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I only pursued a doctorate, over 25 years ago, because I wanted to work in a college counseling center. (At the time, it seemed impossible to get such a role with only a Master's degree in Counseling.) The landscape of our work is dramatically different today, more inclusive of different perspectives and experiences. There are also a lot of challenges in today's world, including how we emerging from the still unfolding impacts of the past 2 years. AND.....there is no denying that counseling centers are facing enormous changes and challenges, as is the entire landscape of Higher Education. I'm not sure exactly what that means for AUCCCD yet, and the word "crisis" is often used to refer to our work and the mental health of college students. Still, I'm fairly confident that, if we are at a point of crisis as a profession, then we are also at a position of opportunity. So, after a lot of reflection, I have decided to submit myself for consideration to serve on the AUCCCD Board of Directors and play whatever role I can to not only support the work of this organization and the work of college and university counseling center professionals but, also, contribute to the overall world we have an, often, examined impact on.

The caring and emphatically supportive attitude of the folks that make up AUCCCD tells me we have much to offer each other and all those that are impacted by our work. I believe the challenges we are facing will require innovation, moral courage, and creativity. I also believe we can and will, collectively, apply these qualities that we already possess (in this organization and in the campus communities represented by AUCCCD) to move us all toward a good place. I also want to acknowledge the fears and weariness that discourage me from wanting to serve on the Board are, likely, widespread throughout the membership. However, I suspect that the scary tired place we're all in can play some role in informing how we can lead the world of college counseling centers....if not Higher Ed, in general, to something more sustainable and even more enriching than where we've come from.

I've been a director for 6 years. I've also been a staff therapist, a coordinator of career services, a training director, and an outreach director. The settings range from large, under-funded public universities of over 30k students to smaller private colleges with wealth to provide enviable resources. When I include internship and practica positions I've held, I have also served in mid-size campuses that have their unique characteristics. I've been mentored by some of the wisest folks in the universe, within the field of college mental health and across the disciplines and perspectives of universities. All of this will continue to inform what I offer

AUCCCD, whether on the Board (if selected) or in the general membership. Those who know me understand that I am committed to seeing the complexity of intersection where identities and aspirations meet---and to being informed by communities still striving to oppose inequity, exclusion, and violence by oppressively dominant forces. If chosen to serve on the Board, I will apply all of this to contribute to the tasks we need to complete, as an organization. I'm also devoted to playing a part in supporting, if not transforming, the world of college mental health, and Higher Education, in general, through the caring and wisdom of AUCCCD.