

# A SLICE *o*f LIFE

Shippensburg University Department of Social Work & Gerontology

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## A Successful Year for the BSW Research Club

The BSW Research Club is creating a good tradition of conducting studies of interest to the Shippensburg University community and presenting their findings to a wide audience. In November, the students Cecilia Luna and Brianna Williams represented the BSW Research Club Annual Program Meeting (APM) of the Council of Social Work Education (CSWE) in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. They presented the poster "Interracial and Interethnic Relations of Shippensburg University Students." Their presentation, which summarized the findings of the observations and the survey with the Shippensburg students, was followed with interest.

In April, Keith Mowery, Devon Sizemore, Colleen Brewer, Sarah Miller, and Regina Broughton presented the results of their survey "Shippensburg University Students' Service to Community: Motivators and Barriers" in the Research Recognition Day at Shippensburg University. The results of the survey with a margin of error + 2.2% indicate that 91.9% of students are interested in volunteering and 46.2% had participated in a volunteering activity during the spring 2009 semester, with an average of 2.65 hours per week. The students cited lack of time (78.4%) and lack of awareness of opportunities (24.9%) as the main barriers to volunteering. Participation in fundraising (25.5%), Tutoring (18%) and mentoring (15.2%) were among the main volunteering contributions. ■



*Members of the BSW Research Club and faculty advisors at the Research Recognition Day.*

*One of the deep secrets of life is that all that is really worth doing is what we do for others.*

— Lewis Carroll

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# A Message from the Chair

## ***Greetings Alums, Students and Friends,***

Once again I write to you with the exciting news about our Department and our Programs. As we move into the 2009-2010 academic year and say goodbye to 2008-09 much has happened and much is yet to come. This newsletter tells you of many of the activities of the department but these are only highlights about the active and involved group of professors and students who hang out in Shippen Hall.

In addition to the events in the articles you will read, this has been another year (when will it end!) of accreditation activity. We are now in the final phase of our initial accreditation for the MU-SU MSW program and expect a site visit this fall with (hopefully) approval in February from the Commission on Accreditation of the Council on Social Work Education. We had 20 new grads on the Ship side of the program this spring (bringing our total alums to 36 now) and currently have 49 students enrolled in varying stages of the program. At the Millersville campus there are even more grads and students. Together the two campuses make one program that is contributing to the quality social work services in South Central PA. This has been a long process and many people have helped us through it. Expect a big celebration when the process is finally complete!

Additionally, our BSW program is up for reaffirmation with CSWE during the coming year and we have spent the last year preparing for the review. Our program has been accredited since 1974 and we expect CSWE will continue to respect the strong program that we have maintained at Ship. This process will be finalized next June with a site visit sometime this winter. Thanks to Dr. Liz Fisher for being the primary author of the self-study this year. It is a challenging job, and she was up to the challenge.

We had a temporary full time faculty member with us this past year, Tina Chiarelli-Helminiak, who is a graduate of our BSW program and an MSW from Maryland. Tina was very active with the department as you can see from some of the articles in this newsletter. We really appreciated her work and wish her well as she continues her education at University of Connecticut where she will get her Ph.D. Don't be gone too long Tina!

We will be welcoming another temporary full time faculty member for the 2009-10 year while we continue to search for a replacement for Dr. Hewitt. Nicole O'Reilly, another graduate of our BSW program, who received her MSW from the University of Tennessee will be teaching a variety of courses for us. Nicky has a range of experience from micro to macro practice and is a true generalist social work practitioner. After a year with us, Nicky will be attending graduate school next year at the University of Maryland.

Something else new this year is the addition of Ship Social Work programs to Facebook. We want to be able to reach as many of our alums as possible and Facebook seemed to be a good way to do that in this era of social networking. If you have an account with Facebook, do sign up for our group. We had over 60 members in less than a week and the group keeps growing. It is a great way to get in touch with old friends from school and professors as well. The group is called Shippensburg University Social Work Programs Alumni. If you have other ideas for ways to communicate with our alumni and friends do let us know. We also love hearing from you and what you have accomplished since graduation — from graduate school to advocacy to babies!

This may be the last paper copy of the newsletter as our department website gets a facelift this coming year now that the University website has been updated. If you would like to continue to receive the hard copy instead of reading it on our website, we will be happy to send it to you. Just drop an email to Joyce Walters, our secretary, at [jawalt@ship.edu](mailto:jawalt@ship.edu) and let her know you want to stay on the snail mail list for the newsletter. Make sure you give her your current address so she can have an up to date listing. The mailing addresses for the newsletter come from the alumni office and sometimes they are not the most up to date.

