School of Social Work Gets a New Director

Dr. Linnea GlenMaye was recently named as the new Director for the School of Social work. She had served as the Acting Director for the School following the deployment of Dr. Cathleen Lewandowski. In May, Dr. GlenMaye assumed the role of Director on a permanent basis. Many of you know her from her contributions to the School and the community. We are very pleased and honored to have her as our “fearless leader.” In addition to her new administrative duties, she is still able to teach classes and serves as the coordinator for the MSW Program. Dr. Brien Bolin who was formerly the coordinator for the MSW Program has now been named Director of the BSW Program.

Annual Holiday Party

Friday, December 10
4 pm – 6 pm
Social Work Conference Room, 539 Lindquist Hall

We welcome students, alumni, field faculty and other interested parties to help us celebrate the end of Fall semester and the coming holidays. Light refreshments will be served. Hope to see you there!

Deck the Doors!

SWOGS (Social Work Organization of Graduate Students) members joined with the undergraduate students of SOSW (Student Organization of Social Work) to decorate the doors of the School of Social Work faculty for the holiday season. The doors are a cultural lesson as there are a myriad of celebrations recognized. Expand your own cultural competence with a tour through the hallways on the fifth floor of Lindquist Hall.
The fall of 2004 has been an exciting semester. Many of us are finishing final projects, writing papers, journaling, and completing practicum hours for the semester. As 2004 comes to a close, fourteen students will be walking across the stage on December 12 and collecting their degrees. Way to go to all the BSW students!!! We look forward to those BSW graduates joining the professional community of social workers. Students are now enrolling for spring semester. Spring semester is a time for BSW students to begin to think about their practicum and to focus on completing their degree requirements.

Over the past several weeks, the faculty and staff of the School of Social Work have been involved in many exciting and innovative activities, including innovative initiatives in online and telecourse offerings. Faculty are working hard to develop a cutting-edge curriculum that makes use of the most current technology for enhancing learning, whether in the classroom or online. We are developing these technologies because we know that we live in a world where national and international events are just a mouse-click away. As a School of Social Work, we are continuously challenged to expand our understanding of the person and the environment, and to enlarge our vision of practice to include the international context of 21st Century life.

The School of Social Work is expanding in other areas, and enrollment is increasing in both the BSW and MSW Programs. School of Social Work faculty are developing community-based research in cooperation with Wichita area agencies and organizations. This year, for example, we have research and service projects in the areas of Indian child welfare, school violence, and homelessness, among others.

We live in exciting and challenging times, with much work ahead of us. In closing, I would remind you of the words of President John F. Kenney, who said in his inaugural address in 1961: “United there is little we cannot do in a host of cooperative ventures. Divided there is little we can do.”

I am looking forward to working with each of you to do what we can as educators, students, and professionals to make our School and community a symbol of hope and progress.

What a hectic Fall 2004! Just as I know some of you have experienced, you can imagine what happens when your caseload triples. That is basically what has happened in the placement needs for the bachelor program. We went from a normal average of 25 placements to 80 placements this fall. Partially due to us only placing once a year now and partially due to a quarter increase in student body. We could not have met the needs of these students, if not for you joining us in this educational endeavor in providing agency expertise. We at the SSW can not thank you enough for your assistance to us and the student body. Much less all you do for the MSW program. As usual, your efforts make us so proud to be social workers!

Soon we will be calling on you again, looking toward the Fall 2005 semester. We hope we have the assistance from the field that we so appreciate.

TO LSCSW’S: Due to some requests from alumni, if you would be interested in doing supervision would you contact the SSW Office? We will keep a list and offer names to alumni who call on request. If you wish to be taken off the list, just call to be removed. The SSW Office is 978-7250.
Field Evaluations Due December 9

Just a reminder to Field Instructors, final practicum evaluations will be due December 9 (last day of class). Students who have not completed their practicum hours will need to consult with their Field Instructor to make arrangements for practicum completion.

Do You Need Volunteers???

