I am back from the Annual Program Meeting of the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) in Philadelphia, and I can report that social work educators, students, and practitioners everywhere are all talking about one thing: the upcoming election. Regardless of where you stand on the political spectrum, this election is holding center stage. Candidates at federal, state, and local levels are working hard to get your vote, and many issues will be decided by your ballot. I know I wrote about this last month, but I cannot urge you strongly enough to VOTE! I just went to the polls this morning, which were buzzing with activity. It is an exciting time to be a voter!

I would also remind you that, as with any election, there will be winners and losers. Our personal emotional investments in these races should not make us sore losers or snarky winners. Please remember that we are all members of a diverse social work community; our disagreements make us stronger, more thoughtful, and more interesting. Just as the winning candidate is congratulated by the losing candidate(s), so too do we need to retain our respect and humility with one another. As our graduates have learned in SW 621, we need to build on our commonalities and make allies out of those who may disagree with us on other issues to get important legislation passed. So, a little graciousness from the victors is not a bad thing...

A little news from CSWE, the organization that accredits social work programs has decided to become more involved in policy issues. To that end, they have created a new Public Policy Initiative, with a website resource online for social work students, educators, and practicing social workers. The CSWE Public Policy website (http://www.cswe.org/CSWE/publicpolicy/) outlines the organization’s public policy agenda, describes CSWE’s policy-related activities, provides links to policy-related websites and policy briefs, and offers extra benefits (alerts and other resources) for CSWE members.

I saw a number of students from other schools attending the CSWE meeting in Philadelphia, but I didn’t see any BSW students from KU. Why is that? This meeting was a great opportunity to talk to students and faculty members from schools all around the country, to hear about the latest social work research, and to investigate potential graduate schools. Not to mention that it was a great opportunity for a road trip!

I hope that you will consider attending some of the remaining national social work conferences. They are:

- Society for Social Work Research (SSWR), January 15-18, 2009 in New Orleans
- Social Work Day at the United Nations, March 2009, in New York City
- Baccalaureate Program Directors in Social Work Conference (BPD), March 18-22, 2009 in Phoenix

SSWR (http://sswr.org/conferences.php) and BPD (http://www.bpdonline.org/media/08geninfo.doc) both have student programs that allow students to volunteer and get free registration. Find out more about these conferences online and make a plan to come! I’ll be looking for you.
Now is the time to start planning for spring semester. Have you met with your advisor?

Pre-Social Welfare students: The October review of applications is complete and decision letters have been mailed out. If you did not make this application review, the next opportunity will be February 1, 2009. Students admitted during the February review may be able to begin the social work curriculum in the fall of 2009. If you have questions about the application process, feel free to email me or Lori Messinger.

We have one remaining pre-social work group advising session. It is Friday, November 7th from 11am-1pm in Room 206 of Twente Hall. I have a sign-up sheet in my office (Room 107 Twente Hall). You can sign up or you are welcome to walk in on the session. The advantage to signing up ahead of time is that we can have individual academic evaluations done for you. Come to group advising with a current ARTS Form, a tentative schedule for spring 2009, and a list of any questions that you have.

BSW Students: Advising is currently going on. If you have not yet met with your advisor, you should be in contact with them ASAP. Faculty advisors should still have sign-up sheets available on their office doors, but since advising is winding down, you may need to be in contact with your advisor by phone or email to set up an advising time. An advisor list is posted on the bulletin board outside of Room 107 Twente Hall if you need to check it. Prior to your advising appointment, you should put together a tentative schedule for spring 2009. The items that you should take to your advising appointment are your tentative schedule, a current ARTS Form, your student folder (found in my office right before your appointment), and a list of any questions that you have for your advisor. You will have a SW Advising Hold on your record and you must meet with your advisor prior to that hold being removed.