Best wishes for a good year, and do be in touch!

**Sincerely,**

**Deborah Jacobs**  
***Department Chairperson***

***Education is not filling a bucket but lighting a fire.***

**— William Butler Yeats**

# Social Work Day at the United Nations

On Monday, April 6, 2009 at 5:45, 52 social work students and faculty loaded into a bus heading towards the United Nations for the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Social Work Day. The trip was organized by a group of five students in the Social Work Practice with Organizations and Communities class and social work faculty.

Social Work Day at the UN is a gathering place for people around the world who are working to make a difference. For 25 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. The theme for this year's program was "Global Poverty: Challenges for Social Work Practice." This was the third time that the students in our social work program have attended and sponsored the event.

Prior to attending the Conference, the participants were given a tour of the United Nations. Tour guides led groups throughout the United Nations highlighting the history, function and policies of this global entity. Beautiful artifacts such as large colorful tapestry memorializing the nuclear disaster in Chernobyl, Ukraine, were displayed along the tour. Horrific photographs and instruments of war were also displayed including a landmine colored and shaped like a child's yo-yo toy. The tour ended with the participants seated in the United Nations Assembly Hall, where diplomats from around the world gather to represent their countries in global diplomacy.

The participant also had the privilege of talking with Dr. Robin Mama, the representative of the International Federation of Social Workers at the United Nations and co-chair of the Conference. Dr. Robin Mama, who spoke exclusively with Shippensburg University students, informed us about the social work agenda in the United Nations. Then, the students who attended the conference had the opportunity to listen to Shulamith Koenig, Aaron Greenberg, Bernardo Kliksberg, and wrap-up speaker Michael Sherraden.

The organizing group made sure to provide an educational and enjoyable experience to all participants. "Snacks and Facts" were distributed to bus riders with information on the United Nations, human rights documents as well as statistics on global poverty accompanied by a healthy snack. On the way to and from the United Nations participants watched several movies such as "Stand by Me," "Little Miss Sunshine" "Milk" and "Edward Scissorhands." The results of the survey conducted indicated that all participating students had enjoyed the experience and considered it to be very educational.

**Tara Sarge, Keith Mowery,  
Allison Mahon, Sue Keith and  
Jessica Morrow**

## Becoming a Leader of Social Change

Have you ever been concerned about safety in schools, fair working conditions, or equal rights, but did not know where to begin in order to change a program, influence policy, or insist on social justice? During the spring semester, the Department of Social Work and Gerontology offered a special five week program called *Becoming a Leader in Social Change*. The program brought together a diverse group of 33 student, faculty, and staff participants with an interest in learning about the history of social change and how to become a leader in systematic campaigns to influence change.

Each session began with a lunch from a different culture as a way to facilitate a communal bond among participants. The ethnic samplings featured recipes inspired by Italian, Ethiopian, Kenyan, Thai, and Mexican cuisine. The program participants learned about nonviolence, organizing and leadership skills, and explored social justice issues through workshops facilitated by experienced activists from local community organizations. The culmination of the program was participation in *Diversity Day*, a program coordinated by Dr. Sam Benbow's Diversity Class for Thaddeus Stevens Elementary School in Chambersburg.

*Becoming a Leader in Social Change* was coordinated under the leadership by Prof. Tina Chiarelli-Helminiak, Dr. Liz Fisher, and BSW student Keith Mowery. The program was made possible with funding through the Human Understanding Awards Committee and the Office of the Dean of Education and Human Services. ■

*The probability that we may fail in the struggle ought not to deter us from the support of a cause we believe to be just.*

— Abraham Lincoln

# The Field Practicum: *BSW Notes*

The BSW program had another great year of field education. The students thrived and our tradition of quality field instruction continued. Fifteen students completed field practicum this fall and 32 students completed one in the spring. The range of placements was impressive and there were several new placements.

One new placement was built on a partnership between One West Penn Apartments and the Todd Baird Lindsey Foundation in Carlisle. Both agencies provide services to the aging population, but one is a residential facility and the other is community-based to help older adults stay in their homes. The BSW student who interned with the agencies had the best of both worlds by working at the residential facility in the morning and going out on home visits in the afternoon. This unique arrangement came about when the student wanted to complete her placement with One West Penn because she was familiar with its high quality services, employees and learning opportunities, but also recognized that she needed to have a BSW or MSW to act as a field instructor. Through creative brainstorming, an MSW was identified at Todd Baird Lindsey Foundation who was willing to fulfill that role. It turned out to be a great experience for all involved. There are many ways to develop innovative field placements and continue to meet the Council on Social Work Education and our own high quality standards.

