February 15, 2005 was a day of tremendous visibility and action for social work students, faculty, and professionals at the State Capitol in Austin, 1,000 participants from across the state representing 24 schools, gathered to “Stand Up For Others” to learn and share their contagious energy. Many students prepared for weeks in advance researching policy issues, and many traveled for hours on the day of the event to join in the festivities in Austin.

Students gathered at the Frank Erwin Center at The University of Texas at Austin for the 8th Biennial Student Day at the Legislature, sponsored by the Texas Association of Social Work Deans and Directors of Social Work Programs and NASW-Texas. One thousand students rallied at the South Steps of the Capitol, and the energy spontaneously morphed into an impromptu “shout-out” by students on key issues about which they felt impassioned. NASW-Texas Executive Director, Vicki Hansen, nurtured the creative and expansive energy challenging students to participate.

Notable NASW-Texas attendees were: President-Elect Libby Kay, TPACE Board of Trustees Secretary/Treasurer Rebecca Waguespack, and Undergraduate Student Representative to the Board of Directors Monika Logan.

UTA SSW was represented by a record setting 100+ students accompanied by 6 faculty and 3 deans (Hernandez, Rycraft and Watson). Students gathered on campus at 5am and boarded a chartered bus for Austin.

Figures:
- SSW students and Deans Hernandez and Rycraft arrive at the Capitol
- UTA SSW students advocate for adoptees
- UTA SSW students advocate for children’s health care
- UTA SSW students advocate for prison reform

Portions of this article are a reprint from the April 2005 edition of the NASW NETWORK.
Sixteen UTA SSW Faculty and Staff traveled to New York City in February to attend the Annual Program Meeting of the Council on Social Work Education.

Jeannette Coburn Scholarship Fund Established

Jeannette Coburn '75, generously established a new scholarship fund for the School of Social Work last December. The Jeannette Coburn Scholarship is a permanent endowment to be used to provide scholarships to Masters level Social Work students, either incoming or continuing, who are in need of financial assistance in order to attend UTA on a full-time basis. Applicants need not meet the state or federal tests for proving financial need.

The fund is named for Jeannette Coburn and recognizes her commitment to The University of Texas at Arlington. Jeannette received her undergraduate degree in Psychology in 1972 and her Masters in Social Work from UTA in 1975. She and her late husband, Tom McMahon, met on the UTA campus and married in 1971. Tom received his undergraduate degree in Business Administration from UTA in 1968, served as an officer in the Navy during the Vietnam conflict, then returned to UTA and received his MBA in 1972. Throughout their successful careers, Tom and Jeannette maintained contact with an interest in UTA.

Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting

Authorized signatures are limited to the provost, associate provost, dean, associate dean, and assistant dean for the purposes of these agreements and arrangements. These agreements and arrangements do not extend beyond the terms and conditions specified herein.

Night of Excellence Attendees to Night of Excellence • see page 10 for story

Provost Dana Dunn, Associate Dean Joan Rycraft, & Nathan Keller, Ph.D. Candidate

David & Karen Yarbrough, Van Nguyen, Norman & Brenda Cobb and Wu-Der Peng

SSW Advisory Council Member Gerald Zenick and wife Ilene

Mistress of Ceremonies Donna Darovich
Sally Spaniolo Visits SSW

Sally Spaniolo (wife of UTA President, James Spaniolo) launched her half-day tours of the UTA colleges, schools and programs at the School of Social Work on February 23rd. Her quest to learn more about the University through these “hands-on” visits will help her as she performs her duties in the community.

