

TAC-The Alumni Connector

Volume 1, Issue 4

June 2005

Spring Workshop Series 2005 “Hailed A Success!”

By Kellene M. Hamilton, MSW, LCSW, DCSW

Raoul L. Williams, Senior U.S. Probation Officer, United States District Court Eastern District of Missouri was the keynote speaker for the January 28, 2005 workshop on “Understanding Terrorism”. Officer Williams set the trend for a successful CEU workshop series which concluded on May 20, 2005. Other topics presented included “Critical Incident and First Responder Debriefing” by George Smith, MA, LCPC, CSADC from Chestnut Health Systems; “Compassion Fatigue: An Occupational Hazard” by Melanie Schaafsma, MSW, LSW, from Family Life Consultants; and “Disenfranchised Grief and Am-

biguous Loss” presented by Deborah F. Vogel, MSW, LCSW from Metamorphosis Centre, P.C.

A series of Fall CEU Workshops will begin on September 16, 2005. Dr. Sandra J. Mills, ACSW, LCSW, EdD, Public Affairs Consultant NASW Illinois Chapter will be the featured speaker for “Government Policy and Its Effect on Social Workers”. Dr. Mills will address State and Federal legislation currently in force, upcoming legislation and how government policies affect social workers’s service...(See **Workshop Series 2005** page 7)

Social Work Students Have Record Setting Day in Springfield, Illinois on Lobby Day

By Roger E. Boyd, Ph.D.

Forty SIUE Social Work Advanced Policy students recently completed a whirlwind day at the Illinois State Capital during NASW’s annual Lobby Day. The students were able to meet with six state senators and nineteen state representatives concerning a dozen bills that were before the state legislature. One of the students, Rebecca Michels, was even asked to return to the statehouse a week later where she testified before the House Elementary and Secondary Education Committee in support of House Bill 0058. This Bill will amend the Critical Health Problems and Comprehensive Health Education Act to include education in secondary schools on clinical depression, suicide prevention, transmission and spread of

HIV/AIDS (rather than just AIDS), disaster and terrorism preparedness, and organ tissue and blood donation. Many of the students were instrumental in bringing state legislators up to speed on various issues that were of particular concern to the social work profession and continued to work with a number of state senators and representatives to assist in the passage of bills that they had selected to follow. In addition, six of the students had letters-to-the editor printed in a number of southwestern Illinois newspapers and many of the graduating seniors expressed intent to continue their lobbying efforts in their new roles as BSW social work professionals and as graduate scholars.

Social Work Faculty Member — Roger E. Boyd Receives His Doctorate

SIUE Department of Social Work faculty member, Roger E. Boyd recently fulfilled his doctoral requirements for a Ph.D. in Public Policy Studies from Saint Louis University. Doctor Boyd joined the social work faculty in 2003 and teaches Social Research Methods and Social Welfare Policy in both

Undergraduate and MSW programs. Dr. Boyd received his BA in Social Work from SIUE in 1997 and was a member of the first graduating class in the newly established SIUE, MSW program in 1998. Congratulations Dr. Boyd!

Today's Students — Tomorrow's Leaders

By Tina Ivory Jones, BSW



My name is Tina Ivory Jones, and I am a native of East St. Louis, Illinois. I returned to SIUE to continue my education after a 20 year break—and what a rewarding experience! As a single parent of two, the challenge was not easy; however, I was graduated August 7, 2004 with a Bachelors degree in Social Work. I must thank many numerous staff members who played a vital role in my educational success. I am currently

employed as the Director of Amachi for Big Brothers Big

Sisters of Southwestern Illinois. Amachi is a West African word, which means, “who knows what GOD has brought us through this child?” This program does outreach to children of prisoners, ages six to 14. We recruit our mentors from local faith based organizations. The program has taken off with amazing results. I am currently working with Joy Malone, also a Social Work Alumni of SIUE, and Beverly Holland, a graduate of SIU Carbondale. Over the course of seven months, our program has achieved 57% of our estimated goal. SIUE has many opportunities for a serious student who has the desire to learn, and I am living proof that a determined person is capable of achieving their goals regardless of any obstacles that one might face. Thank you for your continued encouragement and support.

