

# Monthly Memo

## MSW Coordinator News

**Comps Exams:** By now, you should have received an email from me on the comps exams this Spring with the required documents that are to be completed before the exam is taken. I also developed an optional section in Blackboard called "MSW Comps" that you can enroll in to get additional info about the exam or blog questions or discussions. Below is a review of key items:

- 1) **Acknowledgment of Comps Policies and Procedures:** This document must be turned in to Renee White or me, depending on which campus you are taking the exam, by Thursday, Mar. 19, 9 PM if in Joplin or Fri., Mar. 20, 5 PM if in Springfield. The difference in deadline is due to Missouri Southern's Joplin campus being on Spring Break next week and offices having limited access.
- 2) **Grad School's "Comps Application/Results Form":** This form must be turned in on the day of the exam.
- 3) **Blackboard Website Section:** An optional section has been created in Blackboard called "MSW Comps" for any taking the exam this year to use. You must manually register for it, just as you do for courses that use Blackboard. On the site is the following: a) unlimited access to documents sent out by email; b) additional documents that include tips or study aids; and c) a blog where students may ask the coordinator questions about comps, have discussions with each other, or view what has been asked. Individual questions about comps will not be answered by email or phone unless they deal with special issues pertaining to just that student.

I hope this will be helpful. Please let me know if you have any questions. Good luck in your preparations!

Dr. Darryl Haslam, MSW Program Coordinator

## From the Director

### New Computer System will make Important Changes this Fall

While you've been in classes, the faculty has been training in the new Banner system for advisement, scheduling, and reporting. You'll need to know the new process for fall 2009. The most informative site for registration information can be found at [www.missouristate.edu/registrar/newcomputersystem.htm](http://www.missouristate.edu/registrar/newcomputersystem.htm)

For the fall semester, My Missouri State (My.MissouriState.Edu) will replace the "My Information" system and will be available to all students by April 1. Under the new system, you will have a student ID number (known as a M-number). If you are a current student, you can view your M number by going to the My Information system ([www.missouristate.edu/myinformation](http://www.missouristate.edu/myinformation)).

If you are a graduate student or a new transfer student, you will need an advisor release to register for courses in the summer and fall semesters. With the new system, prerequisites will be enforced at registration (that is, you will not be allowed to register for courses for which you have not met prerequisites). For online help with registration, please visit [www.missouristate.edu/registrar/bannerregistrationinstructions.htm](http://www.missouristate.edu/registrar/bannerregistrationinstructions.htm).

**Finally, if you decide not to attend, you must officially withdraw (drop all your classes) before or during the first week of classes. If you withdraw after that time, you will owe your tuition and fees, even if you do not attend classes.**

Hope this is helpful information. If you need assistance, please contact your faculty advisor.

Have a great spring break!

Dr. Susan Dollar, Director

## Foster Parent Night Out

The BSWSA students and HBSE I and II students made this year's foster parent night out another big success. The kids were delighted to have active participation from our students with games and general running around the gym. We also had super structured activities with children making gifts for their foster family. Not to mention more kid food than they could eat (they can eat a lot). The BSWs tell me they had fun, the kids obviously had fun, and the foster parents were so very appreciative. Great job students!

Dr. Michele Day

## The Hope Connection

The Hope Connection is a one day event where the homeless in Springfield will be able to join up with local providers in one convenient setting. Our goal is to have every individual leave with the first stages of the intake process completed. We want them to leave feeling empowered and motivated for change. The amazing part about this event is the volunteers. We want to match every homeless individual with one

volunteer. This way they receive the special attention they deserve. The Hope Connection is on March 24th from 10-2 at OTC. If you want to volunteer, please sign up on Community Partnership of the Ozarks website and follow the link at the bottom of the page. If you have any questions, please contact Gary Stoner at 269-0437. Hope to see you there!!

Gary Stoner II  
785-231-9589

[gary1999@missouristate.edu](mailto:gary1999@missouristate.edu)

## Continuing Education

Three Continuing Education Workshops will be offered for the first half of 2009:

- **April 7 - 9 am-12 pm - Ethical Issues in Social Work with Children and Families**
- **April 7 - 1-3 pm - The Missouri State Committee for Social Workers presents a Social Worker Licensure Update**
- **June 11-12 - 8:30 am-5:30 pm - Social Work Supervision Skills**

For additional information see the flyers under Continuing Education at <http://www.missouristate.edu/swk/index.html>



## March is National Professional Social Work Month!

The White House officially recognized National Professional Social Work Month in 1984. This year, the National Association of Social Workers is focusing on the future of social work and the need to recruit and retain more social workers into the profession. For more information and some of the key points for Social Work Month 2009 please visit <http://www.socialworkers.org/pressroom/swMonth/2009/documents/swmonthtoolkit2009.pdf>.



Please submit School-related announcements by mid-month for inclusion in the Monthly Memo:  
[MeganClemensen@MissouriState.edu](mailto:MeganClemensen@MissouriState.edu)

## Come Celebrate National Social Work Month!

**What:** Poster Decorating Party

**When:** Tuesday, March 17, from 5-7pm

**Where:** Professional Building, Room 226

**Snacks and colorful markers will be provided!**

Hosted by BSWSA and MSWSA

Social Work



Values, Ethics, Caring