**An Insider’s Guide to ACCTA**

**ACCTOIDS** is an affectionate term referring to members of ACCTA.

**Passages** is one of the annual workshops at ACCTA. The term “passages” refers to psychological and attitudinal changes that Training Directors/Coordinators can go through over time. Members self identify as to which group they would like to join for discussion. Handouts that contain questions and key issues relevant to each stage are provided.

**Songs & Singing:** Singing dates back to the earliest ACCTA meetings which often took place in a camp-like setting. Writing songs to reflect issues and feelings most salient at ACCTA is a way members have shared the ACCTA experience.  ACCTA honors this tradition through singing at the closing of the conference.

**Evening Socializing:** Often times in the evening ACCTOIDS connect and socialize either at the conference hotel site or nearby locations. These tend to happen organically though at times may be more formally organized (e.g., board games night).

**Conference Connectors:** ACCTA has long valued efforts to welcome and orient new members to the organization. These efforts were originally known as the Buddy System, in which new members were paired with returning members who volunteered to answer any questions prior to the conference and to join the new member for dinner during the first night of the conference. In recent years, the term Buddy was changed to Conference Connector to more clearly indicate the goal of helping new members get connected at the conference.

**Mentor Program:** The Mentor Program began in 2011, developed in response to new member requests for ongoing mentorship above and beyond the ACCTA conference. More experienced members volunteer to serve as mentors for new members who request this support or assistance. Mentoring may involve assistance in internship start-up, the accreditation process, and general acclimation to the training director/coordinator role.

**Group Picture:** A group picture is taken at each conference with all of that year’s attendees, including invited guests**.** This picture and other conference photos are often shared on the listserv, posted on the website after each conference and included on the ACCTA conference Facebook page.

**Ad Hoc Groups:** Prior to and during the conference, members may suggest meeting to informally discuss a particular issue. A list is generated during the conference and is announced to membership. Meeting times and locations for each ad hoc group are determined by those interested in attending.

**Affinity Groups:** Implemented first in 2003, Affinity Groups were created to provide members with the opportunity to meet in small groups to discuss their professional and/or personal experiences as members who share that particular group identity. They are part of the organization’s efforts to promote dialogues about multiculturalism and to continue to work toward inclusiveness and greater cultural awareness.

**Excursions**: The conference organizers plan voluntary excursions for members at each conference. The excursions are designed to provide members with an activity to re-charge during the conference, have an opportunity for more casual interactions, and to explore the culture and/or history of the conference setting.

**Culture Sharing** is a tradition in which all who desire gather to share aspects of their cultural identities and experiences. People tell stories, share pictures, mementos, music, or demonstrations, and just talk. The goals are to learn, to grow, to share, to understand, and to connect. All conference attendees are invited to participate by attending and/or presenting.

**Running for the Board:** All ACCTA members who represent active internship programs which are in good standing with the Association are encouraged to run for a board position, even during the first year of ACCTA membership. Members may self-nominate or nominate others. The solicitation for nominations on the ACCTA listserv begins prior to the conference and continues during the conference. Candidates submit written descriptions of candidacy to be shared with the membership and voting occurs electronically following each conference. The Standing Committee for Diversity (SCD) submits a slate of three candidates to further ensure diversity on the board. The SCD slate member who receives the highest number of votes will be elected to the board.

**Standing Committees:** Members are encouraged to get involved by volunteering to serve on any of these Committees. Attendance at committee meetings during the Conference is open to any interested members.

**The Standing Committee on Diversity** (SCD) promotes cultural diversity, multiculturalism, social justice, and advocacy issues within ACCTA, and works to ensure that such issues remain in the consciousness of the organization. The SCD also strives to promote the professional development of our membership, through the culture sharing program and by ensuring that there are diversity-related presentations.  It oversees the Jay Zimmerman Diversity Mentorship Scholarship (JZDMS) Program and presents a nomination slate for the Board elections.

**The Standing Committee on Bylaws, Policies and Procedures** is charged with maintaining the Bylaws, Policies and Procedures of the Association.

**The Standing Committee on Research** is charged with developing, conducting and presenting scholarly work that facilitates quality training in university settings. Research projects may be requested by the Board, other members, or initiated within the Committee. It is also responsible for conducting the annual ACCTA survey and the evaluation of the ACCTA conference each year.

**The Standing Committee on Training Resources** is charged with gathering, organizing, and sharing training resources utilized by internship programs and having them posted on the web site.

**The Standing Committee on Nominations** is charged with soliciting nominations from the ACCTA membership for board and executive board positions, being as inclusive as possible, and particularly taking into consideration the preamble to the bylaws by encouraging diversity in all of its forms.