

Mary Ann Jennings, MSSW, Ph.D.  
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## EDUCATION

B.A., Washburn University of Topeka, 1975 (Psychology and Corrections)  
MSSW, University of Texas at Arlington, 1982 (Administration, Planning and Research)  
Ph.D., University of Kansas, School of Social Welfare, 1994

## EMPLOYMENT/PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

Assistant/Associate Professor, School of Social Work, Southwest Missouri State University (SMSU) 1994 to present  
Acting MSW Program Director, School of Social Work, SMSU 2001-2002  
Program Development Specialist, University of Oklahoma, National Resource Center for Youth Services 1989-1991  
Supervisor, Youth and Adult Services, Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services 1989  
Supervisor, Child Protective Services, Texas Department of Human Services 1986-1989  
Social Worker, Adult Services, Texas Department of Human Services 1985-1986  
Child Protective Services Specialist, Texas Department of Human Services 1982-1985  
Juvenile Probation Officer, Neosho County, Kansas 1976-1979

## SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS

McDonald, T.P., Poertner, J., & Jennings, M.A. (2005). Competing risks for permanency for children in foster care. *Social Services Review*.

Jennings, M.A., Gunther, J.O., & Summers, A.B.(eds.) (2005). *Strategies and Techniques in Family Health Practice for Empowering Children and Adolescents*. Lewiston, NY: The Edwin Mellen Press.

Jennings, M.A., Summers, A.B., & Kauffman, F. G. (2005). The family health perspective: Beyond family-centered practice to empower children and youth. In *Strategies and Techniques in Family Health Practice for Empowering Children and Adolescents*. Jennings, M.A., Gunther, J.O., & Summers, A.B. (eds). Lewiston, NY: The Edwin Mellen Press.

Day, M., Hawkins, C.L., & Jennings, M.A. (2005). Family-health-practice strategies and techniques to empower children and families in foster care services. In *Strategies and Techniques in Family Health Practice for Empowering Children and Adolescents*. Jennings, M.A., Gunther, J.O., & Summers, A.B. (eds.). Lewiston, NY: The Edwin Mellen Press.

Jennings, M.A., Butler, L.M., & Summers, A.B. Rethinking child welfare: A public affair. *Journal of Public Affairs* (Spring 2003)

Summers, A.B., Jennings, M.A., & Goldberg, J.D. (2001). Children in the dark. In Butler, L.M., Elliott, D., & Gunther, J. (Eds.). Strategies to overcome oppression and discrimination for marginalized groups. Lewiston, NY: The Edwin Mellen Press, 97-110.

Jennings, M.A., & Gunther, J. (2000). Juvenile delinquency in search of a practice model:

- Family health, differential association and social control. Journal of family social work, 5(1),75-89.
- Jennings, M.A. & Gunther, J. (1999). Community Organizing on Behalf of Victims of Same-Gender Domestic Violence. In McClennen, J.C. & Gunther, J. (Eds.). A professional guide to understanding gay and lesbian domestic violence: Understanding practice interventions. Lewiston, NY: The Edwin Mellen Press, 223-228.
- Gunther, J. & Jennings, M.A. (1999). Sociocultural and institutional violence and their impact on same-gender partner abuse. In McClennen, J.C. & Gunther, J. (Eds.). A professional guide to understanding gay and lesbian domestic violence: Understanding practice interventions. Lewiston, NY: The Edwin Mellen Press, 29-34
- Jennings, M.A. & Skibinski, G. (1998). Treatment in a family health perspective. In J.T. Pardeck & F. Yuen (Eds). Family health practice
- Jennings, M.A., McDonald, T., Henderson, A. (March 1996). Early citizen review: Does it make a difference? Social Work 41(2), 224-231.

