Dean Santos Hernández and his wife, Carolyn attended the UANL PhD graduation, in Nuevo León, Mexico on August 25th.

He is pictured with Dr. Enrique Huerta Wong, a UANL/UTA PhD graduate. The graduate next to Dr. Wong in the photo is Sandra Valdes, a PhD Social Work graduate from the UANL National Program. Two other UANL/UTA PhD graduates were not able to attend.

The UANL/UTA PhD program was recognized from the podium during the ceremony as one of their programs of excellence. Universidad Autónoma De Nuevo León (UANL) Joint PhD in International Comparative Social Welfare Policy is a unique, two year, highly competitive doctoral degree program that prepares students for a research based social work career.

In 1997 the School started this dual PhD in International Comparative Social Welfare Policy with the Universidad Autónoma De Nuevo León in Monterrey, México. This was the first Bi-National PhD program in Social Work in México and the United States.

This program was made possible as a result of the initiative, vision and support of the administration of both universities, the school’s deans at the time and the social work faculty of both institutions. A driving force behind the creation of this international program at UT Arlington was Professor Federico Souflée, PhD. His counterpart at UANL was Mta. Irene Cantú Reyna, director of the UANL Social Work Faculty at the time.

Other faculty and administrators who were highly instrumental in the creation of this program were: Dr. Ricardo Hill Acosta, member of UANL's graduate academic committee, Dr. Manuel Ribeiro Ferreira, professor and member of UANL's graduate academic committee, Dr. Raúl Eduardo López Estrada, professor and member of UANL's graduate academic committee, Dr. Doreen Elliott, professor and former director of UT Arlington's PhD program, and Dr. Richard F. Dangel, professor and former chair of UT Arlington's doctoral program committee.
Dr. Peter Lehmann Launches New Certificate Program

The first Solution-Focused Brief Therapy Certificate Program in the United States was launched last year by Dr. Peter Lehmann, through The University of Texas at Arlington School of Social Work Continuing Education Department. In December, the first graduates received their certification in a ceremony, at the School of Social Work complex.

Congratulations to Luis Zornosa

Luis Zornosa, Technology Classroom Manager, received his U.S. Citizenship at a Naturalization Ceremony in the Plano Convention Center on November 1, 2007. Mr. Zornosa’s daughter, Pilar also received her citizenship that day. His other daughter, Lucila and Wife, Sonia, became citizens earlier this year. The Zornosa’s were previously citizens of Columbia.

Welcome To Our New Faculty and Staff

NEW FACULTY JOINED US IN AUGUST

Dr. Beverly Black, Professor and MSSW Program Director
Dr. Suk-Young Kang, Assistant Professor
Yolanda Lane, MSSW Program Secretary

Save the date

Friday, April 18, 2008 6:30 P.M.

The fourth annual Night of Excellence will be the venue to honor the esteemed careers of Dr. Peggy Quinn and Dr. Wayne Duehn as they retire. It will also be a time to celebrate the School’s 40 years of Advancing Social Work Education. The event will be held at the Hilton Arlington. Go to www.uta.edu/ssw for more information.

New Web-site Goes Live

The School of Social Work’s new web-site (www.uta.edu/ssw) went live in December. Please visit us on the new site and we welcome your comments.
Faculty Awards and Honors

Dr. Richard Schoech
Dr. Richard Schoech and colleagues from the UT Arlington College of Engineering were recently awarded a two-year $628,000 grant from the National Institutes of Health/National Library of Medicine for the development of a telehealth protocol to improve treatment compliance by persons with mental illness.

Dr. Schoech and Dr. Thomas Watts were appointed in Fall, 2007 to the UT Arlington President’s Sustainability Committee and to the sub-committee of the PSC on Waste Management. This initiative coordinates and extends the university’s efforts to protect the environment.

Dr. Thomas Watts
Dr. Watts was elected in Fall 2007 to a second year term as the Chair of the UT Arlington University Library Committee.

Dr. Regina Praetorius
Dr. Regina Praetorius has been awarded $275.00 from the Graduate School to integrate a service learning project into her SOCW 6348 class in Spring 2008. The project will benefit the Suicide and Crisis Center in Dallas.

Dr. Jaimie Page
Along with co-investigator, Dr. John Stickels, Dr. Page has been awarded a grant of $10,000 from the College of Liberal Arts for their proposed research study, “Eunerees and the Innocence Project of Texas”.

