



Department of Social Work

Volume 5, Issue 1

Spring 2017

Special points of interest:

Social Work Dept.
Senior Block Application Process

Faculty Updates

Assessment Findings

Inside this issue:

Faculty Updates & Scholarship 2

Current News & Events 3

Social Work Alumni Update: Remembering 3

2014-2015 Program Assessment 4

Social Work Department Contact Information 4

Message from your Chair



Greetings and welcome to 2017! Already, it's been a busy two weeks with registration, drop/add, TSU day at the Texas Capitol, Houston weather, and the arrival of the Gridiron Glory on our beautiful campus. There is so much going on that it's sometimes difficult to truly recognize that which is right before us. As many of you know, I have a habit of bragging about our SOCW team. What you may not know is that, as much as I brag about our Social Work faculty and staff, I brag about **YOU**—our majors! Yes, I brag about YOU! **You are a diverse group of intelligent, inquisitive, thoughtful, energetic, determined, and remarkably resilient**, students with the power and drive to change lives on a daily basis. You are unique, **you are LEADERS!** As such, I ask that you keep your eyes on the prize, even when times get tough. As humbled as I am to serve as your chair, and grateful that you have chosen TSU as your home and Social Work as your major, we must work together to reach those prizes. **You, me, us, them, WE are SOCIAL WORK!! Welcome.**

It's THAT Time of Year: Applying for Senior Block!

It's the time of year when junior level students begin the process of applying for Senior Block. As such, there are a number of steps that must be followed in order to ensure a smooth process.

⇒ The Director of Field Education will visit SOCW 340 and 347 classes to discuss field applications — March 2017.

⇒ Applications will be uploaded to the Majors Blackboard for printing and completion.

⇒ Pay attention to ALL instructions and guidelines.

⇒ ***When it is time***, an announcement will indicate it is time to sign up for the Senior Block Interview.

⇒ Follow all directions.

⇒ Make your appointment

⇒ Complete the application.

⇒ Prepare your package (application, transcript, program acceptance letter).

⇒ Dress professionally.

⇒ Keep your appointment.

⇒ Be professional.

Social Work Faculty Updates



Phillip Lewis is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, originally from Denver Colorado. Mr. Lewis graduated from the University of Nebraska with a Bachelor of Social Work degree and obtained his Masters of Social Work from Barry University. He began his Social Work career in the Sarpy County Juvenile, in Lincoln Nebraska, as a child advocate. While in Nebraska, he also worked on legislation aimed to expand educational benefits to college students, as well and served with many communities and educational, social welfare organizations. Mr. Lewis has also provided individual and group therapy to children, young adults, and couples, while in private practice before relocating to Houston. Mr. Lewis is part of the United States Army, serving as a Clinical

Social Worker and a combat operational stress control specialist. Most recently, he has worked with the Family Advocacy and Prevention Program at Camp Zama Japan, as a part of an active duty mission to create policies, procedures, and provide services to military members and their families stationed abroad. His interests are in human rights, legislation, and social welfare. Mr. Lewis is currently enrolled as a student in the Thurgood Marshall School of law, working on a Juris Doctorate, with interest in human rights and international law. *Welcome aboard Mr. Phillip Lewis!*

Spring 2017 Social Work Recipients

The Social Work Department is pleased to announce three of our current seniors were selected as recipients of the Spring 2017 COLABS Scholarship. Miss LaZena Barrett (left), Miss Natoria Ford (right), and Miss Picola Robinson (center) applied by the January deadline, demonstrated excellence in scholarship (GPA), crafted a well-written statement of the importance of graduating from Texas Southern University, and provided letters of reference from Social Work faculty who see their promise as soon-to-be graduates. Each of these ladies is enrolled in between 13-19 SCH during the spring semester, has a demanding field internship, and still managed to invest further in their future. In addition, as a solid plan for graduate studies, which begin as early as Fall 2017.

Congratulations to our well-deserving Scholarship WINNERS!



Social Work Alumni Update



Roy Cooper * BA Social Work 2016 TSU*

MSW Candidate '17 - Baylor University

Long before I thought of attending the Diana R. Garland School of Social Work at Baylor University, I was a Tiger of Texas Southern University. Admittedly, prior to attending Texas Southern University I was somewhat intimidated by the rumors of the difficulty in completing the social work degree program. *Thankfully, I came to learn that the rumors were true!* Prior to attending Texas Southern University I'd learned to seek out things that were easy, yet, the one thing that I've come to love about the social work program at Texas Southern is its difficulty.

