Professional Counselors and our Professional Network

By Thomas Clawson, Executive Director

Recently the trend of big business and professional associations has been to seek cooperative alliances that benefit the interests of many involved. As I look at the actions of NBCC over the years, I can see the past and present board members understand that keeping counseling in a vacuum is no way to promote good professional practice to the public. Let me review some examples of the system of interprofessional as well as outside contacts, projects, and alliances that NBCC has created.

We take for granted some of the foresight of our past leaders. They crafted a merger with NVGA’s (now National Career Development Association) certification board to create the first specialty credential (NCCC). Soon after, NBCC became independent from the American Counseling Association, which has allowed us to continue close relationships with ACA while enjoying freedom from its corporate structure. NBCC saw that, while we represent certified professional counselors, the credential itself needed monitoring. In 1987 the National Organization of Competency Assurance (NOCA) awarded accreditation to NBCC’s cre-

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The following NCCs have passed the Voluntary Audit by completing and documenting more than 130 hours of continuing education activities in the five-year certification cycle. These professionals have demonstrated their dedication to excellence, and NBCC salutes them. Congratulations!

David D. Dorfmeier, #21935
Manhattan, KS

Brenda L. Eshbach, #23288
Monroe, NC

Peter S. Herman, #23936, Salem, OR

Martha Bookout Hickey, #23501
Atkinson, NC

Sharon J. Hicks, #23376, Auburn, WA

William R. Kildall, #24102
Everett, WA

Phyllis A. Rogers, #15488
Gouldsboro, ME

John I. Shearer, #22755, Lebanon, PA

Maunsell W. W. Wilkinson, #16708
Beaumont, TX

Voluntary Audits

Examination Committee Meets

Counselors from all over the country participated in NBCC’s examination committee meeting held in July at the Lenexa, KS, home office of NBCC’s new examination contractors, Applied Measurement Professionals (AMP). Counselors reviewed items for the October 21 administration of the National Counselor Examination for Licensure and Certification (NCE). The examination team included (front row, from left) Jim Sampson, Patsy Rush (AMP), Betty Hall, Larry Loesch, Elizabeth Graham; (center row) Jim Wachsmuth, Nicholas Vacc, Shawn O’Brien, J. Thomas Smith, Richard Gibson, David Hurt, Donald Ward, Lawrence Fabrey (AMP); and (back row) John Bell, Robert Sheverbush, John Stone.

Professional Counselors and our Professional Network

Professional Counselors and our Professional Network

From Page 1

dentia\lizing process. Thus, our network with other professions who also certify has allowed us to gain new ideas and even be pioneers for the credentialing community.

NBCC merged with the Academy of Clinical Mental Health Counselors (ACMHC) in 1993 in another unifying move. A few years of discussion, NBCC welcomed the CCMHC credential as the fourth specialty. Today, NBCC is working hard to further define specialty status and to refine methods for establishing new specialties. NBCC now has a joint committee working with CACREP to try to bring some agreement to specialty training and certification. We also plan future research with CACREP.

MAC: A Study in Cooperation

NBCC is embarking on an experiment that sets the stage as a model for interdisciplinary cooperation. We began this summer to survey master’s level substance abuse counselors to create the first role analysis of that specialty. The uniqueness of this project is that NAADAC, CRCC, and ICRC have agreed to cooperate on the future of defining and certifying Master Addictions Counselors (M A C). This is the first time that more than one discipline has worked together to create a common credential.

As I write this note, I am preparing to attend a meeting at NIMH’s Center of Mental Health Services in Rockville, MD. NBCC will be awarded a contract to manage a group of professionals in the writing of protocol for Managed Care’s use of non-core providers. (See the Winter issue of NewsNotes for a description of this important project.) Simply put, NBCC along with APA, NA SW, A PA, and A NA will receive funds to develop the education tool for managed care use in deciding the future inclusion of mental health professionals in payor systems. NBCC will manage the contract for A CA, A M F T, the International Association of Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services (IAPRS), and the Council of Applied Master’s Program in Psychology (CAMPP). A gain, not only are we breaking new ground, it is clear that mental health professionals are seeing a new era of cooperation.
Counselors in Demand

There were 433 requests for state listings of National Certified Career Counselors (NCCC) during the month of August. This large number of consumer requests is attributed in large part to a section in an article in the August issue of Money magazine entitled “The Eight Biggest Rip-offs in America...and How You Can Avoid Being a Victim.” NBCC’s career specialty certification was listed as one of the “remedies” in the section dealing with career consultants.

