Deanna Knighton, MEd, MAB

Candidate for Treasurer



Deanna Knighton is the Assistant Director of Career Development at Duke University in the Nicholas School of the Environment. In addition to roles within higher education, her past career development work includes experience in the nonprofit, K-12, workforce development, and international education realms.

Deanna was the 2021 NCDA Conference Program Chair, collaborated to plan NCDA's February 2020 Career Practitioner Institute, and has been an NCDA member since 2016. She has served as an officer with her state CDA, the North Carolina Career Development Association

(NCCDA), as President-Elect, President, Past-President, Membership Co-Chair, and Secretary. She was NCCDA president during their transition to become an independent non-profit.

In terms of experience related to fiscal management, Deanna was nominated by a credit union to serve on their advisory board, which she has done since 2019. She was also a member of a nonprofit's finance committee for two years and has served as the Vice-President of Scholarships for her alma mater's regional alumni club since 2018. Her current role at Duke includes management of student funding for internships, external training opportunities, and career treks.

Deanna earned a Master of Education in Higher Education Administration from North Carolina State University and a Master's degree in Agricultural Economics from the University of Florida. She received a 2021 NCDA Presidential Recognition Award, led the NCCDA executive board to receive the 2020 NCDA Outstanding State Division Award, co-authored and received a 2020 NCDA Annual State Grant, and was awarded a 2016 NCCDA Best Practices Grant.

Goal Statement:

My goals as treasurer include fiscal responsibility, transparency, and communication. With fiscal responsibility, I hope to continue the great legacy NCDA has in this area. My undergraduate and first graduate degrees are in economics, with accounting and business coursework, giving me the theoretical and practical training of a treasurer. Additionally, both my formal work experience and volunteer experience have had financial responsibilities, whether direct management, consulting for decision-making, or strategic evaluation of finances, and I am skilled in Excel and other financial software. Transparency is a valuable quality in all leaders, especially in monetary matters for disclosure and reporting. I am committed to transparency and have embodied it in all my past leadership positions. Good relationships are also important in any setting, especially in fiscal management, and communication is key. Communicating financial deadlines and expectations and maintaining communication with officers, committee leaders, and members who are responsible for a portion of the budget would all be important to me as treasurer of NCDA.

Mason Murphy, Doctoral Candidate, CMCS

Candidate for Treasurer



My areas of service to NCDA are as follows: Field Editor – Career Convergence, Associate Editor – Workplaces Section – Career Convergence, Chair, Leadership Academy Development Committee, Leadership Academy Participant, Credentialing Commission – Marketing Task Force, International Student Services Committee, Committee on Nominations and Elections, Committee on Diversity Initiatives and Cultural Inclusion, Conference Volunteer & Presenter

My educational background is as follows: Certified Master of Career Services – NCDA, Doctor of Philosophy – Adult, Professional, and Community Education (Pursuing) – Texas State University, Master of Professional Counseling – Completed 46 hours of coursework – Texas State University, Master of Public

Administration – Arizona State University, Master of Education – College Student Affairs – Azusa Pacific University, Bachelor of Arts, Communications/Journalism – Malone University

Goals Statement:

The National Career Development Association (NCDA) has a history of being both financially sound and fiscally responsible and it is the role of the Treasurer to work in the present moment while maintaining the legacy of the past. My goal as Treasurer is to make wise decisions in partnership with the board and the executive director on how best to both spend and conserve the organization's funds. As Treasurer, I will maintain a monthly accounting of the funds and have a clear understanding of how these funds are distributed to the various committees and projects that NCDA has undertaken. I will provide transparent reports to the board and at the annual conference of the accounting and health of the organization. Providing a voice for new ideas, new projects, and new ways of generating funds through grants and other educational and government-based services and resources is also an important function of the role of Treasurer. I look forward to the opportunity to serve as the Treasurer and continue the great work and uphold the proud traditions of NCDA.