BSW Program Director’s Corner
—Mahasweta M. Banerjee, Ph.D.

Slowly but surely, we are settling into the fall 2010 semester. Much remains to be done to complete the semester, and to plan for the upcoming spring semester. For a start, as Vicki Mignot reminds us, please be sure to sign up for social work or pre-social work advising from October 18 to November 5, 2010. And, as the Field Office reminds us, seniors please be sure to turn in your writing sample by October 22, 2010, and professional writing sample by November 12, 2010 to your field liaison.

You may recall an email from me about undergraduate research awards. There are two categories of awards. The small grant award is for $750 and the regular grant award is for $2,000. Today, I attended an information session with Dr. Mark Daly. It was clear that both juniors and seniors could participate. Application deadlines are November 1 and April 1 depending on when you want to pursue your research. I hope some of you will consider taking the challenge. As mentioned, I would be happy to answer questions related to the application. You will need one faculty sponsor and one faculty referee. The faculty sponsor needs to guide you throughout the research process, and the faculty referee needs to write a reference letter when you apply. Please consider talking with your research teachers as well as practice, policy, and HBSE teachers to develop your research proposal, or to work on their projects.

In this context, it is my pleasure to inform you that Ashley Barnes, a BSW senior, will be co-presenting with me at the social work profession’s annual program meeting in Portland, Oregon on October 16, 2010. The title of her presentation is, BSW Students’ Beliefs about Social Justice. Are you wondering how she managed to work on such a project? Where did she get the data? Ashley volunteered to work with me to learn more about research. So, she worked on my mixed methods data set on social justice, and will be co-presenting partial findings from the study. I am very proud of Ashley. Please join me in congratulating her. Also, I hope you will take the time to talk with her and find out more about her research experiences, and perhaps brainstorm with her about how to apply for the upcoming undergraduate research award at KU.

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Pre-Social Welfare students: The next review date for BSW applications is October 1, 2010. We expect to have all applications reviewed and notification letters sent out by December. Students admitted during the October review will begin the social work curriculum in the fall of 2011. If you have questions about the application process, feel free to email me or Dr. Mahasweta Banerjee.

Pre-Social Work Group Advising sessions have been set. They will be held on:

- Thursday, October 21, 2010
  1 pm - 3 pm, 208 Twente Hall
- Friday, October 29, 2010
  9 am - 11 am, 208 Twente Hall
- Friday, November 5, 2010
  1 pm - 3 pm, 208 Twente Hall

By October 4th a sign-up sheet will be posted in my office, Room 107 Twente Hall. You can sign up for one of the above sessions or you are welcome to walk in on any of the sessions. The advantage to signing up ahead of time is that we can have individual academic evaluations done for you ahead of time. Come to group advising with a current ARTS Form, a tentative schedule for spring 2011, and a list of any questions that you have.

BSW Students: Advising is just around the corner; immediately after fall break to be exact. Advising will run from Monday, October 18th through Friday, November 5th. Faculty advisors may have sign-up sheets available on their office doors. Other faculty advisors will email you directly. Read your email! If you do not find a sign-up sheet and don’t get an email from your advisor, you should contact them for an appointment. An advisor list is posted on the bulletin board outside of Room 107 Twente Hall if you need to check it. Be sure to sign up early for appointments and be in contact with your advisor by phone or email if advising issues arise. Prior to your advising appointment, you should put together a tentative schedule for spring 2011. 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. Be sure to check the academic plan in your student file during your advising appointment to make sure it 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. I will be doing field readiness checks in Jan/Feb. I will contact you if there are questions about your transfer work, gen ed hours, etc.

BSW Seniors: I have completed my first graduation check. Some of you have received emails from me regarding missing coursework/credit hours on your ARTS Form. I am still sending out emails. I want to thank all of you for being so patient with all of our questions and also your prompt responses to those questions. Your advisors will be following up with my graduation checks during your advising session and I will be going through your ARTS Forms again in early January. When reviewing your own ARTS Form, keep these three requirements in mind:

1) 2.50 Overall and Social Work GPA,
2) completion of course requirements (gen ed, social work, and electives), and
3) 124 minimum credit hours.

