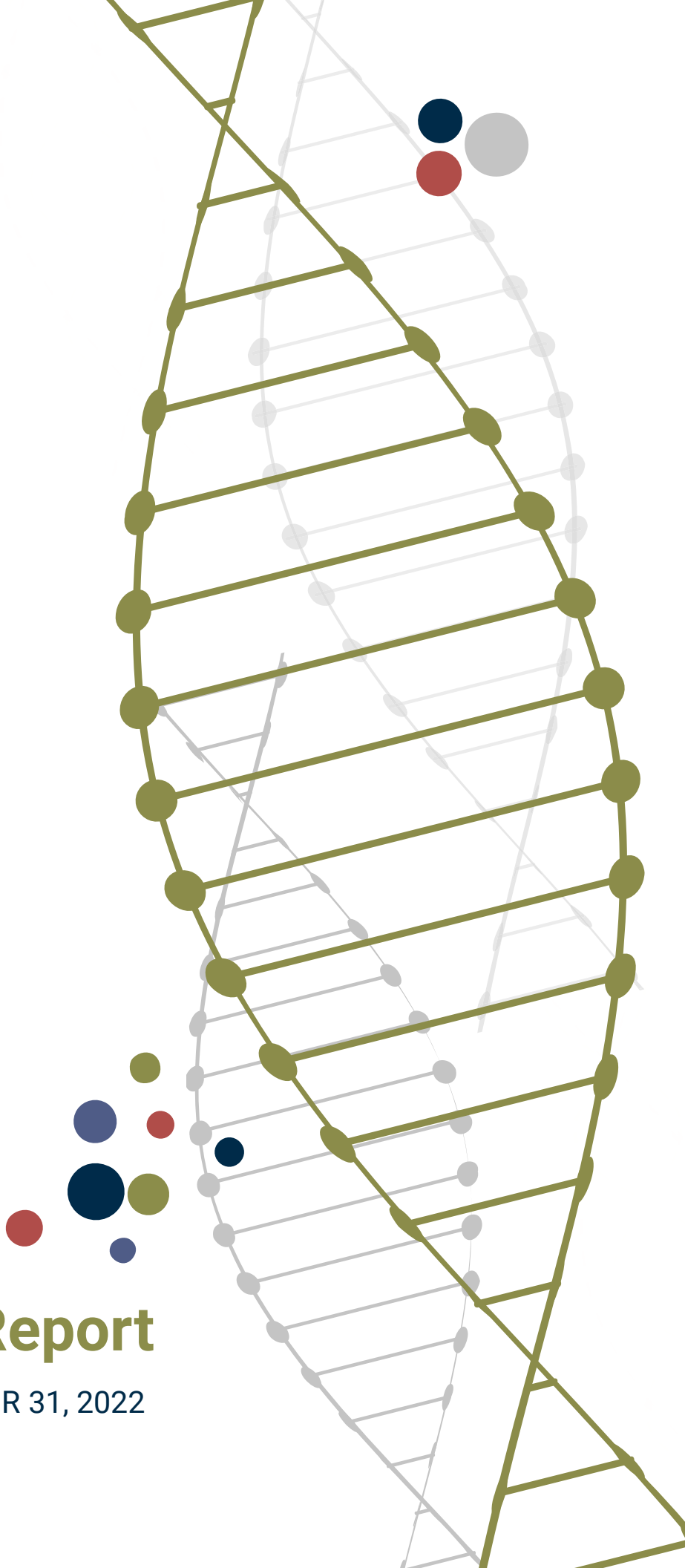




# ACGC Annual Accreditation Report

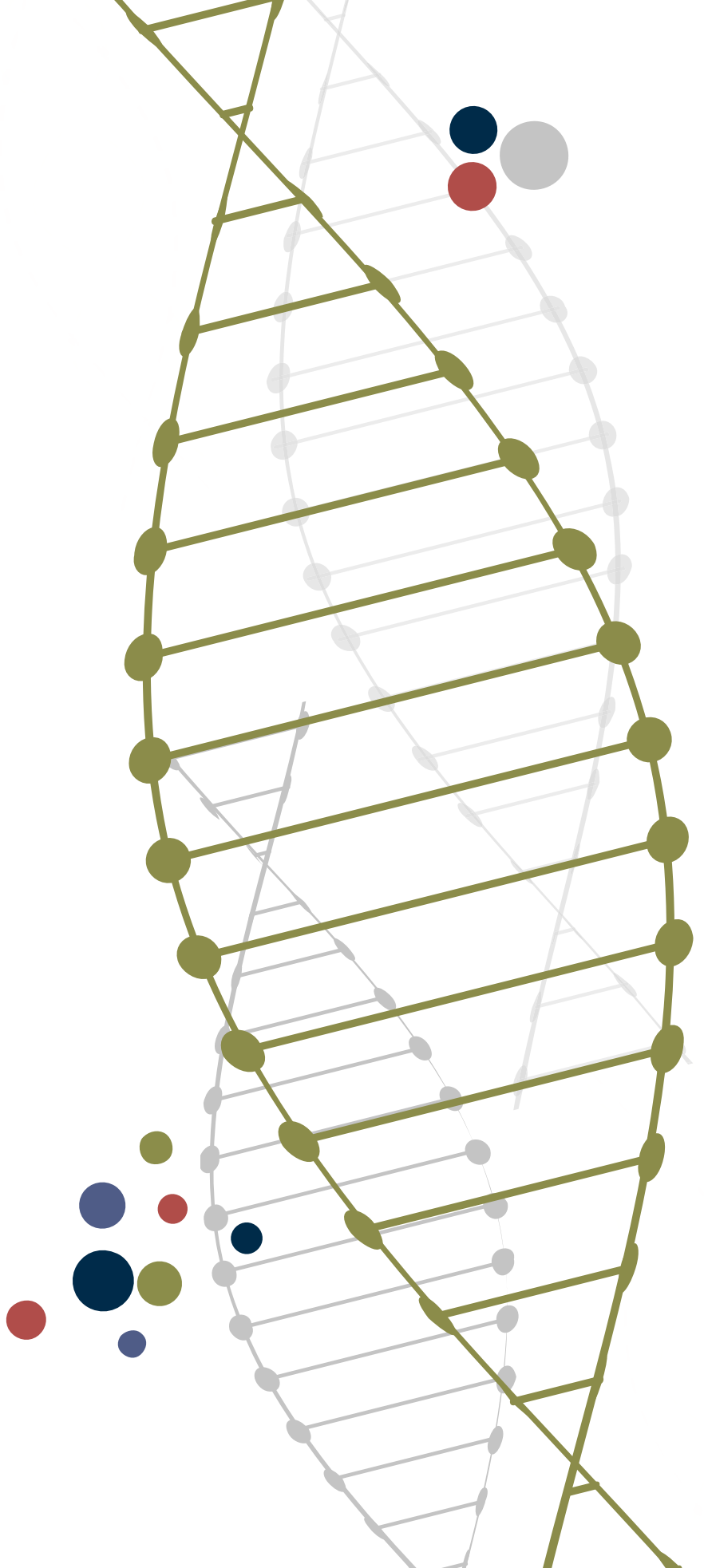
JANUARY 1, 2022 - DECEMBER 31, 2022





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## ACGC PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The cumulative and long-lasting effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on higher education practices, combined with the continued growth of genetic counseling graduate programs, has kept ACGC busy during 2022. We supported a total of 56 graduate programs during the accreditation process by the end of the year, streamlined many accreditation applications and forms, and enhanced volunteer training to support the anticipated growth that we are expecting in 2023 and beyond.

Successful accreditation requires teamwork, dedication, and commitment by program leadership and faculty, volunteer peer-reviewers, and Board members to ensure that compliance with Standards are achieved in a way that promotes excellence and innovation. We thank our program leadership, faculty, and current students for their understanding and commitment to the Standards and related accreditation processes. We also have focused much of our recent efforts on understanding how to meet the needs of our key stakeholder communities, while being strategic about organizational sources. Our 2022 key accomplishments demonstrate this strategic mindset, including:

- Launched a new, mobile-response website with enhanced user experience features, in addition to a frequently used forms section and an interactive program map.
- Held a public comment period for feedback on the revised Practice-Based Competencies (PBCs).
- Held a public comment period for feedback on the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice (DEIJ) Standards Revision.
- Successfully recruited and onboarded new ACGC volunteers for several standing committee positions, including Nominating, DEIJ, Communications, and Program Review Committee.
