Dr. Elwin Barrett honored at ASWB’s 25th anniversary celebration

The Association of Social Work Boards is a national Social Work organization responsible for creating licensing tests for Social Workers across the USA and Canada.

Dr. Elwin Barrett (pictured on the far right) was President of the AASSWB (American Association of State Social Work Boards) in 1983-1984.

In 1999, the organization changed their name to ASWB, dropping “American” and “state” in order to be more inclusive.

Speakers at the Anniversary Celebration remembered the early years when licensing and national examinations were provided by the NASW (National Association of Social Workers). A number of the members didn’t feel right about the professional association spearheading the exam, so they decided a second organization was needed.

There are now members of ASWB from forty-nine states, Washington, D.C. the Virgin Islands and several Canadian provinces.

Have a wonderful semester!
Director’s Corner

Dr. Linnea GlenMaye
Director of Social Work

Greetings!

Our academic year began on August 18th and we have been involved in many exciting activities over the past several weeks. Approximately 50 field instructors attended orientation to field supervision on August 26th. We were pleased to see so many of our instructors, and were especially pleased that many attended the All-School Fall Convocation that followed.

Speaking of the Fall Convocation, this year’s event was the first ever for the School. We filled the auditorium in Lindquist Hall as faculty, staff, students, and field instructors celebrated the beginning of the new academic year. In my remarks to the assembly, I noted that social work is one of the fastest growing professions in the United States, and is expected to grow 30% by 2010. I also shared some key findings of a recent NASW study. These findings, which have significant implications for the growth and health of the profession, include the fact that the current social work labor force is aging, and that growth will come through recruitment into the profession, by way of our BSW and MSW programs. Sadly, even as our need for professionals is growing, the profession is not keeping pace with population trends in our ability to attract social workers of color. We must do better in our programs and community outreach to attract a diverse group of students to our profession. In light of this need, I have asked our new BSW Program Director, Courtney Boettcher, to explore ways to increase our visibility in the community and to strengthen efforts to recruit students.

The School of Social Work is expanding in other areas, and enrollment is increasing in both the BSW and MSW programs. Our MSW Program has a record-breaking 110 students enrolled this year. In the area of research, Dr. Joanne Levine received a grant to develop webcam communication to rural practicum instructors and to begin development of a web-based portal for delivery of continuing education. We are extremely excited about this new venture and will tell you more as it progresses. In other news, we are very happy and relieved that Dr. Cathleen Lewandowski has rejoined the faculty after a one-year assignment in Iraq.

Last, but certainly not least, the MSW Program’s initial accreditation is up in June, 2007. That means that we will be undergoing reaffirmation in the coming year, with a site visit expected in early spring of 2007. We will be working on the self-study and all the other aspects of preparing for re-accreditation this year. We cannot do this without the support and assistance of the practice community, our students, and the entire faculty and staff of the School of Social Work. Stay tuned for further news on the re-affirmation effort, and for opportunities to participate and provide feedback and support. For the coming year, the re-accreditation of our MSW Program will be center stage, which is both exciting and challenging.

As I write of these exciting times for the School, I do so in the midst of the horror and devastation of the New Orleans hurricane. Desmond Tutu once said:

“Compassion is not just feeling with someone, but seeking to change the situation. Frequently people think compassion and love are merely sentimental. No! They are very demanding. If you are going to be compassionate, be prepared for action!”

These are times that call for compassion, action, and working together. As the Kenyan proverb states, sticks in a bundle are unbreakable! 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 excellence, hope, and progress.

BSW Beat

Courtney Boettcher
BSW Program Director

Welcome Back! I am so excited to have begun the new 2005-2006 school year as BSW Program Director. I think about the over 150 students in the program this semester and their renewed commitment to their social work education here at WSU School of Social Work. Many of you are just beginning this journey in social work and many of you are knocking on graduation’s door. Many of you are teaching social work students in the field. Whatever your situation, you contribute to the colorful and unique perspectives the students offer to the School of Social Work. Social work is a profession of constant change and new challenges. Our students are developing and refining their skills for practice. Our students are looking to the social workers in our community to help guide them through these changes and challenges. Let’s get excited to discover the opportunities our community can offer. Let’s learn new social work skills for today and reflect on what gives up purpose in the work we do tomorrow. Remember...Take time; Breathe easy. My best to a refreshing and enlightening new school year.

Courtney
Field Notes
Sabrina Perez Glatt
Director of Field Practicum

Welcome back for the 2005-2006 school year! Something our practicum associate, Alisa Norlin and I have been preparing for since January. This is the time that 75 MSW’s and 57 BSW’s are all snug in their agencies and using their social work knowledge to benefit their communities. Knowledge that would not be complete without the guidance and support of our affiliated agencies and field instructors.