We are continuing to shake things up a bit here at the School. What does this mean for you? We have moved the volunteer component of the BSW program from ScWk 201 Introduction to Social Work and Social Welfare to ScWk 502 Social Work Intervening: Strategies and Techniques. With that, there are a few changes, most notably, students will now be required to perform 40 hours of volunteer time in an agency of their choice. This is not a practicum and the Practicum Office will not be placing or brokering for students. No Field Supervision will be required. The School is in the process of putting together a list of agencies that are interested in volunteers. If you think your agency would be interested, please call Sabrina Perez Glatt at (316) 978-5852 or Alisa Norlin at 978-5853.

Phi Alpha – Social Work’s National Honor Society

The Beta Delta chapter of PHI ALPHA is accepting applications. What does it mean to be a member? Academic recognition, that’s what!!! Deadline is March 15th for the annual ceremony. The induction ceremony will be held May 9 at the School of Social Work’s annual MSW Colloquium and All School Assembly. Applications can be picked up at the School of Social Work Office or downloaded from the School’s website at www.wichita.edu/socialwork.

Applications can be turned in to Dr. Tim Lause or the SSW Office.
SOSW – Student Organization of Social Work

Attention all BSW Student!!! Now is your chance to become a member!!

As we all know, it is essential for social workers to form a support network. Well, in the undergraduate social work program, we already have a good start!
The Student Organization of Social Work (SOSW) is an organization for undergrad students pursuing a degree in social work. Our purpose is to deliver and maintain communications among social work students, faculty, and the general public and to provide a means for united action on issues of social concern.

Currently, SOSW has approximately 25 members and are continuously encouraging students to join. The membership fee is $10 and includes a t-shirt and member directory. Some benefits of joining the organization are: forming study groups, meeting WSU faculty and staff, connecting via Yahoo Group, and most importantly networking with other students. Students also have access to the social work student lounge with a TV/VCR, microwave, fridge, computer/internet, and use of the very retro furniture. Members of SOSW are also allowed to print computer documents free of charge.

Meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month at 12:30 pm in Lindquist Rm #500. A thirty-minute program is put on by representatives from various social service agencies in Wichita. This gives students a chance to learn about the role of social work outside of the classroom. Students who cannot make the meeting are still encouraged to join; they are welcome to participate in volunteer/social/educational events.

SOSW also offers a variety of activities for students to participate in. Monthly, we have a volunteer activity. Our most recent activity was Pumpkin Carving with kids from Oaklawn. Shortly, we will be preparing a food basket for a family for Thanksgiving and also will be training to serve food in a homeless shelter. We recently sponsored the faculty/student social “D’esserts with D’faculty”. Additionally, faculty and students from SOSW and SWOGS will be joining together to spice up the 5th floor with Holiday Door Decorating.

If you are interested in finding out more about SOSW, please checkout www.wichita.edu/socialwork and click on the Student Organization tab. The website is currently being updated, so please be patient with us. If you are interested in joining, please inquire for an application at the Social Work office (LH 535).

SWOGS – Social Work Organization of Graduate Students

SWOGS Membership

Did you ever wonder what a SWOG is? Did you ever want to be a SWOG? Well here is your chance!!!

Graduate social work students are needed as members of SWOGS. This organization was developed to give students an opportunity to be a part of one empowered group. If you will be a continuing student, you will be eligible to apply for a scholarship. Additionally, this year, SWOGS will sponsor a day long “Prep course”.

Membership enrollment forms are available at the SWOGS bulletin board located in the hall near the School of Social Work Office, 5th floor, Lindquist Hall. We need your support!

Licensing Exam Prep

Are you planning to take the M.S. W. licensure exam next spring or summer? Would you like some help knowing what to study? S.W.O.G.S. is planning to hold a seminar and offer you that support. We would like to have it in February and want your input on a viable date. Please contact Curtis Proctor at curtis.proctor@wichita.edu or Marcella Kille at geoworks@ourtownusa.net if you are interested in this seminar and suggest dates that would work for you.

T-Shirt Sale!

S.W.O.G.S. plans to offer t-shirts and sweatshirts for you to purchase. Watch for further details soon.
New Faculty Join the School of Social Work

Three new faculty have joined the School of Social Work.

