Note from Ph.D. Program Director,

Some of your many accomplishments are highlighted in this newsletter and it is truly amazing all that you have done and are doing. Your hard work is evident in your productivity. As you all know, we had a very successful program review. The reviewers were very impressed with the program and especially by its students. I want to thank you all for showing your support of the program in coming to the meeting. They told me they were "blown away" by the turn out.

Hope you all are able to take a short break over the holidays.
Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative (OPHI) Fellowship at the University of Oxford

We are proud of student Bonita Sharma for being selected for the Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative (OPHI) Fellowship at the University of Oxford, London. Bonita was among the 50 fellows selected globally and representing the United States.

As an OPHI fellow, she has recently returned from London after attending the intensive training on measuring multidimensional poverty with a strong emphasis on axiomatic poverty measures and the Alkire Foster method. This empirical motivation for measuring multidimensional poverty draws from the Nobel Laureate Amartya Sen’s capability approach. Bonita is applying Sen’s capability approach in her dissertation and hopes to build her research on the skills she has acquired from this fellowship!

Congratulations Bonita!!!!

Council for Social Work Education Disability Manuscript Award

Dr. Silviya Nikolova, our 2013 Ph.D. social work graduate was awarded with the inaugural Disability Manuscript Award at the Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting in Tampa, Florida for her paper, "Geo-social and health disparities among persons with disabilities living in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon and Dallas, Texas."

The award is intended to recognize scholarship that contributes to knowledge about disability; full participation of persons with disabilities; social, political, and economic issues related to disability and persons with disabilities; education materials focused on disabilities and persons with disabilities; and scholarship surrounding disability.

Congratulations Dr. Nikolova!

Podcast Interview with the University of Buffalo

We are proud of Ph.D. candidate Arati Maleku. Arati recently successfully defended her dissertation proposal. The University of Buffalo for their podcast series interviewed Arati on June 13, 2014. Arati discussed the topic of "Human Migration in the 21st century: Implications for the Social Work Profession". The podcast was released on September 15, 2014. You can listen to Arati's podcast at the following link:

http://www.insocialwork.org/episode.asp?ep=151
2014 AGESW RECIPIENT

DOCTORAL STUDENT RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS NATIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD

Cara Wallace is the 2014 recipient of the Association for Gerontology Education in Social Work (AGESW) Doctoral Student Leadership Award. This national award is given to doctoral students who have demonstrated strong leadership in social work education and aging. As a recipient of this year’s award, Cara has demonstrated outstanding service, education, and research in social work and aging though activities at UT Arlington, in social work agencies, communities and on the state or national levels.

Several of UT Arlington’s doctoral students were selected from a highly qualified pool of applicants to be a part of the AGESW Pre-Dissertation Initiative. The goal of this program is to support dissertation and career development in gerontological social work research and education. Recipients receive more than ten hours of programming delivered by nationally recognized experts in gerontological social work research and teaching, which is designed to prepare participants for an academic career in gerontological social work. Cara Wallace was a member of the 2012 cohort, Brandi Felderhoff was a member of the 2013 cohort, and Rupal Parekh is a current member of the 2014 cohort.

We’ve had a great semester full of incredibly informative Brown Bag discussions. We’d like to especially thank all of our dynamic presenters:

Doctoral Student Association for Social Work

2014 – 2015 Events Schedule

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 20th</td>
<td>12pm Brown Bag: Crash course in SPSS presented by Dr. Mike Killian in Building B Conference Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 16th</td>
<td>12pm Brown Bag: How, Where and Why to Network presented by Dr. Julie Nagoshi in Building B Conference Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 21st</td>
<td>12pm Brown Bag: Post Docs: How and where to get them presented by Dr. Eusebius Small in Building B Conference Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 18th</td>
<td>12pm Brown Bag: Productivity presented by Dr. Courtney Cronley and Dr. Andrea Cimino in Building B Conference Room</td>
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A warm welcome to the newest Ph.D. cohort! We have some amazing new students from all over the world. The new students have a wide variety of research interests and are already immersed in the program. They are doing exceptionally well! Please join us in extending a warm welcome. Be sure to stop and ask them more about themselves when you see them around, or check out their biographies on the School of Social Work’s website: [http://www.uta.edu/ssw/academics/phd/current-students.php](http://www.uta.edu/ssw/academics/phd/current-students.php)

**Recipients of the HOGG Foundation Grant**

Tracey M. Barnett, Pr. Lester Collins, Sharron Crear, and Jacqueline Burse

The Center for Clinical Social Work (CCSW) was awarded the sub-contract from the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health which was submitted as part of The Potter’s House award for HOGG FOUNDATION AFRICAN AMERICAN FAITH-BASED MENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION AND AWARENESS INITIATIVE.