After a brief meeting with Dean Santos Hernández, Mrs. Spaniolo began her visit by attending Dr. Don Granvold’s Seminar In Cognitive-Behavioral Intervention Strategies class. When introduced, she spoke to the students about her visits and what she wants to accomplish. She explained her goal of integrating herself in the life of UTA as an advocate for students, UTA, the UT System, and higher education in Texas and nationwide. After a tour of the Social Work complex and meeting faculty and staff, she accompanied Ellen Murphy ’89, Executive Director of Field Instruction, Larry Watson ’80 and Donna Pope ’92 to Venture School, one of the SSW’s 300 field placement sites. Connie ’88 and Gary ’92 Grossman, gave a tour of the school and coordinated a meeting with two UTA SSW field placement students, Elizabeth Dirk and Veronica Carrizales. The students described their duties at the school and discussed the value of these experiences as they prepare to enter the profession.

The visit ended with a luncheon attended by Deans Santos Hernández, Joan Rycraft and Larry Watson. Mrs. Spaniolo described her visit to them as enlightening and exactly what she needed as she prepares for her duties as an ambassador for UTA and for the School of Social Work.

SSW Professional Development Program Continues Expansion Plans

Joanne Fein completed her first year as the Director of the Professional Development Program (PDP) in March but she is not a newcomer to the program. Joanne has played an active role in PDP since 1997 so when long-time Director, Donna Turner retired in January, 2004, Joanne was the obvious choice to carry out the important work of the program. Joanne describes expansion plans that include growth in the number of workshops offered on campus as well as on-line and an increased variety of topics. She also explained that approved providership of CEU’s recently expanded to include not only Texas but also Oklahoma.

The Professional Development Program provides continuing professional education for social work practitioners and other human service professionals. Topics include ethics, mental health, child welfare, administration, supervision, licensing, and more! Offered are more than 70 on-site classroom seminars each year and many on-line Internet courses, all taught by experts in their respective fields. The UTA Professional Development Program is a CEU provider for the following licenses: LMSW (Licensed Master Social Worker) LMW-AP (Licensed Master Social Worker-Advanced Practitioners) LCSW (Licensed Clinical Social Worker-formerly LMSW-ACP) LBSW (Licensed Baccalaureate Social Workers-previously LSW and SWA) LPC (Licensed Professional Counselors) LMFT (Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists) The office is located in the Social Work Complex, Building A, (the three-story building), Room 104, 211 South Cooper Street, Arlington, TX. Review the website at www2.uta.edu/ssw/pd/ for a complete and current listing and schedule of workshops.

For more information, call Lisa Barnard at (817)272-3921, e-mail profdev@uta.edu, or visit http://www2.uta.edu/ssw/pd/ for a complete and current listing of scheduled seminars.

Summer 2005 Schedule

June
03 Panic and Anxiety Disorders
04 Disability and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder
10 The Role of the Unconscious Mind in Mental and Physical Health
11 Chronic Sorrow: Dream and Reality
12 Ethical and Legal Issues in Nursing Home and Hospice Care
24 Understanding the Criminal Justice System

July
08 Ethical Issues in Spiritually-Sensitive Social Work Practice
14-16 Effective Supervision for Clinical Practice I
15 Passion That Lasts: Revitalizing Sexual Intimacy in Long Term Relationships
22-23 Preparation for the LMSW, LCSW, and AP Exams 29 Preparation for the LBSW Exam
30 Using Art Therapy to Assist Victims and Survivors of Disaster

August
05 Building Resilience to Burnout and Compassion Fatigue
12 Managing Violent and Aggressive Client Behaviors
18 Field Instructor Training
19 Facilitating Mental Enrichment Retreats
26 Ethical Issues in Mental Health Assessment
09 Ethics: Reporting, Recording and Reconciling the Options

Visit our website at http://www2.uta.edu/ssw/pd/ for other listings.
Dr. Nazneen Mayadas – was presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Tarrant County Texas Chapter of the NASW in April 2005.


Dr. Peter Lehmann – nominated by students for the 2004-2005 Outstanding Academic Advisor award.

Dr. Sun Seek Moon – awarded a Research Enhancement Award of $7,443 for his research project entitled: “Multicultural-Multimodal/Multisystems Approach for Immigrant Children’s School Achievement: A Pilot Study”.