- Launched the new standing Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice (DEIJ) Committee based on 2021 recommendations from the Diversity Taskforce. Inaugural committee members are charged with helping to design and establish committee priorities.

ACGC is incredibly thankful for the dedication and commitment demonstrated by our wonderful team of Program Review Committee (PRC), Taskforce, and Standing Committee members. We also thank the members of the Board who volunteer their time and expertise to lead our organization through continuous growth and expansion and our Executive Office who provide us support and guidance every step of the way.

We have ambitious goals for 2023 and look forward to continued collaboration with the genetic counseling community to help us achieve these together.

**Molly McGinniss, MS, CGC**  
Board President

# PROGRAM ACCREDITATION STATISTICS

## GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF PROGRAMS

As of January 2022, the current number of accredited programs is fifty-six. Visit the ACGC website [www.gceducation.org](http://www.gceducation.org) for links to each accredited program.

## CURRENT PROGRAM AVERAGES

The statistics listed below are averages across all accredited programs required to submit a Report of Current Status in July 2022.

Enrollment Cohort	Avg. Applicants per Program	Avg. Slots per Program	Avg. Applications per Slot	Avg. Enrolled & Matriculated	Avg. Retention	Total Enrolled
2022	*	*	*	15	*	826
2021	139	9	16	9	87%	355
2020	163	10	17	10	100%	491
2019	143	10	16	10	N/A**	467
2018	144	10	15	10	98%	388
2016	115	9	12	9	99%	323

\*Data was not gathered during 2022 Report of Current Status. \*\*Unavailable | Data rounded to the nearest whole number.

## AVERAGE NUMBER OF STUDENT CLINICAL ENCOUNTERS FROM 2021 - 2022 ACADEMIC YEAR

Practice Area	Average	Standard Deviation	Range
Pediatrics	37	24	0-158
Prenatal	45	26	0-228
Cancer	44	22	0-138
Standardized Patient	0.53	1	0-24
Research Participants	0.12	1	0-29
Adult	18	15	0-77
Other (Speciality)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total	145		