SOSW — Student Organization of Social Work

SOSW is kicking off the new school year with its new officers, President Jodi Smith (jsmith3@wichita.edu), Vice-President Andrea Cummins (acummins@wichita.edu), and Secretary/Treasurer Deborah Osmun (damosmun@wichita.edu). “Members-at-large” positions are still being sought, as well as members that are willing to serve as liaisons to various faculty committees in the school. The officers wish to let all students and their field supervisors/instructors know that meetings for this fall will be the 2nd and 4th Thursdays at 5:00 pm in the Student Lounge (528 Lindquist Hall). This semester promises to be filled with volunteer projects, fun activities, and guests for SOSW meetings that will inform members about various topics on BSW practice areas and professional licensure.

Dues are $15 for new members and $10 for returning members per academic year. Membership includes free printing in the student lounge, private membership in a yahoo group to receive postings and help from other SOSW members, and “surprise perks” at the end of the semester finals. Application forms can be found on the 5th floor in Lindquist Hall, just under the SOSW bulletin board. For more information, the officers invite you to email them or talk with them after class. You may also contact their faculty advisor, Professor Curtis Proctor-Artz (Curtis.Proctor@wichita.edu) by email or phone.

SWOGS — Social Work Organization of Graduate Students

SWOGS has launched the school year by reminding social work graduate students that, as one of its goals, SWOGS “is your graduate school voice” in the matters of policy and program concerns within the School of Social Work.

President Shealah Gulick (smgulick@wichita.edu), Vice-President Jeff Roth (jdroth@wichita.edu) and Secretary/ Treasurer Jessica (nee Harbert) Wingler (jlharbert@wichita.edu) welcome all input from both foundation and advanced level students for their ideas and comments. SWOGS has historically been challenged by deciding meeting times during which both foundation and advanced level students can attend, as both tend to have classes on specific week days...so what a better way to bring both cohorts together than a Bar-B-Q right after work on a Friday! On Friday, Sept. 30th at 5:30pm, SWOGS will be sponsoring a BBQ at Chisholm Creek Park (3228 N. Oliver, just south of HWY 96). SWOGS invites all grad students, faculty and field supervisors to this soirée and provide a dish (the BBQ will be provided); in the event of rain...by golly they’ll still hold it under a shelter!

SWOGS members are also advocating for community members devastated by Hurricane Katrina, through fundraising and direct volunteer service. SWOGS hopes to add to the national experience of helping individuals and families that are in need due to the natural disaster.

Annual membership is $10 and includes a free LMSW test review, membership in a yahoo group (to post class notes, request study groups and receive professional development information) and free printing in the student lounge. Also, watch for information in the next few weeks, as SWOGS will be offering a free, one-hour PowerPoint training for members and, for a mere $5, to faculty, non-members and community social workers!

Also, SWOGS has just designed a new T-shirt that will be available for purchase soon!

Application forms for SWOGS can be found on the 5th floor in Lindquist Hall, just under the SWOGS bulletin board. For more information, the officers invite you to email them or talk with them after class. You may also contact their faculty advisor, Professor Curtis Proctor-Artz (Curtis.Proctor@wichita.edu) by email or phone.
Mark Your Calendar!

Upcoming Dates:
September 12-16.................Tasks for Evaluations Turned In
September 13 ....................BSW Orientation
September 21 .....................Practicum Advisory Board
September 21 .....................MSW Information Night
October 14 ........................SSW Advisory Board Meeting
October 16-18 .....................Fall Break — no classes
October 21 ........................MSW Practicum Application Due in Office/Sign-Up
October 26, 29 .................MSW Practicum Interviews
November 23-27 .................Thanksgiving Recess
December 8.......................Last Day of Classes
December 9 .......................SSW Advisory Board Meeting
December 9 .......................School of Social Work Holiday Party
December 10-16 .................Finals
December 11 .......................Fall Commencement
December 16 .......................Final Day for Field Evaluations
December 26-January 2 .......University Closed
January 13 ........................SSW Advisory Board
January 17 ........................Spring Classes and Field Practicum Start

Power Conference

POWER 2006
Pride Of Wichita (and surrounding area) Empowerment Rally
“Social Work Practice in a Culturally Diverse Community”
March 3, 2006
WSU Metroplex

Mark your Calendar! March 3, 2006 we will celebrate the profession of social workers and the impact social workers have on working with culturally diverse Kansans. This year’s focus of the POWER conference is “Social Work Practice in a Culturally Diverse Community.” Social workers and other human service workers will leave this conference with an increased knowledge of techniques used in work with cultures such as Hispanic, Asian, African American and Middle Eastern. This interactive experience will be facilitated by local and national experts. Please join us to celebrate the POWER of social work!

Informational Meetings

BSW Orientation
There will be a BSW Orientation for anyone wanting to apply to the BSW program and needing orientation on Tuesday, September 13, from 9:30 to 10:30 am. The meeting will be held in Room 155 of Corbin Hall during the ScWk 201 Introduction to Social Work and Social Welfare class. If you would like to attend the meeting and need a parking pass mailed to you, contact the School of Social Work at 316-978-7250.

MSW Information Night
There will be an informational meeting for those interesting in learning about application to the Master of Social Work Program on Wednesday, September 21, from 5:00 to 6:00 PM. The meeting will be held in Room 100 of Lindquist Hall. If you would like to attend the meeting and need a parking pass mailed to you, contact the School of Social Work office at 316-978-7250.