Dr. Santos Hernández – accepted to the Harvard University Institute for Management and Leadership in Education (MLE) for Summer 2005. The Institute will run June 18-30.

Dr. Muriel Yu – 15 years

Mary Lou Almendarez – adjunct professor, received the Social Worker of the Year award from NASW Texas, Tarrant County Branch.

The School of Social Work is grateful to the following friends for their generous support during the 2004-2005 year:

Amon G. Carter Foundation
Chris Harris Campaign
Congregation Beth-El
Farrar Real Estate
Glen Oaks Hospital
Hilton Arlington
Kindred Healthcare Arlington
Medical Center of Arlington
Millwood Hospital
National Association of Social Workers – Texas
Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas
Fort Worth Star-Telegram
Wyndham Arlington Hotel
Janie C. Allen
Ijile Anozie
Jane P. Avila
Randall E. and Sharon Basham
Beverly Blumenthal
Janet L. Bridges
Rosalie S. Budnoff
Marican C. Bussey
James W. and Ann Callicutt
Kathy Campbell
Frank P. and Louise Carvey, Jr.
Tommy L. Chancefor and Nancy DeWees
Patricia F. and Adrian Cheong
Watson Debra Clark
Norman H. and Brenda Cobb, Jr.
Phillip Cohen and Elaina McMillan
Shannon and David Collier-Tenison
Serena S. Connelly
Deborah L. DeLay
Ellen S. Dolin
Wayne and Barbara Duehn
Dana Dunn
Doreen Elliott
Ellen J. Elliston
Yael Etzkin
Sherry Fairchild
Joanne Fein
Sister Mary V. Fulbright
Gretchen H. Garrett
Amanda E. and Robert Goldstein
Patricia M. Grabber
Donald K. and Erin Granvold
Tracey W. Green
Gary and Connie Grossman
Helmut Haefke
Mary Lee Halley
Rebecca L. Hegar
Santos H. and Carolyn Hernandez
Richard Hofer
Ski Hunter
Lon B. Johnston
Catherine Jordan
Charles and Rebecca Judd
Maurine J. Kenney
James S. Kersey
AI and Judy Kline
Mary E. Koch
Dominick J. Lacovara, Jr.
Tommy L. Lee
Peter and Delphine Lehmann
Antonia D. Lopez
Nazneen S. Mayadas
John A. and Harriet M enchaca
Suzanne L. Miller
Charles H. and Gloria Mindel
Resia Ann Minshew
Sung Seek Moon
Ellen M. Murphy
Watson H. Nguyen
John S. Nowicki, III
Kirstin R. Painter
John F. Pendarvis
Katy Perkins
Bill B. Peters
Vijayan K. Pillai and Ann C. Kelley
Donna G. Pope
James Campbell and Sheri Shember Quick
Alina I. Ramirez-Ponce
Melissa and Curtis Reeves
Aaron Robb
Joan R. Rycraft
Maria A. Scannapieco
Richard J. and Sharon Schoech
Shelley L. Schonerstadt
Jerry J. Smith
Kevin and Mary Smith
René F. Somodovilla
James D. Spaniolo
Emily Spence
Bonnie and Donald Steinman
Dan and Angii Vandergriff
Larry D. and Judy Watson
Tom and Ilene Watts
David H. West
John and Sharon Willis
David and Debra Woody
Beth and Woodring Wright
Karen and David Yarbrough

THANK YOU
Faculty Publications & Presentations Spring 2005

Dr. Randy Basham – co-authored a text with David Patterson and it was approved for production. The book, titled Data Analysis with Spreadsheets, is due to be available later this year.

Drs. Dick Schoch, Joan Rycraft and Randy Basham – cited in a recent publication by the Child Welfare League of America: “Guidebook for Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare System Coordination and Integration: Framework for Improved Outcomes” by Janet K. Wiig and John A. Tuul. Cited for their work on the DFPS grant DEM OS (Data Enhanced On-line Support) and UTA SSW’s partnership with TX CFSR through this grant.