## 2022 REACCREDITATION

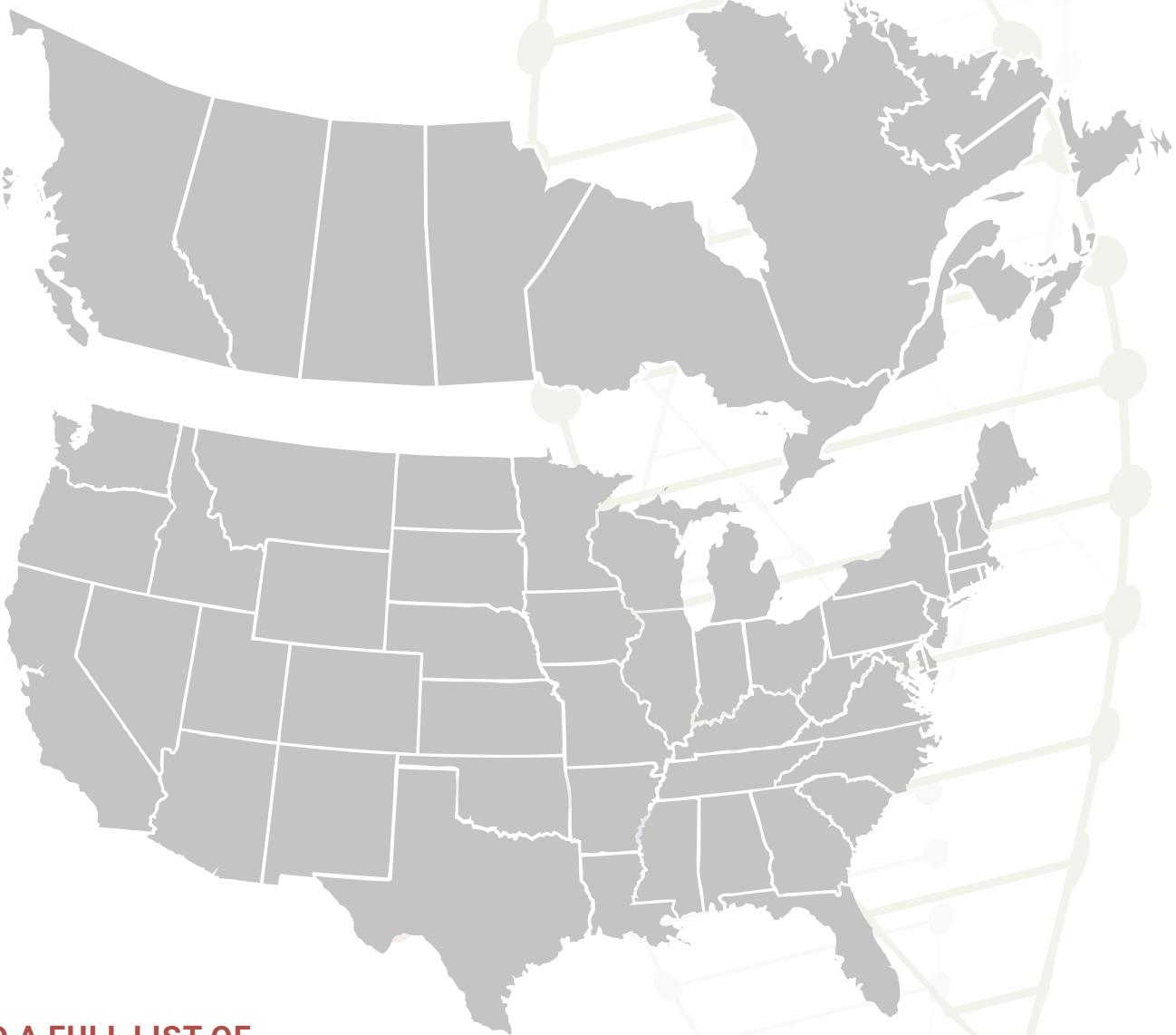
ACGC completed ten site visits for the 2022 reaccreditation cycle. The following programs were reviewed and granted reaccreditation: Boise State University, Columbia University, Long Island University - Post, MGH Institute of Health Professions, Northwestern University, University of Arizona, University of Arkansas, University of Nebraska, Vanderbilt University, and Virginia Commonwealth University.

## NEW PROGRAMS

ACGC granted the following programs Accredited New Program status:

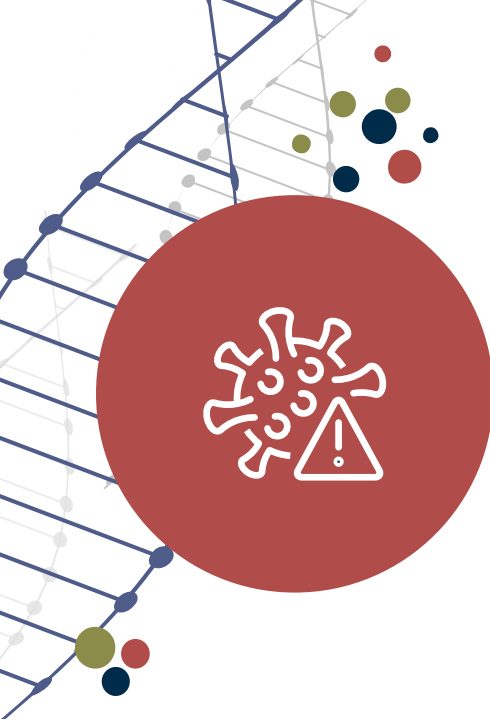
**1/1/2022 - 12/31/2022**

Medical College of South Carolina, University of Connecticut, and University of Rochester



**TO FIND A FULL LIST OF  
ACCREDITED PROGRAMS VISIT**

[WWW.GCEDUCATION.ORG/STUDENTS-VOLUNTEERS/#PROGRAM](http://WWW.GCEDUCATION.ORG/STUDENTS-VOLUNTEERS/#PROGRAM)



## COVID-19 GUIDANCE

ACGC will be allowing the accommodations related to the COVID-19 pandemic to expire on **June 15, 2023**, in line with the United States Department of Education (USDE), the Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA), and other accreditation organizations regarding COVID-19 exceptions. The original expiration date of May 15, 2023 has been extended to account for consistency with reporting on the Report of Current Status due **June 2023**. Programs will be expected to be compliant with relevant standards including Fieldwork Supervisors (A2.6.1), Curriculum Instruction (B1.4), and Fieldwork Training (B3.1.2) at that time.

- Fieldwork Supervisors (A2.6.1) Board certified genetic counselors with less than one year of experience and board-certified medical geneticists will be accepted as individuals capable of supervising students for their required 50 participatory cases with the condition that supervisors with less than one year of experience have a mentorship relationship with a genetic counselor/medical geneticist with supervision experience.
- Curriculum Instruction (B1.4) Programs should continue to follow their institution's guidelines/policies regarding course instructional delivery methods (e.g., hybrid, distance enhanced, or distance learning). No notification is required to ACGC for a temporary instructional delivery change. If the Program plans for permanent instructional delivery changes affecting more than 10% of the curriculum, a substantive change request must be submitted to ACGC.
- Fieldwork Training (B3.1.2) ACGC expects compliance. If a program anticipates that they will be noncompliant with this Standard, a request for variance is required with the fee assigned waived if this is directly tied to COVID-19 impacts.



## TIMELINE OF RELATED ACTIVITIES:

**1996** PBCs developed by American Board of Genetic Counseling (ABGC)

**2005** PBCs reviewed and revised by ABGC-AGCPD joint retreat

**2011** PBC task force representing ABGC, ACGC, and AGCPD performed comprehensive review, submitted revisions to ACGC Board of Directors (BOD)

**2013** Revised PBCs announced, oversight moved to ACGC

**2018** PBCs related to genetic counselors ordering genetic testing reviewed at request of NSGC, revision to PBC IV reviewed and approved by ACGC

**2020** ACGC PBC Task Force convened to review and revise PBCs

**2023** ACGC PBC Task Force expected to complete the review process

## PRACTICE-BASED COMPETENCIES REVIEW

The Practice-Based Competencies for Genetic Counselors form the basis for educational outcomes in graduate genetic counselor education. They are designed to reflect competencies that genetic counselors are expected to achieve by the completion of their graduate program.