Along the same lines, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) recently requested the nationwide listing for NCCCs. The list will be used by HUD employees to make contacts with work outside the department. The District of Columbia area office has a career center to assist federal workers in dealing with downsizing as well as changes due to administration while most areas of the country do not. In an effort to establish a program for employee assistance, the NCCC listing will be used to help get the project off the ground.

If you are interested in applying for the NCCC credential, call the application request line at 800-398-5389 for a career application.

NBCC Fax Information Line Menu

To use the NBCC Fax Information Line, call 1-800-324-NBCC (6222). Have ready your certificant ID number, the document number for the information you are interested in, and the phone number of a fax machine where you can receive documents.

1001 Menu of Publications
1002 Code of Ethics
1003 Consumer Rights and Responsibilities
1004 "Dedicated to Helping you—What is a National Certified Counselor?"
1005 Order Form—Plaque, pins, NBCC Code of Ethics

Certification
2001 Certification Information and Application Request Form
2002 CACREP (Council for Accreditation of Counseling Related Educational Programs) Programs List
2003 State Licensure List

Testing
3001 National Test Dates and Sites
3002 Preparation Guide Order Form—National Counselor Examination (NCE) for Licensure and Certification
3003 Preparation Guide Order Forms—National Clinical Mental Health Counseling Examination (NCMHCE)

Continuing Education
4001 Approved Home Study Programs

Continuing Education Update
5001 New England—Maine, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Vermont
5002 Northeast—New York, Connecticut
5003 Eastern Seaboard—New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland
5004 Mid-Atlantic—Virginia, Pennsylvania, Washington DC
5005 Southeast—North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida
5006 South—Kentucky, Tennessee, West Virginia, Arkansas
5007 Deep South—Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama
5008 Great Lakes—Ohio, Michigan, Minnesota, Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin
5009 Midwest—Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa
5010 West—Colorado, Nevada, Utah, South Dakota, North Dakota, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming
5011 Southwest—Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona
5012 Pacific—Washington, Oregon, California, Alaska, Hawaii
5013 Non-US—Puerto Rico, Canada, US Virgin Islands

The Merger of Clinical Academy Enters Third Year

By Lynn Brueske, Chair, Clinical Academy

While the merger is a legal function, the NBCC Board agreed to allow the Clinical Academy three years to evaluate the viability of the joint process. Under the merger, the ACMHC became one of five present specialty academies and now functions as a standing committee of NBCC.

Five former members of ACMHC are now part of the seven member Clinical Academy. We have been able to view the process within NBCC with knowledge of the past. After two years of working as part of NBCC, we consider the new relationship positive.

This year (ending June 30, 1996) is the third year of that agreement. Should the Clinical Academy wish to become independent and operate from our previous resources, we must notify NBCC of that intent. Presently, our intent is to continue to strengthen our position through NBCC.

We would like to have your comments regarding our continuing as part of NBCC. Do you see advantages to the CCMHC and NCC under one corporate structure? How has the merger affected you? Please reply to Lynn Brueske, c/o NBCC, 3 Terrace Way, Suite D, Greensboro, NC 27403.

In the next few editions of NewsNotes, I will update you on the work we have accomplished and projects underway.
**NCCs of Note**

NBCC is pleased to recognize the following National Certified Counselors' personal achievements.

**Joy Weston Arnold**, NCC, LPC, of Tupelo, MS, was named Clinical Mental Health Counselor of the Year for 1994 by the Mississippi Counseling Association at the group's annual conference in Jackson.

**Jean Marie Fox**, M.Ed., NCC, LPC, CCDC III, of Rapid City, SD, has been promoted to clinical supervisor at City/County Alcohol & Drug Programs, Pennington County Sheriff's Office, Rapid City, SD.