All graduating seniors participated in **Senior Oral Presentations** at the end of the semester. Students shared their field, educational and personal experiences and the results of their agency-based research projects. We feel lucky to have this unique tradition in the department and thank our 2008-2009 graduates who continue to impress and inspire us with their words at Senior Orals.

## ***Field Practicum Rosters for School Year Fall 2008-Spring 2009***

### **Field Practicum Information**

#### **Fall 2008**

| <b>Name</b>      | <b>Agency</b>                                      | <b>Field Instructor</b>    |
|------------------|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Ricky Brittain   | Dauphin County Children and Youth, Harrisburg      | Marilyn Sutton             |
| Theresa Daurora  | Yellow Breeches Educational Center, Newville       | Sarah Taby                 |
| Jaime Handel     | Franklin County Area Agency on Aging, Chambersburg | Traci Kline                |
| Emily Hovermale  | Roxbury Treatment Center, Shippensburg             | Allison Flythe             |
| Veronica James   | Lutheran Home Care & Hospice Inc., Gettysburg      | Joyce Eby                  |
| Jamie Lukert     | Dauphin County Children and Youth, Harrisburg      | Currin Haines              |
| Cecilia Luna     | PA Human Relations Commission, Harrisburg          | Charlene Natcher           |
| Suzanne Mecke    | Dauphin County Area Agency on Aging, Harrisburg    | Ben Hillard                |
| Rena Murphy      | South Mountain Restoration Center, South Mountain  | Kelly J. Walters           |
| Jodi Plitman     | Manito Inc. , Carlisle                             | Dee Davis                  |
| Lauren Shandler  | The Parent Child Center, Hagerstown                | Jennifer Merica            |
| Courtney Sheerin | Northwestern Human Services, Chambersburg          | Jeff Wolfe & Debbie Kehley |
| Courtney Stevens | Women In Need, Victim Services, Chambersburg       | Tina Misal                 |
| Briana Williams  | Holy Spirit Behavior Health Center, Camp Hill      | Amy Waugh                  |
| Natasha Woodruff | Hamilton Health Center, Harrisburg                 | Kristin Federici Bowser    |



## **Spring 2009**

### **Name**

### **Agency**

### **Field Instructor**

|                    |                                                      |                                   |
|--------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Cassie Astrin      | Cumberland County Children and Youth, Carlisle       | Sandy Gibson                      |
| Cory Baer          | Franklin/ Fulton MH/MR, Chambersburg                 | Stephany Chase                    |
| Danielle Behler    | Mechanicsburg Area Senior High School, Mechanicsburg | Gina Daniel                       |
| Amanda Bert        | Elder Day, Chambersburg                              | Vicki Krenitsky                   |
| Laura Blair        | Parent Child Center, Hagerstown                      | Jennifer Merica                   |
| Tiffany Bradshaw   | Trough Creek Youth Forestry Camp, Huntingdon         | Heather Casner & John Morningstar |
| Amber Brennan      | Shippensburg Middle School, Shippensburg             | Angie McKee                       |
| Leah Cassel        | Keystone Residence, Chambersburg                     | Susan Driver                      |
| Amanda Castrovillo | Franklin/Fulton Drug & Alcohol Program, Chambersburg | Jodi Wadel                        |
| Stephanie Coleman  | YWCA of Harrisburg, Harrisburg                       | Heather Crook                     |
| Bindu Dennis       | Abraxas Youth and Family Services, Mechanicsburg     | Jen Beamer                        |
| Sara DeVore        | NHS Autism School, Chambersburg                      | Lauren Zima                       |
| Erin Dreisbach     | Cumberland County Children and Youth, Carlisle       | Ed Rouse                          |
| Sarah Ford         | Family Care Services, Chambersburg                   | Nathan Sullivan & Emily Risser    |
| Rachel Frey        | San Mar Children's Home Inc., Williamsport           | Ellen Savoy                       |
| Mitch Gardner      | Abraxas, South Mountain                              | Rocky Higgins                     |
| Sarah Graver       | Todd Baird Foundation, Carlisle                      | Stacie Nickel & Judie Brantner    |
| Jackie Haelle      | Dauphin County Children and Youth, Harrisburg        | Marilyn Sutton                    |
| Danielle Hartman   | Holy Spirit Hospital, Camp Hill                      | Amy Waugh                         |
| April Jenkins      | Cumberland County Children and Youth, Carlisle       | Audra Hennessey                   |
| Katherine Leshar   | Franklin/Fulton Drug & Alcohol Program, Chambersburg | Jodi Wadel                        |
| Kaitlin McCaney    | Dauphin County Children and Youth, Harrisburg        | Becca Tweet                       |
| Daniel Myers       | Carlisle Barracks, Carlisle                          | Anne Hurst                        |
| Jennifer Nichols   | Common Sense Adoption Services, Mechanicsburg        | Laurie Teeter & Martha Jones      |
| Jennifer Price     | Dauphin County Children and Youth, Harrisburg        | Hope Rohde                        |
| Alaysha Rector     | Roxbury Treatment Center, Shippensburg               | Allison Flythe                    |
| Amanda Rubeck      | Hoffman Homes for Youth, Gettysburg                  | Becky Hagan                       |
| Stacy Schucker     | YWCA of Harrisburg, Harrisburg                       | Heather Crook                     |
| Meredith Stanton   | YWCA of Carlisle, Carlisle                           | Kristen Trout-Roebuck             |
| Amanda Texter      | Franklin/Fulton County MH/MR, Chambersburg           | Holly Divelbliss                  |
| Shawna Weaver      | Dauphin County Office of Aging, Harrisburg           | Shannon Vallier & Ben Hillard     |
| Amanda White       | Shippensburg Head Start, Shippensburg                | Jeff Hafer                        |

