BSW Director’s Corner

If you heard a very LOUD sigh last Wednesday, February 24th, it was the KUSSW faculty and staff breathing a sigh of relief that our accreditation site visit had concluded successfully! Our outside site visitors, Drs. Cora Le-Doux (Lake of the Ozarks) and Amanda Duffy Randall (University of Nebraska-Omaha), reported that all questions and concerns raised by the CSWE Council on Accreditation had been addressed satisfactorily by the faculty, students, staff, and field instructors. They also noted that they were leaving with very positive impressions of the BSW and MSW Programs at the KU School of Social Welfare. In fact, they said that one of the best parts of our programs was… you guessed it… the STUDENTS!

We would like to thank all of the BSW and MSW students who met with the site visitors in the many meetings last week. Kris Creten, Matthew Blankers, and Anna Bailey did a fantastic job discussing the curriculum and program in the BSW Committee meeting, and even more BSW students took time to attend the open student forum. Drs. Randall and Le-Doux were very impressed with our well prepared and articulate students. Your active participation, thoughtful feedback, and good insights helped the site visitors see all of the strengths of the BSW Program.

The site visitors will file their report with the CSWE Council on Accreditation, a copy of which will be sent to KUSSW as well. If they have any final concerns or questions, we will have another chance to respond before the Council on Accreditation issues their determination. Accreditation is VERY IMPORTANT to all of us, but it is especially important to you! In order to get into an advanced standing MSW program or register for licensure, you must have a BSW degree from an accredited institution. Once our accreditation is reaffirmed, the BSW and MSW Programs at KU will be officially reaccredited for 8 years.

On another note, we will be seeing some changes here at the School of Social Welfare in 2010-2011. After six years as the BSW Director, I will be stepping down at the end of the semester. Next year, I will be taking a research sabbatical as a Senior Scholar with CSWE, and then I will return to faculty. Dr. Mahasweta Banerjee will become the new BSW Director this summer. For those of you who aren’t familiar with Mahasweta through the SW540 research class or advising, I will be including a profile in the next newsletter. Another big change will take place in January 2011, when Dr. Steve Kapp, faculty advisor for the Lawrence BSW Student Group, will take over as Associate Dean for Professional Programs. Current Associate Dean Rick Spano, who teaches SW623, will be leaving for a sabbatical at that time and then returning to the faculty.

Finally, please register for Social Work Day, which is scheduled for Friday, April 16th, 2010. There will be fantastic keynote speakers, interesting workshops, and even lunch! Seniors, talk to your field instructors about counting this time towards your hours—and perhaps you can both come to Social Work Day!
News and Information from Vicki

Pre-Social Work Students:
Pre-social work advising is just around the corner, beginning immediately after spring break. Pre-Social Work group advising sessions will be:

- Friday, Thursday, March 26th in Room 206 Twente Hall from 1 – 2:30 pm
- Thursday, April 1st in Room 206 Twente Hall from 11am – 12:30 pm
- Wednesday, April 7th in Room 206 Twente Hall from 10:30 am – 12 pm

You can sign up for pre-social work advising by emailing me at vmignot@ku.edu or by coming by my office and putting your name on the sign-up sheet. My office is Room 107 Twente Hall. Signing up is recommended by drop-ins are welcome at pre-social work advising sessions.

All newly admitted students will be assigned Academic Advisors. Emails will be sent out in the next few weeks that will have the 2009-2010 Advisor list attached. In the event that you don’t get this email, an advisor list will be posted on the bulletin board outside of my office. Advising Holds are put on every School of Social Welfare student. The hold is removed after your meet with your advisor; at that time, you are able to enroll. Immediately after returning from spring break, you will want to sign up for an advising appointment with your advisor. Further, until you have completed and turned in the Change of School form that came with your acceptance letter, you will not be able to enroll in the social work courses. That form is required to change your university status to the School of Social Welfare.

