NCDA – National Career Development Association

**GLOBAL CONNECTIONS COMMITTEE (GCC)**

Annual Report | August 28, 2023

**2022-2023 GCC Leadership:**

**Chair:** Ahmed Mostafa, International Career Development Advisor | Senior Partner and Co-Founder GROWAT for Human Development (Dhahran, Saudi Arabia), and Founder, Am Foundation for Career Development (Giza, Egypt).

[ahmed.mostafa@acdamena.org](mailto:ahmed.mostafa@acdamena.org) | +1-281-546-4218.

**Co-Chair:** Magdalena Mot, CMCS, PhD | Instructor | Work-Integrated Learning Coordinator | Melville School of Business, Kwantlen Polytechnic University

12666 72 Avenue, Surrey, BC, Canada

[magdalena.mot@kpu.ca](mailto:magdalena.mot@kpu.ca) | +1-778-751-0205

**2023-2024 GCC Leadership:**

**Chair:** Magdalena Mot, CMCS, PhD (same as above).

**Co-Chair:** Marcela Mesa Guerrero | Psychologist, Career Coach, GCDF, CEO Orientarte

Cali, Valle del Cauca, Colombia.

[mmesa1019@gmail.com](mailto:mmesa1019@gmail.com) | +1-561-855-3488

**Co-Chair Elect:** Sonja Robinson | Educator | Program Director at International Samaritan | Consultant | Workforce Development Leader

Portmore, St. Catherine, Jamaica.

[sonja@intsam.org](mailto:sonja@intsam.org) | +1-876-531-3031

**GCC Committee Members:**

Raza Abbas (Pakistan); Essam A. Abobakr (Egypt); Dalia A. Abouzeid (Saudi Arabia); Soonhoon Ahn (USA, WA); Khalifa Al Barakati (Saudi Arabia); Nisreen Al-Disi (Jordan); Amro (Alex) Al Modares (Canada, BC); Mothawi Al Qasim (Saudi Arabia); Eman S. Al Yousef (Saudi Arabia); Amany S. Alghtani (Saudi Arabia); Ahlam Alhudithi (Saudi Arabia); Reem Almahjoob (Saudi Arabia); Afaf Hamad Almujalli (Saudi Arabia); Eman G. Almutiri (Saudi Arabia); Hamda H. Alnaimi (Qatar); Haila Alrakaf (Saudi Arabia); Rawan Altamimi (Saudi Arabia); Jessica Ayub (USA, WI); Christian D. Chan (USA, NC); Rebecca M. Dedmond (USA, TX); Abiola Dipeolu (USA, TX); Scott Fisher (Canada, ON); Mai Fouad (Egypt); Jane Goodman (USA, IL); Michelle Gross (USA, NC); Mervat S. Hammad (Saudi Arabia); Mohamed Hani I. Ali (Saudi Arabia); Randa Helmi (Egypt); Candy Ho (Canada, BC); Muath A. Bin Hussain (Saudi Arabia); Brian Hutchison (USA, MD); Hyoyeon In (South Korea); Sujata Ives (USA, MD); Hyung Joon Yoon (USA, PA); Natalie Kauffman (USA, MD); Manpreet Kaur (India); Hatem Kenawi (Egypt); Jaana Kettunen (Finland); Melanie Kiel (USA, WA); Jungeun (Jay) Lee (USA); Simon D. Lee (South Korea); Kelvin (Wai Kit) Ling (Hong Kong); Rasha M. Madkour (Saudi Arabia); Mohamed M. Mamdouh (Saudi Arabia); Waleed Marwan (Saudi Arabia); Marilyn E. Maze (USA, MD); April McHugh (USA, WI); Marcela Mesa Guerrero (Colombia); Ahmed Mostafa (Saudi Arabia); Magdalena Mot (Canada, BC); Samantha Ng (Singapore); Keith R. Okrosy (USA, NY); Miwa Omori (Japan); Effrosyni Parampota (Qatar); Jim Peacock (USA, ME); Tina M. Peterman (USA, OR); Alberto Puertas (USA, UT); Richard (Dick) Pyle (USA, WA); Lisa Raufman (USA, CA); Danita Redd (USA, CA); Kelly J. Roberts (USA, MA); Sonja M. Robinson (Jamaica); Minobu Sato (Japan); Rania Sawalhi (Qatar); Karol I. Taylor (USA, MD); Shelley (Hsiu-Lan) Tien (Taiwan); Ruchira Tripathi (Singapore); Sabira Vohra (USA, MD); Moon Wang (Canada, BC); Gemma A. Williams (USA, HI); Jeremiah Wong (Singapore); Sing Chee Wong (Singapore); Amy Zdanowski (USA, MI); Ginger Zhao (Canada, ON).