Drs. Randy Basham and Hector Diaz – co-authored a chapter entitled “Visualizing need: Using data visualization as a decision-support tool in the formulation of social policy” accepted for publication in de M. R., Ferreira, y R.E.L., Estrada, (editors), Selected topics in social welfare policy, Volume 1, Trillas, Monterrey, N.L., Mexico. Will be published in Spanish.


Larry Watson, Drs. Joan Rycraft and Santos Hernández – will present “Public Administration and the Role of the Nonprofit Sector” at the prestigious International Conference on Knowledge, Culture and Change in Organizations to be held at the University of the Aegean on the Island of Rhodes, Greece, July 19-22, 2005. Papers presented at this conference will also be published by the International Journal of Knowledge, Culture and Change Management.


Selected to speak at the conference on the US and West Africa held at UTA, April 28-30, 2005.


Dr. Nazneen Mayadas – presented a paper in collaboration with Uma Segal, University of Missouri, St. Louis, at the Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting in New York, February 2005. The paper was entitled ‘Refugees, an untapped workforce resource’

Dr. Doreen Elliott – As chair of the CSWE Global Social Work Commission, Dr. Elliott co-coordinated a series of presentations at the CSWE Annual program meeting in New York in February on Social Work and Disaster in recognition of the profession’s contributions and potential in disaster and recovery work after the Tsunami disaster in December 2004.

Szu Yu Chen and Dr. Maria Scannapieco – received notice their manuscript, Maltreatment in Early Childhood: Interaction Effect of Family Risk and Intervention Factors on Substantiation, was accepted in the Journal Child & Adolescent Social Work.


Presented the following papers:

The Road Less Traveled: Integrating GLBT Content Throughout the Curriculum of Faith-Based Programs, 22nd annual conference of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors, Detroit, Michigan.

Filling Knapsacks with Maps and Tools: Teaching Creativity and Critical Thinking Through a Diversity Class, 22nd annual conference of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors, Detroit, Michigan.

Student Achievements Celebrated During Academic Excellence Week

The SSW joined other UTA academic units during the week of April 4-8, 2005 to acknowledge students who have exhibited academic excellence during the current school year. The activities for Academic Excellence week began with an awards ceremony attended by School of Social Work honorees, their families and faculty and staff.

University Award recipients from the School of Social Work included Ph.D student, Cynthia Juby '99 receiving the prestigious Who's Who Among American Universities and Colleges award. Nine students, Rita Coke McWaters, Dianne Dickerson, Craig Harrington, April Hawkins, Kimberly Hernández, Jeannie Jester, Nathan Keller, Tiffany Powell and James Slaughter, were named University Scholars.

The School of Social Work made the following scholarship and fellowship awards:

**Scholarship Recipients**

- **Federico Souflée Scholarship**
  - Veronica Carrazales
  - Jennifer Deveraux
  - Maria Luisa Martinez-Sanchez

- **Lila B. Hargins Scholarship**
  - Adrianna Harpole
  - John Hobgood
  - Jenny Thompson

- **Peter G. Gaupp Scholarship**
  - Jennifer Graham
  - Gene Hintz
  - Jacqueline Harvey

- **Reba Wadell Scholarship**
  - Kerisa Cowan
  - Kristina Gutierrez

- **Colleen Shannon Scholarship**
  - Jennifer Andrews
  - Kristina Gutierrez

- **Glen W. & Miriam S. Rollins Scholarship**
  - Van Nguyen
  - Sachi Shimozato
  - Lorisa Norton

- **Judith Granger Birmingham Scholarship**
  - Afri Abalo
  - Elizabeth Yarbrough
  - Crystal Blanco

- **Roy & Betty Dulk Scholarship**
  - Erin Doyland
  - Melissa Lee
  - Monica Grider
  - Carolyn McDaniel