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# Social Work Organization 2008-2009

By Liz Mixell, SWO President

Another year is wrapped up and the summer is here. It has been a very busy year for the Social Work Organization with a lot of activities and many school assignments to get done. This year we tried pick volunteer activities that would assist students from the social work department in their volunteer hour requirements. Students were active with many events such as the Inclusive Party, the International Women's Festival, SU Children's Fair, a fundraiser for respite care, volunteering at the Episcopal Home, SU Open Houses, Relay for Life, and Project Linus blanket distribution.

For the first time ever, seniors could order SWO stoles to wear with their graduation robes. Alaysha Rector and Sarah Graver, senior social work students, worked hard to make sure this happened. The stoles looked wonderful on graduation day and we are excited about this new tradition. Ordering the stoles wouldn't have been possible without the strong fundraising efforts this year including a candle sale, t-shirt sale, fair-trade coffee sale and Rita's Italian Ice fundraiser.

We also made seniors a priority by providing them with parties at the end of both the fall and spring semesters.

At Senior Oral Presentations, SWO provided a flower to each graduating student and enjoyed listening to the many stories of joy and gratitude for this department.

I believe as the SWO officers were listening to the stories at Senior Orals, we felt the same way as many of the seniors. By being involved in SWO I am able to show and share that love with the department. One way that all students can show their gratitude is by getting involved with SWO. There will be information as soon as the semester starts on the semester's activities and all the information about them. SWO is active through emails, posters and Facebook. Current students, alumni and all community members can join our group on Facebook in order to stay receive information about our events.

I would like to take the time to thank all of the SWO officers for the hard work this semester as well as the members, because after all this is your club. It has been an honor to serve SWO for the past year and I am looking forward to one last semester as the president. The officers for fall 2009 include Liz Mixell, President; Joy Mokwa, Vice President & Phi Alpha President; Megan Bobby, Secretary; and Megan Weber, Treasurer. ■

## Service Learning: Drawing connections between classroom experiences and the community

This past spring, students enrolled in SWK 265: Understanding Human Diversity for Social Work Practice had the unique opportunity to apply their classroom knowledge in support of two distinctly different community-based programs designed to enhance awareness and understanding of diversity. The first project entitled Thaddeus Stevens Elementary School Diversity Day of Celebration held in Chamberburg, PA. The team of Social work students (their parents, spouses, and friends) planned, as well as implemented a full day of activities for the students, parents, and educators (which included 6 teachers, the Principal, Mr. Bonitz, and the Superintendent, Dr. Padassak). The different station included an educational discussion as well as activities such as face painting, three-legged race, learning sign language, hoola hoop, self-defense, Chinese calligraphy, and the Wall of Celebration. The Wall of Celebration included the hands of all students, parents, and educators in attendance representing the beauty of our differences as well as making a commitment to celebrating our diversity. The Wall was moved from a hallway to the lobby area of the school for all to see and join.

The Yellow Breeches team developed an on-campus day of activities for 22 middle school boys enrolled in the Frankford alternative education program in Newville, Pa. The program included a tour of Shippen Hall, the C.U.B., the Lurhs Center, and WSYC radio station. After eating lunch in Kriner dining hall, the Yellow Breeches students participated in several team building activities and workshops conducted by our social work students in Henderson Gymnasium. Several of the activities included a three-legged race, living with a physical disability (students talked with Jackie M. and her guide dog Zuri) and a managing differences discussion and solutions.

