Past President’s Address

Tracey Robert
trobert@fairfield.edu

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Past-President’s Address
Tracey Robert

Communication, collaboration, and commitment to the legacy of infusing spirituality, ethics, and religious values in counseling have driven the ASERVIC leadership this year. I am grateful to all who have given time and effort to keep our organization moving ahead smoothly. I especially want to thank Brandy McNeill for her work as treasurer and Pat Hudson as president-elect until both of these leaders had to resign from their positions six months into the year. Thanks to Nanette Greene, who stepped in to help with the treasurer’s position. Her support and help during the convention and for the remainder of the fiscal year were invaluable. We wish her well in her new position as a hospice counselor in Connecticut. ACA headquarters, especially Fredericka Baker and Jackie DeMaio, has been very supportive and helpful.
Past-President’s Address (Continued)

Cheri Smith agreed to accept the president-elect position in April and has been working with me to ensure a smooth transition this summer. Cheri was president of ASERVIC 10 years ago. Her expertise and commitment to this organization are much appreciated.

The contributions to our profession and to the mission of ASERVIC are apparent in the work of committees and leaders during this past year. Some of those accomplishments include:

- The election of a new editor for our journal, Counseling and Values, Dr. Christopher Sink, Professor of Counseling at Seattle Pacific University. Dr. Sink’s publications and research in spirituality and his strong interest in continuing the strong foundation provided by Dr. Dennis Engels and his staff will be a big part of the future growth of ASERVIC.
- The vote to put our newsletter, Interaction, online. With the hard work of the newsletter editor, Suzanne Hamilton, Interaction will be online with this edition.
- Increasing the amount of the research awards to two $500 grants continues ASERVIC’s commitment to sharing of research and literature in the area of counseling and spirituality, ethics, and religious values in counseling.
- Streamlining the committees to address the needs of the organization through revision of the bylaws has been a constant effort by the leadership. I will continue to support that effort.
- New member services and products that the executive committee and board members have initiated. These include, Integrating spirituality and religion into counseling: A guide to competent practice, a new textbook on the spirituality competencies by Craig Cashwell and Scott Young, both past presidents, that was published by ACA. In addition, under the guidance of Craig and Scott, ASERVIC is in the process of producing monographs on topics related to integrating spiritual practices into counseling. We hope to add these items to the resources listed on our Web page.
- Re-instituting the state division luncheon, where leadership met with seven state leaders. Our state division committee chair, Gordon Spice, has spoken with or visited more than 18 divisions. ASERVIC and ACA sponsored the state division conference in New Mexico in August.
- Expanding our Web site links and services for our members. Darlene Daneker, webmistress, and the members of the speakers bureau committee, Carole Fournier and Nanette Greene, are compiling speaker information for use nationwide.

As you can see, we have been busy and will continue the legacy of service and commitment to ASERVIC’s mission and its members. Thank you for the opportunity to serve and all the best to Cheri Smith, incoming president, and Mike Robinson, president-elect.

Let’s continue to connect through ASERVIC,

Tracey