

Monthly memo

Director's corner

Greetings to all:

The School is engaged in a very important activity on February 1 and 2 which determines our continued accreditation through the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). The accreditation process upholds the professional standards required to prepare BSW and MSW students for professional social work practice. Drs. Kondrat and Holliman, the site visitors, will evaluate the School of Social Work for compliance with all accreditation standards. You may see them in the hallways, so please feel free to say "hello". We'll also be using the PUMMILL 305 (lounge) for various meetings, so please don't enter the room if the "Meeting in Session" sign is on the door.

It is of key importance for all accredited social work programs to assess student achievement of practice skills.

The ten core competencies (or skills) that all social work students should possess at graduation are:

Ten Core Competencies for Students

- 1—Identify as a professional social worker and conduct oneself accordingly.
- 2—Apply social work ethical principles to guide professional practice.
- 3—Apply critical thinking to inform and communicate professional judgments.
- 4—Engage diversity and difference in practice.
- 5—Advance human rights and social and economic justice.
- 6—Engage in research-informed practice and practice-informed research.
- 7—Apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment.
- 8—Engage in policy practice to advance social and economic well-being & to deliver effective social work services.
- 9—Respond to contexts that shape practice.
- 10—Engage, assess, intervene, & evaluate with individuals, families, groups, organizations, & communities.

Best regards,

Susan C. Dollar, PhD, LCSW
Director, School of Social Work

SOCIAL WORK/ GERONTOLOGY ELECTIVES FOR BSW PROGRAM FALL 2011 SEMESTER

Two electives, which are offered in a collaborative agreement between the Social Work and Gerontology departments, are available for enrollment during the fall semester. These two courses satisfy the "Social Work" elective requirement. One is Community Resources for Older Adults (SWK470/GER470), and the other is Families in Later Life (SWK365/GER365).

Key Dates for MSW Students Graduating in 2011:

- **Feb. 17 (Thu.) 3:30 – 5:30 PM:** Comps Orientation Meeting (Room TBA). Meeting for students on both campuses with Dr. Haslam; will review key forms and structure of the exam as well as materials on Blackboard. Some basic tips for preparation and answers to questions will be provided as time permits. The meeting is not required but is strongly recommended.

- **Note:** The meeting will be held simultaneously on both campuses and linked by ITV. Joplin students will meet at the MSU Joplin Center and a room is being scheduled for Springfield students. More details will be provided soon.

Mar. 23 (Wed.): MSW Comprehensive Exams (times TBA).

This represents a change of one week sooner from the previously circulated date. Exams in Joplin for all students will be from 8 AM to 12:30 PM. Exams in Springfield will be in two groups: 1) 8 AM to 12:30 PM; 2) 1 PM to 5:30 PM. Springfield students will be assigned to one of the two groups – details on how this will be determined will be explained on Feb. 17. Retakes (if needed) will be conducted on Wed., Apr. 27.

Note: The date was changed due to the scheduled dates of the student research symposia which the same students are required to be at that same week. Faculty felt that having two required events in the same week would not be conducive for taking comps, especially for those who need to travel to Springfield. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Mar. 31 (Thu.): CHHS Student Research Symposium. Abstract proposal due date has not been released yet but will likely be early to mid March. This event represents one of two options Fall 2010 - SWK 797 students have to fulfill the MSW program requirement to present a piece of research at a research forum.

Apr. 2 (Sat.): Grad College Interdisciplinary Student Research Forum.

Abstract proposals due by Mar.22 at noon. This event represents the other of the two options Fall 2010 - SWK 797 students have to fulfill the MSW program requirement to present a piece of research at a research forum.

Comps Materials on Blackboard:

MSW Comps 2011: For MSW students taking comps this Spring, there is an MSW Comps course section on Blackboard that you should will be administratively added to. Via this platform, you will be able to access key forms and information related to the exam, test tips and study materials and a discussion board for general comps questions.

It is currently being loaded and should be ready for students to start using by the end of next week (around Feb. 3 or 4). If you have any questions or comments about this tool, please contact

Darryl R. Haslam
MSW Program Coordinator

Announcements

Please Join Missouri State University in a new program to provide health education to seniors in rural areas.

We are seeking Missouri State University health professions students and faculty who are interested in concepts of health literacy with active seniors. Volunteers will assist in functional health literacy assessments and follow-up; assist in working with seniors through an online health literacy course and to assist seniors in navigating the Internet for medical resources and information. Volunteers will also work along-side senior volunteers to teach a short, basic health course (four, 20 minutes segments) held at a senior center. The courses will be held 2-3 times year a two-year period and will contribute to the promotion of health literacy among rural Missouri seniors.

We will provide a free Health Literacy Basics for Serving Older Adults Workshop at the **O'Reilly Cancer Center located at 2055 S. Fremont Avenue in Springfield, on the St. John's Campus, Friday February 25th from 1:00pm to 4:00 pm.**

To register for the training or to receive more information regarding volunteering with us, please contact Carrie Lines, Senior Health University, at 417-836-6359 (cllines@missouristate.edu) or the MSU School of Social Work at 417-836-6953

Continuing Education will be provided for the Social Work attendees.

Coming Soon: School of Social Work t-shirts

ADM Social Work Honor Society will be selling long-sleeved SSW t-shirts in the month of February. Cost is \$17 for sizes S-XL and \$19 for 2XL. Order forms will be available soon.

BSW SCHOLARSHIPS: BE SURE TO APPLY

This is the first year for students to apply for scholarships using a University-wide process. Even if you have submitted individual applications, you must complete the online forms. Please complete this application process by mid-February.

Research Experience with University of Michigan

This summer, Michigan Institute for Clinical and Health Research (MICHR) at the University of Michigan is offering a paid intensive summer research experience for medical and dental students and graduate students in nursing, social work, pharmacy, and public health. Each student will work 20-30 hrs/wk with a research on an ongoing project. A weekly seminar series will explore disparities questions and problems, scientific approaches, research methods, and career issues. Students will attend an actual UM IRB meeting and take field trips to partner organizations outside Ann Arbor. Students will be paid for their work as well as receive reimbursement for travel (airfare, train, etc.) and housing in Ann Arbor (for non residents and non-UM students)

For more information (to find a flyer to post) and to apply please go to: <http://www.michr.umich.edu/education/predoctoral/hdsummer>

Alpha Delta Mu Social Work Honor Society

Eligible students will be invited to join ADM around the end of February. Eligibility requirements:

- Admitted to the BSW/MSW program
- At least 6 hours of SWK courses completed
- A minimum 3.5 GPA in SWK
- A minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA
- Be in the top 20% of the class

"Health Literacy for the Human Services Continuing Education offering!"

Three credit hours of continuing education will be offered Friday February 25th from 1-4pm "Health Literacy for the Human Services" presented by Drs. Susan Dollar and Michele Day, at St. John's Cancer Center 2nd Floor, 2055 S Freemont Ave., Springfield. Workshop is free to MSU and Evangel Social Work Students, \$25 for MSU Social Work Alumni and Field Instructors, and \$45 for all other attendees. Registrations accepted until Friday February 18th -email LSteinshouer@missouristate.edu; phone (417) 836-6967 or mail MSU School of Social Work, 901 S. National Ave, Springfield, MO 65897"