BSW Students: Advising is fast approaching. Faculty advisors will be taking appointments immediately after spring break for a period lasting approximately three weeks. You should start looking at your schedule now and plan for the summer and fall semesters. Be sure to sign up early for appointments and be in contact with your advisor by phone or email if advising issues arise. An advisor list is posted on the bulletin board outside of my office if you need to check it. You must meet with your advisor to have your advising hold removed.

BSW Seniors: Be sure to continue checking your ARTS Forms to make sure that all of your graduation requirements (courses and hours) have been met. If you are transferring in hours from another university/community college, make sure that they show on your ARTS Form. Until they are on your KU record, they don’t count!

You need to visit the Kansas Union Bookstore in the next couple of weeks to get your cap and gown for graduation. Graduation will be here before you know it!!

The Apply to Graduate deadline is March 1st. Make sure to complete this process in Enroll and Pay or you may not be listed in the Commencement Program and you will not be identified as a May 2010 KU Graduate. If the deadline has passed and you can no longer apply online, you need to see me ASAP. There is a paper process that we can use to apply for graduation, but it is subject to the Registrar’s approval on a case by case basis.

A list of May 2010 BSW Graduates has been forwarded to KSBSRB (http://www.ksbsrb.org). When completing the application process to sit for the licensing test, you do NOT need to have the Social Welfare Dean sign the form; just indicate on that page to “see KU graduate list for May 2010”.

BSW students: It is time to start setting up appointments for advising.
NEWS FROM THE 2+2 PROGRAM

ATTENTION ALL Social Work and Pre-Social Work Students!!

Do you need electives?? Interested in summer classes??

**SW 455 Poverty and Globalization** is a 3 credit course offered in **June**.  
**SW 455 Social Work with Latinos** is a 3 credit course offered in **July**.

The classes are held at the Kansas City Kansas Community College Campus. Check the KU Schedule of Classes for class time and dates. If you have any questions about the courses, contact Maxine Elmore at (913) 288-7304 or by email at melmore1@ku.edu.

**KCKCC campus students:** Don’t forget to sign up for **Advising**. The sign-up sheets are located on the office door in Jewell Center room 3339.

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

March 25th 5:30 pm - 6:20 pm BSW Practicum Placement Meeting Room 2705

April 6th 5:30 pm – 6:20 pm BSW Student Group Meeting

**KCKCC BSW Student Group**

The KCKCC BSW Student Group met on February 23 to discuss the upcoming food drive competition between the junior and senior class. The food drive donations will support the local Salvation Army. The deadline to donate non-perishable food items will be April 13th. Items can be placed in appropriate boxes in Maxine Elmore’s office.

We have also decided to participate in The Run for Mercy scheduled on Saturday, April 17, 2010 at 8:00 am at Monticello Trails Middle School, 6100 Monticello Road, about 1 mile north of Shawnee Mission Parkway. The Run for Mercy is one of the most highly attended races in Kansas City, and you can be one of more than 1,500 people who will help improve the lives of South African children infected or affected by HIV/AIDS. Anyone interested is welcome to participate. To register online go to [http://www.active.com/running/shawnee-ks/run-for-mercy-5k-10k-walk-or-run-2010-oa684](http://www.active.com/running/shawnee-ks/run-for-mercy-5k-10k-walk-or-run-2010-oa684)

Our next meeting has been scheduled for April 13, 2010. Time and room location will be announced at a later time. Please plan on coming as we will be voting for next year’s BSW Student Officers. Pizza and Drinks will be provided.
The group has been working on coordinating a second annual diaper drive to benefit local agencies that work with families with young children. The group plans on asking patrons of local grocery stores for donations of products such as diapers, infant formula, baby wipes, etc. on April 3rd.

The group is also working on hosting a panel of researchers from the School of Social Welfare to give students an opportunity to learn more about what research is done in our school. The group is also looking forward to planning another social event for March!

The next meeting is March 2nd at 7pm in Alcove D of the Kansas Union. We hope to see you there!