BSW Juniors: This would be a good time to verify that all transfer work has been sent to KU. As you start preparing for your senior year in the BSW program, it is extremely important that all coursework taken outside of KU is transferred and shows on your ARTS Form. Additionally, you will want to make sure that the academic plan in your student file is up to date. You are required to have all general education required and elective hours completed prior to entering your senior level social work courses and the field placement. NOTE: The Field Education Office is currently holding small group meetings in preparation for your practicum. If you have not already done so, you should sign up for one of those meetings as soon as possible. (http://www.socwel.ku.edu/academics/practicum/PracticumPlanningGroups2008.asp)

BSW Seniors: Now is a time that you should be thinking of Applying for Graduation. This can be done on Enroll and Pay. If you are going to be a May 2009 graduate, you will need to Apply for Graduation no later than March 1, 2009. Applying for degree is a cue to the University that you will be graduating and they can get your name in the commencement materials, notify local media in your hometowns, and get your diploma printed.

As this semester comes to a close, make sure that you are requesting transcripts for courses you took outside of KU. Time is getting short for getting transfer credit in. I will begin the first of the year with a final graduation check, and you want to make sure that all transfer work is showing up on your ARTS Form.
Lawrence BSW Student Group

- Debbie Greenfield

Due to Fall Break, we have only had one meeting since the last newsletter came out. The good news is, you haven’t missed much and still have plenty of opportunity to get involved!

We are busy preparing for our big fall fundraiser, the annual silent auction to benefit ECKAN at Abe and Jakes. The date for the benefit is November 20th from 6-10pm. There are many great businesses in Lawrence that will help us out and donate items to auction off that night, so we are always looking for students to help collect those items. Another way to support the community is to plan on attending the benefit. Remember, the more people who come out to support the auction, the more money we can raise for those in need. Not to mention it will be a lot of fun!

Another cool thing we have going is collaboration with Haskell Indian Nations University’s social work student group. Representatives from Haskell attended our October meeting and a member of our group attended Haskell’s meeting as well. A social gathering between the two schools social work program students is in the works, so check out the next newsletter (OR A MEETING) for that information.

Our next meeting will be on 11/1/08 at the Kansas Union at 7:00pm. We would love to see you there and get your input!

KCKCC BSW Student Group

- Andrea Cox

First, we’d like to send our congratulations to Maxine Elmore on her achievement of earning the KU Employee of the Month Award! No one deserves the honor more than Maxine. As her advisees, we know how tirelessly she works! Her sincere care and concern for each 2+2 Program student is evident as she has always gone out of her way to help us with any and every need we have. Congratulations, Maxine, and thank you for all you do!

We have been having a great semester building new relationships in the Kansas City community as we have been volunteering with Cross Lines and gearing up for our help with the Heart of America Stand Down for Homeless Veterans in November. We will also be visiting with veterans at the KC Veterans Center next month. Thank you to all of you who help in the community. It means so much!

We are also enjoying building new relationships within the Student Group itself! Be sure to join in the fun as we all go bowling in November! We hope that everyone has a great holiday season and we are looking forward to engaging in some new food drives and fundraising projects next semester!

Happy Holidays!

Congratulations to Maxine Elmore on her KU Employee of the Month Award!!!!
Congratulations to Maxine Elmore, Program Coordinator of the 2+2 BSW Degree Completion Program on the KCKCC campus. She won the Employee of the Month Award for KU.

Several awards (up to $3,000) are available to support undergraduate research from January-June, 2009. Projects require a faculty sponsor. Any Lawrence-campus undergraduate is eligible.

Information and application forms can be obtained from the Honors Program in Nunemaker or the Honors Program homepage [http://www.honors.ku.edu/scholarships/ugra.shtml](http://www.honors.ku.edu/scholarships/ugra.shtml)

Deadline for completed applications: November 3, 2008
Upcoming Events

"To improve society by inspiring, developing, and supporting more people committed to leading with integrity."

Are you looking for a chance to improve your leadership skills?

The Student Involvement and Leadership Center is hosting the 12th annual Leadershape Institute program from January 8-13, 2009 at the Tall Oaks Conference Center.

- This program will provide students experience with practicing ethical decision making, dealing with chaos and change, clarifying personal values, celebrating and exploring the values of others, and working in teams.

- LeaderShape is open to all enrolled students...graduate and undergraduate, for those who are already involved in numerous campus activities, and for those who are still looking for their niche.

- The program is limited to 60 participants with a $50 registration fee due upon selection for the program (a small number of scholarships will be made available). Online applications will be accepted through Wednesday, October 29th. Selected participants will be notified by November 14th.

- Your registration fee will cover transportation, lodging, food and all materials needed for the program.

