

# The 2020-2021 NCDA Awards



Each year during the annual NCDA Global Career Development Conference, NCDA honors those who exemplify excellence in career development. The following awards were presented at the 2021 NCDA Virtual Career Development Conference. For more information about the NCDA awards and winners visit [https://www.ncda.org/aws/NCDA/pt/sp/membership\\_awards](https://www.ncda.org/aws/NCDA/pt/sp/membership_awards)

## The Presidential Awards

The Presidential Awards recognize exceptional contributions which advance the growth, reputation, and impact of NCDA. The awards go to . . .



**Cheryl Love**



**Stephen Leierer**



**Deanna Knighton**



**Melinda Gibbons**

## Diversity Initiative Award

This award recognizes an individual who, through their initiatives and commitment, has demonstrated a high degree of cultural responsiveness within the domain of career related activities. The award goes to . . .

### Rebecca Michel



Rebecca Michel, PhD, LCPC, is an Associate Professor of Counseling at DePaul University. Dr. Michel has dedicated her career to the advancement of culturally responsive career counseling through her scholarship, teaching, and service. Rebecca Michel's commitment to social justice has only intensified as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic and further demonstrated how her work embodies the spirit of NCDA's prestigious Diversity Initiative Award. In 2020, she developed two initiatives with DePaul students and alumni to provide more equitable career development for diverse and marginalized members of the university community. These initiatives include the DePaul WORKS (Workplace Opportunities through Reflection, Knowledge, and Skills) and the Career Digital Equity Project. As we know, the COVID-19 Pandemic resulted in widespread job loss across multiple sectors and demographic lines, especially among people of color and individuals with limited formal education. Individuals who were still employed reported tremendous stress due to being on the front lines, adjusting to remote work, and/or having their work hours or duties altered. Dr. Michel understood that unemployed individuals and employees exposed to unprecedented work stress were at risk for developing or exasperating numerous mental health challenges. When Chicago shut much of the city down in March 2020, she reached out to establish a partnership with the Community Based Organization (CBO) Collective, 16 non-profits on Chicago's under-resourced South and West sides that provide employers with a central point of access for local talent who face barriers to both obtaining and maintaining employment. In consulting with Dr. Michel, the CBO Collective leadership team surveyed members who reported needing wellness and career coaching for their diverse client base. Within one month, DePaul WORKS (Workplace Opportunities through Reflection, Knowledge, and Skills) was created to fill this critical need.

## Exemplary Career Center

This award was established to recognize a career center program for their commitment to thoughtful, innovative, and effective initiatives that support career development. The award for **Exemplary Career Center in Education, Government and Business** goes to . . .

**Johnson & Wales University Experiential Education and Career Services.**



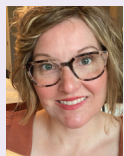
The award for **Exemplary Career Center Award-Non-Profit or Community** goes to . . .

**Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County, Employment & Economic Empowerment Department**



## Graduate Student Research Award

The NCDAs Graduate Student Research Award honors graduate students who undertake exemplary research, addressing topics related to career information, career development, and career planning. The Graduate Student Research Award goes to . . .



**Crystal Hughes.** Crystal is a Doctoral Student in Counselor Education and Supervision at the University of Texas at San Antonio. She is a licensed professional counselor in both Oklahoma and Texas. Crystal has over fifteen years of counseling and helping skills and experience, and is passionate about providing mental health services to a variety of populations. Her research is titled *Relational and Cultural Work Selves among Generation X Women*.

## The International Practitioner of the Year Award

The NCDAs International Practitioner of the Year Award recognizes one member who has made a significant contribution to the advancement of NCDAs mission in their respective country, as selected by the NCDAs International Committee. The award goes to . . .



