



The Multicultural Counselor

Newsletter of the

Association for Multicultural Counseling and Development
Division of American Counseling Association

Providing global leadership, research, training and development for multicultural counseling professionals with a focus on racial and ethnic issues

Volume # Issue 1

Spring 2007

The Professional Experience of a Lifetime

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From the President's Desk

The Counseling profession we have chosen is both a choice of the heart and *"The Professional Experience of a Lifetime"*. How fortunate are we to have selected a career dedicated to enhancing the life experience of our clients and students.

That said, however, our professional obligations as counselors extend not only to our constituency groups but to the welfare, existence, maintenance, and continued support of the counseling profession itself. For the welfare of our profession is directly contingent upon the vigilance of professionals and the organizations of professionals to advocate on behalf of the profession and professional counselors. This will safeguard our continued ability to practice *"The Professional Experience of a Lifetime"*.

AMCD is specifically charged with improving ethnic/ racial understanding, designing personal growth activities and educational opportuni-



Beverly J. O'Bryant, PhD
AMCD President

AMCD must be a bridge to 'mainstream' consciousness regarding cultural and ethnic parity and equity, a gatekeeper of 'mainstream' adherence to fair and equitable implementation and practice, and a visionary provider of culturally conscious initiatives and products. It should proactively engage multiple publics, be politically poised and recognized, published in multiple disciplines, and prolifically positioned throughout the US and abroad. By expanding infrastructures, expediting new initiatives, collaborating with allied external entities, initiating and institutionalizing infrastructures to 'grow' leaders, we can make long term advances for *"The Professional Experi-*

ence of a Lifetime". Our charge is to ensure *"The Professional Experience of a Lifetime"*.

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To this end, the 2006-2007 presidency has been dedicated to COMMUNICATION through multiple venues. WE MOVED OUT to COMMUNICATE by reconnecting with branches, state divisions, universities, school systems and the private sector. WE MOVED UP to BETTER COMMUNICATE through technology. WE'RE MOVING IN to the 21st century and beyond through a revitalized infrastructure. And, WE'RE MOVING WITH a united message, an organization which models what it preaches, and an energetic flow that excludes awareness, knowledge and skills as *"The Professional Experience of a Lifetime"*.

O'Bryant Unveils AMCD's Far-Reaching Agenda

AMCD President's Goals 2006-2007:

- To increase and expand internal communications by reconnecting or connecting the national organization with state branches and divisions, enhanced utilization of regional and ethnic concerns Vice Presidents and AMCD Past Presidents, chartering new state divisions, and enhancing our student mentoring component. To initiate and institutional-

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A Resurgent AMCD...

With the tremendous changes taking place the world over, AMCD has had to make adjustments in order to stay at the leading edge of the need to grapple with those emerging phenomena. With natural and unnatural disasters, wars and political upheavals taking place in practically every region of the globe, the need for multicultural counseling has expanded exponentially. Hitherto unknown or unfamiliar populations and

cultural systems have been exposed, first to these disasters and thus the multicultural counseling world becomes exposed to them. These include such "remote regions of the world as Darfur, Sudan; Banda Ace, Indonesia. In addition, familiar places such as the famed New Orleans, have encountered very unfamiliar situations. Also, wars have heightened the need for addressing the demands of people facing wars in more places

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Editorial

These days, it is all too easy to see a malicious intent everywhere due to the heightened distrust that has been engendered by the world's conflicts. However, before a multicultural counselor begins to address the enormous problems created by these conflicts, it is important to do a self assessment, cast aside any assumptions regarding the client or "their problems" and set about his or her work with deliberate and competent seriousness, to address the client's ecological, social and personal demands.

It is in this context that the multicultural competencies become central to both learning and practice for the counselor and the client. Thus, it is important for the training institutions to receive and work with the competencies in order to prepare skilled, sensitive and competent multicultural counselors.

With the advent of these multicultural competencies, it is also incumbent on all players to constantly interact with the AMCD to continually upgrade the document and thus enhance practice.