Recent Graduate Hired by CEFS Economic Opportunity Corporation

By Jayna Bauer, BSW

It is so good to stay connected to my friends and alumni through the TAC Alumni Connector. Some of you may know me as Jayna Jones. I was graduated with a Bachelors of Science in Social Work, May 2004. On August 31, 2004, I was hired by CEFS Economic Opportunity Corporation. CEFS is a non-profit organization that serves economically and socially disadvantaged people in the seven rural Illinois counties of Clay, Effingham, Fayette, Shelby, Moultrie, Montgomery, and Christian. CEFS has many programs: food pantry, home weatherization, emergency food and shelter, outreach and referral, public transportation, retired and

senior citizens volunteer program, teen parent services, head start, housing and urban development supportive housing, direct homebuyer assistance program, housing counseling, and a housing rehabilitation program. As you can see, we offer many programs. All of these programs include counseling/follow-up as well. I work as the Outreach Coordinator in Montgomery County, and I am in charge of a small staff comprised of a housing counselor, a secretary, one data entry person, and two bus drivers. My position keeps me busy, and daily I use the knowledge and skills acquired in my education at SIUE.

Undergraduate Program Undergoes Revisions

By Shirley Rakers, MSW

The Undergraduate Social Work Program has undergone it's first major revision in over 15 years. These changes reflect the collective assessments which have been obtained from students, field instructors and faculty over the past few years. Specifically, these changes include an additional practice course which has been named Micro Skills of Counseling, a beefed up research methods course which now includes a lab, changing all social work electives to three hour courses, adding a new diversity course, and introducing new General Education requirements and discontinuing some of the current requirements.

As a result of the General Education changes, some of the new courses students declaring during the Fall, 2005 semester will be required to take are: ENG 201-Intermediate Composition, HIST 201-United States History and Constitution: 1877-Present, POLS 112-American National Government and Politics, and PSYC 206-Social Psychology.

Students needing additional information regarding the upcoming revisions should contact Shirley Rakers, Undergraduate Program Director.

MSW Students Present at the SIUE Graduate School Research Symposium

By Venessa A. Brown, Ph.D.

On April 7, 2005 four MSW students from Doctor Venessa Brown's child welfare class presented their scholarly research papers at the annual SIUE Graduate School Research Symposium. According to the Graduate School Dean, Dr. Stephen Hansen the symposium emphasizes the relationship between graduate education and faculty research, creative activities and/or public service.

Suzanne Kutterer-Siburt presented on "Homeless Children a Child Welfare Issue". Suzanne stated that "social workers are faced with a situation of children raising children passing down the same multi-generational cycle of disconnected social interactions with family, friends, and agencies resulting in a "cycle of homelessness" (Metraux and Culhane, 1999). Nancy Laidley presented on "Child Welfare Services for Children with Disabilities". The focus of Nancy's presentation was to educate and reeducate so-

cial workers on the significance and the need for more specialized services for this population. Cara Cassidy presented on "Maternal Complicity to Sexual Abuse". Cara pointed out that more research and services are needed to understand the roles mothers play in the sexual abuse of their children. Finally, Edna Norman presented a poster presentation on African American children in the child welfare system. Edna highlighted the need for more services to help African American youth transition out of foster care to independent living. All of the presenters highlighted appropriate practice approaches in serving these populations.

The students did an excellent professional job from utilizing PowerPoint during their presentations to capturing the audience with a poem that highlighted the passion of embracing differences.

Social Work Students Inducted into Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society

By Roger E. Boyd, Ph.D.

Three SIUE social work students were recently inducted into the national academic honor society Phi Kappa Phi. Only the top 10% of all graduating college seniors are eligible. Graduating seniors Rebekah Nichols and Jessica Hoffner, as well as MSW summer graduate Mary Wil-

liams, were recognized for their outstanding scholarship at SIUE. We congratulate these soon to be social work professionals on their excellent work while at SIUE and wish them much success in their forthcoming social work careers.