**Louise E. Gibbs**, NCC, NCGC, of New York, NY, received the Post-Masters Certificate Award in Gerontology from the Hunter College of the City University of New York School of Social Work-Brookdale Center on Aging. Twelve years ago she and other retired guidance counselors organized the Association of Concerned Counselors, Inc. They provided counseling services to young people in their communities. Gibbs hopes to develop an Intergenerational Institution in the Virgin Islands.

**Marion Holtzer**, NCC, of Chicago, IL, was invited to teach mediation in Russia by the Ambassador Program. Holtzer, who is considering this offer for the 1996 season, is retired from private practice. She formerly was assistant director of counseling in the Circuit Court of Cook County.

**Rosemarie Scotti Hughes**, Ph.D., NCC, NCSC, LPC, of Virginia Beach, VA. Hughes, dean of the School of Counseling and Human Services at Regent University in Virginia Beach, has been appointed by the governor to two state boards: the Board of Professional Counselors and Marriage and Family Therapist and the Board of Health Professionals. She will serve a four-year term on both. She also is the current president of the Virginia Association for Ethics, Religion, and Values in Counseling, a division of the Virginia Counselors Association, and a member of the editorial review board of the national journal, Counseling and Values.

**Gerard Vernot**, Ph.D., NCC, of Tallahassee, FL, has been elected treasurer of the Florida Mental Health Counselors Association. In addition to his duties as treasurer, Vernot is director of guidance at Macley School in Tallahassee.

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**NEW PROVIDERS**

**NEW APPROVED CONTINUING EDUCATION PROVIDERS**

- LaSalle University, Philadelphia, PA, #4449
- Palm Beach Atlantic College, West Palm Beach, FL, #4450
- Dissociative Disorders Annual Training Series, Atlanta, GA, #5647
- The Institute for Integral Development, Colorado Springs, CO, #5648
- The Otis Bowen Center for Human Services/Brief Therapy Institute, Warsaw, IN, #5649
- Walton-Brueske Counseling Group, Jacksonville, FL, #5650
- Christian Society for the Healing of Dissociative Disorders, Bedford, TX, #5651
- Healthcare Management Resources, Dothan, AL, #5652
- National Academy of Clinical Hypnosis, Columbia, MD, #5653
- The Stevens Center, Carlisle, PA, #5654
- Health Ed, LLC, Eau Claire, WI, #5655
- The Highlands Program, Atlanta, GA, #5656
- The Institute for Continuing Education of Healthcare Professionals, Portland, OR, #5757
- Interpersonal Communication Programs, Littleton, CO, #5658

**NEW APPROVED HOME STUDY PROGRAMS**

- Hatherleigh Co., New York:
  - “The Second Decade of AIDS” ........................................ 25 hrs.
  - “In Session: The Therapeutic Alliance” ............................... 4 hrs.
  - “Directions in Child and Adolescent Therapy, Vol. 2” ............ 10 hrs.
  - “Directions in Substance Abuse Counseling, Vol. 3”............... 10 hrs.

- Affect+, Miami, FL:
  - “Cognitive Therapy for Personality Disorders” ...................... 5 hrs.
  - “Phototherapy Techniques” ........................................ 25 hrs.
At the National Career Development Association (NCDA) conference in San Francisco in July, I had an opportunity to make a presentation on how to become a National Certified Career Counselor (NCCC). At the conference, I met several practicing NCCs who either had a special interest in career counseling or who found a growing portion of their practice was related to career development.

I suspect this is the case for many NCCs and hope you will encourage your NCC colleagues who have a special interest in career counseling to take the next step in their own career development: pursuing the NCCC credential. The stature and value of an NCCC is becoming more prominent to the public as certified career counselors increase their visibility.

At the June meeting of the NBCC Board of Directors, the board voted to proceed with a process to develop a new paraprofessional certification for career development practitioners. NBCC’s new Corporation for Credentiaing and Education (CCE) will monitor this and any non-master’s level certification.

Candidates for the proposed certification are: human resources professionals working in organizations, practitioners working in government-funded job service centers, and paraprofessionals working in career centers. The specific education, training, and experiential requirements necessary to be eligible to take the required certification examination have yet to be finalized.

The board was resolute in its recommendation that a) the title of the credential should clearly communicate its paraprofessional stature, and b) a level of ongoing supervision (preferably, under an NCCC) will be required. Stay tuned for more details.

