



ISCA *Insight*

The Newsletter of the Illinois School Counselor Association
a state chapter of the American School Counselor Association

September 2007 Issue • email: ilschoolcounselor@yahoo.com • www.ilschoolcounselor.org

Inside

President's Actions	2
President's Goals	2
Developmental Framework	3
Leadership with Action	3
President Elect	4
Past President	5
Secondary V-P	6
Middle V-P	6
Elementary V-P	7
Grad Student V-P	8
Information Resource	9
Roles & Responsibilities	10
Area Rep	11
ICA Pre-Conference	12
Prof Involvement	14
Accountability	15
Calendar of Events	16

ISCA Insight is published by the Illinois School Counselor Association. All rights reserved. Copyright 2007 ISCA.

Statements of fact or opinion are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily imply an opinion of ISCA or its officers or supporters.

The ISCA Insight is published quarterly.

The mission of the Illinois School Counselor Association (ISCA) is to provide leadership, advocacy, and collaboration for Illinois school counselors, which results in systemic change to enhance the success of all students in their academic, career, and social/emotional development.



"School Counseling With Collaboration"



*Kris Sandra Wheatley, LCPC, NCC
ISCA President*

From Your President to You...

As President of the Illinois School Counselors Association, I extend a heartfelt welcome to you in our year of "School Counseling with Collaboration." The Illinois School Counselors Association is your primary resource for professional development, leadership, resources, best practices, current trends, networking, support, and up to date legislative information. Engage and share your assets, with ISCA, so we may move" from good to great!" John Maxwell said "the first step to leadership is servant hood." Max Depree sees, "the first responsibility of a leader is to define reality," and Peter Drucker believes "effective leadership is not about making speeches or being liked: leadership is defined by results not attributes." The 2007-2008 plans will engage us to: work with ISCA leaders/members, school counselors, professors, directors, supervisors of school counselors and educational stakeholders to "encourage, enhance, and promote the work of the school counselor as a vital link in the educational experience of students." As we

focus this year on professional and practical involvement with the Illinois School Counseling Association and the school counseling profession, join us in providing integrity for our mission statement, mobilization for our strategic plan and evidence of action results. "One vision, one voice" means devoting our energies together for common purposes, to achieve a meaningful result for all school counselors. I look forward to your professional skills, leadership, and resources this year. Contact me in any of the following ways: Krislcpc@aol.com or kwheatley.waldo@d131.org ,630-548-4086 or at 630-299-8389. Together we will "provide leadership, advocacy, and collaboration for Illinois school counselors that results in systemic change to enhance the success of all students in their academic, career, and personal/ social development. *ISCA's Mission Statement* I look forward to our successful collaborations.

(continued on page 2)

"School Counseling With Collaboration"

Kris Sandra Wheatley, LCPC, NCC
ISCA President

2007-2008 Goals

"Impact people far beyond their own reach." John Maxwell

- > Unify school counselors across the state of Illinois through Month of the Young Adolescent, School Counseling Week, and Counseling Awareness Month.
- > Establish task forces, informal meetings, and additional website resources.
- > Create and mobilize a more pronounced public awareness to key stakeholders: students, teachers, parents, administrators, school boards, legislators, universities, and other entities.
- > Facilitate the development of collaborative projects, presentations, publications, proclamations, and Regional Office of Education contacts.
- > Provide ongoing leadership training, governing board involvement, professional school counselor workshops, ICA Pre-Conference, Annual Spring Conference, and informal meetings that develop school counselors as skilled leaders in their communities and the school counseling profession.
- > Provide networking opportunities and professional participation for school counselors and related professionals with ISCA Regions, Regional Offices of Education and school districts.
- > Identify Topics and Speakers that promote school counseling and the services to our students.



