruz, Psy.D.

ACCTA President