

# ASSOCIATION FOR LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL & TRANSGENDER ISSUES IN COUNSELING



*A Division of the American  
Counseling Association*

## Spring 2017 Newsletter

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### Tonya Hammer's Outgoing Message as President



This will be my last newsletter article as President of this organization and it has been an honor to serve all of you in this role over the past year. I am writing this after having spent the weekend with other leaders in ALGBTIC and ACA at the Human Right's Campaign's 4<sup>th</sup> annual Time to Thrive conference. It was an emotional and uplifting event. While everyone there acknowledge the difficulties ahead, it was also a time of celebration of how far we have all come. We laughed and cried together. I have found myself doing a lot of both of those things over the past year while President.

We had the second bi-annual ALGBTIC conference in San Antonio and it was a wonderful success and time of celebration. It wasn't long after that though that the elections occurred and

many of us were surprised and saddened by the results. However, the subsequent months have seen organizing and action beyond our wildest imaginations. It has inspired me more than anything else has in years. We have also seen exciting things happen within our division. We have crossed the 1000 member mark and become the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest division in ACA and we only continue to grow.

We have also significantly increased the number of state branches and each of those branches is doing awesome work in their state. During this past year, under the direction of an awesome joint task force with ASERVIC and ALGBTIC two position papers the "Best Practices in Addressing Conscience Clause Legislation in Counselor Education and Supervision" and "Best Practices in Cross-Cultural Counseling: The Intersection of Spiritual/Religious Identity and Affectional/Sexual Identity" have been developed both of which will be available in print soon. We also had a task force started under Kristopher Goodrich's presidency that saw the culmination of their hard work result in not only the development of research grants but al-

so the development of the “Standards of Care in Assessment of LGBTGEQ+ Persons” and “Standards of Care for Research with Participants Who Identify as LGBTQ+”. The work of both of these Task Forces has been phenomenal.

We also saw the development of our Emerging Leaders program and I am excited to see how the new emerging leaders change and impact our organization and profession over the next year. The ACA conference saw the organization of the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Rainbow Run thanks to the hard work of Pete Finnerty, Michael Kocet, Amanda Brace and all of the wonderful volunteers. We were able to donate funds to Gender Spectrum in the San Francisco area and bring together several divisions once again to collaborate on this wonderful event.

It has also been exciting for me as your President to be involved in the ACA Targeted Task Group under the direction of ACA President Catherine Roland that has worked this past year to address issues impacting the LGBTQ+ community over the lifespan. It has culminated in a sold out **Illuminate** conference during Pride Weekend in DC and the creation of a manual that will be a true asset to everyone working to serve the needs of the LGBTQ+ community.

It has truly been an honor and a privilege to serve you over this past year and I want to thank each and every one of you for bringing my theme of **Empowering through Unity** to life. I also want to offer special thanks to Michael Chaney, Franco Dispenza, and Jeff Gowing. They have served respectfully as our Journal Editor, Newsletter Editor, and Webmaster, and have all done exceptional jobs. Finally, I also want to especially thank the ALGBTIC board. It has been a joy to serve with you and I know I could not have made it through this year without the dedication and commitment of each of the ALGBTIC Board members. You are an incredible group of people. And that being said, I am looking forward in eager anticipation to the exciting year ahead under the direction of Dr. Joel Filmore. I know he has awesome plans in store for the year and it will be wonderful to be a part of that as your Past President.

### One Year Anniversary

City and county officials in Orlando, Florida, want the one-year anniversary of the Pulse nightclub massacre to be marked with acts of love and kindness. Elected officials said that June 12 officially would be dedicated as "Orlando United Day — A Day of Love and Kindness." Local events are being planned in various cities throughout the state of Florida in remembrance of the tragedy, and the lives that have been lost. While many of us will be gathering in Washington D.C. to attend *Illuminate*, as well as DC Pride, in the days preceding the anniversary, I encourage each of you to take time to recognize this day and the impact it continues to have within our community and the world as a whole. We are United. We are Orlando. One Love. One Pulse.

Dr. Ami Crowley

FALGBTIC President



## Updates from Florida Chapter

Dear ALGBTIC members:

Great progress to report from sunny Florida. We have established the Florida branch of ALGBTIC, and are now recognized as a state division under the Florida Counseling Association (FCA) as well as a branch under ALGBTIC. This has been a long and rough journey. We continue to work to increase our membership, including offering professional workshops, newsletters, advocacy, and networking.