President's Actions

Leadership is action, not position. Donald H. McGannon

June 1st- June 17 th	Call for board and task force appointments
June 18 th	Collaborative Planning Meeting - Youth Survey
June 19 th	Facilitated an ICA Pre- Conference proposal on behalf of ISCA
June 21 st - June 23 rd	Delegate Assembly
July 15 th	Represented ISCA at first Coalition of Illinois Counselors Meeting
July 9 th	Leadership Transition Conference and 1 st Governing Board Meeting
June 29 th and June 30 th	Represented ISCA on ICA Governing Council
July 14 th	Conducted ISCA Planning Meeting with Executive Director and President Elect.
July 19 th	Established 2007-2008 Calendar of ISCA Meetings and Events, & "Principles of School Counseling Leadership for ISCA website
July 25 th - 29 th	Leadership Development Institute, Charleston, South Carolina
August-3 rd	Submitted articles for Insight Newsletter
August 19 th	Informal Committee, Task Force, and Networking Meeting



K. Wheatley and Dr. Brian Canfield, ACA President

Developmental Framework of Thinking for Professional School Counselors

As you develop, refine, and implement a developmental counseling program...

Considerations

Kris Sandra Wheatley, LCPC, NCC, ISCA President

- Take a leadership role in your school and community.
School improvement, parent advisory boards, partnership councils, Strengthening the Families Program, Family Focus Advisory Board
- Dialogue about the values of the school and district.
Informally - Open house, teacher's lounge, hallways, before and after school
Formally- committees, teams, councils, boards)
- Build relationships at the developmental stages of each school person
- Listen to the needs and wants of the teachers, school, and school district.
- Dialogue about the needs and wants of the teachers, school, and school district.
- Assess the readiness level of the teachers, school, and school district.
- Timing is everything.
- Find support and resources for the change to developmental thinking for schools, teachers, and district.
- Research and located existing programs and resources for a developmental framework.
- Compile developmental resources in professional way.
- Provide a brief letter and developmental lesson samples to each teacher.
- Allow the team of teachers to digest the information.
- Provide feedback to teachers about what other teachers have selected.
- Provide feedback to administrators about your developmental framework.
- Evaluate your program's effectiveness.

Leadership with Action

ISCA Area Representatives, Vice Presidents, and Executive Committee Members focus actions to reflect the 2005-2008 Work Plan. Governing Board, Committees and Task Forces are expected to regularly communicate and provide resources for ISCA member's needs, and accomplish ISCA's work plan goals. Governing Board Members must submit written reports for each governing board and annual meeting and complete regularly scheduled tasks. Reports for INSIGHT will be submitted to Dan Stasi, executive director and Kris Sandra Wheatley, ISCA President. Focused actions on collaboration, public awareness, work plan, resources, data, counseling programs, and special events are encouraged. Executive Committee, Standing Committees, Task Forces and Special meetings will be scheduled as needed. Task Force and Committees need to report progress or barriers to the ISCA President and Executive Director. Lack of attendance at meetings, missing reports, or difficulty completing required tasks will result in governing board review of 2007- 2008 ISCA leadership positions. Please contact me with questions @ home: 630-548-4086 or Krislcpc@aol.com @ work: 630- 299-8389 or kwheatley.waldo@d131. I look forward to our successful collaborations this year!

Sincerely,
Kris Sandra Wheatley, LCPC, NCC
ISCA President

President Elect Message

by Christina K. Nolan, LCPC, NCC

While most people regard spring as the quintessential 'renewal season', those of us inhabiting the professional school counselor's world know that it is the fall that truly marks the time of the fresh and new. No matter our age, we can't help but entertain those seasonal memories of new shoes, books, teachers, and school supplies, even as we prepare for the serious professional task of tackling another school year.

This year, I'd like to encourage everyone to make a concerted effort to gather good data regarding the world in which you carry out your professional responsibilities. In fact, it's a double request: don't just gather the data (the important first step) but take the time to interpret it in an intelligent and fruitful manner! In a just released whitepaper, Lapan, R., Gysbers, N., & Kayson, M. (2007), Missouri School Counselors Benefit All Students documented increased college attendance, percentage of students graduating from high school, and percentage of students scoring above ACT national average in high implementing schools with a comprehensive developmental school counseling program vs. low implementing schools.

These are substantive findings, worthy of serious consideration – don't pass over them because some of the wording might suggest administrative nonsense or bureaucratic mishmash! The take home point is, schools that have an effective, data-driven (gathering and interpretation) school counseling program do better than schools that do not. Period. In an era of 'accountability' and administrators and parents demanding that they 'see' progress, this current research identifies the importance of implementing and maintaining a comprehensive developmental school counseling program. That means they need you – a you that is ready to tackle the actual operating environment where you are currently tasked, using good methodology and sound data principles.