Alisa Norlin is the new Field Practicum Associate with responsibilities for teaching and administrative support for the Field Programs of the Bachelor’s and Master’s Programs. Alisa received her B.A in Law Enforcement Administration and Criminal Justice from the University of Oklahoma. She received a Master of Social Work Degree from the University of Oklahoma and is a licensed specialist in clinical Social Work. She has practice experience in Disaster Relief and was the Director of Disaster Services, for the Oklahoma City Bombing. Alisa has also practiced extensively in international settings, with work in over 12 countries of the world, including Taiwan (where she studied Mandarin Chinese at the Taipei Language Institute. She will be helping us develop our Field program, perhaps into international settings.

Courtney Boettcher is with us this year as a full-time visiting professor. Courtney received her Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in Social Work from St. Louis University. She also completed a Graduate Residency Program at the Mayo Clinic. Courtney is a licensed specialist in clinical social work and she has worked as a Clinical Social Worker at the Barnes-Jewish Hospital at Washington University Medical Center and most recently worked as Bereavement Coordinator with Odyssey Healthcare in Wichita. Last year she was the recipient of The Service Excellence Award for Medical Social Work, awarded by our School of Social Work. Courtney will be teaching social work practice courses with undergraduate and graduate students.

Dr. M.J. Hwang is our new Assistant Professor of Social Work. Dr. Hwang received his BA in Sociology from Sung Kyun Kwan University in Seoul, Korea. He received a Master of Business Administration from Appalachian State University, in North Carolina. He received a Master of Social Work degree from Columbia in New York, and his doctorate in Social Work from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. His Dissertation research topic was “Asian American Social Work Professionals: Their Perceptions of Organizational Fairness and Work related Outcomes.” While he was in New York, Dr. Hwang organized the Korean Social Workers’ Network of Greater New York, and initiated the Taskforce for North Korean Famine, which raised significant funds for North Korean famine relief. He has publications in the areas of domestic violence and organizational and workplace issues for Asian Americans. Dr. Hwang’s research interests include technology-assisted practice and education, and Human Resource Management from an interdisciplinary focus. Dr. Hwang will be teaching research and human behavior courses in our undergraduate and graduate programs.

In the Spotlight

December Graduates

On December 12, the School of Social Work will graduate the last class of December BSW graduates. They are:

Elizabeth Andsager
Jane Dodson
Daniel Gracey
Candy Hamilton
Alanea Hanna
Angela Henderson

We have one MSW Graduate this December also, Robert James.

It is our honor to recognize them and share with you their accomplishments.

BSW Student is Shocktoberfest Woman of the Year

We love it when others recognize the talent and accomplishments of those entering the grand profession of Social Work. Jennifer Holthaus, a senior in the BSW program, was recently named ‘Shocktoberfest Woman of the Year, 2004.’ Jennifer is also serving as President of the Student Ambassador Society. Way To Go Jennifer!!!!
Mark Your Calendar!

2nd Annual POWER Conference

If you were motivated last year, then you will be inspired this year. Without delay, mark your calendar for the 2nd Annual POWER Conference scheduled for March 18th at the WSU Metroplex. Watch this column for further details.

Upcoming Dates:
December 9 ................. Last day of classes
December 10 ............. SSW Holiday Party, 4:00-6:00 PM, 539 Lindquist Hall
December 11-17 .......... Finals
December 12 ............... Commencement for December graduates,
December 24 ............... WSU Holiday closedown begins
January 3 .................. WSU reopens
January 15 ................ MSW Program applications due
January 17 ............... Martin Luther King Holiday, WSU Closed
January 18 ............... First day of classes, Practicum begins
February 1 ............... Scholarship applications due
February 14 .............. 20th Day: Must have Plan of Study and application for degree on file in
                        order to graduate in May 2005
February 21 ............. Week for learning contracts for practicum
March 21-27 .............. Spring Break
April 25 ................. Practicum Evaluations mailed to field instructors
May 2 ..................... Field evaluations due this week
May 9 ..................... Last day of classes
May 10 .................... MSW Colloquium(Integrative Projects) and All School Assembly &
                        Reception
May 11-17 ............. Finals
May 13, 14 ............... Commencement