Both team received high marks and high praises from the participants as well as the educators who thought the programs were so important and successful that they have expressed interest in continuing the working relationship. It is wonderful to see how real life connections were made between our personal experiences, what we read, discussed and learned in class and its impact on our community.

*Dr. Samuel R. Benbow*

# F A C U L T Y K U D O S

## Sam Benbow

- Throughout this past spring semester, Dr. Benbow presented numerous trainings and workshops for such organizations as Shippensburg University Head Start Program, Hoffman Homes for Youth, National Association for Developmental Education in Greensboro North Carolina, the Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research and the Juvenile Court Judges Commission, the Moving Past Prejudice to Pride Program for Yellow Breeches Educational Center Frankford Campus in conjunction with the YWCA of Carlisle, as well as co-presented with Dr. Clements at Lock Haven University for their GLBT State-wide Conference. Drs. Benbow and Clements will also be teaming up again to present at the 31<sup>st</sup> International Symposium on Social Work with Groups Conference held in Chicago Illinois at the end of June. The title of their presentation is *"More than ice-breakers: Teaching social work students how to effectively use activity in the group"*.

## Jen Clements

- Dr. Jen Clements continues to serve as a Board Member and Membership Co-Chair of the International Association for the Advancement of Social Work with Groups (AASWG). She will be co-presenting two papers at the annual conference in Chicago in June with Dr. Benbow entitled "More than ice breakers: Teaching social work students how to effectively use activity in groups" and with Dr. Kat Walsh (Millersville) "Growing our roots: Teaching use of group supervision in field education". Dr. Clements also serves as the President of the state chapter of AASWG. She will work with the statewide group to host an annual conference in Harrisburg on July 28, 2009.
- In addition, Dr. Clements is working on a grant that focuses on Resiliency and Retention in Child Welfare Workers. This summer she will be completing her data collection and is looking forward to presenting her results in the coming months at a national conference and submitting for publication.
- Dr. Clements continues to focus a great deal of time to service. She is serving as a Board Member for the Cumberland-Perry County Drug and Alcohol Commission. She continues to Chair the GLBT Concerns Committee at Shippensburg University and is now the current faculty advisor to Students Advocating for GLBTA Equality (SALE).

## Liz Fisher

- Presented a paper titled, "Transformational leadership and organizational capacity for change among grassroots social service organizations." at the Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Associations Annual Conference in Philadelphia, PA.
- Published a paper titled, "Motivation and leadership in social work management: A review of theories and related studies in the journal, *Administration in Social Work*."
- Was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor, effective September 2009.



## Tina Chiarelli-Helminiak

- will be travelling to Germany for a month this summer as part of the Rotary Foundation's Group Study Exchange. While abroad, she will be studying the social welfare system, exploring historic castles, and getting to know the local culture of Germany.
- will be attending the Ph.D. program at the University of Connecticut's School of Social Work. She has been awarded a full-time graduate assistant position and will be teaching Foundation Research and Foundation Macro Practice in the school's graduate Social Work program.
- will have a case vignette featured in *Affecting change: Social workers in the political arena* (7<sup>th</sup> ed.) by Karen S. Haynes and James S. Mickelson. The book is due out in 2010.

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# A L U M N I D O I N G S

Our alumni continue to grow in numbers and achievements. Here are a few of the bits of information about their professional and personal accomplishments we have received about them recently. Please send in your "doings" and we will publish them next time.

**Judy Copeland**, 1972, is one of 30 remarkable women making DV History: PCADV Women of the Year, in 2006.

**Christine Lentz (Bair)**, 1997, earned RN degree from Penn State University. With husband Kelly, welcomed Victoria Jordan in May 2007 who joined Alexa Sara, 5 years old.