A task force was established and began work in 2020 for the purpose of completing a systematic, comprehensive review of the current Practice-Based Competencies (PBCs). The task force is made up of genetic counselor leaders in varied clinical specialties, a medical geneticist, laboratorian, and education expert. Task force members are also active members ABGC, AGCPD, CAGC, and NSGC.

Using the universal developmental model as a framework, a revised version of the existing PBCs was presented to the ACGC Board of Directors in February 2022. The Board of Directors provided general support and feedback for the initial draft. In the fall of 2022, a public comment period allowed the genetic counseling community at large to provide stakeholder feedback regarding the content and organization of the PBCs.

The PBC Task Force worked diligently during the winter months of 2022 to address feedback from the ACGC BOD and the public comments; they also incorporated a request from the NSGC to revise wording related to ordering of genetic tests into their revisions. Intended goals for this revision included decreasing the number of overall competencies, ensuring the competencies were appropriate for entry-level genetic counselors, designing each competency to be measurable, and focusing on higher-level knowledge.

Having achieved these goals with the latest revisions, led by Leslie Cohen, has created a format that is visually comprehensive. Additionally, the Task Force has created a format that is visually comprehensible and allows for enhanced readability. Continued work to develop companion documents, such as a description of the developmental framework and a glossary of terms, will occur as the ACGC Board of Directors conducts their review and considers an implementation timeline and procedure.



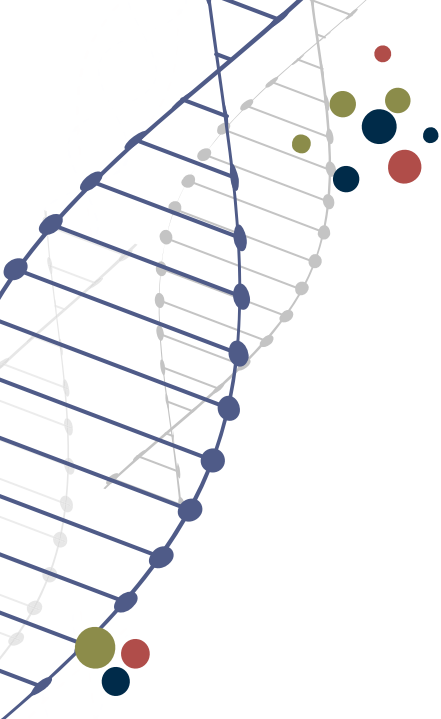
## ACGC STANDARDS

The goal of the ACGC Standards Committee is to monitor, evaluate and make recommendations to the ACGC Board for revision of the Standards of Accreditation. In 2021, the ACGC Diversity Taskforce recommended revisions to the existing standards. In order to integrate these recommendations in a timely fashion, the Standards Committee was charged with incorporating them in an off-cycle 2022 Standards revision.

To accomplish this, the Standards Committee members individually reviewed the standards by section with attention to inclusive language and the ACGC Diversity Taskforce recommendations. Individual responses were combined and reviewed during a series of team meetings until consensus was reached. The recommended revisions were presented to the ACGC Board in August 2022 and were circulated for public comment in November and December 2022. The Standards Committee is currently in the process of making further revisions based upon the public comment, consulting with the newly formed Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice Committee as needed throughout this process.

We anticipate the revised Standards will be released with an accompanying Frequently Asked Questions document. The public will be invited to comment on existing Standards during the next full revision.





## 2021-2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### **Molly McGinniss, MS, LCGC**

President | Senior Director, Population Genomics Genome Medical

### **Dawn Allain, MS, CGC**

Past President | Associate Professor, Internal Medicine,  
Director, Genetic Counseling Graduate Program, Ohio  
State University Wexner Medical Center, Division of  
Human Genetics, Department of Internal Medicine

### **Jennifer Eichmeyer, MS, CGC**

Secretary/Treasurer | Program Director, Masters of Science  
in Genetic Counseling, Boise State University

### **Kate Reed, MPH, ScM**

Program Review Committee Chair  
Director, Clinical Education Program, The Jackson Laboratory

### **Erin Carmany, MS, CGC**

Program Review Committee Vice Chair  
Assistant Professor, Clinician Educator; Associate Director,  
Genetics Counseling Graduate Program Wayne State University

### **Susan Randall Armel, MSc, MS, MScCH (Ed), CGC**

Program Review Committee Vice Chair  
Senior Genetic Counsellor, Assistant Director,  
Clinical Supervision and Learning, MSc Genetic  
Counselling Program, The University of Toronto

### **Heather Creswick, MS, CGC**

Nominating Committee Board Liaison  
Director | Instructor, Department of Human and Molecular  
Genetics Clinical Faculty, Genetic Counseling Training  
Program, Virginia Commonwealth University, Massey  
Cancer Center, Department of Human Genetics

### **Sarah McBrien, PhD**

Practice-Based Competencies Board Liaison  
Director | Assistant Professor, Director of Curriculum and  
Assessment University of Nebraska Medical Center

### **Sylvia Mann, MS, CGC**

Communications Committee Board Liaison  
Director | Supervisor, State of Hawaii Department  
of Health Genomics Section and Project Director of  
Western States Regional Genetics Network

### **Earl 'Gip' Seaver, PhD**

Public Member  
Director | Academy Solutions, Professor  
Emeritus, Northern Illinois University



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to our many volunteers from this past year – we could not do it without you! Please visit the [ACGC website](#) to see open volunteer opportunities.

### COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The ACGC Communications Committee is charged with overseeing communications involving the ACGC and enabling transparency in the accreditation process for graduate programs in genetic counseling. This entails creating and overseeing the annual strategic communication plan, website, annual report, submissions to genetic counseling publications, and other tasks related to communication with our stakeholders. Keep an eye out for ACGC contributing to upcoming issues of Perspectives to highlight topics related to new and existing program accreditation.