We all know that at times the ARTS Form can have a hiccup and so, if you have questions about your credit hours, your requirements, or your GPA you can check with your advisor or me. Further, if you have credit hours outside of KU, you need to have those transferred ASAP. A general rule to follow is that until a course is showing on your KU record, you haven’t taken it. Stay on top of transfer credit until you see it on your ARTS Form. Lastly, speaking of transfer credit, I strongly encourage you NOT continued on page 3
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I want you to note that it is not necessary for you to work with me on a research project. You can work with any faculty member in the School who has on-going projects, and with their permission use their data in your proposed research study. Juniors could consider volunteering with faculty and then applying for a research award in their senior year. Of course this means, you would need to get to know faculty and their research interests, and get them to allow you to volunteer on their projects. Do remember, a lot in social work is about relationships.

You may wonder, what is in it for me? Well, if you get the undergraduate research award, there a number of benefits for you. First, you could use some or all of the money to pay yourself and not work elsewhere. Second, you would get a great sense of research competence after you have completed a research project with faculty guidance. Third, you would contribute to the social work knowledge base and help clients. Last, it would be easier to get a job if you can demonstrate you can do research because agencies are always looking for ways to assess their program needs, outcomes, and client satisfaction. Also, the research award would look stellar on your graduate school application. Of course, we would be extremely proud of you. I hope I have convinced you about the importance of research in a social worker’s career.

Lawrence BSW Student Group

The BSW student group is off and running this semester! At the most recent meeting, the winning t-shirt design was announced - design number 1, with “KU School of Social Welfare” on the front, and the Anne Frank quote on the back. The winning color choice was blue with white lettering. Be on the lookout in the coming weeks for information on how to order.

On Wednesday, September 1st, several of the BSW student group members attended an informational meeting about volunteering with Douglas County Aids Project (DCAP). Many of us plan to help out with the DCAP art auction fundraiser on November 7th. Additionally, a member of the DCAP staff that administers “HIV 101 Basic Training” may be coming to campus soon to educate interested students on the realities of HIV. If you are interested in this one-time HIV training, or in lending your time to this worthy cause, contact one of the student group members for more information on how to participate.

Another event for which several group members plan to volunteer is the Bert Nash Dash & Bash on Saturday, October 9th. As described on visitlawrence.com: the Bert Nash Dash & Bash is “Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center’s 60th Anniversary Community Celebration. The Nash Dash 5k/10k will start downtown, travel up to campus, and finish in the middle of the block between 6th and 7th streets. Concurrent with the race, live music, street entertainment and children’s activities will be provided on the block and will continue into the evening. Food, beverages and a grand time for all! All proceeds benefit the Bert Nash Endowment.” Lots of volunteers are still needed, so just contact the student group if you would like to join us.

See you then!
Haleigh Riemer, President
Emily Gawith, Vice President
Michelle Wilson, Secretary
Leslie Hall, Treasurer

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to take transfer credit that you need for graduation in your last semester. Because of the time it takes to get transcripts sent to KU and then loaded up, it is possible that your graduation could be delayed by a semester.

Tuition Compact Note: If you started at KU, as a new first term freshman, in FA 2008 then you are under the tuition compact that began that term. We are now ½ way through the 4 years of that first Tuition Compact. This means that you should have 61 or more credit hours completed. In accordance with the Tuition Compact, your graduation date should be no later than SU12. If you have not graduated by this time, your tuition will be reassessed at the beginning of the following semester (FA12).
News and Information from the 2+2 Program
—Maxine Elmore

ATTENTION Social Work and Pre-Social Work Students!!

Are you interested in working in the urban core? Want to learn more about this population before you graduate?

**SW 420 Social Work in Urban Settings** is an exciting elective that will be offered this spring on the Kansas City Kansas Community College Campus. Check the Schedule of Classes for class time and date.

Don’t forget to sign up for Advising. The sign up sheets are located on the office door in Jewell Center room 3339.