2004-2005 Undergraduate Departmental Awards



Department of Social Work Service Award
Jennifer Reeves
 Ester Ott Estes Award in Social Work
Deborah Edwards



Where Have All the Alumni Gone?

Jackie Morris-Ballard, BSW 1984—Renal Social Worker, Davita Dialysis, Granite City, IL
Sally Bamborough, MSW 2000—School Social Worker, Safe School, Belleville, IL
Bernice (Earl) Bell, BSW 1977— Adoption Coordinator Southern Region, Illinois DCFS
Jill Englemann, MSW 2003—PSR program, Chestnut Health Systems, Belleville, IL
Leslie (Scott) Fane, LCSW, BSW 1995,— EAP Consultant, Magellan Health Services, St. Louis, MO

Kathy Hitpas, BSW 1997—Child Welfare Advanced Specialist, DCFS, Carlyle, IL
Virginia Berry-Howlett, MSW 2002—Match Support Specialist, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Belleville, IL
Precious Joy Malone, BA 2004— Enrollment Specialist Amachi Program Big Brothers Big Sisters, Belleville, IL
Leslie Mitchell, BSW 2000—Program Specialist Pathways Youth and Family Services Inc., San Antonio, TX
Angela Scott, BSW 1997— MSW 2002— School Social Worker Alton Community School District, Alton, IL

Eugenics and Pejorative “Framings”

By Gerald V. O'Brien, Ph.D.

Over the past decade, I have been engaged in research on the eugenics movement in the United States, and its impact on persons with mental retardation. This is the topic of the book that I am currently trying to finish. My principle perspective in looking at this issue is by analyzing the ways in which “morons” were framed, or described, by supporters of the movement. Eugenics entailed the sterilization of over 60,000 persons in the U.S., as well as the forced institutionalization of tens of thousands of others. Moreover, the movement in this country informed Nazi eugenics, which implemented its own massive sterilization program, and beginning in 1939, a “euthanasia” program that would eventually lead to the murder of several hundred thousand “disabled” persons in Hitler’s Germany.

My primary research question, then, is this: how can a nation that presumably lauds freedom and individual rights rationalize such measures of control? Certainly this question relates to not just eugenic policies, but numerous social control measures that are directed against non-criminal groups. These target groups are often “framed” in pejorative ways, often through the use of conceptual metaphors (welfare recipient as parasite is an example) that presuma-

bly describe the nature of the group. As a means of carrying over the negative qualities of one thing (parasite) onto a very nebulous target group (welfare recipients), promoters of such “framings” presume that they cannot only accurately describe the group, but moreover that they are in the best position to formulate an effective policy response to the social problems the group presumably causes.

In my book I have described five predominant metaphor “themes” and considered how each of these themes has been used to marginalize not just morons (I use this term, by the way, because it was the accepted nomenclature of the time) but also the victims of Japanese internment, Jews, immigrants and those presumed to be Communist sympathizers. The main point of my work for social workers is that we need to closely consider the ways in which marginalized groups are described in our society, and what the basis for these descriptions is. Effective advocacy often requires the ability to effectively deconstruct the mythical social images that pertain to the groups we work with, and the capacity to replace these images with more accurate and humanizing “framings”.

“Costa Rica Beckons, KT Responds”

By Kathleen J. Tunney, Ph.D.

This July, Kathleen Tunney will travel again to Costa Rica with a project sponsored by the SIUE Provost’s Office. This trip will be for three purposes: First, to participate in a service learning project jointly sponsored by SIUE and the Costa Rican Ministry of the Interior. This project will involve approximately ten SIUE students, including one undergraduate social work student, Whitney Fairless, and several faculty from across the university who will, in addition to supervising students’ service learning projects, will be performing their own research and projects in areas such as biological studies, business and economic development, geography and anthropology.