When I entered the social work program, I thought that I understood the profession of social work and what it means to be a social worker. It wasn't until the last few months of my senior year that I realized the truth about the profession of social work. For me the profession of social work means a profession without limits. As a social worker I can be anything! I can be an advocate who influences state and federal legislation, I can be a clinical social worker specializing in mental health disorders, or I could open my own private practice as a life coach.

Realizing my potential as a future social worker is not something for which I can take full credit. Tremendous credit due to the faculty and staff at TSU. I've had the pleasure of learning from these team members one by one. As I move forward in my graduate education, I often reflect on the lessons from each. I can hear Dr. Queen challenging me to think deeper as I write twenty and thirty page papers. I remember Dr. Willis teaching me that "the best leaders are first great followers". I hear echoes from Dr. Loudd and Professor Omorogbe saying they're proud of me. I can hear the words of Professor Milton saying "you always done this, you just didn't have the title". Lastly, I can remember the warmth and reassurance provided by Ms. Lewis when you enter her office. What I remember most, is *Thankfully, I came to learn that the rumors were true!*

Social Work Student Organization

The Social Work Student Organization (SWSO) is the formal body through which YOUR concerns and feedback regarding the program can be addressed. In addition, the organization is planning several activities and opportunities through which you can become engaged as a participant, advocate, and or leader. The SWSO is looking for NEW MEMBERS to join for the Fall 2016-Spring 2017 academic year! Want more information about SWSO events, activities and MORE? Visit the SWSO tab in the Social Work Majors blackboard. Click on the "SWSO Fall 2016-Spring 2017" folder to access membership forms, t-shirt order forms, event pictures, meeting schedules and officer information! Success is only truly achieved if YOU are included!

- ⇒ **Social Work Month** (NASW), the theme for this year: "Social Workers Stand Up!"
- ⇒ NABSW-Houston chapter celebrates Social Work awareness month with a Prayer breakfast.
- ⇒ Check out the NASW updated cultural competence standards at <https://www.socialworkers.org/pubs/news/2016/01/cultural-competence-standards>
- ⇒ Loan forgiveness program for social workers at <https://www.socialworkers.org/loanforgiveness/>



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Program Assessment Findings—AY 2014/2015

COMPETENCY 80% will score 3 or higher of 5	PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ACHIEVING BENCHMARK
Identify as a Professional Social Worker	98% of students received ratings of 3 or higher on Field Instructor Evaluations. Target Met.
Apply Ethical Principles	95% of students received ratings of 3 or higher on self-evaluations and from Field Instructors. Overall, average ratings indicated 95% of students met the benchmark. Target Met.
Apply Critical Thinking	100% of students received ratings of 3 or higher on self-evaluations and from Field Instructors. Target Met.
Engage Diversity in Practice	100% of students received ratings of 3 or higher on Field Instructor Evaluations. Target Met.
Advance Human Rights/ Social and Economic Justice	98% of students received ratings of 3 or higher from Field Instructor Evaluations. Target Met.
Engage Research Informed Practice/ Practice Informed Research	100% of students received ratings of 3 or higher on self-evaluations and from Field Instructors. Target Met.
Apply Human Behavior Knowledge	95% of students received ratings of 3 or higher on self-evaluations and from Field Instructors. Target Met.
Engage Policy Practice to Advance Well Being and Deliver Services	98% of students received ratings of 3 or higher on self-evaluations. All students (100%) received ratings of 3 or higher from Field Instructors. Target Met
Respond to Practice Contexts	100% of students received ratings of 3 or higher on self-evaluations and from Field Instructors. Target Met.
Practice Engagement	96% of students received ratings of 3 or higher on self-evaluations and from Field Instructors. Target Met.
Practice Assessment	94% of students received ratings of 3 or higher on self-evaluations and 97% received ratings of 3 or higher from Field Instructors. Target Met.
Practice Intervention	95% of students received ratings of 3 or higher from Field Instructors. Target Met.
Practice Evaluation	92.5% of students received ratings of 3 or higher on self-evaluations and from Field Instructors. Target Met.

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