Dr. Page has been awarded a $35,000 National Institute of Health (NIH) Health Disparities Research Grant for years 2007-2009.

She has also been awarded $19,000 from the City of Arlington as Co-Principal Investigator on the UT Arlington research project entitled Client-Centered Community Needs Assessment of Arlington’s Homeless Population.

Dr. Vijayan K. Pillai
Dr. Vijayan K. Pillai received a fellowship award from the Conference on NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations. The award was for authors of the most pioneering and consciousness-raising papers and for participating in the First Civil Society Development Forum 2007: “A Platform for Development: Countdown to 2015”. 28-30 June 2007, Geneva.

Dr. Pillai has accepted a “Distinguished Visiting Professorship” for Summer of 2008 in the School of Social Work at AMRITA University, Coimbatore, India.

Dr. Pillai has also been appointed to the Editorial Board of the International Journal of Sustainable Society (IJSoc). www.inderscience.com/ijsoc. The term for his appointment will be for two years.

Dr. Doreen Elliott and Dr. Nazneen Mayadas
Dr. Doreen Elliott and Dr. Nazneen Mayadas are recipients of the prestigious Partners in International Social Work Education Award. Dr. Elliott accepted the award in November at the Annual Program Meeting of the Council on Social Work Education in San Francisco. The award criteria specify that it be given in recognition of conceptual, curricular and programmatic innovations in education for international social work.

Dr. Diane Mitschke
Dr. Diane Mitschke was awarded $1,000 from the Graduate School to integrate a service learning project into her SOCW 5317 class in Spring 2008. The project will benefit recent refugees and immigrants at the Agape Clinic in East Dallas.

Dr. Mitschke was also awarded $86,311 by the Arlington Independent School District, as the Principal Investigator on the Healthy Families Tomorrow’s Future Education, Teen Pregnancy & Parenting Intervention project. This is a four-year award beginning in July 2007 through July 2011.

Dr. Larry Watson
Dr. Larry Watson received his Ph.D. in November. Dr. Watson’s dissertation was entitled Factors Influencing the Relationship Between Nonprofit Child Care Providers and the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services as a Predictor of Policy Outcomes.

Dr. Maria Scannapieco
Dr. Scannapieco is the Principal Investigator on the following grants:


2008  Principal Investigator:  University of Texas at Austin.  Protective Services Training Institute of Texas, Protective and Regulatory Services Certification Program, $451,511.64.

2008  Principal Investigator:  Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services, Region 03, Title IV-E Training Project, $1,528,797.

Publications, Presentations

Dr. Rebecca Hegar

PRESENTATIONS:


Dr. Sung Seek Moon

Co-Author of a manuscript with Drs. Jaimie Page and Rebecca Hegar entitled “TANF Status, Ethnicity, and Early School Success”.

The manuscript has been accepted for publication by Children and Youth Service Review.

Dr. Wayne Duehm


Dr. Diane Mitschke

PUBLICATIONS:


Dr. Regina Praetorius

PUBLICATIONS:

Machtmes, K., & Praetorius, R.T. The Psychological and Emotional Impact of Qualitative Research. Accepted for publication in The Qualitative Report.

PRESENTATION:


Dr. Thomas Watts

PUBLICATIONS:


Dr. Beverly Black

PUBLICATIONS:


PRESENTATIONS:


Dr. Randall Basham

PUBLICATION:


Democracy in context: An international study in micro-economic development.

Spokane: Marquette Books LLC.

PRESENTATIONS:


Dr. Vijayan K. Pillai

PUBLICATIONS:

“Tourism and Ethnicity in Belize: A Qualitative Study.” Key, Carol and Vijayan K. Pillai. International Review of Modern Sociology. 2007. 33(1):129-


“A Multivariate analysis of the working poor in Texas” Pillai, Vijayan; Randy Basham and Dheeshana Jayasundara. Journal of Social Service Research. Accepted.


Dr. Donald K. Granvold

PUBLICATIONS:


PRESENTATIONS:


Dr. Santos H. Hernández

PUBLICATION:

PRESENTATIONS:


Dr. Jaimie Page

PUBLICATIONS:


PRESENTATION:

Dr. Maria Scannapieco

PUBLICATIONS:
Peer Reviewed Articles:

PRESENTATIONS:
Peer Reviewed Presentations


Dr. Richard Schoech

PUBLICATION:

PRESENTATIONS:
Online therapy: Trends, examples & issues, NASW Dallas Chapter, Dallas, TX, 13 Nov 07.