The purpose of this grant is to empower African-American faith communities in Texas to improve awareness and perceptions of mental health, recovery, and wellness in African American communities. The CCSW will be fulfilling its mission to adapt and disseminate evidence-based mental health practices by providing training and technical assistance to The Potter’s House, led by Bishop T.D. Jakes, in adapting a promising protocol, Mental Health First Aid, to a culturally competent and relevant recovery-oriented intervention for African American communities. The sub-contract will be led by CCSW Director, Dr. Alexa Smith-Osborne, and will involve social work doctoral students with related practice experience and research interests: CSWE’s SAMHSA Minority Fellow Tracey M. Barnett, Pr. Lester Collins, Sharron Crear, and Jacqueline Burse. Ms. Burse is also a congregant of the Potter’s House.
This year, our Ph.D. students flooded the Council of Social Work Education’s Annual Program Meeting in Tampa, Florida. In all, 17 doctoral students presented their research!


Wallace, C. (2014, October). Finding a job panel: How can leadership qualities support the job search?


Schuman, D. & Fields, N. (2014, October). Suicide in the Army: Applying and expanding the bioecological perspective


Fox, P. (2014, October). Sankofa: Fifty years since the U.S. Civil Rights Act of 1964


Felderhoff, B. J. (2014, October). A systematic review of supported employment for veterans: compensated work therapy programs


Students are also attending other national and international conferences in the 2014-2015 academic year, including: the Society of Social Work Research conference, the National Association of Social Work conference, the National Social Science Association conference, the Research on Nonprofit Organizations conference, The Association for Gerontology Education in Social Work conference, the Voluntary Action conference and the Qualitative Report conference.

Congratulations to all our amazing presenters!
Our Ph.D. students have also been hard at work publishing!


Congratulations and a job well-done to all of our accomplished authors!
The Gifts...
- All gifts should be wrapped.
- Don’t mark your gift with your name and don’t indicate whether it’s intended for a male, female or either.

The Game Basics...
- Everyone will draw a number that will determine when they will take their turn.
- The game consists of ‘rounds’ where gifts can be stolen from other players.
- Anyone who has a gift stolen from them becomes the ‘player’ and can steal from another or open a new gift.
- Every ‘round’ ends when a new gift is opened from the gift table.

The Rules of ‘Stealing’...
- Each gift can only be stolen once per each round.
- When a player is trying to decide what to take, you should hold up your gift if it’s still eligible to be stolen. (Hiding gifts is not allowed.)
- Decisions for stealing should be made as quickly as possible. If they begin to take too long and the game seems as if it will go on forever, a kitchen timer will be used to limit decisions to two minutes.

The Rounds...
- Round 1: The person who drew #1 picks a gift from the gift table and opens it.
- Round 2: The person who drew #2 can either open a gift from the table or steal the gift from person #1. If the gift is stolen from #1, then #1 opens a new gift.
- Round 3: Person #3 can choose to steal the gift from #1 or #2 or open a new gift. If the gift is stolen from #1 or #2, they become the player and can either steal the gift from the remaining player or decide to end the round by opening a gift.
- Rounds 4 and on: The game continues with stealing and opening until the last gift is opened.
- Possible last round: If the person who drew #1 still has the same gift the opened and never had a chance to steal, one final round will be conducted with person #1 starting as the player.

Hints and Strategy...
- Gifts usually fall into one of two categories: ‘duds’ and ‘hot’ gifts. If you are unfortunate and open a ‘dud’, it will probably be yours for the rest of the evening. Our sympathies will be with you.
- The ‘hot’ gifts will be obvious. They will be the ones that everyone is stealing. You should consider stealing a ‘hot’ gift even if it’s of no interest to you. The chance that it will be stolen from you is what can keep you in the game and allow you to continue to choose.
- There may come a time when you are the ‘player’ and must choose from a few remaining exposed gifts that are all ‘duds’. This will probably leave you looking at the pile of unopened gifts, trying to decide which one you should open. If you’ve brought a great gift that you suspect will become a ‘hot’ gift, and if it’s still there, unwrapped, you should think about opening it. It may get stolen from you and could keep you in the game. (However, you may want to keep it to yourself that this was the one you brought.)