

**ASSOCIATION FOR COUNSELING
SEXOLOGY AND SEXUAL
WELLNESS**

2025-2026
MEMBER MEETING

AGENDA

Welcome

President's Report

Committee Reports

Awards and Emerging Leaders

President-Elect Introduction

Nominations Slate

Conclusion

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

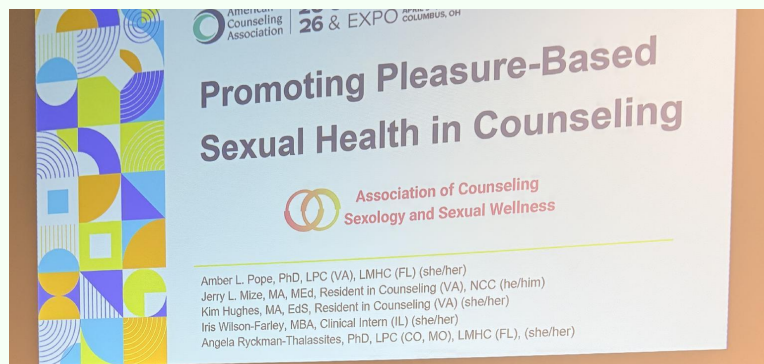
It was our first full year as an ACA Division!

- This meant a lot of logistical work as we shifted to divisional status:
 - Budgeting, financial affairs, and member dues
 - Bylaws revisions in 2025 and upcoming ones in 2026
 - Developing a Policies and Procedures Manual
 - Standing committee reorganization

Now for the fun stuff!

- 2025-2026 Webinar Series - Reviewed each of the 12 Exemplary Practice Areas
 - Thank you to our amazing presenters!
- Journal of Counseling Sexology & Sexual Wellness (JCSSW)
 - Published two issues with 11 articles in 2025
 - Special Issue call
- New website and branding launch (www.counselingsexology.org)
- Approval of first state branch division in Illinois
- ACSSW will have an entry in the upcoming edition of the *ACA Encyclopedia of Counseling*

ACSSW AT THE 2026 ACA CONFERENCE



COMMITTEE REPORTS

BIPOC

- Exploring how to continue the work of the recently disbanded ACA DEIJ Taskforce

EDUCATION & TRAINING

- Finalized curriculum for certification program – anticipated release in 2027
- Delivered 12 webinars for 2025-2026

MEMBERSHIP & PROMOTION

- 340 paid members as of March 31, 2026 (on track to hit 500 members by June 30th!)
- New website launch and branding

RESEARCH & SCHOLARSHIP

- Developing infographics corresponding to the Exemplary Practice areas – coming soon!

SOCIAL JUSTICE & ADVOCACY

- Developed ACSSW Conversion Therapy Position Statement
- Drafted letter to CACREP advocating for more explicit inclusion of sexuality in the core standards

WE NEED YOUR SERVICE!

We are currently seeking volunteers for the following committees and roles:

- **Awards Committee**
 - New standing committee
 - Seeking Chair and members
- **BIPOC Committee**
 - Seeking co-Chair and members
- Previously the Membership and Promotion Committee – now two committees:
 - **Communications and Marketing Committee**
 - Needs Chair starting July 1 and members
 - **Membership and Engagement Committee**
 - Needs Chair and members

Email admin@counselingsexology.org if interested in committee service.

For general communications, continue to use accsw@counselingsexology.com.

ACSSW 2025-2026 AWARDS

Presidential Award

Recipient: Tanisha James



Frances McClain Advocacy Award

Recipient: Frances (Fran) McClain



Shannon Shoemaker Emerging Professional Leader Award

Recipient: Shannon Shoemaker



Angela Ryckman-Thalassites Distinguished Professional Service Award

Recipient: Angela Ryckman-Thalassites





Doctoral Level

Jerry Mize, MA, MEd, Resident in
Counseling (VA), NCC (he/him)



Master's Level

Iris Wilson-Farley, MBA,
Clinical Intern (IL) (she/her)

DR. MARK POPE
EMERGING
LEADERS: 2025-2026

SHELDON AARON CURRENT PRESIDENT-ELECT

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Platform:

- Role mental health providers have in Comprehensive Sex Education in the K-12 education system

Journal Special Issue

- Bridging the Gap: Advancing Comprehensive Sexual Health Education from the Classroom to the Clinic
 - Manuscripts should be submitted through the JCSSW online submission system:
<https://digitalcommons.unf.edu/cgi/submit.cgi?context=jcssw>

2026-2027 Webinar Series

sheldon.aaron93@gmail.com

UPCOMING BOD ELECTIONS

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President-Elect:

- Jerry Mize

Graduate Student Representative:

- Shamika Alford
- Nikki Curry
- Alexa Douros
- Abel Vaughn-Valencia

ACA Advisory Council Representative:

- Frances McClain

Clinical Representative

- Dana Kirkpatrick

**Voting opens tomorrow and ends on May 13th at 11:59 pm
Eastern time**

SEEKING NOMINATIONS FOR:

Treasurer Elect



Master's and Doctoral Emerging Leaders



Nominations due April 30th at 11:59 pm Eastern time

FINAL THOUGHTS

- ACSSW has been in a transitional period since becoming an ACA division in late 2024.
- We are excited about our growth and new things on the horizon, and thank you for your patience and continued engagement as we work through some of our growing pains.
- Moreover, the past few years have brought many challenges for our profession, impacting our clinical work, counselor training, and social justice advocacy efforts.
- We believe in solidarity and the strength of our collective voice.
- We appreciate each of you – your time, your enthusiasm, and your shared commitment to advancing sexual wellness in the counseling profession.



THANK YOU

2025-2026 ACSSW Board of Directors

President: Amber Pope

President-Elect: Sheldon Aaron

Past-President: Laurie Bonjo

Secretary: Julia Lancaster

Treasurer: Kameela George

Treasurer-Elect: Niko Wilson

Governing Council Rep: Angela Ryckman-Thalassites

Graduate Student Rep: Kim Hughes

Trustees: Patricia Arredondo, Marty Jencius, Jane Rheineck