An evaluation of two virtual learning environments to develop listening skills, Human Services Information Technology (HUSITAB) Conference. Toronto, Canada. 29Aug 07 (with E. Youn & E. Wong).

The Internet virtual video classroom: Description, features, and applications, Human Services Information Technology (HUSITAB) Conference. Toronto, Canada. 27 Aug 07.

Dr. Suk-Young Kang

PUBLICATIONS:
Reviewed Article

Book Chapter

Book Review

PRESENTATIONS: Juried Presentations

Angelo McClain, UT Arlington MSSW 1981
Angelo McClain knows that the sprawling social service agency he just inherited probably can’t stop every single child from being hurt or killed, but he says that’s his goal.

“We can’t prevent bad things from happening, because they happen,” McClain, 50, said in his first sit-down interview since taking over as Commissioner of the Department of Social Services a month ago.

But he said he wants to make sure that if a child is hurt, it won’t be because of something he didn’t do. “What makes the public upset is when something bad happens and it looks like we dropped the ball,” McClain said.

McClain said he will encourage workers to rely more on their gut sense. Each week, he wants workers to red-flag a case that makes them uneasy. Each week, he wants every area office to give him a list of those cases.

“A lot of this work is instinctual. Your gut will tell you, you’ll have this uneasy feeling, you’ll be anxious,” said McClain, who started out as a social worker in the 1970s and spent his teen years at Cal Farley’s Boys Ranch, a Texas school for troubled youth. “When they are feeling that anxiety we want them to talk to the supervisor.”

He later spent 15 years working with Massachusetts social service agencies.

McClain has taken over an agency with a $786 million budget, 3,457 workers in 29 offices, working with 40,000 families. The job of commissioner is considered one of the most thankless and difficult in Massachusetts government.

McClain is up to the task, said Richard Sheola, president of the public sector division of ValueOptions, where McClain held management posts in Massachusetts and New Jersey, administering social service contracts with state government.

“He’s used to managing big jobs,” Sheola said.

Former colleagues say McClain brings empathy, front-line experience and an open, non-reactive managerial style.

“His priorities are always in the right place. It’s always about the kids and family. He looks under every rock to make sure everything is done right,” said Joan Mikula, an assistant commissioner at the Department of Mental Health who hired McClain in 1988 to oversee locked residential treatment programs for mentally ill kids.

He took the $135,000-a-year job, which was a pay cut, for reasons he described as “hokey.”

“He’s used to managing big jobs,” Sheola said. “He’s used to managing big jobs.”

McClain said he will encourage workers to rely more on their gut sense. Each week, he wants workers to red-flag a case that makes them uneasy. Each week, he wants every area office to give him a list of those cases.

“Partly, it had something to do with being 50,” he said. “It was like this is something I can do. I can help bring the leadership this organization needs and help bring good things to a lot of people.”

--fargen@bostonherald.com

Phil Porter, UT Arlington MSSW 1990
Mr. Phil Porter received the 2007 UT Arlington School of Social Work Distinguished Alumni Award at the annual Alumni Gala banquet in October. Click on the link for an article that recently appeared in the Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

Joseph P. Bohanon received his PhD from the University of Southern Mississippi in 2007. He is a member of the Choctaw Indian Tribe of Oklahoma. He received his MSSW (1997) and BSW (1996) from the University of Texas at Arlington School of Social Work. While a student here, he founded the THUNDER Alliance, Inc. (in 1995) and at UTA he founded the NASA (Native American Student Association). He served as the Coordinator of Field Education at the UMKC School of Social Work from 2004-2007. He accepted a teaching position beginning with the Fall, 2007 semester in the BSW Program at Northeastern State University, Tahlequah, OK. Two of his more recent publications include: Bohanon, Joseph P., “The Talking Circle: A Culturally Appropriate Group Work Perspective with Indigenous Peoples” (pp. 92-97), and Watts, Thomas D. and Bohanon, Joseph P., “Social Welfare Policies and Native Americans: Future Challenges,” (pp. 81-91) in Native Women in the Arts, Education, and Leadership: Proceedings of the Sixth Native American Symposium, ed. by Spencer, Mark B., and Tudor, Robert (Durant, OK: Native American Symposium, Southeastern Oklahoma State University, 2006).

