**Julia Makela, PhD, CCC**

Candidate for Secretary

Julia Makela is Senior Director of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Career Services at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. With more than 20 years of experience in career development, Julia’s work focuses on helping career practitioners bring out the best in their programs and services. In 2019, Julia was recognized as a NCDA Fellow, acknowledging her leadership, scholarship, and contributions to NCDA.

A person sitting on a staircase

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

Julia is best known for her work in program assessment in career services. For more than a decade, Julia has been a strong voice for data ethics and quality, practitioner-engaged program assessment, and equity-minded assessment in the career development field. Julia is the lead author of NCDA’s program assessment monograph, *Learning Outcomes Assessment Step-by-Step*. Enthusiastic about sharing this work, Julia is a sought-after educator both in the U.S. (e.g., Career Leadership Collective, Complete College America, MWACE) and internationally (e.g., APCDA, Career Industry Council of Australia, CERIC).

For NCDA, Julia serves as the current Secretary of the Board (2020-2023). She was a member of the 2006-2007 NCDA Leadership Academy and has served as a member of the Ethics Committee (2005-2021; Chair 2009–2012) and the Publications Development Council (2012-2020). She assisted with two revisions of the *NCDA Code of Ethics* (2007, 2015), provided lead authorship two NCDA ethics case study monographs (2009, 2017), and served as a mentor for the Leadership Academy(2019-2022) and the NCDA Mentoring Program (2022-present).

Julia earned a Ph.D. in higher education from University of Illinois, a M.S. in counseling from Florida State University, and a B.S. in computer science from Cornell University. She is a Certified Career Counselor (CCC).

**Goal Statement:**

I am passionate about supporting career development professionals and communicating the value of career services. In my first term as Secretary (2020-2023), I was delighted by the variety of opportunities to embrace these activities, including supporting the work of NCDA committees, mentoring new members, and emerging leaders, enhancing association data collection, sharing findings from the NCDA-Harris Poll, and documenting Board activities – just to name a few! Given the opportunity for a second term, I look forward to expanding upon these experiences. I am excited to continue with mentoring and committee liaison activities, while engaging in new ways with NCDA strategic planning initiatives. I will continue to contribute to association leadership efforts, while documenting Board activities in ways that provide high-quality information to both enhance decision-making and communicate the impact of our association.