Work Behavior Analysis

NBCC recently has completed a technical report entitled, “A Work Behavior Analysis of Career Counseling Among Certified Counselors.” Career counseling appears to be both a distinctive specialty in counseling practice, as well as an integral component of the general practice of counseling. The assumption that good career counselors must possess good general counseling competencies was supported by data from this study.

The more educated and more experienced NCCCs were found to engage more frequently in program management, supervision, and research/evaluation. This research has significant implications for standards for career counseling competencies and accreditation.
**NBCC NewsNotes**

**Recertification Bulletin Board**

**NEW WAY TO EARN CONTACT HOURS**
Of the 100 total contact hours required for recertification, a maximum of 20 are allowed under the category “Publications and Presentations.” In June, the NBCC Board of Directors voted to add both new course and new program development to this category. Previously this category was limited to publications and first-time presentations.

Now counselor educators may submit new course creation as official publication if the following criteria are met: 1) The course is graduate or undergraduate level in a regionally accredited institution and is newly developed to add to the institution catalog. 2) There are products from course development including a) new course proposal, b) syllabus and text selection, c) course description and d) any other supporting data. 3) The topic must relate to one of the 10 content areas listed in the NBCC Continuing Education folder. The development, not the delivery, is the continuing education (20 hours maximum).

Practitioners may submit new workshop or program development for continuing education credit. Examples of these include workshop presentations which require a short, referenced paper; outline; and handouts. New school, hospital, or agency inservice programs; hospital mental health team designs; or extensive community outreach systems may be submitted for up to 20 hours of continuing education credit. All such submissions must include documents, dated proposals, and supporting materials. The focus of these programs must relate to one of the 10 content areas listed in the CE folder.

**CEUs at Leisure Discontinues**
California home study provider, CEUs at Leisure, has decided to discontinue its approved status with NBCC because of insufficient orders. NCCs should no longer order programs from CEUs at Leisure. For those of you who already have programs in progress, no contact hours earned after December 31, 1995 from CEUs at Leisure will be honored for recertification credit.

**FOR NCCS WITH A JUNE 30, 1995 EXPIRATION DATE**
If your expiration date was June 30, 1995 and you have not yet sent in your yellow recertification form and fee payment, you should do so immediately. NBCC will honor forms sent in before December 31, 1995. After that time you must apply for reinstatement, submit an extra fee, and undergo mandatory audit if you wish to reactivate your NCC status. Reminder: If your NCC status has lapsed, any specialty you hold is no longer active.

**NonApproved Activities**
NCCs are not restricted to taking only approved CE activities. Nonapproved activities are acceptable as long as they meet NBCC guidelines, which are explained in your CE folder. Most NCCs prefer to take approved activities, because there is no question of acceptance. Please check the guidelines before taking nonapproved activities.

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**NCC Network**

**Gerald L. Gandy**, Ph.D., NCC, CRC, of Richmond, VA, recently authored Mental Health Rehabilitation: Disputing Irrational Beliefs (Charles C. Thomas, Publisher). This book is designed for related counseling disciplines involved with mental and/or physical disabilities. Gandy is the author and editor of several textbooks and recently was selected for the 1996 Marquis Who’s Who in America edition.

**Barbara S. Stott**, M.Ed., NCC, LPC, of Charlottesville, VA, opened a private counseling practice in September. Areas of interest include cancer patients, their families, and friends; grief issues; survivors of domestic violence; career counseling; and self-esteem. Stott can be reached at 415 Lexington Avenue, Charlottesville, VA 22902, telephone 804-293-7031.

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**NBCC** will present at the ERIC/CASS Training Workshop

**DEVELOPING, MANAGING & EVALUATING COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL GUIDANCE PROGRAMS**

Making Guidance Programs Accountable & Effective

February 16 & 17

Greensboro, NC

For conference information, call 1-800-414-9769
Joint Academies Meet

The first all-academies meeting was held at NBCC’s headquarters in Greensboro, NC, in August. The purpose of gathering all the academies together was to establish common goals and plans for the specialty certifications. Previously, the academies met during the ACA Convention, a busy event.