**Wendy Harrison**, 2008 MSW, gave birth to twins on 8/1/08 – Avery and Amina, making a total of 5 children.

**Carri Peterson (Ott)**, 1993, gave birth to Bethany Hope on July 9, 2008. She joins Angela (15, Matt (14), Josiah (11), Anna (9), Nathan (3) & Mercy (21 months). Blog: <http://www.homeschoolblogger.com/Petersonclan>

**Crystal Deitch (Tussing)**, 2003, gave birth to a son, Parker Lee, on November 20, 2008.

**Janelle Carbaugh**, 2003, gave birth to Addison Diane on May 22, 2008. She joins big brother Landon John, 2 years old.

## What's Doing?

Cut this section out and mail to: Department of Social Work & Gerontology, Shippen Hall, Shippensburg University, Shippensburg, PA 17257-2299.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Year of Graduation \_\_\_\_\_

Recent news for newsletter \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# F A C U L T Y K U D O S

*(continued from page 7)*

### Deborah Jacobs

- Dr. Jacobs was reappointed by the University Provost as the MU-SU MSW Co-Director for another three-year term. She also served on the Shippensburg University Middle States Steering Committee, which is the organization that accredits the whole university. Dr. Jacobs is serving on the planning committee for the 19th Annual Building Strong Families confer-

ence sponsored by the Mid-Atlantic Council on Family Relations to be held this fall at Messiah College.

### Dorlisa Minnick

- Dorlisa Minnick became the faculty advisor to the International Justice Mission student chapter, a human rights organization dedicated to ending slavery and sex trafficking. In fall 2008, she

published "Social Justice Implications of the 2005 Secure America and Orderly Immigration Act" in *Social Justice in Context*. In the spring semester, Professor Minnick co-facilitated a focus group with Latinos in Chambersburg, on behalf of Planned Parenthood of Central Pennsylvania, to explore potential programming efforts to address reproductive and sexual health needs of the community.

# Social Work Education and Practice in South Africa: A Peek into Dr. Lyman's Sabbatical

As many of you know, I am on a sabbatical for the Spring 2009 and Fall 2009 semesters. In January, 2009 I moved to Pretoria, South Africa with my wife and six children, where I am working at the University of Pretoria and trying to see as much of South Africa as possible.

South Africa is a very modern and beautiful place. We live in a great apartment with all the amenities you have back in PA. South Africa is also a land of incredible human diversity. There are 11 official languages in South Africa and at least 11 cultures that speak them. There is also a lot of immigration into South Africa from neighboring Botswana, Zimbabwe, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Zambia, Mozambique, etc. This immigration brings a whole new level of diversity to the country as well.

## **Social Work Education in South Africa**

For nearly all of the students in the classes I teach, the instruction and assignments are in their second language. Imagine going to college and Afrikaans, Xhosa, Tswana, or Zulu were your native tongue and yet you had to take all of your classes in English.

The University of Pretoria started training social workers in February 1929 and continues to do so quite admirably at present. In spite of this long history, social work programs in South Africa are not presently accredited by any independent organization. There is an accrediting body that was organized last year and the various social work programs in the country and in the midst of their first ever accreditation process.



*Dr. Michael Lyman's family and Dr. Denise Anderson's family meeting up in South Africa.*

Out of the total of 39,000 students on campus, there are approximately 250 BSW students at the University of Pretoria. The Department of Social Work and Criminology here at the University of Pretoria has determined that it can only legitimately handle 65 social work students per year. Therefore, at the end of the first year, several faculty sit down and evaluate which of their first years are eligible to proceed to their second year. In October I will take part in interviewing the approximately 120 first year students this year to determine which 65 of them are admitted to second year. This decision is made after a rigorous process of evaluating the students' grades, evaluating the results of the half-hour oral interview with faculty, and evaluating the results of a series of psychometric tests taken by the students. Only then can the student move into second year.

## **Social Work Practice in South Africa**

South Africa is a case of great needs and few resources. With the advent of the new government in 1994, the social work profession determined that the developmental model of social work, rather than the more common residual model used previously, would be the most appropriate approach to meet the immense

needs of the country. Briefly, this means that the average social worker in South Africa operates under a different practice theory than U.S. social workers and is generally more concerned in their practice with things like community development and income enhancement than their U.S. counterparts.

In the entire country of South Africa, with a population estimated at 48 million, there is approximately 1 social worker for every 5,000 citizens. By contrast, in the United States, that rate is currently at approximately 10 social workers for every 5,000 citizens. These conditions undermine the professional social worker's ability to respond to the critical needs of a country where 25% of the population lives on less than \$1 per day, between 20% and 25% of the population is unemployed, 10.8% of the population is estimated to be HIV positive, and 1.2 million children have been orphaned as a result of AIDS. These numbers translate into the reality that the average South African struggling with difficulties like poverty, unemployment, and HIV/AIDS and seeking assistance from a social worker is 10 times less likely to have a competent social worker available than a similar person in the United States.

*(continued on page 12)*

# The Field Practicum: *MSW Notes*

In the second year of graduating MSW level social workers, the MSW field education department had another busy year. There were a total of 20 Advanced Year Students in the field and 7 Foundation Year Students in placements. The MSW students enjoyed working in hospitals, hospice, outpatient mental health, policy and advocacy based placements. They were true generalists during their nine-month internships.