Second, to participate in a retreat for a newly-formed SIUE campus group known as the “BRIDGE” group (Baccalaureate Reform through Integrated Design of General Education). This group has been charged by the SIUE Faculty Senate and the Provost’s Office to study the General Education program at SIUE, and make recommendations for changes in the Gen ED program. The group is particularly interested in how students “put it all together,” how they integrate their foundation studies in the liberal arts and sciences with their academic majors. The service learning projects are one way that this happens. Therefore, the BRIDGE group will, as part of their agenda, spend time with students and faculty in order to better understand how service learning helps liberal learning and

the academic majors come together. To put it another way: Students and faculty studying abroad “in Costa Rica or anywhere else” have to use more than content knowledge in their discipline: they have to use their understanding of themselves and other cultures, use their ability to think critically and problem-solve, and understand and articulate their purposes in a respectful manner, all the while being curious and open to the world. All of these are elements of excellence in liberal learning, which is what the BRIDGE group is investigating.

Third, to participate in a conference on assessment of student learning. The conference will feature noted assessment experts from around the U.S., and will involve both Costa Rican and U.S. participants. The focus will be on identifying innovative mechanisms for assessment of student learning, including service learning. Because of the linked nature of all three projects as described, the conference will be the capstone event of the Costa Rican experience this summer. All of these projects have linked goals to improve our understanding of the larger world and contribute to its well-being; to gain knowledge about how liberal learning (general education) contributes to our understanding of the world and ability to act effectively in it; and to explore ways of demonstrating student learning through rigorous and creative outcome assessment activities.

Practicum Colloquium—April 21, 2005

By Carol Wesley, Ph.D., ACSW, LCSW

The annual Practicum Colloquium was held April 21, 2005. Thirty-two field instructors representing a wide range of service areas attended the two sessions. The program was divided into two major topic areas: the first contained information regarding the undergraduate and MSW programs and the MSW Integrated Project; the second provided a forum/focus group for discussion of the field program. Field instructors discussed the strengths and challenges of field as well as the way

SIUE faculty can assist them and their agencies in achieving our common goals. The information obtained from the focus group and evaluation forms will be used to improve the field program and to plan future colloquia.

We were happy to provide a warm welcome to our field instructors who contribute extraordinary, valuable service to our students, the profession and our clients!

Sabbatical Leaves During 2005-2006

By Thomas Gusewelle, MSW

Dr. Carol Wesley and Dr. Donald Scandell will take sabbatical leaves from the University during the Fall 2005 and Spring 2006 semesters, respectively. Dr. Wesley will study the long-term health needs of older adults. She defines her sabbatical as having three purposes: 1) completing a qualitative study of the long-term health care needs of older adults residing in Franklin County, Missouri; 2) completing a scholarly paper for the *Journal of Qualitative Research*; and 3) developing a future research agenda. The choice of health care study will enhance Dr. Wesley's specialty of research which already includes ethics, aging,

spirituality, death and dying. The study will contribute to the knowledge base and gerontological social work, with a special emphasis on the needs of older adults in rural communities. It is significant to the University's commitment to diversity and active community engagement.

Dr. Scandell preferred not to disclose too much of his study as it could have an impact on the statistical values. His research does include assessment, personality theory and self-presentation.

LSW/LCSW Review Course

By Judy Zimmerman, Social Work Department Administrative Secretary

On Friday, May 6, 2005, SIUE Social Work Department and NASW-Illinois Chapter co-sponsored a review course for LSW and LCSW licensing exams at the SIUE Campus. The eight hour course was presented by Kathleen Murphy, Ph.D., LCSW. The review course began promptly at 8:00 a.m. and ended at 5:00 p.m. All 26 participants affirmed that the workshop was both informative and

helpful as they readied themselves for their respective licensing exams.

The SIUE Social Work Department will collaborate with NASW-IL Chapter once again, in the hopes of hosting a review course in the Spring of 2006.

Student Worker

By Judy Zimmerman, Social Work Department Administrative Secretary



Since September, 2003, the Social Work Department has benefited from the services of student worker, Megan Koons. Megan's responsibilities include answering telephones, typing, filing, and copying for the Professors and clerical staff as well as running errands.

Megan is a sophomore currently seeking a degree in Elementary Education, with a minor in

English. She originated from the Chicago area, moved to Pinckneyville where she was graduated from the Pinckneyville Community High School, and currently resides with her parents and siblings (two brothers and two sisters ranging in age from five to 23 years) in Glen Carbon, Illinois. Megan enjoys playing the piano, writing, shopping, vacationing in Florida and spending time with her friends and family.