Do some "soul searching"! Survey your current school counseling program and ask, "How is my department doing?"

Are you trying to make sure your delivery of services falls under the guidelines of the four program components: responsive services, curriculum planning, support services and individual planning? Who's doing what and how? Does your program foster a reactive culture or one that pushes forward with a plan? Do you have a survey ready to identify the needs of the students and faculty? Far too often, programs will accumulate components, plans, and characteristics based less on an actual identification of operational needs and environment characteristics, and more on what is 'trendy', 'established', or, unfortunately, 'easily implemented'. A good survey will allow you to step back from this and construct tailor-fitted and solution-focused systems.

For some of you, this exercise is status quo. For others, it may seem to be an insurmountable step: an impossible battle against perceived blockages that thwart your every move. Here's what I know: school counselors are intelligent, motivated, and creative. They are individuals who have a passion for what they do and a desire to advocate for "their" kids. Take those intrinsic qualities and demand of yourselves what you demand from your "kids". Be resilient, identify a goal, make a plan, find the resources that can help you, and be solution-focused. Don't think of why it can't work; think of how it can!

So, here's to a new fall and a new school year. What we lack in newly polished saddle shoes and fresh school supplies, we can make up for with rested minds and renewed willingness to tackle the challenges of the year ahead – yes, even the faculty and staff orientations!

And it's not too early to mark your calendars for April 18, 2008, our annual Illinois School Counseling Conference being held in Elgin (it's not THAT far away!) I'm looking forward to meeting all of you. If you'd like to contact me, I'm always available at christina.nolan@nl.edu. Until next time....



Illinois Representatives K. Wheatley, ISCA President and Christina Nolan, President Elect at ASCA's Delegate Assembly



K. Wheatley, Dr. Carolyn Stone, C. Nolan, and Carolyn Roof, ASCA Midwest Level VP

Learning, Leading, and Leaving A Legacy

by Roseanne Oppmann, LCPC, NCC, Past-President



It is with great pleasure that I reflect on the opportunity to work with so many people committed to our profession. I thank everyone for the support and hard work they have put in to make this year a productive one. It is very important to me to live up to my own expectations and be an example of a person who practices what they preach.

In terms of *Learning*, I can honestly say that I learned a lot from all of the workshops, classes, journal readings, and networking I have done over the past year. As long as I continue to learn, I know I will be totally confident and on top of things in the field of school counseling. Learning provides an energy that keeps our inner light shining so we are always ready to go in the most competent and healthy manner. I have also learned that a position such as this can have challenges and at times we have to be very strong and assertive. As leaders we are not exempt from confrontation by others, and we must be able to use our counseling skills to step up for our beliefs in an assertive way that may not be comfortable for us. I must admit that this was the hardest part for me, however, I learned a great deal about myself and became a stronger person in the end.

Leading is always a work in progress, just like learning. As President I tried very hard to encourage teamwork and to consider everyone's perspective. I enjoyed hearing from many of you about what you would like to see from our organization, and I tried to collaborate with you. I loved going to universities and speaking with the many future school counselors, who I am sure will serve our

profession well. I would like to thank Dr. Julia Yang and Dr. Al Milliren at Governor State University, Dr. Marie Bracki at National Louis University, and Dr. Theresa Fisher at Northern Illinois University for inviting me to be a guest speaker at their wonderful programs. It is very impressive to see what school counseling programs are doing in our state to prepare graduate students for our profession. I hope all of you will consider impacting our field by being a leader who is willing to supervise an Intern. There are outstanding students in these programs who are searching for placements. It is a shame that some of them have to drive a great distance, just to find a certified counselor who is willing to supervise them.

I think about the Legacy I hope I have left behind, and this part touches me personally the most. It is my strong belief that a leader should not be a dictator or a one person show. A leader must respect differences, thoughts, ideas, and perspectives of others for the good of the organization at all times. A leader acts professionally and supports everyone on their team, even if they don't get all the credit. A leader in an organization should be the epitome of what their organization stands for. Although I know I have made mistakes, I have sincerely strived to the best of my ability to live up to what a leader of ISCA should be.