#### **ANDREA MOON, MS, CGC**

Clinical Instructor, Baylor College of Medicine - Interim Chair

#### **TAHNEE CAUSEY, MS, LCGC**

Program Director, VCU MS Genetic Counseling Program, Virginia Commonwealth University - Interim Chair

#### **SYLVIA MANN, MS, CGC**

Supervisor, State of Hawaii Department of Health Genomics Section and Project Director of Western States Regional Genetics Network – Board Liaison

#### **CHLOE DUGGER, MS, CGC**

Genetic Counselor, Genome Medical

#### **JESSICA KIANMAHD SHAMSHONI, MS, CGC**

Pediatrics Genetics, UCLA Children's Hospital

#### **IAN WALLACE, MS, CGC, MBA**

Pullman Regional Hospital



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VOLUNTEERS

### DISTANCE EDUCATION

The Accreditation Council for Genetic Counseling (ACGC) is considering adding language to standards –or creating standards– that specifically address distance education. The rationale is that distance education, in varied forms, is becoming common practice across programs, and the current standards do not examine, for example, the institutional support and faculty training in order to provide quality distance education. Moreover, there is potential that some current standards may not apply to a distance education program thereby placing such a program at risk for noncompliance, inadvertently.

#### **MARIA GYURE, MS, LCGC**

Program Director, Clinical Genetics and Genomics Graduate Certificate Program, University of Connecticut – Chair

#### **JENNIFER EICHMEYER, MS, CGC**

Program Director, Masters of Science in Genetic Counseling, Boise State University – Board Liaison

#### **PATRICIA BREWER, MA, ED.D.**

Senior Contributing Faculty Member, Richard W. Riley College of Education and Leadership at Walden University

#### **JORDAN FOSTER, LCGC**

Genetic Counselor, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

#### **TIFFANY LEPARD, MS, CGC**

Assistant Professor and Assistant Program Director, The Master of Science in Genetic Counseling Program, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

#### **ROBIN SMITH, PhD**

#### **KATHLEEN VALVERDE, PhD, LCGC**

Program Director, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania

#### **LORI WILLIAMSON-DEAN, MS, CGC**

Assistant Professor, The Master of Science in Genetic Counseling Program, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VOLUNTEERS

### DIVERSITY TASK FORCE

The ACGC Diversity Task Force provides guidance to the ACGC that is grounded in the theory and concepts of intersectionality as applied to genetic counseling regarding: 1) graduate educational initiatives, and 2) the pathway of entry to the profession through graduate school. The taskforce will review what is known about intersectionality in GC and other higher education fields, including a landscape analysis of genetic counseling graduate programs regarding their current efforts/practices and measures of success.

**AMANDA BERGNER,  
MS, CGC**

Associate Professor  
of Genetic Counseling,  
Director, Genetic Counseling  
Graduate Program- Chair

**NADINE CHANNAOUI,  
MS, CGC**

Brigham and Women's Hospital

**JENNIFER EICHMEYER  
MS, CGC**

Program Director, Masters of  
Science in Genetic Counseling,  
Boise State University

**BARBARA HARRISON,  
MS, CGC**

Assistant Professor,  
Howard University

**JANETTE LAWRENCE,  
MS, LCGC**

Senior Genetic Counselor,  
Massachusetts General Hospital

**ILANA MITTMAN,  
PhD, MS, CGC**

Genetic Counselor, Luminis Health

**CATHERINE (CASEY) REISER,  
MS, CGC**

Professor, Program Director,  
Master of Genetic Counselor  
Studies, University of  
Wisconsin School of Medicine  
and Public Health

**MIKE DARREN SUGUITAN,  
MS, LCGC**

Genetic Counselor,  
ACL Laboratories

**JENNIFER WALTON,  
MD, MPH, FAAP**

Assistant Professor, The Ohio  
State University, Physician,  
Nationwide Children's Hospital



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VOLUNTEERS

### FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee monitors financial investments, works with an investment advisor under the guidance of the investment policy, and makes recommendations to the Board of Directors with regard to fiscal policies.

#### **HEATHER CRESWICK, MS, LCGC**

Assistant Professor, VCU MS Genetic Counseling Program, Virginia Commonwealth University

#### **YUE GUAN, MB, PhD, SCM**

Research Assistant Professor, The Rollins School of Public Health of Emory University

#### **DAWN ALLAIN, MS, CGC**

Associate Professor, Internal Medicine Director, Genetic Counseling Graduate Program, Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, Division of Human Genetics, Department of Internal Medicine

#### **MOLLY MCGINNISS, MS, CGC**

Senior Director, Population Genomics Genome Medical



### NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The goal of the ACGC Nominating Committee is to identify a slate of candidates for election to the ACGC Board of Directors.

#### **KATHLEEN BERENSTEN SWENSON, MS, MPH, CGC**

Assistant Professor, Medical Sciences & Education, Boston University School of Medicine, Director, Boston University Master's Program in Genetic Counseling - Chair

#### **SALMA NASSEF, MS, CGC**

Assistant Professor, Molecular and Human Genetics, Baylor College of Medicine, Associate Program Director, School of Health Professions, BCM Genetic Counseling Program

#### **DAWN ALLAIN, MS, CGC**

Associate Professor, Internal Medicine Director, Genetic Counseling Graduate Program, Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, Division of Human Genetics, Department of Internal Medicine – ACGC Board Liaison

#### **JULIA PLATT, MS, LCGC**

Lead Genetic Counselor, Stanford Center for Inherited Cardiovascular Disease, Stanford Healthcare

#### **BEATRIX WONG, MS, LGC**

Genetic Counselor, Division of Human Genetics, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VOLUNTEERS

### PRACTICE-BASED COMPETENCIES TASK FORCE

The Practice-Based Competencies Task Force is responsible for undertaking a comprehensive review, update, and revision of the PBC document.