Because ideas are meant to serve life, it is important that those ideas are fully adapted to the service of life and living. Since change is a fundamental condition of life in our universe, the service of life must constantly change. The AMCD thus appeals to all players, including those who have the need for service, to always work together to enhance standards and make the experience of multicultural counseling a user friendly one for all. The Association for Multicultural Counseling and Development on its part will provide the supportive environment for trainers, counselors and clients to interact with the organization and help to improve service to give all participants the professional experience of a lifetime.

AMCD Mission

The Association for Multicultural Counseling and Development seeks to develop programs specifically to improve ethnic and racial empathy and understandings. Its activities are designed to advance and sustain personal growth and improve educational opportunities for members from diverse cultural backgrounds.

AMCD is charged with the responsibility of defending human and civil rights as prescribed by law. It encourages changing attitude and enhancing understanding of cultural diversity. Provisions are made for in-service and pre-service training for members and for others in the profession. Efforts are made to strengthen members professionally and enhance their ability to serve as behavioral change agents.

Operationalization of Multicultural Counseling Competencies by AMCD represents a benchmark for the counseling profession and the American Counseling Association.

AMCD Organizational Focus: Infrastructure Development

With the AMCD entering into an era of strong renaissance in order to position itself to address emerging needs while ensuring adequate attention is paid to continuing ones, the AMCD leadership, under the guidance of Beverly O'Bryant PhD, President, has been working tirelessly to build the system to be able to transform both itself and the multicultural counseling world. Thus the entire leadership has been working to enhance organizational infrastructure and to build new structures that will help strengthen the organization's systems and services. According to Dr. O'Bryant the organization's leadership agreed that the theme this year will be to make multicultural counseling the

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AMCD Web Site Up and Running

The AMCD web site, www.amcdaca.org, was commissioned by President O'Bryant and placed on line on March 1 2007. The site was developed by Bonnie Powers in collaboration with President O'Bryant and Dr. Ekundayo, Chair of AMCD Public Relations Committee. Functions include membership application, historical and current events, AMCD electronic newsletter, contact information and Executive Council profiles. In addition, the site provides information and links to other organizations. The AMCD is an affiliate of the American Counseling Association, thus, information about the March 23-25 national conference in Detroit Michigan can be accessed through the web site. The site will be upgraded in future to include material for professional and leadership development, learning and public education in multicultural counsel-

Join the AMCD
www.amcdaca.org

Bylaws Under Review

The AMCD bylaws are now published on the web and sent to all members for review. Speaking on work done by the Bylaws committee, chair, Janet WindWalker Jones, said the Committee completed editing the Association's 2001 Bylaws, which was the last set enacted. She also revealed that the committee's by-laws review was continuous process. Thus the bylaws were distributed to all AMCD members for feedback and modifications. The reviewed by-laws will be voted on by the Executive Council of AMCD and then, the full membership will ratify it at the ACA convention's business meeting.

The Organization

AMCD Executive Council 2006-2007

Officers

President.....	Beverly J. O'Bryant
President Elect.....	Cirecie West-Olantunji
Past President.....	Larry Johnson
Vice Presidents	
African American Concerns.....	William Conwill
Asian American Concerns.....	Arpana Inman
Native American Concerns.....	Janet WindWalker Jones
Hispanic/Latino/Latina/American Concerns.....	Maritza Gallardo-Cooper
Regional Representatives	
Midwestern Region.....	Karen Bibbins
North Atlantic Region.....	Mark Kenney
Southern Region.....	Beatrice Tatem
Western Region.....	Dione Taylor
Secretary.....	Rose Subryan
Treasurer.....	Wyatt Kirk
Parliamentarian	Rhonda Jeter-Twilley
Governing Council Representatives.....	Queen Fowler

Standing Committees

Membership	
Public Relations.....	Olúgbémiga "Olú" Ekúndayò
Finance.....	Herbert Exum
By-Laws.....	Janet WindWalker Jones
State divisions.....	Nettie Baldwin
Affirmative Action Program:	
Convention Chair.....	Kent Butler
On-Site Coordinator.....	Karen Bibbins
Grad Student Development/Membership.....	Kimberly Frazier & Tanisha Guy
Grad Students Reception	Yolanda Edwards

