Keynote – Thursday, April 2, 2020

In Praise of Being Lost in Career

Barry L. Davis, MS, CTC, CMCS

“No all those who wander are lost.” – J.R.R. Tolkien. Most have been here, lost in the maze of career options before them. Even career counselors can have this experience, meandering in their so-called career paths for years until discovering their calling. Why do so many live in perpetual “Hump Days?” Is there a way to avoid such frustrations? What should we, or our clients and students, do to address the seemingly universal angst that accompanies poor career choices? During his keynote speech, Barry will address these questions and understand the opportunities that exist in these vocational missteps.

Barry Davis is a Career Coach with Gift of Self Career Services. LLC. Holding a Master’s degree in Clinical Psychology from Millersville University and designated as a Master Career Specialist by the National Career Development Association, he has contributed to the Association’s online newsletter, Career Convergence. An active blogger, he has also written for the Social Media Examiner and the Middle Atlantic Career Counseling Association’s newsletter. Davis’ presentation experience includes keynoting for the MACCA, presenting to the Eastern Association of Colleges and Employers, Maryland Career Development Association, Human Resource associations, Business Executive’s Networking Group, Lancaster Young Professionals, and various organizations, colleges and universities. A certified AVA Analyst and Certified Talent Consultant for advanced assessment training with the Institute of Personality and Ability Testing, he also holds certification in Critical Incident Stress Debriefing from the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation.
Keynote – Friday, April 3, 2020

*The Long Road: A Leadership Journey*
*(It Takes Courage to Change & Lead)*

Sue E. Pressman, Ph.D.
President-Elect American Counseling Association
Career Counselor/Coach/Practitioner & Entrepreneur

Beginning with Maslow, Dr. Pressman will weave in her own personal journey, challenges, opportunities, lessons learned, along with some leadership tips that she recently published with Dr. Judy Daniels. She'll also share some of the initiatives she’ll be focusing on in 2020-2021, as the President of the American Counseling Association (ACA) that directly affect the counseling profession. It is sure to be an enlightening lunch break keynote presentation, perfectly placed as you meet new colleagues and re-connect with friends from the DMV area.

Dr. Pressman, a licensed professional counselor with additional certifications (NCC, NCCC, MCC, BCC, GCDFI), has been a practitioner and business owner and active ACA member for over 35 years. Through her company Pressman Consulting, LLC she serves agencies and corporations focusing on career counseling, leadership development, and training and many organizational change initiatives. She has conducted several organization climate studies that have led to improved communication, restructuring, and targeted professional development. She applies a practical and business-wise approach to helping align individual and organizational goals to meet their ever changing requirements. Her largest client is the United States Government.

Sue’s counseling career began at Gallaudet University where she served as a counselor and instructor. She opened new doors to employment for students by helping organizations create inclusive employment environments. She facilitated the establishment of the University Career Center and became the first Director. She is fluent in American Sign Language.

Sue has earned a stellar reputation providing leadership coaching with government senior executives, supervisors, military & Foreign Service officers,
employees at all levels, and people with disability. She has consulted with every cabinet level federal agency, the intelligence community, and many smaller agencies and bureaus, providing counseling, coaching, training and organization climate studies for improving and changing workplace environments. As a counselor and coach she strives to empower clients on their journey to discovery, choices, and realization.

Sue served on the ACA Governing Council (2012-2018), on several ACA committees including Executive Council, and led the ACA 2018-19 Counselor Compensation Task Force. She is a Past President of the National Employment Counseling Association (NECA), active with NCDA, MGCA, a member of the Maryland Counseling Association and Virginia Counselors Association.

Sue is the recipient of numerous awards including NECA’s Breaking the Glass Ceiling for her entrepreneurial work and hiring of career counselors; NCDA’s Merit Award in 2013 for significant contributions to the field of career development; the Founder’s Award by the Deaf and Hard of Hearing in Government establishing a government-wide non profit organization; and IRS Deaf Corporate Sponsor Award for her support of deaf government workers.

Sue received her PhD from Virginia Tech in Counselor Education, MA from Gallaudet in Rehabilitation Counseling, and BA from the University of Florida, and an AA from Miami Dade Community College. She has authored numerous career management guidebooks, contributed to professional journal articles, syndicated newspaper columns, and newsletters. A native Floridian, Sue grew up in Florida where she resided until moving to the Washington, DC area where she has resided for over 35 years. She is married to Dr. Allan Dosik, an Optometrist. They have one daughter, Lianna who is a pianist/singer/songwriter based in Southern California (lelerose.com).