At the joint meeting, representatives had time to share their plans of action and to meet with the NBCC staff. “I was delighted with the interaction that came from the joint meeting where academy representatives shared ideas about their specialties,” said Elly Waters, chair of the Academies Committee of the board. “It allowed an opportunity for each academy to do some serious planning about services for their specialty.”

If you have issues or concerns about your specialty, write to academy members listed below in care of NBCC, 3 Terrace Way, Suite D, Greensboro, NC 27403-2660.

Career: Mike Shahnasarian, board member; Jane Walter, NCDA liaison.

Gerontological: Elly Waters, board member; Richard Johnson, AADA liaison.

School: Virginia Mann, board member; Jay Stevens, ASCA liaison.

Clinical Mental Health: Jim Brown, board member; Lynn Brueske, academy chair; J. Thomas Smith, AMHCA liaison.

Addictions: Dick Page, board member; Sandy Barker, IA AOC liaison.

Estimated Total Number of Applications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Broken Down by Option</th>
<th>October 1994</th>
<th>October 1995</th>
<th>Growth Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Option B</td>
<td>247</td>
<td>769</td>
<td>211.34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Option C</td>
<td>743</td>
<td>1,398</td>
<td>88.16%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Option E</td>
<td>647</td>
<td>1,301</td>
<td>101.08%</td>
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<tr>
<td>CACREP</td>
<td>236</td>
<td>429</td>
<td>81.78%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Board Eligible</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Administration</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>1470.00%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Option D</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>650</td>
<td>181.39%</td>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>2,114</td>
<td>4,704</td>
<td>122.52%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CHAMPUS Claims Address Changes

Six states have a new mailing address for CHAMPUS Claims, and a new toll-free telephone number, effective July 1, 1995.

For Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, West Virginia, Kentucky, and Ohio, claims submitted on or after July 1 should be sent to: Palmetto Government Benefits Administrator, CHAMPUS Claims, P.O. Box 100598, Florence, SC 29501-0598. Also effective July 1, the new toll-free telephone number for the six states is 1-800-471-0704.

NBCC CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

If you have moved, please let us know immediately. Fill out this form and mail to: NBCC, 3 Terrace Way, Suite D, Greensboro, NC 27403-3660.

NCC Certificate # ____________________________

Name ________________________________

Address ________________________________

Home Phone ___________________ Work Phone ___________________

Have Our Lines Been Busy?

If you have had a problem getting through to NBCC by telephone during the last several months, there is a good reason. We were inundated with calls from counselors wishing to receive applications for the October examination. As you know, the NCC requirements changed on July 1, 1995. Counselors rushed to apply before the change took place.

The chart below compares the number of applications NBCC received in October 1994 and October 1995. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we work through this cycle of increased applications.
NBCC

Thomas W. Clawson, Ed.D., NCC, NCSC, LPC
Executive Director

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NBCC NewsNotes

IN THIS ISSUE:
COUNSELORS IN DEMAND
AND ALL ACADEMIES MEET

DSM-IV: Good Preparation

The American Psychological Association published the fourth edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-IV) in 1994. Since then workshops, seminars, and classes have been given nationwide to update helping professionals on the revisions made to the previous version of this manual (DSM-III-R). The National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC) also has remained current by incorporating the revisions into the National Counselor Examination for Licensure and Certification (NCE) and the National Clinical Mental Health Counseling Examination (NCMHCE).

NBCC developed the NCMHCE as an evaluation component of its Certified Clinical Mental Health Counselor (CCMHC) credential. The NCMHCE was developed by mental health counselors for the purpose of evaluating professional counselors' understandings of and skills in working with actual counseling cases. One element of the NCMHCE assesses an examinee's ability to diagnose an individual after reading a counseling vignette (description). The DSM-IV is a useful tool in preparing for this part of the examination. Clinical treatment, evaluation, and professional practice also are evaluated on the NCMHCE.

In addition to being used for the CCMHC credential, the NCMHCE is used by many states in their counselor credentialing process. Massachusetts and Rhode Island use the NCMHCE. Either the NCE or NCMHCE is used in Illinois, Iowa, Montana, New Hampshire, New Mexico, and Washington. Vermont uses both the NCE and the NCMHCE.