

SoACE Conference Consultant list for 2017

Name	Title	Topics for consulting
Thomas Brinkley	Executive Director, Student Professional Development Center Elon University	First-destination reports Employer development Assessment Career services platforms and technology Design thinking to reinvent career services Marketing and promotion
	<p>Tom Brinkley is the Executive Director of Corporate and Employer Relations. He has responsibility for directing the Student Professional Development Center, which houses career services, corporate and employer relations, and on-campus student employment at Elon.</p> <p>Tom joined Elon in December 2011 after more than 30 years in corporate human resources, management consulting, and higher education. Tom was most recently a Partner with an international executive search firm, and managed over 150 search assignments for senior level positions at client organizations. He has also served as Senior Vice President of Human Resources at Oakwood Homes Corporation in Greensboro, NC, and Director of Executive Education and MBA Career Services at Wake Forest University.</p>	
Dr. Neil Burton	Executive Director, Center for Career Development Clemson University	Assessment Employee engagement and satisfaction Internship programs Strategic relationships with internal stakeholders Managing relationships with campus partners Competency development
	<p>Neil Burton is the Executive Director of the Center for Career and Professional Development at Clemson University. His educational background includes a B.A. in Journalism from the University of South Carolina (1989), a M.A. in English from Clemson University (1991), and a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership from Clemson University (2000).</p> <p>Prior to assuming his current role in July 2011, Neil worked for the Cooperative Education Program at Clemson for 13 years, and in the University's Office of Student Financial Aid for six years. Neil holds the rank of Lecturer at Clemson, and has taught everything from freshman composition to doctoral seminars at Clemson and two other universities in the local area.</p>	

<p>Dr. Pam Ehlers</p>	<p>Director, Career Services Oklahoma State University</p>	<p>Employer development Assessment Supervision and employee engagement Strategic relationships with internal stakeholders</p>
	<p>Dr. Pam Ehlers is the Director of Oklahoma State University-Stillwater Career Services. She completed both her bachelors and master's degree in education from Oklahoma State University, a career counseling specialist degree from Pittsburg State University, and a doctorate degree in higher educational leadership from the University of Arkansas-Fayetteville.</p> <p>Pam returned to her alma mater as Director of OSU Career Services in June 2006. She is a Master Career Counselor (MCC), a National Certified Counselor (NCC), and a National Certified Career Counselor (NCCC). She has over 27 years' experience in the field of career counseling and development, and administration in higher education.</p>	
<p>Dr. Jay Killough</p>	<p>Director, University Career Center Texas Tech University</p>	<p>Supervision and employee engagement Career services platforms and technology Strategic relationships with internal stakeholders Developing and managing relationships with career services offices (for employers)</p>
	<p>For the past 17 years, Killough has worked in Higher Education both as an Admissions Counselor and a Career Counselor. Killough has presented career information across the country at various conferences and workshops on topics such as Strengths-Based career advising and career search strategies. Killough's interests include impacting student's lives through positive career coaching and development.</p> <p>Killough received his bachelor's degree in Public Relations and a Master's degree in Interdisciplinary Studies from Texas Tech University. He completed his Ph.D. in Family and Consumer Sciences Education fall 2016.</p>	

Dr. Robert Liddell	Director, Career Services University of Tennessee at Chattanooga	Building relevance and strategic relationships Career services operations Updating and overhauling your center
	<p>Rob Liddell serves as the Director of University Career Services for the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. In this role, he is leading the development of an institutional forum to benchmark best practices, capitalize on cross-campus encounters, and identify common obstacles around career development and readiness themes.</p> <p>Rob holds a Bachelor’s degree from Florida State University, a Master’s degree from the University of South Florida, and a Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration also from USF Tampa. Service to the profession includes co-Chairing the Colleges of Central Florida Career Consortium and serving as the Vice President & Conference Chair for the Florida Association of Colleges and Employers. His favorite roles, however, are husband and dad.</p>	
Catherine Neiner	Director, University Career Services Georgia State University	Scaling career center initiatives Using data to measure effectiveness Supervision and employee engagement Employer development Assessment Strategic relationships with internal stakeholders STEM and business
	<p>Catherine F. Neiner is the Director of University Career Services at Georgia State University, the largest and most diverse institution in Georgia. Previously, she served as director of career centers at Agnes Scott College and the Georgia Tech College of Business and has worked at Emory University and the University of Georgia.</p> <p>She served on the Board of Directors of the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) and served as president of the Georgia Association of Colleges and Employers (GACE). She was only the eighth recipient in 40 years of the GACE Founders Award that recognizes outstanding service, support and dedication to the profession of university career services.</p>	

Dr. Sam Ratcliffe	Director, Career Services Virginia Military Institute	Building relevance and strategic relationships Assessment Professional standards and competencies External reviews Leadership development Ethics in professional practice
	<p>Sam Ratcliffe, Ph.D. is a consultant, researcher, author, and frequent presenter on key topics related to career services. A former president of both the Virginia (VACE) and Eastern (EACE) Associations of College and Employers, Sam received the distinguished service award from both organizations. He has served on the board of the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) as College Director, Vice President-College, and President.</p> <p>Sam also provided career services expertise for ten years as a member of the board of directors for the Council for the Advancement of Standards in Higher Education (CAS). Sam has also been a faculty member for leadership studies courses and director of career services at VMI for many years. Dr. Ratcliffe is also one of 35 members of the prestigious NACE Academy of Fellows. This recognition is for his professional contributions to the advancement of knowledge, leadership, and excellence in professional practice.”</p>	
Thom Rakes	Director, Career Center University of North Carolina at Wilmington	Employer development Assessment First-destination reports Developing and managing internship programs Career services platforms and technology Strategic relationships with internal stakeholders
	<p>Thom has worked over 30 years as a career development professional, first at the University of Missouri Columbia (MU) and now for 20 years as Career Center Director at the University of North Carolina Wilmington. He holds a Masters of Education Degree in Counseling Psychology from MU, and a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from the University of Arkansas. He served as a Supply Officer in the U.S. Navy aboard the USS Enterprise (CVAN-65).</p> <p>He is a National Certified Counselor and National Certified Career Counselor (NBCC), Master Career Counselor (NCD), and certified MBTI practitioner. He has made many presentations at state, regional and national conferences, including NCACE, SoACE, and ACPA. He has served in numerous leadership roles in NCACE, including President, and is recipient of the NCACE Outstanding Professional Award. He also has received the Outstanding Service Award from UNCW's Division of Student Affairs, and was twice nominee for the UNCW Award of Excellence.</p>	

<p>Dr. Amanda Walker</p>	<p>Director, Career Services Austin Peay State University</p>	<p>Employer development Assessment First-destination reports Developing and managing relationships with career services offices (for employers) Navigating relationships with donors Navigating governmental and accrediting bodies</p>
	<p>Dr. Amanda L. Walker is currently serving as the Director of Career Services for Austin Peay State University (APSU). Dr. Walker is trained as a Career Development Facilitator (CDF) and holds Certification Lean Six Sigma-Greenbelt. She has experience working in both large and small public universities. And is currently pursuing certification within the Society of Human Resources Management (SHRM) at the SHRM-CP level.</p> <p>Dr. Walker earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Master of Arts in Higher Education from The University of Mississippi and a Doctor of Education from Delta State University in Professional Studies in Higher Education. Her dissertation focused on employer perspectives on the value of experiential education.</p>	