Deborah L. Duenyas earned her Ph.D. in Counselor Education and Supervision from Kent State University, Ohio and is an Assistant Professor at Kutztown University of Pennsylvania. Deborah is licensed in Pennsylvania as a Professional Counselor (LPC) and in Ohio as a Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC). She has held a variety of leadership positions in the counseling profession and worked in an array of clinical settings including the Cleveland Clinic’s Chronic Pain Rehabilitation Program and as a school-based counselor for Child Guidance and Family Solutions (CG&FS), a non-profit organization that specializes in behavioral and mental health services to all children. Deborah holds a Standard Teaching Certificate (K-8) and has taught children (with learning, language, behavioral, and emotional disabilities) as well as English language instruction in Osaka, Japan.

Deborah has taught graduate courses in professional orientation and ethics, family systems, neuroscience for counselors, tests and assessment in counseling, research methods, and Master’s-level practicum and internship courses. She served as the awards chair for the Pennsylvania Counseling Association (PCA) in 2019, co-chaired the Greater Philadelphia Area Counseling Association (GPACA) Trauma Symposium in 2020, and is faculty advisor for the Chi Omega Upsilon Chapter of Chi Sigma Iota (CSI), an international counseling academic honor society. Deborah has forged a research and scholarly agenda around the topics of neuroscience-informed counseling, using creativity in counseling, professional adjustment for counselors, counseling as a global profession, and social justice/advocacy for marginalized populations.

Deborah will advocate for the rights of all counseling professionals in the state of Pennsylvania and the rights of their clients. If elected, she will continue to build on the outstanding legislative work of PCA and its members with a specific focus on high quality mental health care, equitable insurance reimbursement for practitioners, strong community partnerships, and promoting culturally inclusive practices that reach Pennsylvania’s most marginalized and vulnerable populations.