

NCC AP Presents at 4th ICCE Commission Meeting in United Arab Emirates

by Kathryn Benson, LADAC, NCAC II, QCS, NCC AP Chairperson

It was with great anticipation that as NCC AP Chairperson, I was invited to accept appointment to the International Centre for Certification and Education (ICCE) Commission for its 2015–2017 term. This international group of substance use disorder prevention and treatment professionals serves more than 28 countries included in the Colombo Plan. The Colombo Plan, established in 1950, embodies the concept of a collective intergovernmental effort toward the economic and social development of member countries representing Asia and the Pacific. The United States has been a formal member since 1951. NCC AP and NAADAC are proud to have served as consultants to this organization for many years.

In February, Shirley Mikell, NCC AP Consultant and I traveled to Abu Dhabi, UAE to attend the 2015 4th ICCE Commission meeting. There we were enriched by our discussion and interaction with professionals from many different countries seeking assistance to address the substance use treatment and prevention needs of their respective countries. All were engaged in the development of education, training and credentialing resources for their professionals.

Introduction to this beautiful city was an amazing life opportunity. Introduction to these accomplished professionals from many different cultures was life changing. We discussed different trends of substance use disorders, treatment

and prevention needs and models, and the ongoing process of credentialing development and recognition of their respective professionals.

In my presentation to this group, I discussed all of the areas of expertise represented by NCC AP's professional credentials and the importance for individuals to hold competence in their areas of specialty. My primary focus centered on the importance of qualified clinical supervision and all of the roles this specialty brings to the overall provision of quality service.

Emphasizing the purpose of clinical supervision, which includes nurturing of the supervisee's professional development, and teaching the necessary developmental skills and competencies to insure measurable outcomes, is the key to raising the level of accountability for clinicians and their respective programs.

This discussion rested on the fundamentals necessary for a skilled clinical supervisor which include clear communication, analysis, organization, prioritization and problems solving skills. Essential personal requirements include passion, intense commitment, a desire for productive action, and an ability to challenge and inspire those they lead.

Finally, in my recognition of this distinguished group of international professionals, I included the attributes we all embrace in our role as leaders, mentors, helpers. To own our gifts is to fully engage in the healing process of human connection. Which gifts do you carry in your work: Trustworthiness, Vision, IQ/EQ, Accountability, Compassion, Empathy, Inclusion, Motivation, Flexibility, Authentic, Competence, Courage, Passion, Conviction and Generosity of Spirit?



Kathryn Benson, NCAC II, LADC, QSAP, QSC, serves as Chair of the National Certification Commission for Addiction Professionals (NCC AP). Contact her at lightbeing@aol.com with your thoughts or questions. Every effort will be made to respond to your inquires in either this publication or a personal reply.



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