Important Dates:

- **October 21st**
  6:00 pm - 7:30 pm., Prospective Student Information Session at KU Edwards Campus

- **October 26th**
  5:25 pm - 6:25 pm., KU MSW Admission Information Session, KCKCC, #2705 Lower Nursing
  Jean Peterson, MSW Program Director

KCKCC 2+2 BSW Student Group
—Heather Pilkinton

The KCKCC BSW student group had an amazing turn out for our first meeting in August. It gave the seniors and juniors an opportunity to meet, and we had a successful planning session for this semester. The group voted to participate in the Angel Tree and the Johnson County Christmas bureau. Our next meeting will be mid-late October, we will finalize these service projects during that time. In addition, we had volunteers sign up for committees, here is the list:

- **Dean’s Committee**
  Krista Bundy—Junior
  Ashlee Carpenter—Senior

- **BSW Curriculum Committee**
  Bridget Dietz—Junior
  Juan Rivera—Senior

- **Edwards Student Advisory Board**
  Cassandra McDaris—Junior
  Dustin Fish—Senior

- **BSW KCKCC Student Representative at Faculty Meetings**
  Stefanie Henry
Notes From the Field Education Office
—Julie Solomon, Assistant Director

Fall greetings from the Field Education Office! Many of you are now in practicum, and we hope that you are adjusting well! As the 2010-11 academic year gets underway, please keep the following due dates in mind:

- Initial Learning Contracts and Reflective Writing Sample due to Liaison: **October 1st**
- Student Progress Report and Writing Sample due to Liaison: **October 22nd**
- Professional Writing Sample due to Liaison: **November 12th**
- Mid Year Evaluation and Reflective Writing Sample due to Liaison: **December 10th**

*Please plan ahead to be sure you meet the deadlines.*

Second, as you settle in to practicum, please utilize your Field Instructor, Field Liaison and the KU Office for any support or guidance you may need. Remember, no one can help if we aren’t aware of what you may be struggling with.

Please feel free to contact the Field Office with any questions at practicum@ku.edu or 864-2268.

*Best wishes for an outstanding year!*
Students Corner

Searching for a BSW minor?

Heads up to anyone still searching for that perfect minor! It is called the Social and Behavioral Sciences Methodology Minor. Long name, but don’t let that intimidate you. It really is a perfect complement to a BSW major! There is an 18 hour minimum of course work and research experience starting with a pre-requisite of an intro stats class. The course work covers your choice of grad level classes in methodology and an independent study or research practicum. There is also the opportunity to intern at the Center of Research Methodology and Data Analysis here on campus. I am completing the minor right now and am also interning at the center. It has opened up many doors for me and given me the opportunity to get very involved on the research side of social work. I have also gotten to work with professors and students that have really helped my development as a researcher. I went into this minor with a huge fear of statistics, and now I can’t get enough! If you are at all interested you can visit the quant.ku.edu page, or contact me at abarnes2@ku.edu. I would love to see more social work students take active roles in the research that really drives the profession!

Thanks!
Ashley Barnes

BSW Student Voices: How to be Heard

Got something to say?
This is your space to do it!

Submit an article or essay to the BSW Newsletter. Just send it to Mahasweta Banerjee, BSW Director, at mahaswetab@ku.edu before the 10th of the month. Let your peers hear from you.
Events Calendar

OCTOBER

9 Bert Nash Dash & Bash
   Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center

14-17 Fall Break

14-17 CSWE, Portland, Oregon

18-29 Advising

21 Pre-Social Work Group Advising session
   1 pm - 3 pm, 208 Twente Hall

21 Prospective Student Information Session
   KU Edwards Campus, 6 pm - 7:30 pm

22 Student Progress Report and Writing Sample due to Liaison

25 MSW Information Session
   11:15 - 12:15 p.m., International Room, KU Union
   Jean Peterson, MSW, Program Director

26 MSW Information Session
   5:25 - 6:25 p.m., KCKCC, #2705 Lower Nursing
   Jean Peterson, MSW, Program Director

27 MSW Information Session
   11:15 - 12:15 p.m., Pine Room, KU Union
   Jean Peterson, MSW, Program Director

29 Pre-Social Work Group Advising session
   9 am - 11 am, 208 Twente Hall

NOVEMBER

1-5 Advising

5 Pre-Social Work Group Advising session
   1 pm - 3 pm, 208 Twente Hall

11 Veterans Day

12 Professional Writing Sample due to Liaison

24-28 Thanksgiving Recess

DECEMBER

9 Last Day of Classes

10 Mid Year Evaluation and Reflective Writing Sample due to Liaison

13-17 Final Exams