**Dirk Matthews MS, CMCS, FCDI**

Candidate for President-Elect-Elect

Dirk Matthews brings a diverse background of experience to career development that is fueled by his work as a therapist, educator, photographer, and filmmaker. He is a leader in career services and an educator at Columbia College Chicago. He is a private practitioner in career development and the owner of an architectural photography business. Dirk has provided career services in higher education and to adults for the past 23 years while teaching film and career preparation courses for 26 years. In addition, he is a Facilitating Career Development Instructor.



Dirk currently serves as chair of the NCDA Training and Education Council. Previously he served as co-chair of the Technology Committee for three years. Currently, he is the Senior Director of Alumni Relations at Columbia.

Dirk received his master’s degree in organizational psychology from California Southern University. He has been published in NCDA’s *Career Developments* and several journals and has presented over the last 16 years on subjects ranging from film analysis, portfolio development, and career development. His recent research focuses on the impact of the pandemic on organizations.

**Goal Statement**

Originally drawn to the openness and accessibility of the NCDA organization, I seek to make resources available to a wider range of individuals. Many resources come with steep price tags that eliminate access for underfunded agencies and underserved populations. As a leader in career development, NCDA has a unique opportunity to diversify resources and support individuals and organizations with limited budgets to better prepare individuals for their careers.

My plan would strengthen the community of career development practitioners and develop initiatives that provide shared information for individuals and their institutions. I will expand and enhance the NCDA Mentorship program to strengthen our community and identify and implement ways to expand our use of technology. To ensure the longevity and continued health of the organization, I plan to utilize organizational psychology tools to identify and highlight the strengths of the organization. I will also develop strategies to support areas that need additional attention.

I look forward to the opportunity to serve NCDA and the membership in a deeper leadership capacity.