



Spring/Summer 2022 Newsletter

CCCDa Spring Conference is a Great Success!

by Eleta Jones



On Friday, April 22nd, career counselors came together on Zoom for CCCDA's Spring Conference. During the conference, two workshops of 1.5 hours each were presented. **Dr. Pamela Brott** presented on "Narrative Constructive Career Counseling: Positionality, Perspectives and Processes" and **Carolyn Jones**, President-elect-elect of NCDA, presented about "Engaging in the Practice of Ethical Behavior".

During Dr. Brott's presentation, she included an overview of narrative perspectives in career counseling with a focus on the storied approach. She discussed and illustrated the dynamic processes for co-constructing, de-constructing, re-constructing and constructing in the storied approach by having the participants envision career as various life roles. She kept her audience thoroughly involved by having us use paper and colored pencils or crayons to illustrate some of her techniques. She taught us ways to use a Life Line, Life Line Circles, a Career Genogram, and a Goal Map to help a client understand and develop their own career story.

Carolyn Jones reviewed the NCDA Code of Ethics and provided participants with a practical problem-solving approach to use when facing an ethical issue. She presented us with a case study about a career counselor in a challenging situation which we discussed in breakout groups and then had a lively discussion in the whole group about how to approach and handle the situation in the case study. As part of her guidance in the whole group discussion, Carolyn provided us with fundamental principles of professional ethical behavior, some best practice guidelines and the advice that we should always carefully review an employment contract to understand an organization's mission, values and code of ethics before signing on with the organization.

Evaluations returned by the participants indicate that everyone felt that the two workshops were very informative and worthwhile.



We welcome your ideas for future conferences! Please feel free to contact us at theccdda@gmail.com!



More Springtime Reflections...



Reflections on Noontime Conversations on Career Counseling

by Jeff Crothers

During the spring, CCCDA offered a series of free monthly group discussions on topics of interest to career service professionals. Led by counselors on the CCCDA Board, we covered:

- Structural Changes in Work and in the Workforce
- Re-entering the In Person Workplace
- Counseling Clients on Dealing with Anger and Frustration in the World of COVID
- Helping Clients Network in the Virtual World

We noted many of the changes in the world of work brought on by technology, COVID, and a significant resignation on the part of Baby Boomers. Among other developments, we explored the multiple challenges faced by clients and their families, the limiting of work opportunities due to health concerns, and the impact of reduced childcare options on the participation of women in the workforce. We discussed and developed counselor interventions and individual approaches to use in addressing these issues. The special needs of job seekers were also contrasted with those of already employed individuals. In what developed into a continuing dialogue from month to month, we learned from our colleagues in other settings including private practice, state agencies, and higher education. This coming fall, we will offer a similar free series of discussions. We welcome your participation and hope you will join us as your schedule permits.

The 2022 * New England Consortium (NEC) FREE Virtual Conference took place on March 25, 2022, 9 AM-12 Noon EST

by Camille Dumont

The topic was Career Development Challenges & Strategies During Turbulent Times.

This free Conference was presented by the five NEC State Career Development Associations from: CT, MA, ME, RI, and the joint VT/NH. The event was open to all NCDA members. It was offered virtually with NCDA CEs for those attending the full conference program.

The Keynote speaker was Jonathan Stoll, MPA, Director of Career Education at Oregon State, social entrepreneur in higher education, committed to empowering clients, and focused on career development topics including discovering meaning & purpose, mental health, spirituality; diversity & inclusion.

Here is his LinkedIn profile: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/jonathandstoll/>

State led break out groups were conducted covering the topics: work-life balance, meaning & purpose; stress management for providers & customers; structural changes to the workforce; diversity & inclusion for marginalized populations; entrepreneurship opportunities & resources.

This was a very successful conference and CCCDA looks forward to further collaboration with NEC.

CCCDA Board for 2022-2023

President: **Jorimel Zaldivar**
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If you have questions or comments related to the CCCDA, e-mail us at: TheCCCDA@gmail.com

Visit CCCDA's [LinkedIn](#) page for additional news, resources, and to engage with fellow CCCDA members!

Our new The CCCDA website is under construction!

We welcome and encourage your participation in the CCCDA!

More information regarding our committees coming soon!



Featured CCCDA Board Member



Nina Malinak
Treasurer, 2012-Present

Nina has been a member of the CCCDA Board of Directors in the position of Treasurer since 2012. As a school counselor for twenty years (after transitioning from a position teaching physical education and coaching for twenty years) Nina developed a middle school career education curriculum culminating in an eighth-grade Career Fair. Her retirement job was to serve as the Executive Director of the Connecticut Counseling Association from 2000 to 2009. The wonders of technology made it possible to continue in this position after moving to Florida in 2005.

Living in an active retirement community presented numerous volunteer opportunities and Nina has been involved in several capacities. She served on the Board of the Eagle Audubon Society as Membership Chair and production manager of publications from 2006 to 2021.

She has been on the Board of Directors in the position of treasurer of her condominium association from 2006 and continues in that position. Nina is also on the Board of Directors of her Synagogue and serves in the position of Second Vice President and Technology Chair and is the Treasurer of the Sisterhood of the Synagogue.

Nina enjoys travel (and is anxious to do so once Covid concerns diminish), classical music and reading.