As a Past President, and as a Professional School Counselor I am committed to take the gifts I have been given from all of you to continue my work for the good of ISCA. In the end, I sincerely hope in some small way a positive and memorable *Legacy* has been left this year. That is my gift and thank you to ISCA for enriching my life in so many ways.

Illinois Counseling Association Annual Conference October 18-20, 2007

Tinley Park Convention Center & Holiday Inn
Go to www.ilcounseling.org for more information and registration

Great Ideas

by Joan Kertay, ISCA Secondary School Vice-President

As the Vice President of Secondary for ISCA, I welcome both the new and the seasoned School Counselors to the new school year! Did you ever notice how quickly we forget the meaning of relaxation as we return to the demands of school? Please take a little time and consider some ways we can be successful as school counselors.

An important quality, which leads to success with students, is to genuinely **care** about their needs. Listen to them, be sensitive to their needs and accept them for who they are. Many students have parents who lack the ability or the time to provide emotional support and consequently, the students (and many times the parents) look to members of the school staff for support.

The second quality, which leads to success with students, is a **sense of humor**. Adolescence is a stage in life when young people are exploring different ways to do things. They are in search of ways to create an identity. Some things they do are immature and as educators we need to recognize the

serious, harmful things from the silly things. Adolescents are never dull! Many adults forget how to laugh. Students need people who can find the humor and enjoy life situations.

I look forward to you sharing some of your ideas of success with our membership. Please e-mail me at jkertay@d303.org or give me a call (630-377-4727). Enjoy this year and don't forget to relax!

Happy Back-To-School - by Erin Hatch, ISCA Middle School Vice President

My name is Erin Hatch, and I am ISCA's Middle School VP this year. I am currently a middle school guidance counselor in Romeoville District 365U. I am very fortunate to have a rare job of being completely student-centered. I do not do any scheduling or testing, and I rarely go to Special Education meetings. Therefore, my whole day centers around student and staff needs. I was the only counselor last year for all three grades of 800 students, however this year, I will have another counselor with me full time. I am really looking forward to this year because I want to do a lot more preventative work rather than just reactive work. Last year I put together a list-serve of 100 middle school counselors in the Chicago suburbs just by sitting down and going through district websites. I am now able to communicate with these 100 counselors on a regular basis through email. This has helped get important information out on conferences, job openings, etc. I hope to expand that list-serve to more counselors this year. It is a valuable tool in our jobs because we can collaborate, discuss, and help each other to be more successful in helping our students. It's fun to be in a grad class or at a conference where someone recognizes my name from the emails and says hello! If you would like to become part

of my list-serve please email me at hatchee@vvsd.org.

I look forward to communicating with all middle school counselors in the state this year, and I think ISCA is a great resource and organization for all of us.

Good luck in starting your new year, and I truly believe that you have to be someone special to work with middle schoolers. I will share one of my favorite quotes, "In order to work with middle schoolers you have to find their worst traits amusing!"

Happy Back-to-School Sales

Getting off to an Organized Start

by Pamela Castro
Elementary Level Vice President

Another school year!!! I am excited and exhausted thinking of it all at the same time. My thoughts turn to planning—I need my calendar. Where to start? I thought I would offer some ideas for your calendar. Some of these dates are already on our ISCA Website calendar and others will be added. I also will be adding some helpful websites for planning activities and events.

I spend a good part of September welcoming back students and staff with classroom visits and meeting with newcomers in small groups. September is also Hispanic Heritage Month (Sep.15-Oct 15) and some schools have well-planned activities.

October is a very full month. October is Month of the Young Adolescent as well as Safe Schools Month. Using the Safe Schools theme is a good one to get your Conflict Resolution activities going. If your classrooms have not already done so, it is a good time to visit and help establish a Conflict Resolution Corner. It is also time to get those new Peer Mediators trained.

Red Ribbon Week falls at the end of October and is usually a very busy week of activities for my school. Early in October, I have students decorate plain white placemats or art paper with drug and alcohol free themes and ideas. The week before Red Ribbon Week, we deliver these to some of our local fast food restaurants and ask them to use the placemats for their trays. Often, we find the artwork on the walls of the restaurant rather than the trays. It is great for the kids to see what they do is so valued. We also have students write out drug-free pledges on red art paper; we have done paper chains, fences or brick walls to decorate the hallways during the week. We

have had red ribbons or armbands for the kids to wear all week. We also have different sweet treats with a theme (i.e. Red Twizzlers for “Don’t let Drugs Twist your mind” or LaffyTaffy for “Drugs are no laughing matter” or just plain red and white peppermints for “The sweetest things in life are Drug-free”). We also have a Wear RED Day. What ideas can you come up with? Are there any you could share?

