**BSW Director’s Corner**

--Lori Messinger

The theme for this newsletter is **opportunity**. I know it can be difficult to think about taking on more new opportunities, adding more activities to an already full schedule. Almost every pre-social work and BSW student I know is juggling classes, work, homework, volunteering/field placement, and friends and family responsibilities, not to mention sneaking in a little fun! In the face of all of that, it can be difficult to imagine attending a presentation on campus, traveling to a workshop in Wichita, or even presenting a poster session at the BPD conference in Atlanta, but I encourage you to think about taking some of these opportunities.

There is never a perfect time for these unique opportunities. You will always be busy and stressed. There will always be responsibilities weighing you down and claiming your time. It won’t get better once you finish school. If you doubt that, talk to some of our BSW graduates who are busy in grad school or working full-time in their jobs.

It is important to remember that significant learning can happen outside the classroom, in extra-curricular activities. Attending cultural events at the Lied Center or the University Theatre, lectures at the Hall Center or the Dole Institute for Politics, and even BSW events in Lawrence or Kansas City can help you think more deeply about big ideas, connect your coursework with the larger community, and plan for your future as a professional social worker.

This newsletter lists many opportunities for you to learn and grow. Think about pursuing one or more of these opportunities. Spend a little time and energy on something different, something new. It can benefit you in ways you cannot yet imagine!

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In BSW Program news, you should know that we turned in our BSW and MSW program self-study documents to the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) as part of the process of reaffirming our accreditation. The CSWE Council on Accreditation will read our self-study and send us any questions they might have as we prepare for the next step in the process: a site visit in February. During a site visit, social work professors from other programs will come to KU to learn more about our program and make sure that we are providing the best education possible for our students. You will learn more about the site visit as the time draws nearer.

The BSW Program Committee meets monthly. The new student representatives are as follows:

- Ashley Barnes (Jr.) and Matthew Blankers (Sr.) from the Lawrence campus
- Angela Viles-Shop (Jr.) and Julie Hope (Sr.) from the KCKCC campus

Please contact your representatives if you have any concerns or questions about the program that you would like them to bring to the attention of the committee.
News and Information from Vicki

Pre-Social Welfare students: The next review date for BSW applications is October 1, 2009. We expect to have all applications reviewed and notification letters sent out by the first week of November. Students admitted during the October review will begin the social work curriculum in the fall of 2010. If you have questions about the application process, feel free to email me.

Pre-Social Work Group Advising sessions have been set (see next page). There is a sign-up sheet on my office door (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 2010, 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 19th through Friday, November 6th. 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 by October 12, you should contact them for an appointment. An advisor list is 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 2010. 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 Barbara or me regarding missing coursework/credit hours on your ARTS Form. 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) 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 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 FALL 2007, 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 SU09. If you have not graduated by this time, your tuition will be reassessed at the beginning of the following semester (FA11).
KU BSW Student visits the Capitol

Matthew Blankers (KU BSW 2010 and third from right on the front row) attended the signing of the Governor’s proclamation for Suicide Prevention Week.

Thinking about the KU MSW Program?

Jean Peterson, MSW Program Director, will be holding information sessions about the MSW Program at KU. Come learn more about the MSW Program, advanced standing, and areas of specialization.

Lawrence Campus
Monday, October 26th or Wednesday, October 28th
11:15 to 12:15 in the Centennial Room at the Union

KCKCC Campus
October 27th at 5:30, location TBA

Pre-Social Work Group Advising on the Lawrence Campus

Thursday, 10/22 from 12 pm - 1:30 pm
Friday, 10/30 from 10 am - 11:30 am
Wednesday, 11/4 from 1 pm - 2:30 pm

All group advising sessions will take place in Room 206 of Twente Hall.

You can sign up for one of the above sessions at 107 Twente, 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 2010, and a list of any questions that you have. Plan to stay 15-20 minutes.
News from the 2+2 Program

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 22\(^{nd}\) 6:00 pm -8:30 pm
Information Session at KU Edwards Campus

November 3\(^{rd}\) 5:40 pm – 6:10 pm
Student Group Meeting

Lawrence BSW Student Group

The Lawrence BSW Student Group has met twice so far this year, with a great turnout at both meetings. Hopefully, everyone had a chance to respond to our activities survey. If not, please come to a meeting and give us your input. We'll be discussing the results of the survey at our next meeting on Tuesday, October 6th at 7 pm in Alcove G of the Kansas Union.