Congratulations to our 20 graduates who received their MSW degrees on May 1, 2009.

## MSW Field Information

| Name             | Agency                                   | Field Instructor     |
|------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Linda Butts      | Catholic Charities, Chambersburg         | Kaye Ringer          |
| Nicole Cassel    | Roxbury Treatment Center                 | Alison Flythe        |
| Amy Cazalas      | PA-NASW, Harrisburg                      | Jenna Mehnert        |
| Corrie Engel     | Bethany Village, Mechanicsburg           | John Bowen           |
| Joni Fulkerson   | Franklin Family Services, Chambersburg   | Crystal Porter       |
| Fawn Greenfield  | Dickinson School of Law, Carlisle        | Gary Shuey           |
| Jeremy Hicks     | Carlisle Regional Medical Center         | Holly Aton           |
| Heather Karns    | United Way of the Capital Region, Enola  | Tim Whelan           |
| Heather Leach    | Loysville Youth Development Center       | Brett Leamer         |
| Chris Long       | West Perry School District, Elliottsburg | Dorothy Andrews      |
| Heather Moatz    | Northwestern Human Services, Chbg.       | Sue Carbaugh         |
| Erin Naylor      | VNA, Gettysburg                          | Wendy Halperin       |
| Lauren Patterson | Washington County Hospital, Hagerstown   | Mike Shea            |
| April Rudick     | Dauphin County MH/MR, Harrisburg         | Shirley Keith Knox   |
| Jennifer Runion  | PA Counseling Inc., Harrisburg           | Cindy Galliher       |
| Stacy Salvadge   | Pinnacle Health/Harrisburg Hospital      | Rebecca Lane Hackett |
| Melanie Shumaker | Victim Witness Services, Carlisle        | Jen Boyle            |
| Ashley Whaley    | Cumberland-Perry Drug & Alcohol          | Sally Kammerer       |
| Amanda Walters   | Holy Spirit Hospital, Camp Hill          | Becky McCoy          |
| Jessie Webb      | Loysville Youth Development Center       | Sam Lowe             |

## Field Instructors Training and Continuing Education

We began the year with Field Instructors' Training for BSW and MSW field instructors. In addition to teaching the basics of field instruction to students and new field instructors, the afternoon session focused on **Field Instruction as Leadership**. The spring field instructors training offered another high quality session on **Ethics in Field Instruction**. We are pleased to offer free Continuing Education Credits at our field events and look forward to the slate of activities for the 2009-2010 academic year.

In the next year, we will unveil a new series of workshops and events aimed at professional development opportunities for our field instructors and other interested social workers. The first event will be held on August 31 from 10 AM until 1 PM, when field instructors and students will attend a **Field Retreat** in Old Main Chapel at SU. The event will focus on learning styles and making those important connections between the student and field instructor. Students and field instructors will work together on activities at the event to lay the foundation for a positive field practicum experience for both. It will be a fun, educational and meaningful event. We are also in the process of

developing an online Field Instructors Training to introduce the basics of our Field Program for new field instructors (or those who want a refresher!). **Field Instructors receive free Continuing Education Credits (CECs) at our workshops!**

We will also offer a **Continuing Education Series** this year. In the fall, Dr. Liz Fisher will offer a two-part training about **Transformational Leadership** which is an approach to leadership that is a natural fit with social work values and ethics. Participants will get the chance to assess their own styles and learn how to build from their strengths to become a more effective leader in their professional and personal lives. The trainings will be held on Tuesday, October 13 and Thursday, November 12. This event is free for all participants and will include CECs, lunch and networking opportunities. Interested participants can contact the Office of Extended Studies to register at 717-477-1502 or [extended@ship.edu](mailto:extended@ship.edu). Stay tuned for spring workshop announcements, including an **Ethics Workshop** that meets the licensing requirements for PA and MD!