Special and Continuing Committees

Council of Past Presidents.....	Clemmie Solomon/Quincy Moore
Leadership Institute.....	Courtland Lee
Strategic Planning.....	Miguel Arciniega
Multicultural Competencies.....	Victor Bibbins
Public Policies and Legislation.....	Harriett Fields
Awards.....	Quincy Moore
Historian & Archives	Amel Anderson

Publications

AMCD Newsletter Editor.....	Olúgbémiga "Olú" Ekúndayò
Doctoral Directory.....	Nettie Baldwin
JMCD Journal Editor	Gargi Royzsicar-Sodowski

Special Assistants to the President

Special Assistant for Research.....	Harry Legum
Special Assistant for Fund Raising.....	Olúgbémiga "Olú" Ekúndayò

News Briefs

Kent Butler Outlines AMCD Convention Goals

The chair of the convention Committee of the AMCD has described the goals of his committee and pledges to achieve them all.

The goal of the AMCD Convention Committee is to provide attendees with a phenomenal convention experience. Attendees should expect all AMCD sponsored events to be punctual, instructive, and full of Detroit flavor. It is also our goal to provide First Timers and students with opportunities to learn more about the mission of AMCD as we challenge and encourage them to become strong social justice leaders and multiculturally



S. Kent Butler, PhD.
Chair, AMCD Convention Committee

competent helping professionals. Expect these endeavors to be witnessed, during the convention and beyond, by our continued commitment to the professional development of our apprentices. Providing for them, in Detroit, a myriad of excellent networking opportunities (i.e. AMCD Mentorship Program; Book Signings) in which they will meet

and greet many distinguished members of the AMCD community. Volunteers will also have a unique opportunity as they provide service to AMCD; embarking on this venture they will afford them the opportunity to learn the ins and outs of what it takes for AMCD to coordinate and execute a significant portion of the American Counseling Association Convention. It is our strong desire to ensure that all in attendance come away energized and eager to return to their individual communities ready to make meaningful impacts on the lives of those they touch. Simply put, our committee's most important goal is to provide conference attendees with the tools necessary to craft their own multiculturally inspired "professional opportunity of a lifetime."

S. Kent Butler, PhD is Convention Chair of the AMCD.

AMCD Journal Ready



Gargi Royzsicar-Sodowski, PhD
JMCD Editor

The spring 2007 issue of the *Journal of Multicultural Counseling and Development*, the peer reviewed professional publication of the Association for Multi Cultural Counseling and Development, is now ready to go to press. Journal Editor, Gargi Royzsicar-Sodowski, PhD, professor of Clinical Psychology at Antioch University in New England, announced to the Association's supreme body in February, while reporting on her current activities so far. She also informed the august body that the standards of practice for competencies for Multi-Cultural Counseling were being translated into Spanish for Latin countries in South and Central America.

Multicultural Counseling Competencies Spanish Translation Completed

Gargi Royzsicar-Sodowski has reported to President O'Bryant that the multi-cultural competencies translation project has been

completed. She reported this development with the names of the translators led by the principal translator Dr. Maria del pilar, of the University of Guatemala. They include: Maria del Pilar Grazioso, Jennifer H. Keller, Ingrid Klanderud, Marisela López, Carolina Donis, Annie Reyes, Annabella Barretto

William Conwill Teaches Youth in Louisville, Kentucky

As an accomplished counselor, William Conwill, PhD, has been providing services to various demographic groups. In counseling, he never say no to any group. Recently, the Ringshout Continuum, Inc., of Louisville, KY, called on him to conduct a sexuality workshop for youth who attended their Ringshout Continuum's National Rite of Initiation into African American Culture. When asked why counselors need to participate in events relating to rites of passage of this kind for youth, he said



Dr. Conwill conducting a sexuality workshop for Ringshout Continuum, Inc., Louisville, KY

children are culturally more competent than adults and are more likely to imbibe cultural teachings that enhance their cultural competence. He also indicated that cultural competence in a key requirement for peace in this our troubled world, noting that the opposite is true for many of the conflicts we see around us.

Dr. Conwill is Professor of Counselor Education and African American Studies in the Colleges of Education and Liberal Arts & Sciences at University of Florida.