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**Summer Research Opportunity**

**2010 Summer Research Internship on Poverty and Adolescent Risk**

The College of Human Environmental Sciences at the University of Alabama is offering a summer research internship for students interested in studying neighborhood poverty and its impact on adolescent behavior. Students who participate in the internship, which is in its 13th year, will conduct field research as part of a longitudinal study of poverty and adolescent risk, which we have been conducting since 1998.

The study has been funded by the National Institute for Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), the National Institute for Drug Abuse (NIDA), the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and it addresses challenges that young people face as they grow up in impoverished neighborhoods, including violence, alcohol and drug use, sexual behavior, the development of self-esteem and a sense of the future, and family dynamics. We are soliciting applications from students who would like to participate in this unique learning experience. Interns, who may be either undergraduate or graduate students, will be required to live in Mobile, Alabama between May 24, 2010 and July 30, 2010. For more information and to find application instructions, please go to our website:

[http://www.ches.ua.edu/mys](http://www.ches.ua.edu/mys)

If you are unable to access the website, contact John Bolland by e-mail (jbolland@ches.ua.edu) or phone (205.348.9953). We will begin making decisions on March 16, 2010, although we will continue accepting applications until all positions are filled (typically at least the middle of April).
Reminders from Field Education

Please mark your calendars!

BSW Practicum Placement Announcements
And Orientation For Current BSW Juniors!

This is a required meeting for all BSW students entering practicum this fall

**KCKCC Students**
March 25th
5:40 - 6:25pm
Room: TBA

**Lawrence Students**
March 26th
3:00 - 4:00 pm
Kansas Room, Kansas Union

Students will find out where you have been matched for practicum, and hear more about the interviewing process!

We look forward to seeing you there!
Please contact Julie Solomon or Vicki Arnett with questions: 785/864-2663 or jamsoho@ku.edu or varnett@ku.edu

Please Note: Julie Solomon will be out of the country during the month of February. Vicki Arnett will be assisting with BSW placements during this time. If you have questions about your practicum planning process during the month of February, please contact Vicki at the email address above.
Kansas Chapter, National Association of Social Workers

12th Annual
KNASW
Student Legislative Day 2010
(...as always, rain, shine, sleet, or snow...as long as the legislature is in session)

What? An opportunity for social work students to learn about Kansas politics

Who? Social work students who have completed or are currently enrolled in the social policy course are invited to attend

When? Wednesday, March 3; 9:00-11:30 am—several presentations

Where? Washburn University, 1700 SW College Ave, Topeka
Memorial Union, Washburn Room A and B (morning program)
State Capitol, 10th and Jackson (afternoon is on your own)

After listening to the morning program, students are encouraged to spend the afternoon at the capitol listening to legislative committee hearings, observing the Senate floor session, researching in the state library, or visiting their State Senator and/or State Representative.*

Morning Presentations

Advocacy and the Law  Dorthy Stucky Halley, LMSW (Attorney General Staff)
Republican Politics in Kansas  Brent Haden (Speaker O’Neal’s Chief of staff)
Democratic Politics in Kansas  Dustin Hardison (Minority Leader Davis’ staff)
Serving in the Legislature  Nancy Kirk, MSW (former legislator)
It is an Election Year  Don Crowder, LSCSW (Chapter PACE Chair)
Action at the Statehouse  Sky Westerlund, LMSW (Chapter Executive Director)

Thank you Washburn University-Social Work Department for hosting this event!

No fees or pre-registration required.
Coffee is provided; Lunch is on your own— you may want to bring a brown bag lunch.

For more information:
sky@knasw.com; kelsey@knasw.com; catie@knasw.com or 785.354.4804

* To visit your legislators, you must make prior arrangements. For information go to www.kslegislature.org
KU Social Work Day 2010
Building Connections in a Diverse World

When: April 16th 2010, 8 am – 4 pm
Where: Kansas Union Woodruff Auditorium (level 5)

Keynotes:
Dr. Michael Fowlin - “You Don’t Know Me Until You Know Me”

