



THE COMPASS

SUMMER 2018

MISSISSIPPI COUNSELING ASSOCIATION,
A BRANCH OF THE AMERICAN COUNSELING ASSOCIATION
PO BOX 353 | LONG BEACH, MS 39560

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings Fellow Counselors:



I hope that your vacation time was rewarding and restful. As a school counselor, I am not sure what happened to summer because it came and went so fast. Because we all wear multiple hats, working somewhere, be it the school, the office, the house, the yard; very little time is allotted to self.

With that being said, your conference committees have been hard at work putting together a first-class conference with excellent presenters, high quality content sessions, with some fun and flavor in the mix. In keeping with this year's theme, **Surviving or Thriving: Counselor Wellness & Taking Care of the Caregiver**, we have Dr. Gerard Lawson, Past-President of ACA, who will deliver a keynote dealing with his first-hand experience with the tragedy and recovery from the Virginia Tech campus assault of 2007. Dr. Richard Balkin (Ole Miss) will deliver a keynote identifying various aspects of professional counseling and address some of the common myths, misconceptions, and elements of successful counseling. We also have 2, three-hour sessions on ethics with renowned presenters: Dr. Carolyn Stone (ASCA) and Lynn Linde (ACA). ACT will have several sessions on Wednesday from which to choose to help us better serve our students. From

having viewed many of the chosen proposals, you will have difficulty making decisions on which sessions to attend.

I also want to remind you that MCPAC (Mississippi Counselors Political Action Committee) will have an auction to raise funds to support our lobbying efforts. MCPAC has been somewhat dormant for the last few years but is back strong and thriving. We have a cash prize of \$2000.00, YETI Coolers (2), Coach Sunglasses, Coach Purses, and a few others still to be named. Tickets can be purchased from any division or regional president. Tickets are \$25 each of 5/\$100 and can be purchased by anyone. Friends, family, & faculty can purchase tickets. The drawing will be at the afternoon break on Thursday. Winners **do not** have to be present to win. The legislature is discussing salary increases for educators. Please consider purchasing multiple tickets to help make this a reality.

In closing, the November conference is a time-consuming event, but it is not the president that is doing all the work. I want to express my deepest appreciation to President-Elect: Melissa Windham, Conference Co-Chairs; Marsha Bishop & Donna Simmons, and countless other volunteers that have or will put in hours of work before MCA 2018 ends. I could not have done this on my own . . . impossible. – It is the conference committees that deserve all the credit. I am eternally grateful for your dedication to me, MCA and the MCA membership.

Thanks for the opportunity to serve you,

Doug Copeland, MCA President 2018-19

MCA 2018 FALL CONFERENCE

We are less than one month away from conference! Membership must be paid **before** conference! Please be prepared to pay a nonmember rate if your membership isn't up to date! The Beau Rivage is completely sold out of rooms! The Double Tree in Biloxi has offered MCA a block of only 20 rooms, so book them while they last! The MCA Conference code is "MCA."

The conference's "Program at a Glance" link has been updated! Please see the Conference webpage for information on sessions! The official schedule is coming soon!

