

Candidate Statement

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Since day one of being a UCC Director back in the fall of 2019, I knew the support and wealth of knowledge from AUCCCD would be what would carry me through some of my toughest days. Being a new Director was not an easy transition! Despite having over 12 years as an Outreach Director within CAPS at another university, the challenges I faced in that first year were just hard! When the pandemic hit, I reached out to the listserv, wondering if other new directors would be interested in connecting over our “newness.” I was surprised (and somewhat relieved) to learn I wasn’t alone; other director’s expressed their interest in connecting as well! With the support of the AUCCCD Board and three other wonderful Directors who volunteered to facilitate the groups, the New Director Support Groups grew into weekly meet-ups. Since that time, it has been wonderful to see continued growth in support for members through various identity specific support groups as other wonderful and committed directors helped lead.

Fast forward to today; it’s been five years now as a UCC Director. I can certainly share I have had some challenging times!! However, AUCCCD has given me the confidence and knowledge to competently do my job and to continue to love the work, despite the challenges!!! I have continued to support AUCCCD in various ways such as the New Director/First Time Attendee (NDFTA) coordinator at the annual conference, working with a subgroup of colleagues to update the by-laws which were passed last year, support directors as they take on grant writing efforts, serve as a mentor to a new member, and most recently, assisting the salary survey team with data collection and reporting for the annual report.

Currently, my interest in joining the board is to pay it forward and to continue to support our ever growing “new director” membership as they navigate their new terrains, as well as contribute to the tireless work AUCCCD does both within the organization as well as on a national level. As the climate continues to change and our work becomes increasingly threatened in various ways, I am committed to working hard to support membership, to support the integrity of our work and to advocate and educate on a national level. As Directors, we are the leaders in college mental health on our respective campuses, and AUCCCD is our national voice. It would be an honor and a privilege to represent you all at this level.

Thank you for your consideration as a member of the AUCCCD Board.