**Carla B. Cheatham, M.Ed., LCPC, NCC, GCDF, CSCDA**

Candidate for Trustee – School Career Counselors and Specialists

Carla B. Cheatham is an Instructor at Governors State University and a doctoral candidate in the Counselor Education and Supervision program at GSU. Carla is a retired high school counselor, with over 25 years of experience. She has earned the Global Career Development Facilitator (GCDF) credential and the Certified School Career Development Advisor (CSCDA) credential. She has presented nationally on topics regarding antiracist school counseling and career development. Carla has contributed to the topic of equity and career development through several publications, including, *Using the ACA Advocacy Competencies as a guide to group work for supporting the career development of school-aged African American Males,* with Dr. Erin Mason.



Carla is the past president for the Illinois Association for Multicultural Counseling (IAMC). She is the current secretary for the Illinois Career Development Association (ICDA). She is a committee member for the National Career Development Association’s Leadership Academy Committee. Her research focuses on school counseling work with minoritized students in career development. Carla received a M.Ed. in School Counseling from Georgia State University.

**Goal Statement:**

My goal in the position of School Career Counselor/Specialist Trustee is to build upon the work of the current trustee, including continued support of professional development opportunities for school career counselor career practitioners, and increasing the awareness and participation for the Poetry/Art contest. The language from the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and the American School Counselor Association (ASCA) for preparing students in career development/career readiness provides an opportunity for NCDA to create opportunities for school counselors to receive relevant training in these areas. It is important as school career counselor practitioners to understand the interconnectedness between academics, social-emotional, and career development. My goal is to provide effective and efficient virtual and in-person training opportunities for school counselors. The Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) provides information regarding the training of school counselors in career development. My goal is to find a way to show the usefulness of NCDA for school counselors by targeting practicum and internship programs, as well as school site supervisors. It is imperative that our specialists are trained in recognizing oppressive systems that affect students and school counselors. My goal is to provide training and opportunities to advocate for minority students. I would also like to incorporate NCDA’s global membership and connections to collaborate with school counselors from around the world to learn from each other regarding career development and global school systems.