MCA ELECTION CANDIDATE INFORMATION

MCA President Candidates: Jan Lemon and Josh Magruder

Jan Lemon

Mississippi Counseling Association is home to over 1,000 counseling professionals from all walks of the expanding career settings of mental health agencies, private practice, school, rehabilitation, and the military. Twenty-five years ago, I walked into a school counseling center and fell in love with the career, the students, and my colleagues in my district and community. I am honored and humbled by the opportunity to serve as president of MCA, which has encouraged professional development, influenced the counseling profession both in our state and nation, and promoted understanding of the importance of mental health. If elected, my presidential initiative will center on improving counseling services and client out-comes among all populations in Mississippi, which includes underserved and disadvantaged populations. My hope is that our association will advance and unite counseling more broadly to insure growth and success for each clinician. I have had the privilege of occupying multiple leadership roles in our association, including: Vice President of the Mississippi School Counseling Association, President of the Mississippi School Counseling Association, Continuing Education Chairperson, By-Laws Chairperson, MCA Ethics Committee, Board Member of Mississippi Counseling Political Action Committee, and many years as an active Board Member of MCA. Early on in my career, I realized the importance of the unity of school counseling and mental health services. It was at this time I pursued my Licensed Professional Counselor designation. I am also an LPC-S and supervise many new counselors in their efforts to become mental health professionals. In August 2010 I received my Doctor of Philosophy from Mississippi State University in Counselor Education with a minor in Educational Leadership and received an invitation to join the faculty of Mississippi College in August 2011 as a tenured-track Assistant Professor. Since that time, I have served on Faculty Council, Graduate Council, Title IX Grievance Committee, and Strategic Planning for the entire university. In 2016 I was promoted to Associate Professor and received tenure followed by serving as Interim



Chairperson of the department. During my time as a counselor educator, I have presented over thirty times at state and national conferences and created eight national publications as well as being chosen the Distinguished Professor nominee from the Mississippi College School of Education. All these leadership activities have prepared me to lead our association into a very bright future. As President, I would seek to promote initiatives that tap into the very heart of counseling, shedding light on the power to change lives and promote wellness.

Josh Magruder

Hello MCA! My name is Josh Magruder. I'm excited for the possibility of becoming your next President Elect-Elect of MCA! My work with our organization began in 2006 as a student member, and I knew from my very first conference that I wanted to be a bigger part of MCA and to forward the profession of counseling in our state. I was given the chance to be trained in our Emerging Leadership Program, and since then I have served our great organization in several ways. I started my work with the Governmental Relationship Committee, working to help the state to find a way for our professional community to accept Medicaid. During the same time, I had the honor of being elected President of the Mississippi Licensed Professional Counseling Association (MLPCA). During my time as president, I led our team to our first ever conference, which continues now every May. Also, I reestablished the Board Qualified Supervisor Training through MLPCA, which continues now as well! My goal with both of these projects was to provide training and education to our professional community.

Training, CEs, education are all very important, as we all know too well! However, the community that is created during these training and educational events is just as valuable as the knowledge! That community is what inspired me as a graduate student to become involved with our organization. It's the community we build together that gives us the strength to move our profession forward!

My educational journey started with counseling of my own. I was a lost college student who had way too many credits in way too many fields to actually graduate. I sought counseling, and through that experience, I remembered why I loved having a counselor – the trust, the guidance, and the emotional support all lead me to the field. I enrolled at Ole Miss and received my Masters of Education in Counseling in 2008. But I couldn't stop there; there was more to learn, more to study, and more ways to help clients, our state, and our profession. So, like any educational geek, I entered the doctoral program less than a month after I finished my Master's degree. I received my Ph.D. in Counselor Education and Supervision in 2012, and I knew that I finally had all the "letters" behind my name to make a difference. I was naive then to believe it was letters or degrees or certifications that gave me the encouragement to affect change in Mississippi. After I finished my degree and started working full time, I came to understand that it wasn't about the title or the degrees that gave me the ability and encouragement to help others – it was my community! It was my dear friends I had made at MCA conferences, trainings, leadership meetings, that truly provided me with the motivation to make a difference. Even now, in my



current role with Ole Miss as a Clinical Assistant Professor of Counselor Education, and my role as Clinical Director of The Wellness Center of Oxford, I know it's the community around me that fuels me to work for the betterment of others.

It is the power of our community that motivates me now to serve as your president. It's each and every one of you out there reading this that inspires me to work harder, stay up later, and move my schedule to be where I'm needed. The power of our community comes from a rich historical background. Our history is important. I must take a moment to quote one of my daughter's favorite movies, "Moana", "It's not just sails and knots, it's seeing where you're going in your *mind*. Knowing where you *are* by knowing where you've *been*." Our sails and knots are the education and training we receive. Our path to knowing where we want to go comes from our community and the relationships we build with each other. I want to help grow our profession, increase the political power of counselors in the schools and clinical world. This is what I *see* for the future of our profession. I want us all to understand where we've been to create a path to get to where we need to be. I sincerely hope to one day serve you in this role, to aid you in finding out where you've been, and to truly understand the great places we can go together. Thank you!