President-Elect Spearheads Southern Africa Initiative

The President-elect of AMCD, Dr. Cirecie West-Olatunji, a professor of Counselor Education at the University of Florida, is leading an initiative to expand multicultural competency through collaboration, to Southern Africa. She was speaking to newsmen during the morning orientation ceremonies of the American Counseling Association, national convention in Detroit Michigan. She recalled the program's history, sharing that there were two previous visits. The first visit was led by Dr. Clemmie Solomon, in 1992 when he was president of AMCD and the second by Dr. Victor



Cirecie West-Olatunji, PhD
AMCD President-Elect

Bibbins in 2001 when he was President. She said her charge this time was to develop an ongoing relationship through strategic partnerships in Botswana and South Africa. A trip is being planned for June 2007 with as many people as can and want to go. It promises, she said, to be a professional experience of a lifetime.

Rejuvenating State AMCD Divisions' Interest

In line with the goal to establish a resurgence of AMCD, President O'Bryant had an objective to revitalize state divisions of AMCD. For this purpose, Dr. Nettie Baldwin was appointed Chair of State Liaisons. Her charge was to assist states with strategic advice for revitalizing those organizations. States wishing to begin a state AMCD Division or revitalize a division that has become defunct should contact Dr. O'Bryant or Dr. Baldwin through the new AMCD website at www.amcdaca.org

AMCD Elects New Officers

President Elect-Elect:

Francine Hayman.

Vice President Asian American Concerns:

Brian Kim

Vice President African American Concerns:

Beatrice Tatem

Southern Region Representative:

Monica Hunter

Maryland Association for Multicultural Counseling and Development (MAMCD) Reawakened

Under the able leadership and guidance of Dr. Nettie Baldwin, former members of the Maryland State Association for Counseling and Development came together to discuss revitalizing the organization. The meeting was held in the Officers' Club at Andrews Air Force Base and was attended by former

AMCD Executive Council Members Retire

Dr. Amel Anderson and Dr. Wyatt Kirk, two long standing and revered members of the AMCD Executive Council, retired from their Universities this past year.

Dr. Amel Anderson was Assistant Dean and Assistant Provost at University of Maryland, College Park where he served for 30 years. Dr. Anderson has been a member of AMCD for 32 years and has served among others, in the capacity of Maryland ANWC/AMCD President, and 29th Anniversary Chair for ANWC/AMCD. He served as AMCD archivist and historian for the past 6 years. Dr. Anderson, an avid skier and Lifetime Member of Black Ski, a affiliate of the National Brotherhood of Skiers (NBS) intends to enjoy his retirement skiing and power boating.

members of the organization, colleagues from national organizations, and colleagues interested in joining for the first time. Attendees included AMCD President Beverly O'Bryant, Past AMCD President and Past ACA Foundation Chair Clemmie Solomon, who re-energized the gathering when he told them that their actions promise to give hope to those who have no voice and those who may have stopped hoping.

The Association is indeed grateful for his diligence and persistence in collecting and storing the association's history and artifacts, which are now preserved in the Auburn Avenue Research Library in Atlanta, GA. Dr. Wyatt Kirk was Chair of the Counseling Department at North Carolina A and T in Greensboro, North Carolina for 28 years. He founded the Department and helped it flourish during his tenure there. Dr. Kirk has been a member of AMCD for 32 years and has served in the capacity of President, Treasurer, Chair for the Professional Standards and Certification Committee, and Liaison to the Counseling Futures Committee. During his tenure, 13 states joined the AMCD including the Michigan chapter, which he founded. Dr. Kirk promised to continue to support the AMCD. We wish them well in their retirements and look forward to their continued involvement in the AMCD



Register Now!
for the

AMCD Leadership Institute

Preparing Today for Tomorrow's Leadership
Leadership Training for AMCD Members

June 6th to 10th 2007

Hold the Dates!

Details on the AMCD web site:

www.amcdaca.org

Register if you are:

AMCD Member, AMCD State Division Leader,
and want-to-be-leader

Join the AMCD South African
Collaboration Initiative

June 2007

Go to:

www.amcdaca.org

AMCD Historical Notes (1972-2007)

Amel Anderson, PhD.