## **GRANTS/CONTRACTS**

- Project MOVE with Sue Yarbrough, Director, MSU Family Nurse Practitioner Program, and MSU Nursing Department. (2006). Proposal for a interdisciplinary, training and service unit to serve rural southwest Missouri. Submitted to Governor Matt Blunt's office by the MSU Provost's Office. (\$2.3 million)
- Missouri Training Program for Rural Child Welfare Workers. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Principal Investigator (2003-2004; 2007-2008).
- Health Marriage and Family Formation (Subcontract with Forest Institute), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. 2003.
- Title IV-E BSW Child Welfare Training Program Co-Director, 1996 to present
- Title IV-E MSW Child Welfare Training Program Director, 2001-2002
- Missouri Division of Youth Services, Intensive Supervision Training Program, 1995 to 1997
- "Intensive Case Supervision: Is it Effective", SMSU Research Grant, \$2,018 1996 to 1997.

## **RECENT SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS**

- Jennings, M.A., McClennen, J. & Summers, A.B. (2008). *Training Child Welfare Workers to work with Same-Sex Domestic Violence*. Presentation accepted for 2008 Annual Baccalaureate Program Directors' Meeting. Destin, FL..
- Jennings, M.A. & Summers, A.B. (2006). *Christian Social Work Students in Secular Programs*. Annual North American Association of Christians in Social Work conference. Philadelphia, PA.
- Summers, A.B., Jennings, M.A., & Brannen, S.J. (2006). *Bridging the Gap: Christian Social Work Students in Secular Programs*. Annual Baccalaureate Program Directors' conference. Los Angeles, CA
- Summers, A.B., Brannen, S.J., & Jennings, M.A. (2005). *Blazing Trails for Children and Families on the Conservative Landscape*. Annual Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors' National Conference (Austin, Texas)

Summers, A.B., & Jennings, M.A. (2005). *Changing Majors: A Challenge for BSW Recruitment and Retention*. Annual Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors' National Conference (Austin, Texas)

## **SERVICE**

### Community

Member, Greene County Child Welfare Advisory Board, 2006  
Directed Community Needs Assessment Project with SWK318 class of Woodland Heights Neighborhood for Dale Street United Methodist Church and Caring Communities (spring 2006)  
Tutor, University Heights Baptist Church with Roundtree Elementary (2004-2005)  
Excel Day Treatment Program, Community Liaison Council, Missouri Division Youth Services (2005)  
Grand Oaks Baptist Mission Food Pantry, 2004 to present (when teaching schedule permits)  
Member, Missouri Mentoring Project of Southwest Missouri Advisory Board 2003 to present  
Mentor, Missouri Mentoring Project of Southwest Missouri, 2005 to present  
Donated over 14 gallons of blood (American Red Cross/Community Blood Center)  
Directed Program Evaluation Project for CASA of Southwest Missouri, Inc. with SWK697, Family Health Research class, fall 2002.  
Co-directed the Social Services Tent for the Convoy of Hope Food Giveaway October 2002  
Moderator, Placement Issues Review Team, Area IV Missouri Division of Family Services 2001 to present  
Deliverer, Meals on Wheels, Northview Community Center, Springfield, Missouri  
Lead Strategic Planning Meeting for CASA of Southwest Missouri, Inc. with Dr. William Alter, III, 2000, 2001  
Families for Children Advisory Board, Council of Churches of the Ozarks, 1999-present; president 2001 to present  
Eldercare Transportation System Advisory board, Council of Churches of the Ozarks, 1998 to present  
Esther's Maternity Haven Director (part-time), 8/99 to 7/00 (facility closed).  
Member, Child Protection Task Force, Springfield, Missouri 1998-1999  
Member, Child Abuse Prevention Month planning committee, Springfield, Missouri 1997-1999  
Community Representative, Adoption Review Team, Greene County, Missouri Division of Family Services 1996-2002  
Volunteer, Therapeutic Riding of the Ozarks, 1996-1997  
Volunteer, Developmental Center of the Ozarks, Christmas gift-wrapping booth 1995-2000  
Volunteer, KSMU Public Radio Station, answer phones twice a year during fund-raising campaigns 1995 to present  
Mentor to elementary school student, Springfield Public Schools 1995-1996  
BSW Social Work Club Activities (e.g.): United Way Day of Caring, distributing Thanksgiving food baskets through Crosslines, Inc., serving meals at The Kitchen, Inc., Hunger Banquets, the Ozarks Celebration Festival, walks for the Alzheimer's Association and the AIDS Projects of the Ozarks.(1994 to present)