Bill Betzen, UT Arlington MSSW 1979
After 28 years in child placement and adoption work, Bill Betzen retired. However, he did not stop working. He has spent the last 7 years as a Computer Applications teacher for 7th graders. Through this work he implemented the Middle School Archive Project, a drop-out prevention program. The Dallas Morning News described this project in a May 26, 2007 article entitled “Students getting safe place to store dreams”.

Ashley Owen, UT Arlington MSSW 2005
Fort Worth Star-Telegram; July 19, 2007
UNITED WAY OFFICIAL OFF TO DALLAS
By Traci Shurley

Arlington—The head of the United Way of Tarrant County’s Arlington branch is leaving the agency for a job with United Way of Metropolitan Dallas County.

Ashley Owen, 28, has been project director at Arlington Human Services Planners since June 2005. She helped oversee task forces that dealt with issues like teen homelessness and child abuse and has worked with area leaders to start new programs.

Human Service Planners works with the City of Arlington and volunteers. Owen counts raising the profile of the agency as one of her biggest accomplishments.

“It’s important to let people know who we are and what we’re doing here,” she said. “It’s a way to let the people of Arlington know United Way is not just a Fort Worth entity, that we’re here in Arlington and we are doing good work here.”

United Way officials are looking for a replacement for Owen, said Ann Rice, interim president and chief executive of United Way of Tarrant County. She said Owen had been a “breath of fresh air,” who excelled in the job.

In her new post as director of planning for United Way of Metropolitan Dallas, Owen will be responsible for community needs assessments, she said. The job will allow her to work closer to her Dallas home.

Owen started at the United Way’s Arlington office as an intern in 2004. She has a graduate degree in social work from the University of Texas at Arlington. Her last day in Arlington is August 3.

B. Scott Finnell, UT Arlington Ph.D. 1993
Dr. Scott Finnell and the work he is doing at Pressley Ridge was recently highlighted in a NASW News article entitled “Organizations Extend Services Globally”. Pressley Ridge was started 175 years ago to serve refuge orphans. It recently broadened its scope to assist children in Hungary and Portugal.


Major Nathan Keller, UT Arlington Ph.D. 2004
We joyfully received the following note from Nate Keller on November 20, 2007.

Welcome home Dr. Keller!

Hello Dr. Rycraft, and UTA Family,

I hope everyone is doing well. I am very pleased to announce I have made it home safe and
sound. 18 months is a long time to be away from home particularly in a war zone. My experience in Iraq is one I will never forget but unfortunately one I will likely have to repeat. Now more than ever there is a need for mental health support to our troops, however we are critically short mental health providers thus the providers available are being asked to pull more weight. I tried to continue my research down range but was overwhelmed with clinical cases and did not have much time for data collection or publications. Now that I am back I would like to continue researching. My family is doing great, the kids got so big since I have been gone but are very happy to see me. I want to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and encourage y’all to take a moment to think positive thoughts for our troops as they truly are amazing and being asked to make incredible sacrifices. It is great to be back and I thank everyone for their prayers and positive thoughts.

-Mike

Molly Bogen, UT Arlington MSSW 1973
Molly Bogen and the work she has done for more than 30 years at The Senior Source in Dallas was highlighted in a Dallas Morning News article on August 6, 2007. The two-page article was entitled “Ready for a boom: Nonprofit agency prepares to meet the higher expectations of the next generation of seniors”.

Penny Acrey, UT Arlington BSW 2002 and MSSW 2004
Penny Acrey, assistant director, in the UT Arlington Office for Students with Disabilities, presented “Skills for Identifying and Treating PTSD in Individuals with Disabilities” at the 2007 NASW/TX and SSWLHC-TX joint conference in San Antonio in October.

Thank You to Our Generous Donors

This is the list of donors who have contributed to the UT Arlington School of Social Work during the calendar year 2007. If your name has been omitted, or some other error exists, we apologize and ask you to contact Donna Pope at 817.272.0924.