**GCC Activities to Date:**

* Following an invitation from the GCC Chair Ahmed Mostafa, NCDA accepted to be a co-sponsor for the first-ever Arab Career Development Conference (ACDC) that took place in Aswan, Egypt. NCDA President, Dr. Lakeisha Mathews, was one of the presenters at ACDC. GCC Chair Ahmed Mostafa, one of the organizers, reported that the conference was a big success and included several roundtable discussions, workshops, and training sessions. Two GCC members, Sujata Ives and Randa Helmi co-presented a concurrent session at ACDC (the former presented virtually and the latter in person). The conference counted 1069 participants, out of which 120 Philae Temple attendees, 42 governmental & non-governmental representatives, and 10 partners from across 12 countries.
* GCC Member highlights in published articles. Spring 2023 Career Developments: Magdalena Mot - "International Students as a Global Workforce.” | Brian Hutchison - “Global Career Development: 8 Action Ideas for Addressing 4 Dynamics.” | Jim Peacock - “Where Will NCDA Fit into Career Development Around the World?” | Sini Parampota co-authored “An Ethical Approach to Global Development Around the World: Making Connections and Increasing Access to Impact the Labor Market.”
* Magdalena Mot also published “Supporting global talent: Career coaching and talent acquisition” in CAREER*Wise* by CERIC.
* GCC Co-chair Magdalena Mot led the NCDA Conference Ambassador Program: we matched 27 first time international attendees at the NCDA Conference in Chicago to 23 volunteer ambassadors (NCDA members). This program has been received very well by all new members and a few of them have approached Co-Chair Magdalena Mot in person to express their gratitude for being connected via email, in advance of arriving at the conference, to an NCDA volunteer ambassador. 8 of the new attendees have asked Magdalena to join the GCC and contribute to the global community.
* In collaboration with two other NCDA members (Dr. Elif Balin & Dr. Cheryl Love) and under the leadership of Dr. Lakeisha Matthews, Co-Chair Magdalena Mot worked on revamping the eligibility criteria for the 2023 NCDA Conference fee waivers, previously called the BIPOC Award. The group met virtually multiple times to reframe the eligibility criteria for this award and its work resulted in the new *BIPOC Equity and Inclusivity Scholarship*, intended to waive conference fees for those whom apply, based on the new eligibility criteria, and get selected. The new frame includes NCDA member nominees from BIPOC communities, International NCDA members, and Graduate Student members enrolled at a university in the U.S.
* Four (4) of our GCC members were recipients of the following NCDA 2023 Awards:

Magdalena Mot | Presidential Award

Maha Fakhry Moussa | Merit Award

Rebecca M. Dedmond | Eminent Career Award

Sujata Ives | Diversity Initiative Award

* Magdalena Mot, also serving on the Practical & Academic Research Committee with CERIC, worked with this group to review a Request for Proposals intended to call those interested in writing a report on industry trends and the changing nature of work and how will this impact our careers and the role and identity of career developers. The successful organization that has been commissioned by CERIC is currently gathering information and conducting research that is reviewed by this committee on an ongoing basis; a draft report “Career Development in 2040” is currently under review and will be published during the next year.
* GCC has organized an off-site dinner event during the NCDA Conference in Chicago, which was well attended by global NCDA members and their families; the June 29th dinner event was preceded by two options to meet pre-conference at the High Russian Tea restaurant on Tuesday June 27th.
* GCC current members and an overwhelming number of international and local (US) NCDA members met on June 30th, during the NCDA Conference, in the Mississippi Room (see meeting minutes).

Those in attendance were invited to sit in a circle and share a few thoughts about their current interests, as well as ideas on how to better connect and support each other globally.

Three main themes, in regards to GCC’s role, came across as central to global NCDA members:

1. Provide support to international members and find better ways to stay connected;
2. Assist international members in their professional development and identify and share resources to support their growth; and
3. Give back to NCDA by sharing best practices from around the globe.

**NCDA GCC Projected Plans**

* Organize three (3) GCC All member meetings over the fiscal year: October, February, and June (in person, at the NCDA Conference). Each 90 minutes meeting will include a 45 minutes webinar on a learning topic that’s relevant to all members.
* Work with the Board Trustee-at-Large to review the current GCC description and present the revisions to the NCDA Board. The current description is: “The Global Connections Committee (GCC) was formed to unite counselors worldwide who have expressed interest and concern about international policies and practices in career development. The committee achieves this goal by playing an active role in hosting global participants at the NCDA Annual Conference, recognizing global leaders through the International Career Practitioner Award, collaborating with International Career Development Associations as partners in strategic initiatives, and representing issues of global career counseling practice worldwide through information dissemination and advocacy.”
* Project: implement a Series of articles inspired by best practices and stories collected from GCC Members. Phase 1: Form a *GCC Shared Insights* group (3-4 members) tasked to individually engage with GCC members from around the globe, through a developed questionnaire and via 1:1 Zoom meetings, and collect career development practices, successful pathways, initiatives linked to DEI or human rights; save all notes, pictures, etc. Phase 2: collected materials will be organized and edited to eventually result in a series of articles based on shared practice, applied knowledge, cultural differences, and success stories. Phase 3: the *GCC Shared Insights* group will have a group-lead whom will supervise the collection of information from GCC members, edit, review and then submit to GCC Chair, whom will complete a final review and further submit to NCDAs Career Developments editors. Note: The leader of this small GCC group is to be selected by the Chair based on outstanding writing and editing skills. Phase 4: The working title of the series is “The World of Work Around the Globe”; each chapter will include 4 short stories from 4 different countries, signed by the respective GCC members.
* Launch a private GCC Members only LinkedIn group to allow members to find each other, see each other’s profile and specializations, communicate, share information, and ask for suggestions from their peers.
* GCC to work with NCDA Leadership to organize a marketing campaign/call for members to join this group.
* As part of this campaign, the GGC Leadership team will organize a free LinkedIn webinar – “How to Look Like a Career PRO on LinkedIn” open to all GCC members. This will be hosted during our October all-member meeting. NCDA to work with GCC Chair in supporting spreading the word about this Free GCC members only webinar.
* Work with NCDA’s leadership on fine-tuning the registration and selection process for new *BIPOC Equity and Inclusivity Scholarship*.
* Match NCDA Ambassadors to first-timer international attendees at the next Conference in San Diego.
* Support with organizing the international reception at the NCDA 2024 Conference; organize an icebreaker activity to include all international participants and engage them in a meaningful way – create the ‘mood’ for the next conference days.