The Association for Non-White Concerns (ANWC) in Personnel and Guidance, a division of the American Personnel and Guidance Association (APGA), became reality at the 1972 conference in Chicago, Illinois. Early ground-



Amel Anderson, PhD

work for the Division began in Las Vegas several years before. Through the hard work and efforts of sincere, interested and engaged ANWC members, the mission was accomplished. Prior to the Division's formation, members paid their dues but had limited representation, and no voting rights on both the APGA Board of Directors and Senate.

The Struggle for Autonomy

After the Las Vegas Convention, APGA created an Office of Non-White Concerns, with no power except to keep APGA informed, and keep the members' interest group pacified. When the ANWC members requested for application to become a division of APGA, they were told no such instrument existed, and APGA could not help them. At a convention in Atlantic City, New Jersey, request was made again for a division membership application. APGA Senate debated, and after much discussion and testimony, again turned down the request. They decided that there was no need for such a division, since the office of APGA looked after Non-White concerns.

The ANWC interest group continued to lobby for a division because they felt a need for voting privileges on the Board and Senate. Throughout the convention, members continued to have their own sessions and group meetings. APGA was quite unhappy about these activities but were unable to discourage members, even though the APGA "top brass" met with them to forbid meetings outside of scheduled APGA sessions. After that meeting, the interest group gained more members. They elected officers and raised funds to carry on the group's goals.

The next convention was to be held in Chicago, but members could only participate through the established division. So, the ANWC interest group had a pre-conference workshop, which APGA said could not be done without their approval. Over 400 persons attended the well planned pre-conference, which concluded with a banquet.

Prior to members' arrival in Chicago, ANWC elected officers were summoned to meet the APGA Board in New Orleans (at their own expense). In Chicago members were told again

that there were no division membership applications, or regulations that could help them, but they did appoint a committee from the Board to develop a plan. It was stressed again that APGA could not help them to form a division. The ANWC interest group elected officers and kept members aware of what was happening, through a newsletter that carried all the letters APGA wrote to the chairperson. One APGA employee visited the chairperson, and pleaded with him not to have a Chicago pre-conference, saying it was not necessary to form a new division since members' concerns were well taken care of by APGA. However, this did not deter the ANWC interest group which saw through the ploy.

The ANWC interest group really caught on after they learned of the games APGA was playing. After being told APGA could not give any assistance in becoming a division, ANWC elected officials were summoned to APGA's Washington, D.C. headquarters, to discuss becoming an APGA division. This three weeks before the convention, again, at members personal expense. Quite a discussion took place at APGA headquarters about name; tax-exempt status; membership, etc. APGA officials did everything possible to make ANWC members change their plans and wait because it was impossible to be chartered in such a short time.

After over five hours of discussion, APGA's attorney opened his attaché case and presented ANWC members with a seal and charter that had to be notarized. They were amazed at this point, almost paranoid. So the ANWC members journeyed in a rainstorm until about 8:00 pm before they located a Notary at home. They had accomplished their mission, much to the surprise of APGA officials and other doubters.

In Chicago, at the convention in 1972, the Association for Non-White Concerns became a reality. The elected Senators took their seats in the Senate and other ANWC officials carried out their tasks. There were games played in Chicago that one would never believe, but that would take another entire publication to cover.

AMCD's Historical Mission:

The mission of AMCD, from inception, is to recognize the human diversity and multicultural nature of our society; to enhance development, human rights and psychological health of all people as critical to the social, educational, political, professional and personal reform in the United States; to identify, and work to eliminate, conditions that create barriers to individual development of non-whites; to develop, implement and/or foster interest in charitable, scientific and educational programs designed to further the interests of non-whites; to secure equality of treatment, advancement, qualifications and status of people in personnel and guidance work; to publish a

journal and other scientific educational and professional materials with the purpose of raising the standards of all who work in guidance and counseling.



Samuel Johnson:
AMCD (ANWC)
Founder

Founding AMCD

The person who spearheaded the founding of ANWC was Samuel H. Johnson of Atlanta, Georgia. "Sam", as he was affectionately called had a vision that became a reality known as the Association for Non-White Concerns. The name was changed to the Association for Multicultural Counseling and Development (AMCD) in 1985, to more accurately reflect the efforts of the Association.

Through Sam and other presidents who followed, ANWC became one of the most recognized organizations for people of color in the helping professions. He served two terms as president. Now he is president-emeritus of AMCD.