CORPORATE DONORS
Amon G. Carter Foundation
Excel Center–Millwood Hospital
Fort Worth Star-Telegram
Kendall Hospital of Tarrant County–Arlington
Medical Center of Arlington
NASW-Texas
Paul K. Haggard Health and Hospital Systems
TXU–Energy

INDIVIDUAL DONORS
Penny and Gary Acrey
Johnny M. Adams
Barbara D. Alderete
Cindy S. Alexander
Gail Alderman
Lucille Allene Armstrong
Lucy A. Arnold
Remberto G. Arteaga
Laura A. Raiz-Terry
Bill Baker
Sandra L. Baker
Ziona W. Balaban
Donald Bardill
Marjie C. Barrett
Randall and Sharon Basham
Jonathan Beard and Grace Nordhoff
Remberto G. Arteaga
Lucy A. Arnold

In Memoriam

Jill Grigsby Edsall-Barnett, MSSW 1991, passed away on Saturday, September 15, 2007. Jill was born on September 23, 1946, in Florida. She grew up in Decatur, Ill., and graduated from Graceland College in Lamoni, Iowa in 1968. She lived and traveled, as a missionary, in Central and South America and was ordained as a Community of Christ Church elder in 1990. Jill practiced psychotherapy with Catholic Charities for 15 years before retiring in 2006.

Patricia DeWane Webster, MSSW 1969, died November 19, 2007. Pat was born in Minot, N.D. and grew up in Wolf Point, Montana. She received a bachelor’s degree in journalism from Marquette University in 1941. She and her husband, Dr. Charles Webster, moved to Dallas in 1954. Pat was a social worker for Camp Fire Girls, Parkland Memorial Hospital and Child Protective Services. She retired from CPS as an intake supervisor in 1987.

Jean S. Irvine
James G. Jameson
Roland and Cynthia Johnson
Ms. Cristina F. Johnson
Leanne Johnson
Elisa J. Juarrez
Cynthia L. Juby
Charles and Rebecca Charles
Judd
Kenneth L. Judson
Christine R. Judy
Vijayan K. Pillai and Ann C. Kelley
Maureen J. Kenney
Sandra L. Kimmins
Harold P. Kirby
Hanno W. Kirk
Eileen E. Klem
Al and Judy Kline
Janna C. Knox
continued on page 9
Alumni on the Move

Karen Daly, UT Arlington BSW 1984
Karen was hired, in June, as the Sugar Land, Texas Assistant Director.

Misty Wall, UT Arlington PhD. 2007 and MSSW 2000
Misty assumed a new position in September at Boise State University as a professor and coordinator for the master of social work program.

Emma L. Mendiola, UT Arlington MSSW 1992
Emma was appointed interim dean of Student Affairs at San Antonio College in October.

Professional Development

CEU’s AVAILABLE • CLASSROOM OR ON-LINE
Learn more at: www.uta.edu/ssw/pd or call: 817.272.3921

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 http://www.uta.edu/ssw/alumni-friends.

ANOTHER WAY TO GIVE TO YOUR SCHOOL

The Randall’s/Tom Thumb Good Neighbor Program: #11645
Give that number to the cashier as you check out and a contribution (1% of your total amount) will be made to The UT Arlington School of Social Work.

OR

Call the School (Roshanda Marks 817.272.3181) and we will send you a Kroger reward card to scan at check-out for a similar contribution.

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. Rolls Mental Health Scholarship
___ Jeanne P. Deschner Award
___ Federico Soufflée Memorial Fund
___ Dean’s Excellence Fund
___ Coleen Shannon Scholarship Fund
___ Jeannette Coburn Scholarship Fund
___ Alumni Scholarship Fund
___ Carolyn C. and Santos H. Hernández Endowed Scholarship
___ Charles H. Mindel Graduate Research Scholarship

Alum name and graduation date __________________________________
Name at graduation, if now changed ______________________________
Home address ___________________________________________________
Home telephone __________________________________________________
E-mail __________________________________________________________
Employer _________________________________________________________
Title or position __________________________________________________
Business address _________________________________________________
Business telephone _______________________________________________
Other (List responsibilities, special projects or interests)
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
Attach sheet for additional space

SSW students & alums:

LET US KNOW WHERE YOU ARE AND WHAT YOU’RE DOING

Please fill out and return this form, and, if possible, include a photo. (Sorry, photos cannot be returned). Mail the form (and photo) to:

SSW News Editor
School of Social Work
The University of Texas at Arlington
Box 19129
Arlington, Texas 76019-0129

or go to http://www.uta.edu/ssw/alumni-friends for an on-line form.
Distance Education Programs Graduate Fifty-one Students

December was a busy month for the School’s Distance Education Programs.

