



A message from the President



Greetings to All,

HAPPY NEW YEAR! It's here! The new year is here with all its hopes and expectations. What choices are we going to make to have it end as we would like it to end? That is the question we need to keep in mind with all that we do, our choices.

The December Board meeting had a very full agenda. It included the election of board officers, the executive director, the re-electing of two board members, the election of three new members, and the resignation of one member. Now for the details.

For board officers, Vicky Harris was re-elected as secretary and Steve Tracy was as Treasurer. Sharon Carder-Jackson was elected as president. Brian Patterson was elected to continue as our executive officer. Two board members agreed to serve a second term. Gloria Cisse' was re-elected as the representative of the Southeast Region and Mary Hestand was re-elected as the representative of the Sunbelt Region. Thank you to all for being willing to continue in your position.

The board has three new members. Rena Hoskins was elected to represent the West Region and Kiley Callaway was elected to represent the MidAmerica Region. Marcus Hubbard was elected as a member at large. We are excited to welcome these three new members to the board. The Mountain Region is without a representative at this time so if one of you from the states of Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, or Utah would be interested in finding out about being a representative, let us know.

Thank you to Kathy Randolph for serving two years on the board as the MidAmerica representative. We wish you well as you leave.

Another addition to our group is Kristen Howe, who agreed in November to work as our Financial Secretary. In this position she will work closely with Steve Tracy to complete all needed financial records.

Thank you to all the returning board members: Judith Klefman, Jay Levin, Jim Soder, and Sue Tomaszewski.

Also, to be noted was the completion of the 2024 Budget. Thanks to the diligence of our treasurer, Steve Tracy, a draft was submitted in November and then finalized at this month's meeting.

The board looks forward to serving the members of GIFCT-US through this next year. Give us your thoughts for consideration as we proceed through 2024.

Sharon Carder-Jackson

Faculty Meeting: February 1, 2024, 8 pm E

**New Address: GIFCT-US
5900 Balcones DR Ste 100, Austin TX 78731**



WGI and GIFCT-US are excited to announce information for the upcoming 2024 Global Conference.

Conference Information:

WGI International Board meeting: Sunday June 30, 2024 through July 3, 2024.
GIFCT-US Board meeting: Tuesday, July 2-Wednesday, July 3, 2024
Conference opening night: Wednesday, July 3, 2023 6 pm-10 pm.
Conference sessions start: Thursday-Saturday, July 4-6, 2024.
Conference closing ceremony: Saturday, July 6, 2024. 6 pm.
Faculty Day: Sunday, July 7, 2024

Location: Palmer House A Hiton Hotel, Chicago, IL.

Training: Prior to the conference. Information coming soon.

Call for presentations link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/rfp-wgi-2024>

Keynote Speakers:

Leadership: David Veech

Counseling and Mental Health: Libby Murdoch

Education: Dr. Don Parker

Hotel information: Registration site for the host hotel:

WGI and GIFCT-US Global 2024 Conference Hotel Information:

Palmer House

17 W. Monroe St.

Chicago, IL 60603

Link to our registration: <https://book.passkey.com/go/WilliamGlasserConference>

From Brian Patterson, Executive Director

When I was working with at-risk high school students, I had a student who had been troubled in previous schools. We will call her Nora.

Nora was bright and had bounced around through some difficult school situations. She had been told that she wouldn't be able to graduate on time and her parents brought her to our learning center.

Our school had a motto:

Never give up!

No punishment!

No failure!

No excuses!

The students and teachers together established the code of conduct in our learning center. One of the rules was that if a student was involved in a fight, they would be dropped from the program and would be allowed to re-enroll the next semester. In four years, with students who had not been successful in school before, we had only one fight. Nora was involved in the fight.

The day after the fight, she and her family came in to beg for her to be able to stay. We had been learning the relationship concepts of Dr. William Glasser, MD- Choice Theory and Reality Therapy. One of Dr. Glasser's principles is that school staff would not interfere with agreed-upon consequences. This is the key to personal responsibility.

I was very sad to have to carry through with the consequences because Nora was so special, but I felt it was vital to be consistent. Even my wife, who helped around our learning center often, loved Nora and wanted to see her succeed. She didn't talk to me for a few days because I dropped Nora from the program.