# Appreciation Event

On March 30, 2009, the Department of Social Work and Gerontology with support from the Dean of the College of Education Services held the Annual Appreciation Event and Phi Alpha Inductions. This year the Department recognized not just the Field Instructors but also the volunteers and advisory board members whose continual support is greatly valued. The theme of the event, as displayed on the thank-you coffee mugs was the phrase "The Social Work Department does not Work without You." There were a total of six special awards given at the event based on the six core values of the National Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics. The awards were as follows:



**The Competence Award:** Wendy Hoverter of Cumberland County Children and Youth

**Respecting The Dignity and Worth of the Person Award:** Mary Grace Shearer of Episcopal Homes

**Importance of Human Relationships Award:** Anne Hinkle of the Shippensburg Senior Activities Center

**The Integrity Award:** Gail Witwer of Carlisle Health and Wellness Foundation

**The Social Justice Award:** Kara Beardsell of Be the Change Foundation

**The Service Award:** Jessica Winesickle of Big Springs School District



*Phi Alpha inductees*

## Department Directory

For your information and reference, below are the department faculty members and the university extensions where they can be reached. Access from off campus can be made using the prefix 477. All department faculty have "phone mail," so please leave a message.

|                                 |                |                     |              |
|---------------------------------|----------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Dr. Samuel Benbow .....         | 477-1781 ..... | srbenb@ship.edu     | Shippen 329  |
| Dr. Dara Bourassa .....         | 477-1969 ..... | dpbourassa@ship.edu | Shippen 325  |
| Dr. Jennifer Clements.....      | 477-1633 ..... | jaclem@ship.edu     | Shippen 335  |
| Dr. Elizabeth Fisher.....       | 477-1365 ..... | eafish@ship.edu     | Shippen 337  |
| Dr. Marita Flagler .....        | 477-1266 ..... | mnflagler@ship.edu  | Shippen 331  |
| Dr. Deborah Jacobs.....         | 477-1276 ..... | dfjaco@ship.edu     | Shippen 384A |
| Dr. Michael Lyman.....          | 477-1267 ..... | mjllyma@ship.edu    | Shippen 327  |
| Professor Dorlisa Minnick ..... | 477-1785 ..... | djminnick@ship.edu  | Shippen 301  |
| Mrs. Joyce Walters.....         | 477-1717 ..... | jawalt@ship.edu     | Shippen 382  |

## Social Work in South Africa

(continued from page 9)

grants. The shacks have no indoor plumbing, no heat, no water, etc. Here is where the contrast comes in...As you leave the Mamelodi township and cross the highway less than a mile away there is a sprawling, luxury golf course development with large spacious houses that would fit right into any wealthy, U.S. suburb. On one side of the highway there is first world wealth and luxury and on the other third world poverty and disease.

Overall, however, myself and my family love this country and its people and look forward to six more months here. Any of you who would like to can follow our further adventures on our blog: [lymanship.blogspot.com](http://lymanship.blogspot.com). See you in December at Senior Orals. ■

### WANTED:

#### Quality Field Instructors!

*Are you interested in teaching? Do you want to give back to the social work profession? Do you want to stay up to date about the latest developments in the social work field? Do you enjoy the energy that social work students bring to your agency? If you answered YES to any of these questions, we want to hear from you! There are opportunities for both BSWs and MSWs to act as field instructors.*

*BSW Program: Contact Dr. Liz Fisher*

*MU-SU MSW Program: Contact Dr. Jennifer Clements*



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UNIVERSITY**

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## First Robert L. Hewitt Vision for Excellence in Social Work

As you may remember, we renamed the department scholarship in honor of Dr. Hewitt who retired last year. He returned to senior orals to award the scholarship to this year's recipient, Cecelia Luna.

Below is an excerpt of Cecelia's essay which led the committee to choose her as this year's recipient. Cecelia is now in the MU-SU MSW program and will be serving as a graduate assistant in the department in the fall.



"The term excellence is signified as the quality or state of being outstanding and exceptional. Yet the term excellence when combined with the words "in social work" has a much larger definition. As social workers our profession is parallel to our attitude, desire, and aspiration to inspire others. Our excellence is found in our caring, trying, and doing within society and local communities. A social worker's ability to help solve individualized problems, while addressing broad community issues, requires an aptitude of awareness and ability in various settings and approaches as set forth within the generalist approach. Knowledge, skills, and social work values that are deeply rooted within a liberal arts foundation help us reach for our clients' needs and strengths....." ■

### "ROBERT L. HEWITT VISION FOR EXCELLENCE IN SOCIAL WORK" SCHOLARSHIP

#### Contribution Form

*This scholarship honors an outstanding senior majoring in social work who demonstrates professional commitment, leadership ability and financial need.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

Town/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of contribution enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

If you are interested in making a pledge to the scholarship that may extend over several years please contact the Shippensburg University Foundation at 477-1377 for further information.

**All gifts to the social work scholarship fund are gifts to the Shippensburg University Foundation and as such are tax exempt to the extent permitted by law. Gifts to this fund should be made payable to the Shippensburg University Foundation, 1871 Old Main Drive, Shippensburg, PA 17257-2299.**