**LESLIE COHEN,  
MS, PhD, CGC**

Manager, Women's Health Remote Genetic Counseling, Sema4 – Chair

**SARAH MCBRIEN, PhD**

Assistant Professor and Director of Curriculum & Assessment, College of Allied Health Professions, University of Nebraska Medical Center – Board Liaison

**CARRIE ATZINGER, MS, CGC**

Co-Director, Genetic Counseling Graduate Program, Cincinnati Children's Hospital, Associate Professor, UC Department of Pediatrics

**FALLON BREWER, MS, CGC**

Genetic Counselor, Genetic Counseling Program, Clinical & Diagnostic Sciences, School of Health Professions, University of Alabama at Birmingham

**CARRIE CASTONGUAY, CGC**

Genetic Counselor, Quest Diagnostics

**MEGAN CHO, CGC**

Associate Director, JHU/ NHGRI Genetic Counseling Training Program

**CURTIS COUGHLIN,  
MBE, MS, PhD**

Associate Professor, Pediatric-Clinical Genetics and Metabolism, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus

**CLAIRE DAVIS, CGC**

Co-Director, MS Human Genetics Program, Sarah Lawrence College

**KAREN DENT, MS, CGC**

Director of the University of Utah Graduate Program in Genetic Counseling, University of Utah

**AMY DONAHUE,  
MLIS, MGCS, CGC**

Assistant Professor; Director of Student & Curriculum Inclusion, Master of Science Genetic Counseling Program, Medical College of Wisconsin

**LORI ERBY, CGC**

Assistant Scientist, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

**ROBIN GRUBS,  
MS, PhD, LCGC**

Associate Professor, Human Genetics, University of Pittsburgh School of Public Health



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VOLUNTEERS

### PRACTICE-BASED COMPETENCIES TASK FORCE CONTINUED

**JESSICA HARTLEY,  
MS, MSC, CGC**  
Program Director, MSc in Genetic  
Counseling, University of Manitoba

**JESSICA KIANMAHD  
SHAMSHONI, MS, CGC**  
Pediatrics Genetics, UCLA  
Children's Hospital

**TERESA KRUISSELBRINK,  
CGC**  
Genetic Counselor, Supervisor,  
Center for Individualized  
Medicine, Mayo Clinic

**MARGARET LILLEY,  
MSC, CCGC, CGC**  
Genetic Counselor,  
University of Alberta

**IAN MCFARLANE, PhD**

**TIA MOSCARELLO, MS LCGC**  
Clinical Assistant Professor,  
Pediatrics – Genetics,  
Stanford University

**JESSICA SHANK, MS**  
Laboratory Genetic Counselor,  
Seattle Children's Hospital

**REBECCA SHEEDY SMITH,  
LGC**  
Genetic Counselor, Medical  
Genetics/Genomics, Geisinger

**ANDREA SHUGAR, CGC**  
Genetic Counselor, The  
Hospital for Sick Children

**JILL SLAMON,  
MAT, MS, CGC**  
Assistant Program Director,  
Reproductive Genetic  
Counselor, Vanderbilt  
University Master of Genetic  
Counseling Program, Vanderbilt  
University Medical Center

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VOLUNTEERS

## PROGRAM REVIEW COMMITTEE

The Program Review Committee (PRC) is a dedicated group of volunteers with experience in genetic counselor education, including program and curriculum development, research, and or clinical supervision. PRC members review Reaccreditation Application and self-study documents and assess compliance with ACGC Standards.

### **KATE REED, MPH, SCM**

Director, Clinical Education Program,  
The Jackson Laboratory – Chair

### **SUSAN ARMEL, MSC, MS, MSCCH (ED), CGC**

Senior Genetic Counsellor, The Familial Cancer Clinic Princess Margaret Cancer Centre, Assistant Director, Clinical Supervision and Learning MSc Genetic Counselling Program, The University of Toronto – Vice Chair

### **ERIN CARMANY, MS, CGC**

Assistant Professor of Molecular Medicine and Genetics Associate Director, Genetic Counseling Masters Program  
Wayne State University – Vice Chair

### **CARRIE ATZINGER, MS, LGC\***

Co-Director, Genetic Counseling Graduate Program, Cincinnati Children's Hospital, Associate Professor, UC Department of Pediatrics

### **SHARON AUFOX, MS, CGC**

Assistant Director, Genetic Counseling Graduate Program  
Northwestern University

### **EMMA BEDOUKIAN, MS, LCGC\***

Genetic Counselor and Educational Core Leader, Roberts Individualized Medical Genetics Center, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

### **CECELIA BELLCROSS, PhD, MS, CGC**

Program Director, Associate Professor, Department of Human Genetics, Emory University School of Medicine

### **KATIE LEE BERGSTROM MS, CGC**

Genetic Counselor, Seattle Children's Hospital

### **JANICE BERLINER MS, CGC**

Program Director, Chief Administrative Officer, Genetic Counseling Master's Program, Bay Path University

### **BARBARA BERNHARDT, MS CGC**

Genetic Counselor, Clinical Professor of Medicine, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania

### **LAURA BIRKELAND MS, CGC**

Assistant Program Director, MGCS Assistant Professor (CHS), Genetic Counseling Program, School of Medicine and Public Health, University of Wisconsin- Madison

### **BRUCE BLUMBERG, MD\***

Professor, Clinical Science, Kaiser Permanente Bernard J. Tyson School of Medicine

### **RACHEL BRADSHAW MS, CGC\***

Program Director, Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis

### **PAMELA BROCK, MS, CGC\***

Assistant Professor, Clinical Internal Medicine, The Ohio State University College of Medicine

### **KATHLEEN BROWN, MS, CGC**

Assistant Professor, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus

### **LAUREL CALDERWOOD, MS, LCGC**

Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, Stanford Children's Hospital, Lucile Packard Children's Hospital

### **NANCY CALLAHAN, MS, LCGC**

Clinical Professor, Director Emeritus, Genetic Counseling Program, School of Health and Human Sciences, The University of North Carolina at Greensboro

### **TAHNEE CAUSEY, MS, LCGC\***

Program Director, VCU MS Genetic Counseling Program, Virginia Commonwealth University

### **KATHLEEN COLLINS, LGC**

Genetic Counselor III, Division of Human Genetics, Cincinnati Children's

### **STEPHANIE COURY MS, CGC\***

Pediatric Clinical Genetic Counselor, Boston Children's Hospital

\* Served as a site visitor.