We've decided to raise funds for the Lawrence Community Shelter at our annual silent auction at Abe and Jakes on Thursday, November 12th. The mission of the Lawrence Community Shelter is to provide safe shelter and comprehensive support services and programs that provide a path to a positive future for people experiencing homelessness and people who are at risk of homelessness. If you want to help out with the event, show up at the next meeting (Tuesday, October 6th at 7pm in Alcove G) or send us an email at bsw@ku.edu.

The Lawrence BSW Student Group is also participating in a fundraising event sponsored by the Center for Community Outreach called, "Trick or Treat So Others Can Eat." Volunteers are needed Monday, October 26th from 4pm to 6pm to help hand out flyers for the event in Lawrence neighborhoods. Come to the next meeting (Tuesday, October 6th at 7pm in Alcove G) or send an email to bsw@ku.edu for more information.
The KCKCC BSW Student Group held its first student gathering September 12, 2009 at Antioch Park in Mission, KS. This was an opportunity for students to get to know each other better and meet their family. Thank you to those who were able to attend and for bringing their favorite dishes.

As a reminder to anyone interested in volunteer opportunities, the KCKCC BSW Student Group will be volunteering at The Salvation Army Food Kitchen on October 3, 2009 at 11:30 am and 4:30 pm and on October 4, 2009 at 11:30 am. If anyone is interested in assisting with their meal service, please feel free to come. The Salvation Army is located at 6723 State Avenue, Kansas City, KS. For those who plan on volunteering, please show up at least 30 minutes early.

Our next meeting is scheduled for November 3, 2009 at 5:40 pm. An email will be sent out at a later time to let you know where we will be meeting. We will be passing out angels to those who signed up to participate in the angel tree program. We will also be serving chili dogs.
The American Psychological Association recently released the 6th edition of the APA publication manual. This style guide is an important and useful tool for all SW students. If you do not already own a copy of the manual, you are encouraged to purchase one. It can be a helpful resource as you try to write correctly formatted reports during your career as a student.

You can learn more about the APA manual or purchase a copy on the following website: http://www.apastyle.org/products/4200066.aspx.

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**Public Service & Non-Profit Career Fair**

Thinking about a career in government or the non-profit sector? The Public Service & Non-Profit Career Fair is your opportunity to meet recruiters from Federal, State and local government agencies, their direct-support agencies and various non-profit organizations. Come and explore public service and non-profit career options such as internships, fellowships and full-time jobs.

**October 27, 2009**  
**Kansas Union 5th Floor**  
**3:30-6:30 p.m.**

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**Does the cost of Textbooks have you worried??**

**SAVE YOUR COURSE MATERIAL RECEIPTS – YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR A TAX CREDIT UP TO $2,500!!**

Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act's (ARRA) newly created American Opportunity Tax Credit, textbook and other course material expenses – along with tuition and fees incurred in 2009 and 2010 not covered by scholarships or grants – may be claimed as a tax credit on that year’s tax return!

*You must keep a record of your expenses to be eligible!!*

THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS SCHOOL OF LAW

Requests your company at a special screening of

UNNATURAL CAUSES: Is Inequality Making Us Sick?  Episode One

Date: October 6, 2009
Time: 3:45 pm – 5:30 pm
Place: KU School of Law Room 104

The screening will be followed by a discussion of the film moderated by Elizabeth Leonard and Trinia Arellano.

A reception will follow.

Please RSVP to Trinia Arellano @ Trinia@ku.edu by October 1st.
For more information, please visit www.unnaturalcauses.com.

Understanding Sexual Assault: What Professionals Should Know

October 19, 2009

KCSDV
634 SW Harrison
Topeka, KS
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.

Registration Fee: $25.00
Lunch, snacks, and training materials provided.

Registration Deadline: October 12
Register early! Space is limited.

Training Highlights:
- The dynamics of sexual assault
- Responding to disclosures
- Walking the walk
- The criminal justice system, protection orders and other options

Questions:
Nancy Turpin
Education & Training Team Leader
785-232-9784 ext. 333 or
nturpin@kcsdv.org

Wendy Nettleingham
Assistant Training Coordinator
785-232-9784 ext. 336 or
wnettleingham@kcsdv.org

To register, please visit our website at http://www.kcsdv.org/octprosa.html.
Gallaudet University’s Department of Social Work has obtained a grant from the United States Department of Education/Office of Special Education to train school social workers to work with diverse deaf and hard of hearing children. This means that for the next four years we will be training school social work graduate students to work with diverse groups of deaf and hard of hearing children in educational programs throughout the United States. Each trainee will receive 1/2 tuition waiver and a generous stipend. A wide variety of school internships will enhance the educational experience.