The staff and faculty appreciate your fine work and dedication to the department.

Departmental Activities and “Schmoozing”...

By Thomas Regulus, Ph.D., Department Chair

Greetings from the Department of Social Work to our alumni and friends. We hope that your spring has been pleasant and professionally rewarding, and that you are in the midst of an equally enjoyable summer. In this column I thought it would be helpful to provide you with an update about the Department through a “news brief” review and to indulge in a bit of schmoozing.

There is the saying that time flies when you are having fun. Well, would you believe that the 2005-2006 academic year will complete ten years of SIUE programs as the Department of Social Work. We will be planning celebration events for alumni, friends and students. Watch for announcements!

One of the missing pieces of our program is an Alumni Association to provide guidance to the Department and to identify and plan activities of interest to alumni. In the Fall 2005, I will ask for interested alumni to join with us to develop an alumni association for those purposes. Please contact me if you would be interested in joining a group to develop and kick off an association.

Besides the above two important tasks, Dr. Venessa Brown and the MSW Program Committee will complete the second self-study for the MSW program re-accreditation in 2006. Also, undergraduate and graduate program additions will be seriously considered. For example, during Spring 2005, we began a discussion with social work practitioners serving the elder population. We are identifying knowledge and skills content that would be appropriate for adding aging and gerontological courses to our social work programs. Some of you may be contacted directly for your insight, experience and expertise. We invite your input in the self-study and in discussions about adding gerontology content to the curricula.

The 2004-2005 academic year: As part of the 50th Anniversary Celebration of the founding of NASW, the Department of Social Work in collaboration with the Illinois Chapter of NASW and the Metro-East District Council, hosted a health forum at SIUE.— Regional Health Care: Access and Disparity— The forum panel was comprised of Dr. Linda Renee Baker (keynote speaker), State Senator Frank Watson, State Representative Jay Hoffman and Tracey D. Williams, M.S., CPRP Interim Executive Director, Division of Mental Health, Greater Illinois, South Region. The exchange of information between the panel and the mix of enthusiastic social workers, organizational administrators, faculty and students provided a dialog of health care needs and disparities, economic and legislative issues that confound health care provision and some strategies of intervention.

On the Faculty side: Kellene M. Hamilton and the Continuing Education Committee with support from Emily Coffin

and the Office of Continuing Education, presented an informative series of CEU workshops for regional practitioners this spring. The Fall 2005 workshop series promises to again offer interesting topics and learning experiences for social work practitioners and other helping professionals throughout the community. Thanks to Shirley Rakers and the BA/BS Social Work Program Committee, expect to see a much stronger program in Fall 2005. Dr. Venessa Brown and colleagues from the Department of Public Administration and Analysis are completing a statewide evaluation of mental health services in nursing homes that should be available soon. Drs. Bentelspacher and Scandell are in the midst of a pilot study and grant proposal to test and evaluate a strategy to promote safe sex habits as an intervention to HIV transmission in Southeast Asia. Drs. O'Brien and Tunney completed successful sabbaticals during the 2004 and 2005 academic year. Drs. Wesley and Scandell are preparing for sabbatical leaves this fall. Roger Boyd successfully completed his Ph.D. and will assume the title of Assistant Professor of Social Work in the fall of 2005.

The Student Front: Kristie Grawitch and Mary Williams were recipients of the 2004-2005 Regulus-Gilmore Awards presented to students demonstrating exceptional potential for social work practice emphasizing commitment to social justice and the value of family. The undergraduate Student Social Work Association had an exemplary year in its community service activities. While this group has been a marvel in its social justice contributions across its history, this years group has set a new standard for future members of the association to attain.

