GOVERNING BOARD

Sharen Mitchell, Ph.D.

President, 2017-2019

Counseling, Health, and Wellness
University at Buffalo
716-645-2720

smitch@buffalo.edu

Greg Eelis, Ph.D.

President Elect, 2018 - 2019

Counseling and Psychological Services

Cornell University

607-255-5155

gte3@cornell.edu

Charles Davidshofer, Ph.D.

Treasurer

Colorado State University

970-980-8779

charles.davidshofer@colostate.edu

Peter LeViness, Ph.D.

Survey Coordinator, 2017-2020

Counseling and Psychological Services
University of Richmond

804-289-8119

plevines@richmond.edu

Katherine Wolfe-Lyga, LMHC, ACS
Secretary, 2018 - 2021
Counseling Services Center
SUNY College at Oswego
315-312-4416
katherine.wolfelyga@oswego.edu

Mary Chandler Bolin, Ph.D.

Board Member, 2017-2020
University of Kentucky Counseling Center
University of Kentucky
859-257-8701
marychandler.bolin@uky.edu

Wanda Collins, Ph.D.
Board Member, 2016-2019
Counseling & Psychological Services
Emory University
404-727-7450
wanda collins@emory.edu

Patti J. Fleck, Ph.D.

Board Member, 2016-2019

Counseling Services

Missouri University of Science and Technology

573-341-4211

pfleck@mst.edu

Kristen Gray, Psy.D.

Board Member, 2017-2020
Counseling and Psychological Services
Hope College
616-395-7945
gray@hope.edu

Ben Locke, Ph.D.

Board Member, 2018 - 2021

Counseling and Psychological Services

Penn State University

814-865-0966

bdl10@psu.edu

Carla McCewan, Ph.D.

Board Member, 2018 - 2021

Counseling Center

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
217-333-3704

cmccowan@illinois.edu

Stephanie McIver, Ph.D.

Board Member, 2017-2020
Counseling Services
University of New Mexico
505-277-3136
smciver@unm.edu

Rene Monteagudo, Ph.D.

Board Member, 2018 - 2021

Counseling Center

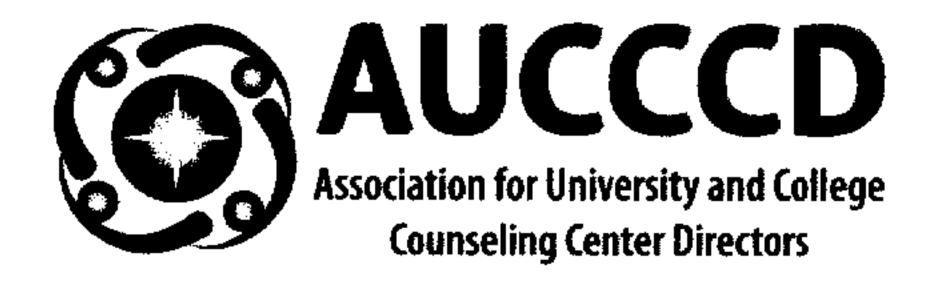
University of Miami

305-284-5511

rmonteag@miami.edu

Barry A. Schreier, Ph.D.

Board Member, 2016-2019
University Counseling Service
University of Iowa
319-335-2794
barry-schreier@niowa.edu



February 16, 2019

AUCCCD Letter of Support for H.R.838 and S. 265

The Association for University and College Counseling Center Directors (AUCCCD) strongly supports the "Threat Assessment, Prevention, and Safety (TAPS) Act of 2019" (H.R Bill 838 and S. 265). As a leading voice for college student mental health, and the largest organization of campus mental health leaders in the country, AUCCCD is actively involved in efforts to reduce the risk of violence to self and others.

There have been far too many mass-casualty events already on our campuses and in our local communities. The majority of perpetrators of mass-casualty events are NOT mentally ill. Focusing on individuals with mental health issues will NOT make our communities safer because the vast majority of them will never act violently toward anyone. Instead, the only proven method to deter targeted violence is a threat assessment process that focuses on whether or not an individual's behavior indicates that they are on a trajectory toward violence.

This bill will help disseminate and standardize this proven, evidence-based threat assessment process to help schools, campuses, and local communities reduce the risk of preventable tragedies. The grant process established by this bill is also essential to enable campus and local communities with inadequate resources to be able to participate in this important endeavor.

Tragedies of targeted violence impact every one of us, and every one of our communities. This bill deserves bipartisan support, and the Association for University and College Counseling Center Directors strongly endorses it.

Sharon L. Mitchell, Ph.D.

Sharon L. Mitchell, Ph.D.

President, Association for University and College Counseling Centers Directors

Website: www.aucccd.org