**Sing Chee Wong.** Sing Chee is currently self-employed as a Career Consultant in Singapore, is the President of the Asia Pacific Career Development Association, and actively participates in the NCDAs Global Connections Committee. Sing Chee Wong has been instrumental in increasing membership in NCDAs from Singapore. More than three decades ago, Sing Chee entered the field of career development when she transitioned from human resources and training into counseling students at a university career center, where she rose to Director. After earning a Master's Degree in Career Counseling at the University of Missouri under Dr. Norm Gysbers and becoming a Master Trainer for NCDAs Facilitating Career Development curriculum, Sing Chee returned to Singapore to pioneer career counselor training programs at universities and lead private FCD classes. Many of the people in the career development field in Singapore were trained by her and continue to ask her advice on the major decisions related to career development programs.

## Kenneth B. Hoyt Award for Career Education

Established in 2010 as a memorial to Dr. Hoyt, this award provides annual recognition for a Career Education Practitioner whose work supports the Career Education concepts and practices Dr. Hoyt championed throughout his lifetime. The award goes to . . .



**Melanie Buford.** Melanie Buford is the Field Experience Level Lead/Teaching Specialist in the Leadership Minor Department at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. Throughout her extensive experience, insights and research in and approach to career education before and during her current role, Melanie has distinguished herself as a committed practitioner who shares invaluable wisdom with students, colleagues, and teams as they endeavor to define and reach for their vision for their future. From redesigning coursework to mentoring other teachers, Melanie keeps her attention laser-focused on the effect of the learner. Her willingness to answer questions while taking the learner into account helps the learner create personal meaning. Melanie is also the 2019 recipient of the Ralph W. Tyler Award for outstanding research and publication in the field of experiential learning and was named a YWCA Rising Star for social equity leadership in 2016. She is an AmeriCorps alumna of Public Allies San Francisco. Melanie has a Bachelor of Arts in psychology from Wesleyan University and her Masters in Education in Human Development and Psychology from the Harvard Graduate School of Education.

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## The Merit Award

NCDA Merit Award honors individuals who have made significant contributions to the field of career development including education and mentoring of career counseling students, development of or leadership in exemplary career programs, conducting significant research in the field, and/or advocacy efforts to inform and persuade policy makers about career development. The Merit Award goes to. . .



**Un Yeong Park.** Un Yeong Park is the Assistant Director for Career Development of International Students at the Career Center, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and co-chair of the NCDA International Student Services Committee. He is also the 2016 recipient of the NCDA Service to International Students Award. For more than 20 years, Un Yeong has passionately dedicated himself to bringing career development theory and practice to career professionals and clients around the globe. Beginning with his experience as a head consultant with a South Korean career coaching company, through his journey to the University of Illinois, Un Yeong has demonstrated significant contributions to education and mentoring, career development programming and services, thought-leadership and contributions to the field, and advocacy efforts for furthering the knowledge of career development needs and services. He has completed all but dissertation in University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign's doctoral program of Education Policy, Organization and Leadership with a Human Resource Development concentration.

## NCDA Fellows Award

NCDA Fellows should have prior experience within the association including leadership involvement, attendance at NCDA events, and/or other related involvement that is unique to the applicant. It is considered an honor to be awarded this distinction. Each year, NCDA selects up to five distinguished Fellows. The 2021 NCDA Fellows are. . .



**E. Niel Carey**



**Mark Danaher**



**David Reile**

## Outstanding State Divisions Awards

The following accolades are for exemplary programming and leadership at the state and regional level.

The first award is presented to the **Ohio Career Development Association (Established State Division).**

The second award is presented to the **New Jersey Career Development Association (Emerging State Division).**

## Outstanding Career Practitioner Award

The Outstanding Career Practitioner Award recognizes practicing career counselors, consultants, or teachers for outstanding performance in day-to-day service. Each of the following areas are considered: years of service, quality of service, and participation and leadership in career development professional associations. The NCDA Outstanding Career Practitioner Award goes to. . .