As AMCD celebrates more than thirty-five years of service to the helping professions, their founders and leaders urge all members to continue promoting appreciation, awareness and understanding of the unique cultures of their mosaic society.

AMCD Archives in Atlanta, Georgia

AMCD archives, the organization's repository of records of activities, has found a home. The Archives were established in in Atlanta Georgia by

The archives are housed in a beautifully made case in the Auburn Avenue Research Library Archives, a special library of the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library system. The AMCD archives are located in the library at 101 Auburn Avenue Atlanta, GA 30303 The library can be contacted at 404-730-4001



AMCD Archive Case in Atlanta

Get more History?
Visit the AMCD web site at:

www.amcdaca.org

Resurgent AMCD

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in the world such as the historic Baghdad, and Candahar. In addition, other less visible places have been experiencing the resurgence of youth violence and deep despondency. These include such places as Columbine and inner city U.S.A.

The distribution of people in such deeply stressful situations has been made even more complex due to refugee and immigration politics and policies. Thus the multicul-

tural counselor does not necessarily have to travel far to encounter people who have a deep need for the counselors' skills.

And talking about skills, the Multicultural Competencies have now been fully translated into Spanish. This will allow counselors in Hispanic settings to enhance their skills while maintaining high competence and care standards for client care. Developing a two-way road for learning and de-

velopment between the multicultural counseling world and multiple cultures will continue, in the foreseeable future, to be a major avenue for human development. It is hoped that all multicultural counselors will apply themselves to the task of immersion with empathy and clarity in order to be both fulfilled and then to fulfill the needs and demands of the new and emerging world.

Multicultural Legislation Scales through U.S. Congressional Committee



Harriet Fields, M. Ed., LPC/S, NCC/C
Chair, AMCD Public Policy and Legislation

The Chair of AMCD's Public Policy and Legislation Committee, Harriet Fields, announced to the AMCD National Executive Council on December 19 2006 that the multicultural counseling bill for professionals has scaled through the committee in the US congress. She was reporting on her area of activity to the President, Beverly O'Bryant, PhD, and the Executive Council. She commented that the committee had worked with some legislators to ensure that multicultural counseling is included with other issues in the House. However, she cautioned that the current administration's agenda is not necessarily focused on such domestic issues as counseling, and that the organization may still experience some delay in making it law. She said she was hopeful and optimistic. President O'Bryant thanked her and the committee for the hard work it took to actually get the legislation to committee level and encouraged the committee to redouble its efforts until success is achieved.

Organizational Focus

(Continued from page 2)

experience or a lifetime for multicultural counselors. Her assertion has been borne out by the work already done and still being done. These include among others, establishing effective communications, web site development, firming bylaws and obtaining new amendments designed to enhance the organization's management of its finances; resurrecting and revamping the organization's newsletter, setting up a leadership institute, and revamping the mentor-mentee and graduate students networking programs. With this development process taking shape, the organization intends to move into recruiting more members, upgrading its communications systems further and ensuring a strong advocacy for the future of the profession. Thanks to the efforts of all members of the National Executive Council, this process is going apace and many of the objectives are being reached and even exceeded.

The web site is up, the association's bylaws are now cleared for publishing, a new treasurer has been appointed based on the current bylaws and the new amendment(s) to the bylaws have been completed and sent out the entire membership for voting during the ACA (American Counseling Association) annual National Conference taking place Detroit, Michigan, March 23-25, 2007. The amendments will make it possible to have a more continuous financial

manager (treasurer) who will be appointed for three years instead of the current 1 year tenure.