- **Korean Student Scholarship**
  - Mi Young Yoo

- **Dean's Excellence Award**
  - Daryl Kyo Leem
  - Tiffany Powell
  - Lorisa Norton
  - Sachi Shimozato

- **Graduate Dean's Fellowship**
  - Kwame Afrinkle
  - Jill Evans
  - Eun Jung Jun
  - Stephanie Staggs

- **David Baker**
  - Shaktia Golden
  - Patricia Lux
  - Sarah Stephens

- **Chelsea Boss**
  - Tiffany Grace
  - Katherine Moore
  - Diane Erlenborn

- **Elizabeth Bowers**
  - Eun Jung Jun
  - Patricia Lux
  - Diane Erlenborn

- **Denise Cooper**
  - Katherine Moore
  - Stephanie Staggs

- **Annette Cummings**
  - Stephanie Staggs
  - Diane Erlenborn

- **Jokie Dekeersschiler**
  - Stephanie Staggs
  - Diane Erlenborn

- **Maria Luisa Martinez-Sanchez**
  - Makiyo Murata

Hermanns Doctoral Fellowship

- Mioara Diaconu

- Maritza Rivera-More

- Dheesha Jayasundara

Dean's Scholarship

- Szu-Yu Chen

- Wu-Der Peng

- Kristen Guillory

- Maximino Ramos

- Cynthia Juby

- Maritza Rivera-More

- Candida Madrigal

- Emmett Roberts

- Maria Luisa Martinez-Sanchez

- Kyungsoo Sim

- Nathan Keller

- Danny Vandergriff

- Tiffany Powell

- Sachi Shimozato

- Jill Evans

- Stephanie Staggs

- Sarah Stephens

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Iota Omega Chapter of Phi Alpha Inducts New Members

Dr. Joan Rycraft and Dr. Peggy Quinn formed the Iota Omega Chapter of Phi Alpha on the campus of The University of Texas at Arlington in Spring 2001 to foster high standards of education in social work and to invite into membership those individuals who have attained excellence of scholarship and distinction of achievement as students of social work.

Sixty-two members of this chapter were acknowledged at the Academic Excellence awards ceremony on April 8th and a formal induction ceremony was held on Friday, April 29, 2005 for nine new members.

Phi Alpha Honor Society

Carolina Antonio-Hidalgo
Neely Berner
Krystale Bezo
Robert Bonaquisti
Sharina Branum
Donald Capps
Cynthia Castillo
Jessica Clearfield
Jennifer Cohen
Rita Coke-McWaters
Jeana Culbert
Jenny Didier
Elaine Duval-Service
Nora Eades
Dawn Engeldinger
Felecia Faggett
Lisa Farmer
Amber Faulkner
Kimberly Foster
Jill Fuller
Selam Gebrechristos
Stephanie Harris
Meredith Harvey
Karman Hendricks
Lisa Hobon
Josefina Houchins
Patricia Hyland
Lisa Jacar
Jennifer Jefferson
Jeanne Jester
Nathan Keller

Christina Kemp
Melissa Lee
Jeannette Leong
Mary Lochridge
Mirchelle Louis
Pamela Lowe
Michelle MacDonald
Pennie Maples
Cheryl McFadden
Elizabeth Moore
Tammy Moore
Ashley Owen
Claudia Perkins
Katy Perkins
Judy Perry
Jessica Puryear
Elizabeth Rasmussen
Courtney Ratliff
Sarah Robertson
Tristen Seal
Lauren Sheets
Sachi Shimozato
Katherine Simmons
Karen Stone
Nancy Stritmatter
Christy Sumrow
Vicky Tannersley
Chontel Turley
Dustin Webb
Dana White
Elizabeth Yarbrough

Outstanding students

Christina Kemp – M SSW (2001), Working in private practice in Woodbridge, VA.
Nancy Schneider – M SSW (1988), Working in private practice in Arlington, TX.
Suzanne Sims – M SSW (1992), Working in private practice in Arlington, TX.
Helen Ramsbottom – M SSW (1993), Working in private practice in Arlington, TX.
Linda Loveless – M SSW (1993), Working in private practice in Arlington, TX.
Cindy Bethany – M SSW (1993), Working in private practice in Arlington, TX.