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VOLUNTEERS

## PROGRAM REVIEW COMMITTEE CONTINUED

**TINA COWEN, PhD**

Professor of Pathology, Stanford Hospital and Clinics, Lucile Packard Children's Hospital

**REBECCA DARRAH, MS, PhD\***

Co-Director, Genetic Counseling Training Program, Co-Director of the MS in Genetic Counseling and MA in Bioethics Dual Degree Program, Casa Western Reserve University

**ELYSIA DAVIS, MS, CGC**

Medical Science Liaison, Natara

**KRISTEN DEBERG, MC, CGC\***

Genetic Counselor, Stanford Cardiovascular Institute, Stanford Health

**PAULA DELK, MS, LCGC**

Assistant Professor of Clinical Medical & Molecular Genetics, Director, Genetic Counseling Program, Indiana University School of Medicine

**BETH DELLINGER, MS, CGC**

Genetic Counselor  
Atrium Health

**MARTHA DUDEK, MS, LCGC\***

Assistant Professor, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Vanderbilt University Medical Center

**DAVID FLANNERY, MD\***

Director of Telegenetics and Digital Genetics, Staff Physician, Center for Personalized Genetic Healthcare, Cleveland Clinic

**KATHRYN STEINHAUS FRENCH, MS, LCGC**

Genetic Counselor, University of California, Irvine

**JESSICA GIORDANO, MS, CGC**

Assistant Professor of Genetic Counseling, Columbia University Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology

**NANCY HANSON, MS, LGC**

Cancer Genetic Counselor, Swedish Cancer Institute

**ANDREA HARBISON, MS, CGC**

Genetic Counselor, University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

**AMANDA HIGGS, MGC, CGC\***

Genetic Counselor, Instructor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of Maryland Medical System

**MEGAN HINTON, MS, CGC\***

Assistant Professor, Genetic Counselor Feinberg School of Medicine, Prenatal and Preconception Genetic Counseling, Northwestern University

**LYNN HOLT MS, CGC**

Program Director, Genetic Counseling, Assistant Professor, Department of Clinical Diagnostic Sciences, School of Health Professions, The University of Alabama at Birmingham

**JENNIFER IVANOVICH, MS CGC**

Assistant Professor of Clinical Medical & Molecular Genetics, Indiana University School of Medicine

**CYNTHIA A. JAMES, PhD, CGC\***

Assistant Professor of Medicine, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

**EMILY HANSEN-KISS, MS, MA, CGC**

Assistant Professor, Diagnostic and Biomedical Sciences, University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

**NANCY KRAMER, MS\***

Genetic Counselor, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center

**ASHLEY KUHL, MS, CGC\***

Genetic Counseling, Biochemical and Medical Genetics Clinics, Waisman Center, University of Wisconsin-Madison

**LAUREN LICHTEN, MS, CGC**

Assistant Program Director, Assistant Professor, Emory Department of Human Genetics, Emory University School of Medicine

**SHARYN LINCOLN, MS, CGC\***

Genetic Counselor, Division of Genetics, Boston Children's Hospital

**MONICA MARVIN, MS, CGC**

Associate Clinical Professor of Human Genetics, Associate Clinical Professor of Internal Medicine, Associate Director Genetic Counseling Program, University of Michigan Medical School

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VOLUNTEERS

## PROGRAM REVIEW COMMITTEE CONTINUED

**DIANE MASSER-FRYE, MS, MSW\***  
Genetic Counselor, Rady  
Children's Hospital San Diego

**KRISTIN DEPRINCE MATTIE,  
MS, LCGC**  
Genetic Counselor, Cooper  
University Health Care

**LESLIE MCCALLEN, MS, CGC\***  
Senior Instructor, Pediatric-Clinical  
Genetics and Metabolism, School  
of Medicine, University of Colorado  
Anschutz Medical Campus

**WILLONIE MENDONCA, MSC, MS\***  
Blueprint Genetics Laboratories Inc.

**MICHELLE MERRILL, MS, CGC**  
Co-Director, Genetic Counseling  
Training Program, Case  
Western Reserve University

**ELYSE MITCHELL, MS CGC\***  
Genetic Counselor, Cytogenetics,  
Mayo Clinic Laboratories

**CINDY MORGAN, MS, LCGC**  
Director, Human Genetics  
University of California, San  
Francisco, School of Medicine

**NICHOLE MORMAN, LCGC**  
Genetic Counselor, OhioHealth  
Genetic Counseling

**SALMA NASSEF, MS, CGC**  
Assistant Professor, Molecular and  
Human Genetics, Baylor College of  
Medicine, Associate Program Director,  
School of Health Professions, BCM  
Genetic Counseling Program

**SARAH NOBLIN, MS, CGC\***  
Laboratory Genetic Counselor, Natera

**LISA AMACKER NORTH, MS, CGC\***  
Genetic Counselor, Levine Cancer  
Institute at Carolinas Medical Center

**VIVIAN PAN, MS, CGC\***  
Director of Genetic Counseling  
Services, Cook County Health\*

**SHEETAL PARMAR, MS, CGC\***  
Head of Clinical Services, Natera

**TONI POLLIN, MS, PhD, CGC\***  
Associate Professor, University of  
Maryland School of Medicine

**ALANNA KULCHAK RAHM,  
PhD, MS, LGC**  
Clinical Investigator Associate  
Professor, Geisinger Genomic  
Medicine Institute

**SARA REICHERT, MS, MPH, LCGC**  
Genetic Counselor, Children's  
Hospital of Philadelphia

**JENNIFER ROGGENBUCK, MS, LGC**  
Associate Professor, Department  
of Neurology, Department of  
Internal Medicine, The Ohio State  
University Wexner Medical Center

**CHARLENE SCHULTZ MS, DRPH**  
Certified Genetic Counselor,  
Founder of Access Genetics,  
Access Genetics, LLC

**JENNA SCOTT, MS, CGC\***  
Co-Director, UBC Master's Program in  
Genetic Counselling, The University of  
British Columbia, Genetic Counsellor,  
BCCA Hereditary Cancer Program