We would like to encourage those of you who are in Florida, or even our neighbor state of Georgia, to consider joining FALGBTIC. To join, go to the FCA website ([www.flacounseling.org](http://www.flacounseling.org)) and click the join or renew link located at the top right of the page. Follow the directions to create a login and complete the membership process. You have to first join FCA, choose the included division of your choice, which can be FALGBTIC and complete the process.

We have many opportunities available for those who wish to become directly involved, including committees such as leadership, publications, legislation, and by-laws. We would love to have you join! We are here to answer any questions you may have regarding this process. Please feel free to reach out to us.

Thank you for your time,  
FALGBTIC Executive Board

### Awards, 2017

#### ACA, San Francisco, CA

(Photographs originally taken by Jeffrey Gowing, ALGBTIC Webmaster)



Whitney Akers

*Graduate Student Award*



Jennifer Gess, PhD  
*Ned Farley Service Award*



Melissa Luke, PhD  
*ALGBTIC Mentor Award*



Gender Spectrum  
*ALGBTIC Joe Norton Award*



## ALGBTIC Emerging Leaders

Christian D. Chan

George Washington University

### Master's – Michael Desposito

Michael Desposito is a Clinical Mental Health Counseling master's student at Bowling Green State University. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from Ohio University and has worked and served in the mental health



field for the past 8 years with experience working with at-risk youth transitioning to adulthood, SPMI populations, dual-diagnosis populations (mental health and substance use disorders), and facilitating creative expressive group programming in mental health inpatient settings. Michael is the current president of the Association for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Issues in Counseling of Ohio (ALGBTICO) where he promotes advocacy and awareness for LGBTQ+ issues, sustainability of ALGBTICO as a resource for professional counselors and communities alike through regional resources, and expanded opportunities for ALGBTICO to fill gaps in education and services by coordinating an annual CEU workshop in northwest Ohio. Additionally, Michael has served as the Northwest Regional Representative for ALGBTICO, Graduate Representative of Northwest Ohio Counseling Association and even served as a past member of the Lucas County Human Trafficking Coalition on their education, conference, and grant committees.

The development and implementation of the inaugural ALGBTIC Emerging Leaders Program was no small task. Given the long history of leadership and strength in our membership, the ALGBTIC Emerging Leaders Program was intended to build upon the capacity for leadership within members of the organization and, ultimately, to promote the future leadership of our division. Developing this program in its inaugural year arrived with enthusiasm. Before we were accepting applications, we were excited about the prospects, the future of the program, and the leaders who would emerge more visibly with recognition in our division and in the profession. Although we were excited for the inaugural year of the program, we received an unexpected response of applications for a very limited number of spots within the program this year. The numbers of applications were exponentially larger than we had predicted, which demonstrates the heart, commitment, and importance of leadership and service to the members of our division. We have many leaders in our membership that are already taking the mantle of leadership for the division and for LGBTQ+ issues in counseling within their respective communities. We intend to expand the program throughout the coming fiscal years, but the selection committee had an extremely difficult task of selecting the emerging leaders for the inaugural year among a slate of exceptional candidates. Each application had an amazingly unique identity to offer, which elicits the diversity of leadership that will emerge through future years of both this program and within our division. All applicants were stellar. They should be proud of the hard work taken to organize their applications. We are excited to announce the following individuals as the ALGBTIC 2017-2018 Emerging Leaders. If you have any questions about the program, please email me at [cchan530@gwmail.gwu.edu](mailto:cchan530@gwmail.gwu.edu).

## ***ALGBTIC Emerging Leaders*** ***(continued)***



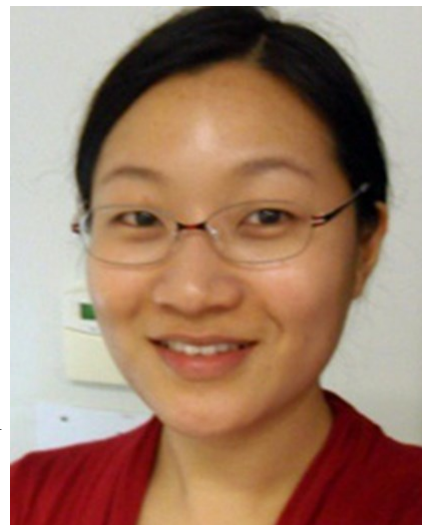
### **Doctoral – Rob McKinney**

Rob is pursuing a Ph.D. in Counselor Education and Supervision at Kent State University. He is currently concluding a teaching internship at John Carroll University and writing his dissertation – a narrative analysis focused on the intersection of religious and sexual