MCA ELECTION CANDIDATE INFORMATION

MCA Treasurer Candidate: Juawice McCormick

Juawice McCormick

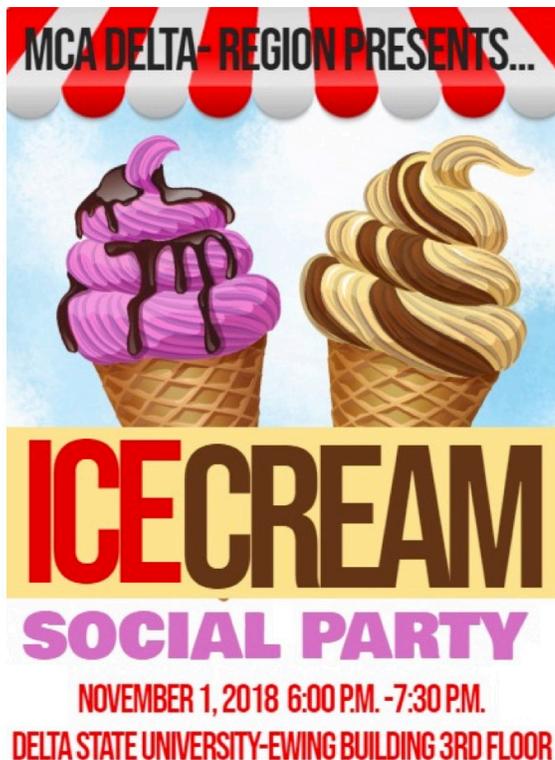
I have been a counselor for over 25 years, working as a professional school counselor, counselor educator, in community mental health, and in the university setting. I had the honor of being appointed to the Board of Examiners for Licensed Professional Counselors (2013-2018), ultimately serving as Chair of the Board. I was selected as an MCA Emerging Leader, Emerging Leader with the Southern Association for Counselor Education & Supervision, and Emerging Leader with the Association for Counselor Education & Supervision. I have served as the Board Liaison to MCA and now serve on MCA Executive Board as By-Laws designee. I am an Assistant Director of the University Counseling Center at the University of Mississippi. I hold a PhD in Counselor Education from Mississippi State University. I am a Licensed Professional Counselor, Board-Qualified Supervisor, National Certified Counselor, National Certified School Counselor, and a Board-Certified Telemental Health Provider. I am a member of MCA, MSCA, MACES, ACA, ASCA, ACES, SACES, and Chi Sigma Iota.



REGION AND DIVISION UPDATES

Delta Region

Coming up! The Delta Region will be hosting an Ice Cream Social on November 1, 2018 at Delta State University!



Capitol Region

The Capitol region collaborated with the Mississippi Association of Multicultural Counseling and Development and held a meeting on October 5th at Hinds Behavioral Health Services in Jackson, MS.

Magnolia Region

The Magnolia region held a Fall CEU Workshop at MS School of the Arts on Friday, October 12th in Brookhaven, MS.

MLPCA, Mississippi Licensed Professional Counselors Association

MLPCA hosted a conference in May 2018, “Excellence in Your Office, Building Your Therapeutic Toolbox.” Over 120 counselors attended. Topics included psychopharmacology, EMDR, Ethics and Supervision, and the Keynote Speaker, Dr. Richard Balkin, spoke on the counseling relationship.



UPDATES

HRSA's Behavioral Health Virtual Job Fair – Connect with Health Care Organizations Across the Country

Participants will have the opportunity to hear from more than 100 health care organizations recruiting for 1,000+ behavioral health vacancies during the event.

