



## From the President's Office

Aloha, members! Whether you have been away for the summer or you have taken a longer hiatus than that, the AMCD family welcomes you. This is an exciting year for AMCD. We are continuing the work of the previous administration by revitalizing programs to re-focus on the primary mission of our organization. As such, we are re-committing ourselves to mentoring, cultural competence, outreach and advocacy, leadership development, and research.

For graduate students, we have a host of creative events that are intended to provide a forum for student voice and dialogue about experiences within the various counseling programs. For new professionals, we are offering mentoring experiences to provide guidance through career advancement. One of the most significant projects that we are developing is the ethnic-specific competencies program. Reaching beyond the fundamental and groundbreaking assumptions of the AMCD multicultural competencies,

the ethnic-specific competencies articulate the unique assessment and intervention needs of each of the major ethno-cultural groups. We invite AMCD members to participate in the development of these competencies.

Many of you may have heard about the AMCD/ACES jointly sponsored trip this past summer to South Africa and Botswana. This tour and outreach experience was designed to reach out to our counseling colleagues in the southern region of Africa. The ultimate goal was to exchange ideas about culture-centered disaster response, particularly with counselors dealing with HIV/AIDS infected and affects individuals. This year, we seek to formalize our outreach efforts and further integrate advocacy into what we do. With the assistance of our immediate past president, we are emphasizing the relationship between the AMCD leadership and state-level participation. This year, we will sponsor a summer leadership institute especially geared toward state leaders but beneficial for everyone. We recognize the strengths of each state association and hope to create a net-

work of support and communication between state organizations and AMCD.



AMCD President: Dr  
Cirecie A West -Olatunji

Central to our mission is the development of new knowledge in the area of multicultural counseling. Professionals with an interest in critical pedagogies and theories often experience resistance and lack support within their work environments. AMCD has historically been a haven for scholarly exchange and a think tank for the construction of ideas that lead the profession. This year, we will rekindle the spirit of epistemological debate by creating venues for research development and dissemination. Again, welcome back to AMCD!

## AMCD/ACES Southern Africa Experience Successful

By Lauren Shure

This past summer a group of counselor educators, practitioners, and students participated in a 23 day outreach trip in southern Africa. As a continuation of a disaster relief outreach trip to New

Orleans in August 2006, this trip promoted culturally competent mental health disaster outreach in order to help meet the increasing need both nationally and internationally. Through the lens of HIV/AIDS as trauma, participants had the opportu-

nity to work with counselors and provide services in South Africa and Botswana.

The first ten days were spent in cultural immersion, touring South

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### Editor's Note

The revised version of the AMCD by-laws is out and available for viewing on the association's website. This is a step in the right direction as they are accessible to everyone for constant revision, reflection and implementation after ACA approval.



## AMCD/ACES Southern Africa Outreach Experience (continued)

African sites and meeting with people. Following the tour, outreach participants met and consulted with various agencies working with people affected by HIV/AIDS. An international global outreach conference, organized by outreach participants, was conducted and a ceremony was held at the University of Botswana where \$7,000 worth of donated books were presented to augment the counseling/psychology section of their library.

The goal of establishing relationships with agencies in southern Africa was successful. In fact, Dr. West-Olatunji, president of Association for Multicultural Counseling and Development (AMCD) and organ-

izer of this outreach endeavor, is already planning a study abroad program in Botswana for students to participate in next summer.

AMCD teamed up with the Association for Counselor Educators and Supervisors (ACES) to jointly foster counselor advocacy among their division memberships.

To view photos from the trip visit:

<http://education.ufl.edu/Counselor/MeetingUs/Files/AMCDSouthernAfricaOutreach.ppt>



Outreach Team Members in Cape Town, South Africa (June, 2007)

## Asian-American and Pacific Islander Concerns: Introduction from the Vice President



Bryan S. K. Kim

I am most pleased and honored to serve as your Vice President for Asian American and Pacific Islander Concerns. I am currently an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo and a core faculty in the Department's master's program in counseling psychology. I received a master's degree in school counseling from the University of Hawai'i at Manoa in 1995 and a Ph.D. in

counseling, clinical, and school psychology (counseling emphasis) from the University of California at Santa Barbara in 2000. My area of research is on multicultural counseling process and outcome, measurement of cultural constructs, counselor education and supervision, and immigrant experiences. My current research examines the effects of culture-specific counseling interventions and client enculturation/acclimation (e.g., cultural values) on counseling process and outcome. This interest in multicultural counseling psychology largely stems from my experiences growing up in Hawai'i as a 1.5-generation Asian American.

As an immigrant from South

Korea and a counselor interested in multicultural issues, AMCD has always been a natural home for me. I joined AMCD in 1994 when I was a master's student at UH Manoa and, during the past 13 years, I have benefited tremendously from the Association in terms of enhancing my scholarship (e.g., publishing in the *Journal of Multicultural Counseling and Development*) and networking with professionals and students. For a while now, I have been looking to serve the Association in some ways so that I can begin to pay back for all that I've obtained from the Division. As such, I am very happy to have been elected as the VP for AAPI Concerns. I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to the AMCD mem-

bers for giving me this opportunity.