identity. He earned a M.S. in Clinical Mental Health Counseling from Eastern Illinois University and also holds a M.Div. with an emphasis in Pastoral Care and Counseling from Lincoln Christian University. He is proud to be a member of the American Counseling Association (ACA), Association for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Issues in Counseling (ALGBTIC), Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (ACES), and Chi Sigma Iota (Kappa Sigma Upsilon chapter). In addition, he is a Licensed Professional Counselor and a National Certified Counselor. His professional and research interests include LGBTQ+ counseling considerations, religious and spiritual topics within counseling, as well as counselor preparation. He is very excited to be selected as an ALGBTIC Emerging Leader.

### **New Professional – Dr. Eunhui Yoon**

Dr. Eunhui Yoon is an assistant professor at the School Counseling program at Seattle Pacific University. Dr. Yoon is developing a scale measures heterosexual people's attitude and knowledge toward sexual minorities and the study is funded by the Beyond the Rainbow Foundation in South Korea. She is also conducting a qualitative study and a systemic review study in LGBTAIQ topics with her colleagues. Dr. Yoon has been serving as an editorial board member for the Journal of LGBT Issues in Counseling. In addition, she has been supporting the Association for Research on LGBT Counseling in the Korean Counseling Psychological Association (KCPA) by hosting weekly online meetings to lecture counseling guideline for LGBTAIQ+ clients and to consult the members' research.





# ALGBTIC Conference

## Portland, Oregon

### September 2018

We are excited to announce that our 3rd biennial ALGBTIC Conference will be held in Portland, OR in September 2018. Specific dates, location, and themes are forthcoming.



# The ALGBTIC Newsletter is Welcoming Submissions!

Please review our guidelines for submission. We would love to hear from professional counselors, counseling students, counselor educators, and counselors working in research settings. Contribute your voice to the next ALGBTIC newsletter. Please contact Franco Dispenza, Newsletter Editor at [fdispenza1@gsu.edu](mailto:fdispenza1@gsu.edu) with any questions.

## Guidelines for Newsletter Submissions

All submissions must be electronic, written in Microsoft Word document formats (.doc or .docx) and included as an email attachment.

All submissions must be in 12-pt Times New Roman font with 1" margins.

All submissions must adhere to word limits for article category.

All submissions must include author's name, degree(s), academic or institutional affiliation, telephone number and email address in a cover email.

Any citations must follow APA Style Manual, 6th Edition, and language should be free of bias in accordance with APA's style guidelines.

Any articles not adhering to #1-5 above will be returned to the author for revision before review.

We welcome all submissions that would be of interest to our readership and ALGBTIC members. Information should be current and informative.

Submissions that promote dialogue and opinion are especially encouraged.

## Submission Categories

**New and Noteworthy** – this category is for upcoming social, political or advocacy current events. Events may be local, statewide, or national in scope. Also may include synopses of current news items or media (films, art, music) that may be of interest to our readers. 500 words or less.

**State Chapter News** – this category is for legislative and scope of practice updates from our state chapter leaders, and for any counseling-related or LGBT-affirmative events that the state wants to publicize. For example: rallies, benefit walks, legislative action days, etc. 500 words or less.

**Fresh off the Presses** – this section highlights chapters, books, and articles (peer-reviewed or not) written by ALGBTIC members and student members. Only 3 publications per member will be included in an issue of the newsletter. Full citations, please.

**Practice Matters** – this category is for practicing professional counselors, counseling interns or counseling psychologists to address topics of relevance to practitioners in agency or private practice settings. Examples include multicultural concerns, insurance involvement in client care, DSM-V impact, ethical issues. 1,000 words or less.

**Major Contribution** – this category is for academic articles on the theory or practice of counseling or counselor education. Submissions welcomed from faculty, graduate students, and LGBT scholars and allies. 1,500 words or less.

**Difficult Dialogues** – this category is for controversial topics of interest or discussions between professionals on two sides of an issue. For example, medically assisted hormone blockage for trans-identified children. 1,000 words or less.