Schmoozing: “I ask and encourage you to remember and to consider support of the Department of Social Work’s Development Funds. The Social Work Department wishes to increase the program development resource base to support awards and scholarships for our undergraduate and graduate students, to support program development and alumni activities, and other valuable components of our mission and goals in social work education, scholarship and service. We currently have fledgling development programs for graduate students (Regulus-Gilmore Award), undergraduates (Undergraduate Student Service Award), social work program initiatives (Swain-Cingolani Fund), open development fund. These funds are very modest at this time. We would appreciate your thoughtfulness and support of these Social Work development funds. In future additions of The TAC Connector, we will keep you up-to-date on their status. If you desire further information at this time, please review the College of Arts and Sciences web pages on the SIUE web site. In the meantime, I probably need to find a CEU workshop on SCHMOOZING! Have a wonderful and safe summer.” *Tom*

Spring 2005 Graduates Congratulations from Faculty and Staff!

Masters of Social Work
Cindi Meredith

Bachelor of Arts
Ellery Mark Bryant

Bachelor of Science
Courtney Birk
Tarah Cayson
Ylana Coleman
Andrea Davis
Jaime Helfrich
Ginger Hickman

Bachelor of Science continued
Jessica Hoffner
Jennifer Huelsmann
Michelle Langenhorst
Elizabeth McQuaid
Jeffery Morris
Rebekah Nichols
Jennifer Reeves
Amy Reinhold
April Riley
Hillary Schneider
Amy Williamson



College of Arts and Sciences Annual Fund Campaign

By Marilyn R. Marsho, Development Director, College of Arts and Sciences

Each year, the College of Arts and Sciences conducts an Annual Fund Campaign with alumni of the nineteen departments and seven programs that comprise the College. Earlier this year, you may have received a phone call or a letter to ask for your support. You might wonder if your gift truly makes a difference. The answer is a resounding “YES.” Alumni gifts are the only source of unrestricted giving that is available to the College and its academic units. This unrestricted funding provides for a variety of needs throughout the year and is utilized across the various CAS departments. For example, the Department of Social Work might want to invite a speaker to campus or as part of an alumni event, but there aren’t sufficient funds to meet all of the expenses for travel, honorarium, and lodging. The Department can apply to the College’s development fund, which is derived from alumni gifts, to assist with the expenses for the speaker’s visit. Likewise, alumni contributions designated for the Department of Social Work are used for specific needs identified by the Chair and the Faculty. Without the gifts of alumni, it wouldn’t be possible to offer enhancement lectures, student recognition awards for academic achieve-

ment, subsidies for student travel to conferences, or a host of other needs in the department. It’s easy to see that gifts do make a difference, especially if gifts are combined from the over 20,000 alumni who are part of the College of Arts and Sciences family.

Gifts may be given at any time during the academic year. Alumni gifts may be designated for use by the College to meet needs of all departments or designated for a specific scholarship, a project, or a unit, such as the Department of Social Work. A [printable mail-in form](#) is available as well as [secure online giving](#). You can access both of these methods of giving by going to: <http://www.siu.edu/CAS/giving/index.html>. The webpage will give you information for making a gift as well as background on identified needs of the College and its departments. To make a gift, just follow the links on the left side of the page for either “mail-in form” or “give now to Arts and Sciences.”

For more information about making a gift, contact Marilyn R. Marsho, Development Director, at mmarsho.siu.edu or 618/650-5048.

Workshop Series 2005—(Continued from Page 1)
delivery and the impact these policies have on clients.

Fall 2005 Workshop Series will continue through December 9, 2005. **October 14, 2005**-Ethics Violations, Natalie Holzman, LCSW; **November 18, 2005**-Violence and Bully-

ing in Elementary and Secondary Schools, Gigi Dowling-Urban; MSW, MA.; **December 9, 2005**-Criminal Justice System-Working with Violent Clients, Lou Kimmel, MSW, LCSW.

Brochures detailing the Fall 2005 Series will be mailed in late summer. If you are not on our mailing list contact—**Emily Coffin: ecoffin@siue.edu or call 618-650-3207**



The good social worker doesn't go on mechanically helping people out of a ditch. Pretty soon, she/he begins to find out what ought to be done to get rid of the ditch.

— Mary Richmond —



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Reminder:

NASW-IL 5th Annual Conference — September 19-21, 2005
“Social Workers, Help Starts Here”
Holiday Inn, Chicago-Mart Plaza, Chicago, IL