**ANN SEMAN, MS, CGC\***  
Assistant Professor, School of  
Health and Rehabilitation Sciences,  
Director of Clinical Education,  
Master of Science in the Genetic  
Counseling Program, MGH Institute  
of Health Professionals

**KATE SHANE-CARSON, MS, LGC**  
Assistant Professor, Clinical,  
Human Genetics, Comprehensive  
Cancer Center, The Ohio  
University College of Medicine

**CARLY SISKIND, MS, LCGC**  
Senior Genetic Counselor, Assistant  
Clinical Professor, Stanford Medicine

**TAMARA SOLOMON, MS, CGC**  
Assistant Professor, Molecular  
and Human Genetics, Baylor  
College of Medicine

**HEATHER STALKER, MSC, CGC**  
Assistant Program Director, Division of  
Genetics and Metabolism, Department  
of Pediatrics in the College of  
Medicine, University of Florida

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VOLUNTEERS

## PROGRAM REVIEW COMMITTEE CONTINUED

**CHRISTINE STANISLAW, MS, CGC**

Instructor, Department of Human Genetics, Emory University School of Medicine

**LISA S. SCHWARTZ, MS, EDD\***

Associate Professor of Biomedical Laboratory Sciences, George Washington University School of Medicine & Health Sciences

**KATHLEEN BERENTSEN SWENSON, MS, MPH, CGC**

Assistant Professor, Medical Sciences & Education, Boston University School of Medicine, Director, Boston University Master's Program in Genetic Counseling

**KATHERINE TEAGUE SCHILL, GC**

Genetic Counselor, Venter for Advanced Fetal Therapy, Eastern Virginia Medical School

**KAYLA TREAT, MS, CGC**

Genetic Counselor, Indiana State University

**MEGAN TUCKER, MS, CGC**

Assistant Director, Fieldwork Coordinator Genetic Counseling Program, Bay Path University

**KATHLEEN D. VALVERDE, PhD, LCGC\***

Program Director, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania

**AMBER VOLK, MS, CGC\***

Genetic Counselor, Minnesota Perinatal Physicians

**MEREDITH WEAVER, PhD, SCM, CGC**

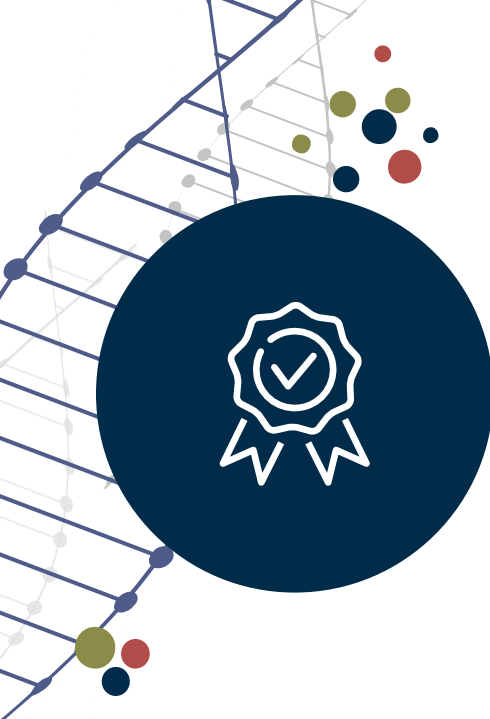
Associate Project Director, American College of Medical Genetic and Genomics

**KATHERINE WUSIK-HEALY, MS, CGC**

Genetic Counselor, Division of Human Genetics Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center

**HOLLY ZIMMERMAN, MS, CGC\***

Assistant Professor and Program Director, Genetic Counseling, College of Allied Health Professions, University of Nebraska Medical Center



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VOLUNTEERS

### STANDARDS COMMITTEE

The purpose of the ACGC Standards Committee is to make recommendations to the ACGC Board of Directors as to necessary changes to the *Standards of Accreditation for Graduate Programs in Genetic Counseling*.

#### **LAUREN LICHTEN, MS, CGC**

Assistant Program Director,  
Assistant Professor, Emory  
Department of Human  
Genetics, Emory University  
School of Medicine – Chair

#### **DAWN ALLAIN, MS, CGC**

Associate Professor, Internal  
Medicine Director, Genetic  
Counseling Graduate Program,  
Ohio State University Wexner  
Medical Center, Division of Human  
Genetics, Department of Internal  
Medicine - Board Liaison

#### **SARA BERGER, MS, CGC**

Lecturer in Genetic Counseling,  
Department of Pediatrics,  
Columbia University Irving Medical  
Center, Certified Genetic Counselor,  
New York-Presbyterian, Morgan  
Stanley Children's Hospital

#### **TIFFINEY CARTER, MS, CGC**

Genetic Counselor, Houston  
Methodist Sugar Land,  
Houston Methodist West

#### **LESLIE COHEN, MS, PhD, CGC**

Manager, Women's Health Remote  
Genetic Counseling, Sema4

#### **DANIEL RICONDA, MS, CGC**

Associate Professor, Genetic  
Counseling Program Director  
School of Health Professions  
& Department of Molecular  
& Human Genetics, Baylor  
College of Medicine

#### **KATE SHANE-CARSON, MS, LGC**

Assistant Professor, Clinical,  
Human Genetics, Comprehensive  
Cancer Center, The Ohio  
University College of Medicine

# REPORT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT

## ACCREDITATION COUNCIL FOR GENETIC COUNSELING, INC.

Statement of Financial Position  
December 21, 2022

Assets	
Cash	\$ 780,241
Investments	\$ 653,329
Receivables	\$ 17,000
Prepaid Expenses	\$ 519
Property and Equipment, net	\$ 88,343
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 1,539,432</b>

Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	\$ 459
Accrued Expenses	\$ 4,953
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 5,411</b>

Net Assets	
Without Donor Restriction	\$ 1,534,021
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 1,534,021</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 1,539,432</b>



**ACGC Executive Office**  
1660 International Drive, Suite 600, McLean, VA 22102  
**Phone:** 703.506.7667 **Email:** [info@gceducation.org](mailto:info@gceducation.org)  
[www.gceducation.org](http://www.gceducation.org)  
*Executive Director: Reese Teasley, CGMS*