Online applications for the institute are available at: https://www.s1.leadershape.org/apprd/2073/ You will be asked to register as a new user and complete steps that will then lead to the application. Applications are due by October 29, 2008. More general information is available through the Student Involvement and Leadership Center website http://www.ku.edu/~silc/Leadershape/home.shtml
ECM Alternative Weekends
Ecumenical Christian Ministries

Who: Students, Faculty, & Community Members. Everyone is Welcome.

What: ECM Alternative Weekends

When: October & November.


Why: Get out & experience the world. KU Service Learning credit available for undergrads.

How: See Alternative Weekends Application & Info Sheet pick-up @ the ECM 1204. Oread Ave.

Fall Weekend Opportunities:

뇌 Living with Art  Nov. 7 & 8  (Application Due Thur. 10/02)
Art is decorative, sure... but is it also useful? You decide on a mini-getaway...Whether you are creating something from pure inspiration, collaborating on a project with other artists, or simply enjoying art from a spectator's viewpoint—art is a part of our human existence.
Coordinator Rachel Pearson: rachpear@ku.edu
Estimated Cost: $100-$125
Payment: $25 deposit due 10/06, balance due 10/24

뇌 Understanding the Lives of Immigrants in Kansas (Great Bend)  Nov. 7-9  (Application Due Thur. 10/02)
Volunteer at a high school where there is a large immigrant population, meet with speakers about how undocumented immigrants live, and reflect on how these immigrant issues relates to us & how we help.
Leave on Friday afternoon and return on Sunday.
Coordinator Harriet Browne: habrowne@ku.edu
Estimated Cost: $100-$125
Payment: $25 deposit due 10/06, balance due 10/24

We’re on Facebook! Join: I Love ECM Alternative Weekends
Want to sponsor a student? Join the ECM Alternative Breaks Mentor Program.

Contact Alternative Weekends Coordinator Jenn Gapetz (jenng777@ku.edu),
ECM Intern Shannon Gorres (ecmku@ku.edu), or call the ECM (785-843-4933) for details.
Fall 2008 University Forums
Sponsored by Ecumenical Christian Ministries at KU
Wednesdays with “optional” lunch from 11:30am-12noon
Presentation from 12-1pm

Nov. 5
Under the Rainbow: Oral Histories of GLBTIQ People in Kansas, Tammy Albin, undergraduate Instruction and Outreach, Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Subject Specialist

Nov. 12
90 Years Later: What’s New at the National World War I Museum, Eli Paul, Museum Director, National World War I Museum at Liberty Memorial, Kansas City, MO.

Nov. 19
Gathering in Guatemala: America’s Social Forum for Alternative Ways of Life, Shannon Gorres, graduate student in Latin American Studies, KU

Dec. 3
Poison Beetles: Interactions Between Host Plants, Beetle Herbivores, and Beetle Parasitoids, Caroline S. Chaboo, Assistant Professor of Entomology, KU

Public Lecture Series on Rights, Freedom and Equality
WHAT DOES A LIBERAL SOCIETY OWE THE DISADVANTAGED?

Richard Arneson
Department of Philosophy
University of California, San Diego

"Varieties of Cosmopolitanism and the Ideal of Global Justice"

4:00 p.m., Friday, December 5, 2008
Alderson Room, Kansas Union
9th Annual
University of Kansas
Education Career Fair

Explore future job opportunities and network with school administrators from over 60 school districts!

Wednesday, November 5th, 2008
12:30pm–4:00pm
Kansas Union Ballroom

For more information, visit: KUCareerHawk.com/edfair

Sponsored by the University Career Center
110 Burge Union / (785) 864-3624 / KUCareerHawk.com / ucc@ku.edu

Contributing to Student Success
Events Calendar

November

3rd - 7th  BSW advising
4th  KCKCC Field Education meeting 5:40-6:10
5th  KU Education career fair
6th  KCKCC Welcome Session for Mentors/Students
5:40 pm - 6:10 pm
7th  Pre-social work group advising
KCKCC Field Education meeting
20th  Silent Auction for ECKAN at Abe and Jake’s
6:00-10:00 pm
27-28th  KU Thanksgiving Break

December

12th  Stop Day
15th-19th  Finals week