Profession:

Elected to NASW Delegate Assembly 2002  
Vice-President, Board of Directors, Missouri Chapter of NASW 1998-2000  
Member, Board of Directors, Missouri Chapter of NASW 1997  
Co-President, Southwest Unit, Missouri Chapter of NASW 1997  
Member, Steering Committee, Southwest Missouri Unit of NASW, 1996 to present  
Board of Directors, Southwest Missouri Chapter of the Missouri Association of  
Social Welfare, 1996-1998  
Co-Facilitator, Southwest Missouri Chapter of NACSW, 1997 to present

University:

Member, Faculty Senate (2002 to 2004)  
Member, University Awards Committee (2004)  
Member, Oversight Committee, Citizenship and Service Learning (CASL)  
2001 to present  
Member, Planning Committee, Drug Education Summit, Office of the President  
2001  
Transfer student advising 1999 to 2001  
Student Orientation, Advising and Registration 1999 to 2001  
Member, Interdisciplinary Planning Committee to develop capstone course,  
"Developing Community Well-Being Through Performance"  
Member, World Health Day Planning Committee 1996  
Instructor, Introduction to Campus Life 1995

College of Health and Human Services

Member, Marketing and Recruitment Committee 2000-2001  
Member, Social Committee 2000-2001  
SSW Representative, College Council 1997-1999  
Dean Search Committee 1996-1997  
College Recruitment Fairs (1997, 1999 and 2001)

School of Social Work

Co-Chair, Personnel Committee, 2003 to presents  
Chair, Faculty Search Committee (2005 to present)  
Co-Chair, Search Committee, MSW Distance Learning Position 2003  
Faculty advisor/co-advisor for BSW Social Work Club 1995 to present  
Faculty advisor, MSW Student Association 1999-2001  
Member, BSW Admissions Committee 1994 to present; Chair 1999 to 2001; Co-  
Chair 2002 to present  
Chair, Faculty Search Committees 2001-2002 (three positions successfully filled);  
1999-2000 (two positions)  
Member, faculty Search Committee 1998-1999  
Member SSW Committees:  
Personnel 1999 to present);  
Student Affairs and Recruitment 1997 to 2001;  
Field 1997 to 2002

BSW Program 2002 to present  
Practice Curriculum 1997 to 2001  
Populations-at-Risk Curriculum 1997-1998  
Minority Student Recruitment Committee 1997-1999  
Liaison responsible for School of Social Work Community Advisory Council 1996 to 2002  
Human Services Career/Job/Field Fair (directed the development of the annual Social work/human services fair; continue to serve on the planning committee since the SMSU Office of Career Services has assumed responsibility for the fair) 1999 to present  
New Student Festival participant with BSW Social Work Club 1998 to 2000  
Brown Bag Lunches developed for SSW students in which speakers presented information on major social services (e.g., Medicare and Social Security) 1999  
Chair, Search Committees for full-time lecturer and Title IV-E clinical supervisor 1997  
ADVANTAGE mentoring program sponsor/coordinator 1996-1997  
Chair, Search Committee for senior faculty member 1996-1997  
Adjunct Faculty Recruitment 1996  
Columbia Hospital Auxiliary Scholarship responsibilities (ensured that the SSW received approximately \$6,000 in scholarship money when Columbia Hospitals HCA disbanded; developed application criteria; recruited applicants and distributed funds 1996 to 2002. Oreen Reudi Scholarship (developed and distributed criteria for applications)  
Alpha Delta Mu Honorary Society faculty sponsor 1995-1996  
MSW Admissions Committee Spring 1996

### **Honors/Awards**

University Community Service Award, 2004  
College of Health and Human Services Teaching Award, 2004  
College of Health and Human Services Award, 2003  
Social Worker of the Year, Missouri Chapter of NASW 2000  
Social Worker of the Year Southwest Missouri Unit of NASW 2000  
University Service Award, SMSU 2000  
Jennings-Simkins Catalyst Award Created in the Southwest Missouri Unit of NASW 1998