November is National Career Development Month as well as Native American Month. It is such a short month with a long holiday weekend and a day or two off for Parent-Teacher Conferences. However it could be a great month to do a bulletin board dedicated to careers and possibly plan some speakers or a fair around your conferences. This way you get the students and parents talking about the topic of careers.

December is also a very short month, with too many school activities to mention. A couple of ideas to focus on are Human Rights Day (Dec. 10) and the National Drunk/Drugged Driving Awareness Month (MADD). A few times we have given the students red ribbons to take home at Christmas Break; we ask them to have their families tie them on the mirror or antennae of the family auto so they are reminded of safe driving during the holidays. I found a great planning tool at the ASCA Bookstore, is a book edited by Barbara Muller-Ackerman: A Year of School Counseling. Have a safe and fun-filled year!



ACA Annual Conference
March 26-30, 2008
Honolulu, HI

For info go to
www.counseling.org



Grad Students: Tips for Finding an Internship

By Liz Hannon, ISCA Graduate Student Vice President

Graduate students earning a Master's Degree in a school-counseling program eventually face the daunting task of securing an internship. Internships at high schools are particularly competitive given the number of applicants applying for limited openings. Following are some suggestions to make the process of acquiring an internship as easy as possible.

First and foremost, get involved! Participate in leadership activities while in grad school. Take an active role in the professional school counseling organizations such as ISCA or ASCA. Leadership positions in professional organizations look great on a resume and provide excellent opportunities for networking with professionals. Taking an active role in a professional organization will also keep you informed of the latest trends affecting school counselors.

Volunteer at the schools you would like to work in. This is a great way to get your foot in the door, especially if you have a particular site in mind that you would like to intern at. Collaborate with the school staff on projects such as career fairs or college nights.

Get your resume together. If your resume and cover letter need updating, now is the time to start making those

revisions so you can send that information out as early as possible. Be sure to take advantage of your graduate school's career development office; they are a valuable resource for resume writing. Some websites like www.monster.com/resumes provide many examples of resumes and cover letters. Another good website to help in resume writing is www.quintcareers.com/action_verbs.html. (There is an underscore between the words action and verbs). This site supplies a lengthy list of action verbs broken down by skill category that make your experience and accomplishments truly stand out. Another website particularly useful in applying for school counselor internships is: http://www.lake.k12.il.us/roe_sch_vac/index.htm. This is the website for the Regional Office of Education for Lake County which lists every school district in Lake County, elementary through high school. Similar websites are available for other counties as well.

Start applying early! Some schools start the internship selection process as early as November while others may not make those decisions until March or April. Be proactive in your search, and follow up with the schools you applied at to determine their selection time frame. Good luck!



Alan and Maria McCabe
Advocacy Chair sharing expertise on youth and
mental health.



Pablo Alvarez, ISCA Website Task Force Chair,
Alan Markwood, Director of Illinois Youth
Survey and ISCA Pre-Conference Presenter,
K. Wheatley

A Resource in the Information Age

Allan Markwood

Prevention Project Coordinator Chestnut Health Systems , Inc

Professional human service work has become more “evidence based” and “data driven”. One way a school counselor may experience this is when s/he is asked questions like, “Don’t just about all kids use some drug nowadays?” or the opposite, “There isn’t that much of a youth substance use problem here, is there?” Even if the counselor feels confident about responding, s/he may face follow-up questions like, “How do you know that’s true?” or, “I believe you, but do you have some way to prove (to district administrators, parents, school board members, etc) what you’re saying?”

