

September  
2012

**UT Arlington  
School of Social Work E-  
News**

Welcome to the first edition of our new e-newsletter format! We welcome your comments. Our editor, Donna Pope, MSSW 1992 ([dpope@uta.edu](mailto:dpope@uta.edu)) would love to hear from you.

**Scott D. Ryan**

Dean

**John Bricout**

Associate Dean for Research & Community Outreach

**Debra Woody**

Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

**Donna Pope**

Assistant to the Dean for External Affairs

**Charlotte Duncan**

E-News Assistant Editor



**Community Health  
Care Forum**

Cheasty Anderson, Community Health Care Coordinator with the [Center for Public Policy Priorities](#) and members of the UT Arlington School of Social Work faculty, Doreen Elliott, Gail Adorno, Larry Watson and Arati Maleku, presented a community forum in March to discuss the new national Affordable Care Act.

School of Social Work Dean, Scott Ryan provided opening remarks. [See the video here.](#)

Thank You  
To Our Donors

See a list of our donors [here](#).

**Dr. Scott Ryan**, Dean of the UT Arlington School of Social Work since 2009 has been nominated by President James Spaniolo and selected as an [American Council on Education Fellow for the 2012-13 academic year](#).

Dr. Vijayan Pillai's and Fang-Hsun Wei's research article entitled [Environmental Quality and Reproductive Health in Developing Countries](#) was posted in March by science blogger, David Bradley from the UK. Mr. Bradley wrote an entire blog based on the article.

**Claudia Beckwith**, Grant Budgets Support Specialist, was recently nominated for one of Remi's top four awards from the World Fest Houston. Claudia was nominated for the [short film](#) she scripted, cast, costumed, and directed.

Support SSW  
Give Now

Support the School of Social Work by making your gift now. [For a description of giving opportunities click here.](#)

**Creating community partnerships to promote a just society**



Social Work Student Day at the Legislature - Austin, TX - March 2012

**Our School Today**

The Graduate School of Social Work at The University of Texas at Arlington was established in late 1967 and we greeted the first 26 MSSW students in September, 1968. Today we enroll more than 1,300 BSW, MSSW and PhD students each semester and they travel from around the world to be part of our dynamic school.

We are now home to four research and training sites: the [Judith G. Birmingham Center for Child Welfare](#), the [Center for Clinical Social Work \(CCSW\)](#), the [Center for Addiction and Recovery Studies \(CARS\)](#) and the [Center for Advocacy, Nonprofits and Donor Organizations \(CAN-DO\)](#) call the School of Social Work home. The School also houses the [Innovative Community and Academic Partnership \(iCAP\)](#) project and sponsors a [Professional Development Program](#).

Our flagship [MSSW program](#) continues to respond to the needs of today's MSSW student. We now provide a variety of educational options including a MSSW Fort Worth Center Cohort, MSSW Distance Learning with Lubbock Christian University and in fall 2012 we will begin offering our MSSW online program (a web-based instruction degree taught by prominent national and international scholars).

Read more about [Diversity and Enrollments](#).

**School of Social Work and College of Liberal Arts  
Collaborate  
to Open New Center for African American Studies**

We recently welcomed the addition of the new [Center for African American Studies](#) to campus. It will be housed within the School of Social Work and is a collaboration with the College of Liberal Arts.

After a lengthy, national search, Dr. Schnavia Smith Hatcher was hired in May to be the Center Director.

**The St. Louis Group for Excellence**

In May it was announced that the UT Arlington School of Social Work is the newest member of the [St. Louis Group for Excellence in Social Work Research and Education](#) (commonly called "The St. Louis Group"), a prestigious association of the country's outstanding graduate schools of social work.

**Faculty Highlights**

Our faculty and staff continue to make a remarkable impact on our community through their cutting edge work and research. With the increase in student enrollments we have added to our number of full time faculty from 30 a year ago to 37 today. Additionally, another 50+ adjunct professors from the community help to round out our outstanding faculty. Faculty productivity and teaching excellence are hallmarks of the quality of our faculty. [\(Read more.\)](#)

**Faculty and Staff Changes**

Spring brought several [faculty and staff changes](#). The MSSW Director, Dr. Javier Boyas, announced he is leaving to assume a position with Miami of Ohio University and Dr. Randall Basham was appointed to direct the MSSW program. Donna Pope was appointed to the newly formed position of Assistant to the Dean for External Relations. The position she formerly held, Director of Development, has gone to Michelle Gilchrist, after a lengthy search. Three professors, Dr. Joan Rycraft, Dr. Dick Schoech and Dr. Tom Watts retired after many years of service.

**SSW Mavericks Represented Worldwide**

Check out the [Alumni News](#) to read about the work our graduates are doing. Did you know we now have more than 7,500 social work alumni working in every state and eight countries outside the U.S.?

**Student News**

Our students were busy providing disaster relief, marching for social justice, completing internships, receiving awards, securing jobs and graduating this semester. [Expect great things from this group!](#)

**Powering Social Change**

Endowments are vital partnerships between the School of Social Work and its donors. It creates greater opportunity for growth now and for generations to come. In 2011, the School of Social Work received \$750,000 in endowed pledges creating the Jillian Michelle Smith Professorship in Family Violence Research and the Cheryl Milkes Moore Professorship in Mental Health Research. These and 13 other endowments are investments in the school's future which inspire academic excellence, provide scholarships for outstanding students and attract world-renowned professors to teach and conduct groundbreaking research. By making an endowed pledge you will help us meet our goal of \$5,000,000 for the 2012-13 fiscal year. Your gift can change a student's life, advance knowledge in the field of social work, and enhance the academic learning experience. For more information on making endowed gifts contact Michelle Gilchrist; [gilchrist@uta.edu](mailto:gilchrist@uta.edu).