Twenty-one students from the UT Arlington — West Texas A&M University program received their MSSW diploma at a commencement ceremony in Canyon, Texas on December 8th and thirty students from the UT Arlington-McClennan Community College program, in Waco, received their BSW diploma in a commencement ceremony at UT Arlington on December 15th.

NASW-UT Arlington Adopts Mission Arlington

The membership of the NASW-UT ARLINGTON decided, this year, to adopt an agency for the entire school year. This decision reflects a conscious commitment on behalf of NASW-UT Arlington to help a non-profit organization, once a month, by providing volunteer services.

NASW-UT Arlington has chosen Mission Arlington as the adopted agency for the school year 2007-2008. Volunteers have been scheduled monthly to provide a variety of services and assistance.

Latona Hackworth, Vice President of NASW-UT Arlington, led the group in a successful Holiday project. Three families, residing in Mission Arlington, were adopted by the membership. The families provided their wish-lists and the students were successful in meeting the goal of providing all items requested.

If you are interested in learning more about NASW-UT Arlington go to the School of Social Work web-site and you will find them in Student Resources.

Celebrating Our Peers: SWCC Presents Walk-N-My Shoes

The Social Work Constituency Council (SWCC) hosted “Walk-N-My Shoes” on November 10th. The event was a celebration for those with disabilities. The intent was to raise community understanding and broaden perspectives about people with disabilities.

Disabled students were paired with an able-body student for two hours. The able-body student assumed the role of having the disability of their partner.

Members of SWCC reported the event was most successful. Read more about SWCC on the Schools web-site under Student Resources.
Hooray for Interns, Hooray for Interns!

-SUSIE J. STEWART, LMSW,
SAFY—FAMILY YOUTH SPECIALIST

In the spirit of the Girl Scout Song—Hooray for Girl Scouts—I would personally like to say “Hooray for Interns!” SAFY has been blessed with a solid stream of social work student interns from the University of Texas at Arlington. This semester we have four interns who have been a very valuable part of the SAFY team here in Texas. The UT Arlington Social Work program requires undergraduate and graduate students to work as an intern at a social service agency as part of the hours they must complete to get their degree.

Our student interns play an important part at SAFY. They help staff with completion of case documents, placement packets for new clients, home visits and phone calls. Each intern is assigned to help particular staff persons, and they all act as back up help for any staff in need.

Sandra Clapp is an undergraduate social work intern and was with us the last two semesters. Sandra is a great asset to SAFY as we weathered the transition of two staff leaving SAFY recently. Sandra stepped right in and helped to manage the cases until new employees were hired. Sandra has helped complete over 20 discharged case files. She is an enthusiastic person. Sandra recently accepted a job offer to become SAFY’s 7th FYS.

Kristin Peterson is a graduate level social work intern. She has been assigned to work with Travis to help with the process to license new foster homes. She brings with her great writing skills and human resource skills that have been helpful in preparing documents for SAFY cases. Jessica Smith is an undergraduate social work student. She reports she is really enjoying her internship at SAFY as this is her first real exposure to working with actual social work clients and social workers. Jessica is excited about working with our youth and will be with through the summer. During the summer, Jessica plans to do independent living skill and life skills groups with older youth in SAFY foster homes.

Mary Carter is also an undergraduate social work student. Mary brings with her an abundance of knowledge, as she worked as a licensed drug counselor before starting her social work degree. Mary enjoys working at SAFY and reports SAFY has a great team spirit and she is amazed at how helpful all the staff are.

I am honored to be their UTA Field Instructor.

A side note: A large portion of SAFY staff have come to us via the path of being a UTA Social Work intern. Lorisa Norton, Brock Bejcek, Kendra Barnard, Charmaine Bailey, and Emily Romanelli—were all former UT Arlington Social Work interns.

Hooray for Interns!!

This article is a reprint of the April/May/June 2007 edition of the Texas Trumpet, a newsletter of Specialized Alternatives for Families and Youth (SAFY), Arlington, Texas. SAFY is a foster care agency finding homes for children who have been hard to place.