Participation Information:

Wednesday, October 17, 2018

6:45pm-10:15pm EST

<https://bhw.hrsa.gov/provider-recruitment/virtual-job-fairs>

There is a counselor position opening at Shanti Yoga & Counseling in Gulfport, MS.

Professional Counseling Office, fully furnished, Ready-to-move-in at Shanti Yoga & Counseling, Gulfport, MS! We're looking for a Master's level licensed counselor (LPC) to join our private counseling practice. Must be a credentialed and certified provider with Humana/Tricare East and BlueCross/BlueShield among others. All interested Mental health Providers and colleagues, please send your Resume to Tania Bayne, LPC-S, Business Owner: tgbayne@aol.com. We will contact you for an interview soon.

There is a high school counselor position open in Long Beach, MS. High school experience is required. Please visit www.lbsdk12.com to apply online or call 228-864-1146.

MFT Study

Marriage and Family Therapy graduate students at The University of Southern Mississippi are conducting a research project on mental health providers perception of themselves and others, and the impact of providing mental health resources in their work as a mental health provider. If you are a practicing mental health provider, please take our survey. It will take you 5 to 10 minutes to complete and your time will be appreciated. Below you will find the link to complete the survey. Please feel free to share! Survey Link: https://usmep.col.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_87muisT6I7FoT7D

Chelsey Holden, Ph.D., LMFT, LPC, NCC

New Look. New Location. Same State Aid www.msfinancialaid.org

The staff of the Mississippi Office of Student Financial Aid know you juggle demands from principals, colleagues, students, and parents. We respect the work you do and appreciate your partnership in helping students realize their dreams of going to college.

The Office will soon launch a new website, www.msfinancialaid.org, with an entire section dedicated to high school counselors. The Counselor Center is designed to provide you with everything you need to help students access state financial aid for college.

In the Counselor Center, available directly at www.msfinancialaid.org/counselors, counselors can:

- Obtain a Counselor PIN
- Submit student academic information
- Certify the HELP core curriculum
- Generate reports to support FAFSA and state aid application completion

The Rise Up site will remain available at www.mississippi.edu/financialaid until the new site goes live. Counselors should not experience any loss in connection.

FAFSA Challenge

The 2019-20 FAFSA and state application both go live on October 1. Encourage students to complete the FAFSA first at www.fafsa.ed.gov, then link to the state aid application through the link on the confirmation page at the end of the FAFSA. Both applications may be completed on a computer, tablet, or even a phone.

Why do students need to complete the FAFSA? Because FAFSA completion is one of the best predictors of college enrollment! Our friends and partners at Get2College found that students in their pilot schools who completed a FAFSA had over 4 times greater odds of enrolling in college than those who didn't.

It is important that students not only complete the FAFSA but complete the FAFSA *early*—by March 31. Early completion gives students better access to not only federal dollars but also the HELP Grant (state aid), institutional dollars, as well as some private scholarships.

Mississippi is ranked 12th in the nation in FAFSA completion. We encourage counselors to use student record level FAFSA completion data available from our office to improve their school's FAFSA completion rate and help us move the state from 12th to 1st!

Important Dates and Deadlines

March 31, 2019: Online application deadline for HELP Grant

April 30, 2019:

- Document deadline for HELP Grant
- Deadline for counselors to certify the HELP Core Curriculum
- Deadline for counselors to submit High School Grade Files

September 15, 2019: Online application deadline for MTAG and MESG

October 15, 2019: Document deadline for MTAG and MESG

Respect Student Privacy. Protect Student Data!

To ensure the safety of Mississippi student information, the Office will not accept files submitted as email attachments or on CD/USB via regular mail.

- Do NOT send SSNs in the body of an email.
- Do NOT mail CDs containing grade files.
- Do NOT send grade files as email attachments.

Contact the Mississippi Office of Student Financial Aid by calling 1-800-327-2980 or use the online contact form at www.msfinancialaid.org.

If you would like anything added to The Compass's Spring Issue, please submit your addition to Kendall Fausak at bkfausak@gmail.com.

The deadline to submit will be February 1st.