As I begin my three-year term, I have three initial goals. The first goal is the conduct a needs assessment with our AAPI members to identify issues on which I need to focus my energy. In a few weeks, please look for an email message from me and a link to the survey. I would very much appreciate your participation and any feedback you can provide. My second goal is to develop a long-range strategic plan for the AAPI members based on the results of the needs survey. This plan will serve as my road map

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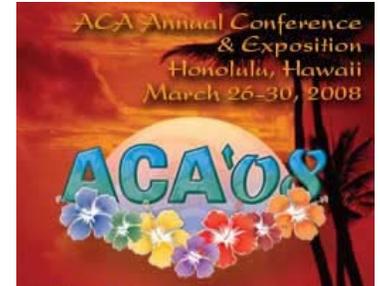
## A-API Concerns -Vice president's introduction (continued)

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for my work ahead. My third goal is to increase the AAPI membership in AMCD. Simply stated, members are the life force of any association. Hence I will work hard to encourage both professionals and students to join the AMCD so that they too can reap the benefits of membership. If you have any concerns, questions, or ideas for the Association, please feel free to contact me. My email

address is [bryankim@hawaii.edu](mailto:bryankim@hawaii.edu) and telephone number is 808-974-7439.

Finally, I would like to thank Dr. Arpana Inman, the immediate past VP of AAPI Concerns, who has been a wonderful mentor to me during the past year. I have learned a lot from Arpana about the work involved in AMCD. I will do my best to fill the "big shoes" left by Arpana.



## Reconnection at the ACA North Atlantic Region Leadership Conference



Mark Keeney

As the regional representative of AMCD, I will again be implementing the goals of the year, established by the board and by our President. In addition, I will continue my role as a resource and connection between *and* amongst individuals, branches, regions of AMCD and national division and AMCD branch divisions, between the national division and ACA branch divisions. My regional goals and contact information are available on the AMCD website, [www.amcdaca.org](http://www.amcdaca.org). Please contact me if you have any questions or needs.

I attended and presented at the ACA North Atlantic Region Branch Leadership Assembly and Conference, September 27-29 in Philadelphia. During the conference, I shared our goals and to provided information on the history and purpose of the Multicultural Counseling Competencies with all of the attending North Atlantic Region branch presidents. This is

only the start of my intentions to continue to provide information and resources for the region during my term.

In terms of modeling collaboration with other ACA entities, I presented my Multicultural Counseling Competencies presentation with the President of the Pennsylvania Association of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Issues in Counseling, who reviewed the AGLBTIC's LGBT competencies. This example of division collaboration was further exemplified by ACA president-elect Colleen Logan's presentation regarding the intersection of multiple identities in assessing and working with Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender individuals, couples, and families. The need for interdivisional collaboration was further exemplified when a discussion regarding youth, violence, and gangs and the LGBT student population was raised by the District of Columbia Counseling Association (DCCA) delegation. The ensuing conversation regarding the various types of gangs, violent actions, and potential school and school counselor interventions raised the issue of the need for collaboration, not only within ACA divisions, but with other professional and community associations and organizations working on violence and gang prevention. Please contact me if you are interested in providing resource information to the DCCA delegation regarding their work with students and communities.

In addition, I was able to participate in the NAR ACA regional business meeting discussion regarding strategies to increase branch and regional membership. A salient strategy determined by branch leaders to be an effective plan, was to identify Counselor Educators, along with their current and past students as a starting point to form a branch. Based upon this region's discussion, I would like to invite our national AMCD members who are counselor educators in the NAR region to contact me for assistance in forming an AMCD branch division within their branch. There is a successful AMCD branch division in the state of New Jersey, with wonderful support from the faculty members of Rider University and The College of New Jersey. For several years, they have been holding annual conferences. (See [www.njcounseling.org/NJAMC](http://www.njcounseling.org/NJAMC)).

Phone: (610) 927-3733



Aaron Majuta, Editor  
Dept of Counselor  
Education  
University of Florida  
1215 Norman Hall  
POBox 117046  
Gainesville, FL 32611

Ph: 352-392-0731 x-200  
Fax: 352-846-2697  
E-mail: amajuta@ufl.edu

**AMCD** seeks to develop programs specifically to improve ethnic and racial empathy and understanding. Its activities are designed to advance and sustain personal growth and improve educational opportunities for members from diverse cultural backgrounds.

**Join us in  
Hawaii for  
AMCD's  
annual  
meeting  
at the  
ACA con-  
vention in  
March  
2008!**

### 2007-08 Officers

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<a href="#">President Elect</a> .....	Francene Haymon
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<a href="#">North Atlantic Region</a> .....	Mark Kenney
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<a href="#">Western Region</a> .....	Dione Taylor
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<a href="#">By-Laws Committee</a> .....	Janet WindWalker Jones
<a href="#">State Divisions Committee</a> .....	Nettie Baldwin
Affirmative Action Program.....	[open]
<a href="#">Convention Committee Chair</a> .....	Kent Butler
<a href="#">Mentoring Program</a> .....	Kimberly Frazier
<a href="#">Grad Student Programming</a> .....	Twinet Parmer

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Leadership Institute.....	Beverly O'Bryant
<a href="#">Strategic Planning Committee</a> .....	Miguel Arciniega
<a href="#">Multicultural Standards &amp; Competencies</a> .....	Victor Bibbins
<a href="#">Public Policies and Legislation Committee</a> .....	Harriett Fields/Michael T. Garrett
<a href="#">Awards Committee</a> .....	Tarrell Portman/Judith Lewis
<a href="#">Historian &amp; Archives</a> .....	Amel Anderson/Ron McLean

### Publications

Newsletter.....	Aaron Majuta
<a href="#">JMCD Journal</a> .....	Gargi Roysircar-Sodowsky

Special Assistant to the President for Outreach.....Arpana Inman