Nora applied for the next semester, rejoined us, and had no further problems. She graduated and even spoke at graduation. I lost track of her but got a contact from her on Facebook about 10 years later. She met my wife and me for coffee and told us that the fact that we dropped her from the program had caused her to take stock and take personal responsibility. She had gone on to a very successful career in real estate finance.

There are other Nora's being kicked out of schools around the country and needing the kind of environment that Choice Theory develops for them to be successful in school and life. Glasser Institute for Choice Theory- US teaches teachers, counselors, and administrators how to create a success-inducing environment. We have the resources to equip all students for a great life, despite their past.

Would you like to join our mission to reach more kids like Nora? Log on to wglasser.com to see how you can transform the lives of students.

"How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world." – Anne Frank

Upcoming Events & Courses

Difficult Discussions in Diversity

January 20th - 2PM EST

The Difficult Discussions in Diversity calls are moderated by Gloria Cissé, who is a Glasser Scholar. These calls do not have titles, but listen to a few of them to get a sense of how powerful these conversations can be. These calls are held on the 3rd Saturday of the month.

<https://wgi-s-school.thinkific.com/courses/diversity>



Greet the Week



with Mona Dunkin and Friends

January 8th- Change, Change, How do You Change?
January 15th - If Not You, Then Who? The Tension of Change
January 22nd - Don't Take It Personally.
January 29th -Helping Others to Change.

Mondays - 1800 UTC (1:00 pm Central)

<https://wgi-s-school.thinkific.com/courses/greet-the-week>

Making Sense of It

January 10th - Glasser Quotes and Discussion
January 17th - Information with Wendall Walker
January 24th - The Courage to Be Imperfect with Robert J. Martin
January 31st - To Be Announced

Wednesdays at 8 am PDT//9 am MDT/10 am CDT/11 am EDT

<https://wgi-s-school.thinkific.com/courses/Making-Sense-of-it>



Glasser Quality School Forum

January 25th - 5pm EST



<https://wgi-s-school.thinkific.com/courses/GQS>

Research Committee Meeting

January 26th - 3pm EST



<https://wgi-s-school.thinkific.com/courses/research-symposium>

Online Basic Training

Sign Up

Living Life with Choice Theory

There are 10 scenarios included in this course, each one depicting a different troubling situation. The slides then take you through the thought process of identifying your thoughts, feelings and actions. You are then asked to evaluate whether the actions are helping the character to get what they really want. Several concepts of Choice Theory are then introduced, which result in giving the character various options to move forward.



<https://wgi-s-school.thinkific.com/courses/living-life-with-choice-theory>

Glasser Class Meetings

Course includes 37 topics to:

- * initiate discussions to be better connected with your students.
- * help students to be more responsible for their own behavior.
- * teach students to become more tolerant of others.

NEW COURSE!



www.wglasser.com

<https://wgi-s-school.thinkific.com/courses/glasser-class-meetings>

LEARNING
NEVER
ENDS



Take Charge of Your Life

This online course is adapted from Dr. William Glasser's book *Take Charge of Your Life*.



It's time to put yourself
back in the driver's seat!

Join us to learn:

- * Why you do what you do
- * How to stop letting people control you
- * What really matters to you
- * Letting people who control you
- * How to create a meaningful, fulfilling, & happy life!

Apply the universal system for empowering yourself
and improving your relationships with others.

<https://wglasser.com/tcoyl>

Reality Therapy Corner



Join us at the Reality Therapy Corner (RT Corner) for conversations exploring the full richness of the practice of Reality Therapy and so much more. These informal discussions can benefit anyone in a helping relationship. See you the 4th Tuesday of each month at 12 noon Eastern Time.

Please sign up for the course here:

<https://wgi-s-school.thinkific.com/courses/reality-therapy-corner>

Upcoming Trainings

Basic Training

January 18-20, 2024
Phoenix, AZ
with Brian Patterson

Advanced Training

January 18-20, 2024
Phoenix, AZ
with Brian Patterson

For more information & to register for trainings
<https://wglasser.com/events/training-certification/>