**Brian Montalvo.** Brian M. Montalvo has worked in Higher Education since 2000 and in career services since 2004. He joined the Career Center at Florida Atlantic University (FAU) in July 2006. Brian currently serves as the Senior Director. In this role, he oversees the strategic direction, assessment, operational infrastructure, and daily delivery of career counseling and career advising services through FAU's university-wide centralized career services office. This includes leading a team of very talented full-time career counseling professionals, graduate assistant career consultants, and undergraduate student workers who orchestrate over 30,000 FAU diverse students' career needs. Before joining the FAU Career Center, Brian worked at the FSU Career Center from 2004-2006 and spent over a year with 211 on the crisis line (2003-2004). Brian is actively committed to the career counseling profession through his involvement with the National Career Development Association (NCDA). He was honored with a selection into NCDA's Leadership Academy, class of 2013. Through the Leadership Academy, Brian presented his research project on enhancing the national conference experience by exploring the nuances of policies & procedures and the feasibility of tracks and certificates. His findings were presented at the 2013 NCDA Conference in Boston, MA. From 2015-2017, Brian served on the Board of Directors for the National Career Development Association and as a Trustee for Higher Education Career Counselors and Specialists.

## NCDA Board Distinguished Service Awards

The NCDA Board Distinguished Services Awards are presented annually to outgoing NCDA Board of Directors members.



**Kathy Evans  
Past President**



**Patrick Akos  
Trustee 2018-21**



**Carolyn Jones  
Trustee 2018-21**



**Sharon Givens  
Presidential Gavel  
2021-22**

## Outstanding Articles of the Year

The **Career Convergence Recognition Award** recognizes an individual's contribution to the Career Convergence web magazine as determined by the editorial team. The 2021 award was presented to . . .

**Jessamyn Perlus and Nicholas Debernardi** for their article *Career Check Up: Implementing a Campus-Wide Screening to Assess Students' Career Needs*.

The **Career Developments Magazine Recognition Award** acknowledges the high quality of material that is included in the magazine each year by contributors and encourages members who continue to contribute articles. The 2021 award was presented to . . .

**Amy Baus** for her article *Career Development and Going Pro Early: Disruption in Higher Education*.



The **Career Development Quarterly Award** is selected by the Research Committee and this year's award was presented to . . .

**Suk Kyung Nam and Hyung In Park** for their article *From Role Conflict to Job Burnout: A Mediation Model Moderated by Mindfulness*.



### New e-Book!

## My Life with a Theory



**John L. Holland's Autobiography and Theory of Careers**

Jack R. Rayman  
Gary D. Gottfredson  
EDITORS

**NCD** National Career Development Association

"My life was a 40-year internship that has shaped my beliefs and biases about counseling, training, practice, and research."  
Holland, 1993

"John Holland stands as a giant within the career field. Edited by two of Holland's closest associates, this book contains Holland's own words describing his theory and provides a detailed, personal and humorous peek into his life."  
Spencer G. Niles, William & Mary

"For anyone who discovered Holland some years ago, and for those about to discover Holland for the first time, this will be a good read – an accurate reflection of Holland's contributions to the field."  
Joseph A. Johnston, University of Missouri-Columbia

"...this account is an attempt to document the subjective side of the discovery and developmental processes in research."  
Holland's autobiography preface, 2004

\$60 Members \$70 Non-members

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[WWW.NCDA.ORG](http://WWW.NCDA.ORG)

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

# NCDA 2022

GLOBAL CAREER DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

*Innovative Career Development Strategies to Embrace Change: Moving Forward with Resilience*

June 27-29, 2022  
Anaheim, California



### DEADLINES TO REMEMBER

- Feb 7, 2022: Early Bird Registration Deadline
- Jun 3, 2022: Lodging Deadline
- Jun 6, 2022: Registration Deadline
- Jun 26, 2022: Pre-Conference PDIs

**NCDA** National Career Development Association

[www.ncda.org/conference](http://www.ncda.org/conference)