When state prevention leaders in Illinois pondered this situation some years ago, they decided to expand, what had been a very limited student survey project, into a resource available to nearly every public and private school in Illinois. The Illinois Youth Survey (IYS) already measured levels of substance use, other problem behaviors, and risk and protective factors for these problems. It was further developed to include some of the most current pressing concerns, from bullying and school violence to nutrition and fitness. The Illinois Department of Human Services sponsors the administration of the survey every two years. By registering to participate and choosing a survey date in February, March or April of even-numbered years, schools that have a 6th, 8th, 10th, and/or 12th grade can obtain their choice of paper surveys or the online version to give their students.

To further explore the benefits of collaboration between school counselors and the IYS project, incoming ISCA President Kris Wheatley initiated a conversation with IYS project leaders Alan Markwood and Donna Prather. This led to a meeting June 18th, where the benefits of collaboration became more clear and ideas about specific ways to collaborate were discussed. One of the most important early steps is to make information about the IYS more available to school counselors. Even though mailings start to go to every eligible school over a year ahead of the survey administration months, many counselors are not reached and remain unaware of this free resource.

One way to learn more about the survey is to visit the IYS website: www.illinoisyouthsurvey.org. Among other information, the site contains state-level results from the 2006 and previous surveys. School-level reports are not available except to the officials at the school where the data was collected, but the website includes examples of the initial and follow-up school reports. The initial school reports give the frequency of each response to every question on the survey. The follow-up reports, produced approximately 6 months after the survey is given, focus on a few key substance use and risk/protective factor items and present these in context with comparison rates and explanation. The combination of these reports enables a school counselor or other staff member to document numerous aspects of students’ beliefs and behaviors for prevention planning as well as grant submission and reporting. The risk and protective factor ratings on the follow-up report may be especially helpful for identifying strengths and problems in the community.

School counselors who don’t know whether their school is already registered for the 2008 Illinois Youth Survey can either ask their principal or contact the IYS office at (toll-free) 866-497-9727 and request a registration packet. If a school has not registered, the counselor should consider the case to be made for their school to take one class period in the spring in order to gain all the information that comes from the survey. In many schools the counselor may be in the best position of anyone to appreciate and point out the benefits of this kind of information about important aspects of their students’ lives.

Roles and Responsibilities

by Amy Thompson, ISCA Past President



Defining our Roles: ISCA Leadership

After serving with ISCA for seven or so years, I am pleased to join "The Yoda's" (Past Presidents of ISCA who no longer serve in a voting leadership position). I plan to use my experience and energy to assist in furthering the work of our association

and have agreed to lead a task force which will develop a formal Policies and Procedures Manual for ISCA. This is important in continuing to develop our association and in keeping it on track with the historical practices of ISCA.

First, the task force will clarify the roles and responsibilities of all members of the ISCA Leadership Team. Through the years, many members have willingly stepped up and done their part to lead ISCA but the roles, responsibilities, and even some of the leadership positions have changed over time. In working with other Past Presidents and in conferring with other state's School Counselor Associations, we plan to implement a comprehensive, formal set of "Roles and Responsibilities" for each member of the ISCA Leadership Team. Once the plans are developed, the current Leadership Team, led by our President, Kris Wheatley, will determine if any further changes are needed. Once approved by the leadership

team, the, "Roles and Responsibilities" will be placed on the ISCA website for all to view.

From the new clarification of Roles and Responsibilities, the task force will then develop a framework of policies that leadership members, especially Executive Board members, will follow based on our bylaws. For years, we have relied upon previous leaders to assist us in remembering how certain business matters are handled and how other activities are managed. Of course, some of these matters and activities have changed over time (as they should) but it is also helpful to have, in writing, these policies so that we have even greater consistency and can document the changes we make in such policies and procedures. All association presidents take seriously their role in complying with bylaws and have worked diligently to do so. This manual will make that part of the job a little easier by clarifying past and accepted practices of the association. Again, once this part of our work is completed, the Leadership Team will offer feedback and the final document will be made public via the ISCA website.

This project is a culmination of countless years' work by many past leaders to clarify the ISCA vision, act frugally with association funds, and demonstrate fidelity to members as best we are able in order to move our profession forward. We hope you will find the product of this work to be beneficial as you encourage your school counselor peers to join ISCA; The ONLY association in Illinois working exclusively for school counselors.