Sandra Lydick – M SSW (2001), Working as a pastoral counselor at Saginaw United Methodist Church in Fort Worth, TX. She recently published a chapter in Walking In Two Worlds: the relational self in theory, practice and community.
Ronald M. Patterson – BSW (1990), M SSW (1992), In private practice as the owner of Oak Cliff Counseling Center in Dallas, TX.
Mae J. Jackson – Ph.D. (1985), Died Feb. 11, 2005 in Waco, TX. At the time of her death, Dr. Jackson was mayor of the City of Waco. She was a life-long advocate for social work education and issues related to children and families.
Alumni Scholarship Fund is Launched

The UTA School of Social Work has identified increasing Alumni participation as a priority. The current year’s U.S. News & World Report rankings of “America’s Best Graduate Schools” rated our School among the top 19% of all graduate social work programs in the country. It is our ability to attract quality students and provide them excellence in teaching as well as enriching, value-added experiences that makes the difference in achieving and being noted for excellence. Our ability to do so is due in no small measure to the generous support of our alumni. This is how you can help. Make a contribution to our new Alumni Scholarship Fund and help launch a new generation of the best educated and highly prepared social workers in the country.

Melissa Stanford Oden – MSSW (2001), The President/CEO of Health Education Resources in Fort Worth, TX. She is currently pursuing a master’s degree in Public Health with a concentration in Health Education from the UNT Health Science Center.

Phil Porter – MSSW (1990), After retiring from a dairy industry magazine, where he worked for 30 years, he went back to college and obtained his MSSW at age 65. He has worked at Venture High School in Arlington as a full time, volunteer social worker for the last 15 years. Past honors include being selected to carry the Olympic torch in 1996 and 2002 by his colleagues and friends and being named by Governor George Bush as the State Volunteer of the Year.

SSW Alumni Update Form Now On-Line
If you are a SSW Alum, please take a few moments to update your information on our new alumni update form found at www.uta.edu/ssw/alumni. While you are there, go to the main webpage for current pictures and notices of upcoming events.

Contributions Welcome
Alumni and friends of the School are invited to submit contributions to the UT-Arlington School of Social Work. Your funds provide support for student scholarships and augment the School’s programs in areas not supported through state funds.

Make checks to the UT-Arlington SSW, complete the section below and mail to:

Office of the Dean,
UT-Arlington School of Social Work
Box 19129
Arlington, TX 76019-0129

Name __________________________

Address __________________________

Amount of Contribution $ ________________

Please check designated fund(s) for contribution.

___ Roy and Betty Dulak Endowed Scholarship
___ Roy Dulak Endowed Professorship
___ Peter G. Gaupp Award
___ Judith Granger Birmingham Endowment Fund
___ Lila B. Hagins Scholarship Fund
___ Glen W. Rollins Mental Health Scholarship
___ Jeanne P. Deschner Award
___ Federico Souflée Memorial Fund
___ Dean’s Excellence Fund
___ Coleen Shannon Scholarship Fund
___ Jeannette Coburn Scholarship Fund
___ Alumni Scholarship Fund
The Tarrant County Branch of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) hosted 60 members at their Social Work Awards Banquet on Saturday, April 16th on the campus of TCU. Members took advantage of the gathering to collect donated items for The Women’s Shelter. Dr. Alan Dettlaff ’04 and Angie Johnson, members of the steering committee and the TCU student NASW unit made the outstanding decorations.

Janet Brown presented Mary Lou Almendarez ’79 with the Social Worker of the Year award. Ms. Almendarez is an alumna of the UTA School of Social Work and a long-time adjunct professor for the school.

The Student of the Year award was given to Patricia McArdle by Francine Pratt ’90. Ms. McArdle is a graduate student in the UTA School of Social Work.