According to Dr. Beverly O'Bryant: "AMCD is charged with *improving ethnic/racial understanding, designing personal growth activities and educational opportunities for culturally diverse populations, defending human and civil rights, and assuring that those rights remain a mainstream focus for ACA and its divisions. It is a bridge to 'mainstream' consciousness regarding cultural and ethnic parity and equity, a gatekeeper of adherence to equitable implementation and practice, and a visionary provider of culturally conscious initiatives and products. It should proactively engage multiple publics, be politically poised and recognized, published in multiple disciplines, and prolifically positioned throughout the US and abroad.*

The 2006-2007 focus is COMMUNICATION. WE'RE MOVING OUT to branches, state divisions, universities, school systems and the private sector. WE'RE MOVING UP to enhanced use of technology, video conferencing, virtual incubators, and electronic telecasts. WE'RE MOVING IN to the mainstream. And, WE'RE MOVING WITH a united message and an energetic flow that exudes awareness, knowledge and skills." With an agenda this strong and crowded, the association looks to be very active and productive in the foreseeable future

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AMCD Agenda (Continued from page 1)

- ize a Leadership Development Institute to grow leaders who are culturally conversant, politically astute, publicly conscious and strategically poised to support, sustain and enhance the multicultural agenda within the larger organizational structure
- To partner with allied organizations and groups like NIMC and CSJ to ensure the presence of a consistent, conscious and cogent multicultural agenda that reflects social justice within the consciousness of the larger organizational agenda
 - To expand and increase external communications by packaging, marketing and strategically articulating our messages, producing signature products, establishing regional teams with 'road shows' to go, through "Strategic Omnipresence", completion of the Competency Certification initiative which will infuse awareness, knowledge and skills into multiple disciplines from mental health to public health, through publication of our journals in multiple languages, conferences, the Day of Learning at the ACA Convention in Detroit, a new and improved web site and newsletters.
 - To seek supplemental funding sources to adequately implement our initiatives

We invite you to join us for "The Pro-

Students Volunteer for AMCD Conference Events

Volunteer students have taken a strong interest in participating in both learning and leadership in AMCD. To date, over 50 students have volunteered to attend and assist with the logistics of convention organization this year at the American Counseling Association (AMCD) this year. Under the direction of an emerging leader and professional herself, Dr. Yolanda Edwards, a professor of Rehabilitation Counseling, the students will get a chance to meet AMCD leadership, intermingle and interact with them, man boths and assist with both the Giving Back to the Community and Luncheon Programs while themselves learning and educating. President of the Graduate Students Association, Mr. William Battle, President of Student Adlerian Society, Ms. Latea and

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". Thus far, we have

- Established a new AMCD website at www.amcdaca.org. You can directly contact all AMCD officers and chairs, get membership information, find resource links, access the organizational history, by-laws and procedural manuals, register for specific AMCD activities, and network with other professionals.
- Re-established the State Liaison position through Dr. Nettie Baldwin.....states wishing to start an AMCD division or to revitalize one, can contact Dr. Baldwin (or me, Dr. O'Bryant) for assistance and/or consultation as well as plan to attend the AMCD Leadership Development Institute in June 2007.
- Designed (to institutionalize) the first AMCD Leadership Institute to be held for any state leaders and want-to-be leaders at Bowie State University from June 6-10, 2007 (check the website for upcoming details)
- Planned a fantastic convention experience in Detroit with a focus on
 - o educational sessions in multiculturalism through the Day of Learning and Town Hall Meeting planned by our Ethnic Vice Presidents,
 - o State leadership training by our President and Executive Council for any state leaders and want-



Bowie State University Graduate Students (standing) and Faculty (sitting) during preparations for ACA/AMCD conference in Detroit, Michigan 2007

AMCD Secretary, Mrs. Rose Subryan were among the graduate students who, with others from Missouri, South Carolina, Detroit and other institutions have volunteered for work at the convention. When asked what motivated them, they replied in unison that AMCD President O'Bryant and other faculty have been very successful in enlightening them of the need to

- o to-be leaders
- o mentoring graduate students through specific activities for graduate students every day of convention,
- o poster sessions highlighting graduate students
- o educational sessions for all members on
 - § culture-sensitive disaster training
 - § mentor-mentee model for counselor educators in infusing counselors into public health arena
- o an AMCD exhibit booth with signature give-aways, signature items for sale, and book signings by our own AMCD member authors: Dr. Patricia Arrendondo, Dr. Courtland Lee and Dr. Thomas Parham
- Reestablished and revitalized this newsletter, now named "the Multicultural Counselor" through our Newsletter Editor
- Planned a fabulous professional development experience to South Africa through our President Elect from June 16-26, 2007.

Looking forward to seeing or hearing from you soon as we all enjoy as "The Professional Experience of a Lifetime".

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