ISCA Workshop

Understanding and Treating the Self Injurer
Presented by Dr. Wendy Lader

November 6, 2007

NIU-Naperville Campus
Registration Forms are on our website under
ISCA Events
www.ilschoolcounselor.org



"Working Together for One Vision, One Voice"
K. Wheatley, Amy Thompson, Public Policy Chair, and C. Nolan

Area Rep Report

Dean Strassburger, Chicago Area Representative

Hello, I am happy to be the appointed Chicago Area regional representative for ISCA. Please let me know how I can support your counseling at school, your work with your school administration, and your own professional growth.

Sincerely,
Dean Strassburger
Lincoln Park HS
Chicago
708.439.3074
djstrassburger@cps.k12.il.us



ISCA LEADERSHIP AND MEMBERSHIP NOTES



ISCA board member and committee or task force chairs are expected to attend their respective meetings.

RSVP's to our executive director, ilschoolcounselor@yahoo.com, are required one week in advance of each scheduled meeting.

All school counselors, stakeholders, and task force and committee members, are encouraged to attend governing board, committee, and task force meetings! We look forward to your active participation in the ISCA.

Executive Director Notes

by Daniel Stasi, Executive Director



The new ISCA board and committee volunteers are off to a busy start. You will read about their many goals and accomplishments in this newsletter.

We have a great training program planned for November 6, 2007 on Cutting and Self Injury. Dr. Lader gave this same presentation in Alton several months ago and received great feedback. Self Injury was rated

as an important issue school counselors wanted more information about.

Our membership recruitment is going well. We have added several new members and renewals are coming in regu-

larly. Don't forget you can renew online or check your membership status at www.ilcounseling.org

It is not too early to begin thinking about the ISCA Spring Conference, April 18, 2008 in Elgin. Mark your calendar and plan to attend.

Newsletter Submissions Wanted!

Send articles and pictures to llschoolcounselor@yahoo.com.

Counseling Awareness Month
 Developmental Counseling Programs
 Elementary, Middle, and High School Resources
 Evidenced Based School Counseling Programs
 Graduate Students Resources
 Lesson Plans
 Month of the Young Adolescent
 Research and Accountability
 School Counseling Forms and Templates
 School Counseling Week
 Website Resources
 Other Topics of Current Interest to Professional School Counseling Professionals

**ISCA SPONSORS
 AN ICA PRE-CONFERENCE ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18TH
 PLAN TO ATTEND**

Alan Markwood, Prevention Projects Coordinator, Chestnut Health Systems, Inc., Bloomington, IL will equip counselors with a tool (the Illinois Youth Survey) for understanding and measuring community-wide youth problems and key risk and protective factors.

Program participants will be able to:

- Understand how youth alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use develops in a community.
- Identify key risk and protective factors.
- Demonstrate familiarity with the Illinois Youth Survey (IYS).
- Use IYS data to better understand their community and plan prevention programs regarding youth substance use and violence.

CICO Legislative News

by Daniel Stasi, Executive Director

Senate Bill 122 is now law. It is Public Act 95-0363.

**Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,
 represented in the General Assembly:**

Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Section 14-1.10 as follows:
 (105 ILCS 5/14-1.10) (from Ch. 122, par. 14-1.10)

Sec. 14-1.10. Professional worker. "Professional worker"

means a trained specialist, and is limited to speech correctionist, school social worker, school counselor, school psychologist, psychologist intern, school nurse intern, school social worker intern, school counselor intern, certificated school nurse, special administrator intern, registered therapist, professional consultant, special administrator or supervisor giving full time to special education, behavior analyst, and teacher of any class or program defined in this Article who meets the requirements of this Article, who has the required special training in the understandings, techniques, and special methods of instruction for children who because of their disabling conditions are placed in any program provided for in this Article, and who works in such program.
 (Source: P.A. 94-948, eff. 1-1-07.)

Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon becoming law.

Effective Date: 8/23/2007

This adds school counselors/interns to the list of people, that when they provide eligible services to medicaid eligible students schools can bill the state for those services.



Dr. Carolyn Stone presenting each state president with a "Certificate of Recognition"



Team members with One Vision-One Voice
Kris Sandra Wheatley, ISCA President, Kim Cannon,
ASCA Past President



LDI Teaming Activity



LDI Ending Event
at Patriot's Point

Professional Involvement Opportunities

Contact Kris Wheatley or Dan Stasi today!