Morning Workshops
Therapeutic Metaphors, Jim Kreider
To Be or Not to Be: Discovering Similarities and Celebrating Differences, Gary Bailey
Best Practices With LGBT Youth and Their Families: Recent Research, Lori Messinger
Sí se Puede: Effective Advocacy with Latino Immigrant Populations, Melinda Lewis

Afternoon Workshops
Therapeutic Metaphors, Jim Kreider
Sexuality and Relationships in Aging, Dennis Dailey
Bullying and Peer Victimization among Children and Adolescents: Definitions, Characteristics, and Intervention Approaches, Anne Powell
Addressing Spirituality within Culturally Competent Practice, Edward R. Canda, Sachiko Gomi, Vincent Starnino

More information can be found at: http://www.socwel.ku.edu/swday/index.shtml

We are also pleased to let you know that we will again hold a Global Social Work Student Conference related to international social work on Sunday, March 28, 2010 at the Fordham University Graduate School of Social Service.

Social Work Day at the UN is a gathering place for people around the world who are working to make a difference. For 26 years students, practitioners, and educators have been convening at the UN to learn more about the UN, innovative projects and issues related to International Social Work and the critical role Social Work plays in the international arena.

***Please note that there is a separate registration form for each conference. In order to go to both events please complete both forms and return by regular mail.***

***Please visit http://bluehawk.monmouth.edu/swork/UN/un-registration.htm for the Social Work Day registration form and http://bluehawk.monmouth.edu/swork/UN/un-studentform08.htm for the registration form for the student conference.***
GRADUATING SENIORS!!!

Please read this page in its entirety!!

The BSW Recognition Ceremony will be on Friday, May 14th at 1:00 pm at the Lied Center.

The Lied Center is a beautiful, handicap-accessible venue that holds 1,500 people and has plenty of parking available. For directions and a campus map, see www.ku.edu/visit. BSW graduates will need to be there by 12:15 noon on May 14th to get lined up. The last student to arrive will be the one to lead the class in the singing of the alma mater at the conclusion of the ceremony. All friends, family members, guests, and graduates are invited to attend.

The University Commencement, also known as the traditional “Walk Down the Hill,” is on Sunday, May 16th at 2:30 pm.

Tickets are NOT needed for either ceremony.

You will need a cap, gown and tassel for graduation. All can be purchased at the KU Bookstore in the Kansas Union, and the total cost is around $40.00. KCKCC students should plan on purchasing their regalia at the Edwards campus bookstore. The cap and gown must be black, and the tassel will be citron with a '10 charm attached. Citron is the color representing the academic discipline of social work.

This is also a good time to order graduation announcements. Personalized announcements may be purchased by calling CB Graduation Announcements at (800) 433-0296, or visiting cbgrad.com, or by contacting Jostens at Jostens.com. You can also get more information at the KU bookstores.

For general graduation information, please see www.commencement.ku.edu/.

Questions? Contact Assistant Dean Melanie Hepburn at melanieh@ku.edu.
Note that the lecture series begins at 12:00 p.m. 1.0 CEU Available.

For driving directions to Children’s Mercy Hospital, please visit www.childrensmercy.org
Events Calendar

March

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<td>2nd</td>
<td>Lecture at Children’s Mercy Hospital</td>
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<td>3rd</td>
<td>KNSAW Student Legislative Day</td>
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<td>25th</td>
<td>Practicum Placement Orientation: KCKCC</td>
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<td>26th</td>
<td>Practicum Placement Orientation: Lawrence</td>
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<td>28th</td>
<td>Global Social Work Student Conference</td>
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<td>29th</td>
<td>Social Work Day at the UN</td>
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April

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<td>13th</td>
<td>Run for Mercy</td>
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<td>16th</td>
<td>Social Work Day in the Kansas Union 5th floor, Woodruff Auditorium</td>
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<td>17th</td>
<td>KCKCC Student Group meeting</td>
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May

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<tr>
<td>14th</td>
<td>BSW Recognition Ceremony, Lied Auditorium</td>
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<td>16th</td>
<td>Commencement Ceremony</td>
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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 lorim@ku.edu before the 10th of the month. Let your peers hear from you.