

GOVERNING BOARD

Lynn Braun, M.A., P.C.C.-S.

President 2024 - 2026
SUNY Oswego
419-783-2548
lynn.braun@oswego.edu

Marcus Hotaling, Ph.D.

Past-President, 2024 - 2025
Union College
518-388-6383
hotaling@union.edu

Erica Pearson, Ph.D., NCC

Treasurer, 2023 - 2026
Kalamazoo College
269-337-7191

Gary Glass, Ph.D.

Secretary, 2024 - 2026
Oxford College of Emory University
770-784-8394
gglass@emory.edu

Cindy Bruns, Ph.D.

Survey Coordinator, 2023 - 2026
Central Washington University
509-963-1638
cindy.bruns@cwu.edu

Serena Butler-Johnson, Psy.D.

Board Member, 2022 - 2025
University of the District of Columbia
202-274-6000
sbutlerjohnson@udc.edu

Calvin Chin, Ph.D.

Board Member, 2022 - 2025
Princeton University
609-258-3141
cc23@princeton.edu

Chetan Joshi, Ph.D.

Board Member, 2023 - 2026
University of Maryland, College Park
301-314-7651
cajoshi@umd.edu

Andrea Lawson, LCSW

Board Member, 2024 - 2027
California Polytechnic State University
805-756-2511
alawso07@calpoly.edu

Teresa Michaelson-Chmelir, PhD, LMHC

Board Member, 2024 - 2027
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
386-226-6905
michaet8@erau.edu

Richard Shadick, Ph.D.

Board Member, 2024 - 2025
Pace University
212-346-1526
rshadick@pace.edu

Scott Strader, Ph.D.

Board Member, 2023 - 2026
University of South Florida
813-974-2831
scottstrader@usf.edu

David Walden, Ph.D.

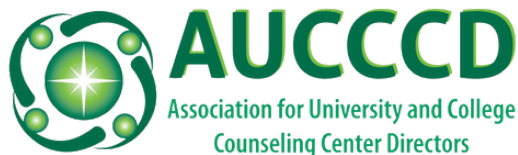
Board Member, 2024 - 2027
Hamilton College
315-859-4340
dwalden@hamilton.edu

Eric Wood, Ph.D., LPC

Board Member, 2023 - 2026
Texas Christian University
817-257-7863
e.c.wood@tcu.edu

Thomas "TJ" Coté, MBA, CAE

Executive Director
AUCCCD
tcote@aucccd.org



+1-317-635-4755

office@aucccd.org

938 E. Georgia Street, Ste. 100
Indianapolis, IN 46202

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AUCCCD BOARD STATEMENT ON EXECUTIVE ORDERS

The recent executive mandates enacted during the start of Donald Trump's presidency, particularly those related to diversity and inclusion, healthcare, immigration, environment, and education, have the potential to significantly impact college student mental health. Executive orders, or any policies, that are experienced by students and educational professionals as limiting a sense of diversity, equity, and inclusion on campus, reducing federal funding for higher education, and creating an environment of uncertainty, fear, and anxiety among students will be compounded by existing academic and personal stressors, which could exacerbate emerging mental health issues and affect students' well-being and academic performance.

The AUCCCD Board believes that investing in college student mental health is crucial, and implores college and university administrations to proactively address mental health through accessible, high quality counseling services, peer support programs, and mental health awareness campaigns that can mitigate factors detrimental to college student mental health. By fostering a supportive campus culture and ensuring that mental health resources are available, colleges can help students navigate political and social environments while promoting resilience and well-being. Prioritizing mental health investments not only supports students' immediate needs but also contributes to their long-term success and overall health.

AUCCCD (The Association for University and College Counseling Center Directors) plays a pivotal role in supporting college student mental health by providing leadership, resources, and advocacy for university counseling centers across the world. This includes centering the mental wellbeing in higher education during circumstances or situations that are likely to have a significant impact campus communities, such as reaction to numerous executive orders and other actions taken by the President. By fostering a network of professionals dedicated to student well-being, AUCCCD helps campuses implement evidence-based practices, develop mental health programming, and advocate for policies that enhance student access to quality mental health services. The organization also works to reduce stigma around mental health, promote awareness, and create an environment where students feel empowered to seek help. AUCCCD is working to ensure that college counseling centers are equipped to address the diverse and evolving mental health needs of students, helping them successfully navigate academic and personal challenges while prioritizing their well-being.