- ❖ Promote- Month of the Young Adolescent, School Counseling Week... and others
- ❖ Develop our Website
- ❖ Lead a Committee
- ❖ Join a Committee
- ❖ Run a Task Force
- ❖ Join a Task Force
- ❖ Host a Networking Meeting
- ❖ Provide 1 hour Presentations at our Governing Board Meetings
- ❖ Assist with Publications
- ❖ Consider being your Regional Office of Education Contact
- ❖ Develop a local school counseling chapter
- ❖ Work on the Annual Spring Conference
- ❖ Work the ISCA Table at the ICA Conference
- ❖ Identify Topics and Speakers that promote school counseling and the services to our students

Krislepc@aol.com or ilschoolcounselor@yahoo.com



ASACA Leaders- Dr. Carolyn Stone, President Eric Sparks, President Elect, Richard Wong, Executive Director

Accountability

by Dr. Adam Zigelbaum



The need for accountability is not merely a catch-phrase that is to be emphasized in name alone. It is a specific, data-driven concept that requires school counselors to demonstrate overall effectiveness which ensures the personal/social, career, and academic success of students. As the Research

and Accountability Chair of the Illinois School Counselor Association (ISCA), I intend to emphasize the importance of this concept and inspire others to follow the principles which promote the importance of accountability and the necessity of research. I believe as Treasurer of ISCA, I have demonstrated my effectiveness with numbers. However, accountability and research is more than mathematics. Therefore, I have specific models and approaches to these topics that I believe will benefit ISCA and the people served by ISCA members.

One of the strongest models that I believe school counseling professionals can benefit from using is Stone and Dahir's (2004, 2007) MEASURE method. This step-by-step process demystifies much of the anxiety and concerns that people often have when it comes to interpreting and gathering data. The use of the school's mission statement, available stakeholders and the general approaches to data analysis that are incorporated into this model make it not only effective, but also comprehensive. The entire school and community population have the opportunity to benefit from this model. Emerging and veteran school counseling professionals will be able to understand the core principles of this model and apply them directly into their professional duties. The MEASURE model will serve as the backbone by which ISCA will follow accountability and research development during their upcoming 2005-2008 plan. Furthermore, President Wheatley has managed to find several organizations that are willing to assist school counselors in the state of Illinois with the gathering and

analysis of specific data. These not-for-profit organizations have available surveys and materials that focus on youth development and provide written summaries and reports that assist school counselors with outcome-based data that showcases accountability in its highest form. Upcoming ventures between ISCA and these organizations will be spotlighted in subsequent issues of the ISCA Insight newsletter, and are expected to provide opportunities for school counselors to publish their results in various journals and venues that will showcase their ability to effectively perform research and data-driven studies.

In summary, the position of Research and Accountability Chair is one that I plan on using to aid and encourage school counselors to conduct data-driven work in such a way that it can be appreciated and easily understood. By gaining this valuable perspective about such a topic, professionals will be able to articulate their findings and strengths to other school stakeholders in such a way where these concepts can benefit the entire community. As a professor at Governors State University, I use the same approach to teaching my students about the importance of research and accountability and I believe it will serve the ISCA members well. It is expected that this work plan will allow for all school counseling professionals to become more consummate individuals and I look forward to engaging this process.

Reference:

Stone, C., & Dahir, C. (2004/2007). *School counselor accountability: A MEASURE of student success*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson.

Dr. Adam Zigelbaum, ISCA Treasurer Receives Award

Dr. Zigelbaum received a faculty excellence award at Governors State University for the past year (2005-2006). Adam indicated that this will serve as a great foundation for what he hopes will be many more contributions.



**Illinois School
Counselor Association**

P.O. Box 144
DeKalb, IL 60115

Prst. Std.
U.S. Postage
DEKALB, IL 60115
PERMIT NO. 90

Time Sensitive Materials

Calendar of Events

October 18-20, 2007

November 6, 2007

March 26-30, 2008

April 18, 2008

June 28-July 1, 2008

ICA Annual Conference - Tinley Park

ISCA workshop on Self Injury-Naperville

ACA Annual Conference - Honolulu, Hawaii

ISCA Annual Spring Conference - Elgin

ASCA Annual Conference-Atlanta



ISCA Governing Council