This program is accredited by CSWE and is a part of the Professional Education Programs (PEP) Unit at Gallaudet University, which is accredited by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). Gallaudet University is the world leader in liberal education and career development for deaf and hard of hearing undergraduate students. Located in Washington, DC, the University enjoys an international reputation for the outstanding graduate programs it provides deaf, hard of hearing, and hearing students, as well as for the quality of the research it conducts on the history, language, culture, and other topics related to deaf people.

We will welcome our first group of trainees and scholarship recipients this fall and we are now beginning recruitment for academic years 2010-2013. To learn more, see our website at: http://socialwork.gallaudet.edu/Social_Work/MSW_Program/School_Social_Work_Grant/About_The_Grant.html

Feel free to contact us for additional information.
CALL FOR STUDENT POSTER SESSIONS

BSW students, consider presenting a poster at the 27th Annual BPD Conference!

The topic should relate to the theme of the conference: the eight content areas required by EPAS and other standards related to generalist practice (practice, policy, HBSE, research, field, social work values and ethics, diversity, populations-at-risk and social and economic justice). We are interested in proposals that are particularly applicable to the social justice and social change themes often associated with Atlanta.

* Proposals will only be accepted from students who are in a BSW program at the time of the conference.

**Submission process:**

- Please submit 2 separate attachments in Word format to ascott@bpdonline.org no later than October 31, 2009.
  - Attachment #1: Please submit the cover page provided on the website.
  - Attachment #2: Proposal (no identifying information)
    - Title of the Presentation (Limit to 12 words)
    - Keywords (limit to 3 words)
    - Abstract (Limit to 50 words)
    - Proposal/Essay (Limit to 500 words, excluding references)

**What is a poster session?**

- The student poster session will be approximately 90 minutes in length. There will be no audio/visual equipment available for these sessions. Poster boards will be provided to display your work and are 4 feet tall by 8 feet wide. Poster presentations (whether laminated or printed) must be no more than 3.5’ x 7.5’ in order to fit on the poster boards. Only push pins or thumb tacks may be used to affix poster presentations to the boards which we will provide. We ask that you not use tape or Velcro as it may damage the boards.
save the date!

Cornerstones of Care
Foster Care & Adoption Services
presents
Adoption Forum
“From Placement to Permanency”
Denise Goodman, PhD
Child Welfare Consultant
American Heartland Theatre
Kansas City, MO
FREE!

To Register contact
homes4kids@cornerstonesofcare.org or
816-508-6206

November 3, 2009
details to come!
Autism Across the Life Span: A Conference for Professionals and Families
November 6–7, 2009
Hilton Wichita Airport Executive Conference Center
Wichita, Kansas

Don't miss Autism Across the Life Span, the first statewide conference hosted by Kansas Center for Autism Research and Training (K-CART) at the University of Kansas.

Early Registration for Autism Across the Lifespan ends October 5, 2009.

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*A limited number of scholarships for family member registration fees are available. One per family.

Five conference strands (Community Living, Employment, Transition, Social Skills/Behavioral Supports and Early Education) feature programs and approaches with a record of success.

The rich conference agenda includes nationally recognized speakers, family members, individuals with autism spectrum disorders, educators, autism specialists, clinicians, representatives from state agencies and rehabilitation specialists who will share their experiences and varying perspectives. Exhibits will provide information about programs and services available to Kansans with autism spectrum disorders.

Everyone should leave this conference with a heightened awareness of Kansas’ resources and with ideas that can be put into practice. Don't miss Autism Across the Lifespan.
Events Calendar

October

1st        BSW Application Deadline
6th        Unnatural Causes Movie (3:45 pm – 5:30 pm, 104 School of Law)
15th-18th  Fall Break
19th       Sexual Assault training, (9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., KCSDV, Topeka, KS)
19th-30th  KU Fall Advising Period
22nd       Pre-SW Group Advising (12 pm - 1:30 pm)
27th       Public Service Career Fair in Kansas Union
30th       Pre-SW Group Advising (10 am - 11:30 am)
31st       BPD Poster proposal due

November

3rd        KCKCC Student Group meeting/Adoption Forum
4th        Pre-SW Group Advising (1 pm - 2:30 pm)
6-7th      Autism Conference
25th-29th  Thanksgiving Break

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 Lori Messinger, BSW Director, at lori@ku.edu before the 10th of the month. Let your peers hear from you.