Angie Johnson presented Tillie Burgin with the Public Citizen of the Year Award and Dr. Rick Hoefer, professor at the UTA School of Social Work, gave State Representative Lon Burnam the Public Official of the Year award.

The final and most prestigious award of the evening, The Lifetime Achievement Award, was presented to Dr. Nazneen Mayadas by Dr. Joan Rycraft. Both are professors at the UTA School of Social Work.

The Dallas Branch of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) hosted 140 members at their event, A Social Work Reunion, on March 29th with a dinner and awards ceremony. The event celebrated Social Work Month, 50 years of operations for NASW and honored four recipients for their outstanding contributions to the field of social work.

Three of the four awardees were UTA School of Social Work graduates. Judy Earley Kline, LCSW ’74, received the Lifetime Achievement in Social Work award for her accomplishments as a direct practitioner working with children and families and for her supervision and teaching of countless social workers. Cindy Alexander, LCSW ’78, was named the 2005 Social Worker of the Year for the extensive work she has done on behalf of abused children. During the last 27 years, she held positions as a caseworker with Texas Department of Human Services, the Director of Case Management at Dallas Child Guidance and the Clinical Director for the Dallas Children’s Advocacy Center. Pam Kaus, UTA-M SSW student, received the Social Work Student of the Year award. Her commitment to the profession spans many years. She has worked diligently for Catholic Charities, and as a legislative advocate. She is currently the director for the Office of Peace and Justice. Dr. Rick Hodes was honored as the Public Citizen of the Year for the work he has done to provide medical care to Ethiopian Jews being evacuated to Israel and to refugees fleeing Zaire, Tanzania and Burundi. His work as a volunteer doctor at Mother Teresa Mission where he treats the sickest and most destitute patients in Ethiopia was highlighted in a moving video.
A Night of Excellence Generates $20,000 For Student Scholarships

President James Spaniolo and Dean Santos Hernández

Dean Santos Hernández hosted a reception and dinner program, A Night of Excellence, on March 4th for SSW students, alumni, friends and contributors. The evening commemorated the thirtieth anniversary of the School of Social Work Ph.D. program. The dinner program began with President James Spaniolo and Dean Santos Hernández cutting the birthday cake and delivering the University remarks.

Dr. Mae Jackson '85, who died suddenly in February, was remembered in comments from Drs. Charles Mindel and Debra Woody. Comments, written by Darlene Santee '99 about her personal feelings of loss and admiration for Dr. Jackson were read by Dr. Woody. Dr. Jackson was the mayor of the City of Waco and a UTA SSW Ph.D. graduate.

Dr. Julia Watkins, Executive Director of the Council on Social Work Education, traveled from Washington D.C. to give a report on the current state of Social Work Education.

A congratulatory letter written by Dr. Gene Tunnell '78, the first student to receive a Ph.D. degree from the SSW, was read by Dr. James Callicutt. Dr. Joan Rycraft, Associate Dean and Ph.D. Program Director gave the history of the Ph.D. program and acknowledged the Ph.D. alumni in attendance. She introduced Major Nathan Keller, Ph.D. Candidate who gave a student testimonial. Major Keller's comments were the highlight of the evening, as he compared his time as a Ph.D. student to his time in military boot camp. He will receive his degree in May.

The evening culminated with a champagne toast and celebratory remarks made by Dean Hernández. The event generated $20,000 for student scholarships and was attended by 126 students, alumni, faculty and friends. Corporate sponsors included Kindred Hospital Arlington, Millwood Hospital, Medical Center of Arlington, NASW-Texas, Fort Worth Star Telegram, Wyndham Arlington, Hilton Arlington, Glen Oaks Hospital and Presbyterian Hospital Dallas.

Carolyn and Santos Hernández & James and Ann Callicutt

David & Shannon Collier-Tenison, Marie Scannapieco, Emily Spence

Julia Watkins and Libby Kay

Danielle and Nathan Keller