

Stimulus

The University of Tennessee

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College of Social Work

March, 1991

What's Happening in Field Practice? Lots!

One of the major links between the College and the community is made through field practicum. Students get a taste of their roles as social workers in a variety of settings--governmental and private social work agencies, legal aid settings, public assistance, governmental housing, schools, hospitals--the gamut. They begin to

know what the "ropes" are in the institutions where they may someday work.

They also benefit from on-the-spot development, integration, and reinforcement of their skills under the supervision of experienced social work practitioners.

But field practicum is a two-way street. These students bring their

enthusiasm and energy to the institutions where they are placed. With their supervisors they contribute to the continuous flow of knowledge from the academic life to the community and back again.

The following three stories describe the variety of field practice experience now available through the College.

Nashville

Most of Nashville field practicum sites are in the Nashville and Middle Tennessee area with some additional sites in Kentucky and Alabama. This academic year, Nashville has 87 students in field practicum in 53 community agencies under 76 agency staff who serve as field instructors.

One example of the involvement of these students is Michelle Munson, a Social Work Administration and Planning major completing her second year field requirements at the Tennessee Association of Legal Services. Ms. Munson believes in the importance of change on the macro level. She is putting that belief into action as author and primary lobbyist for Senate Bill #356, which proposes the waiver of school fees for low-income students in public schools. If enacted, this

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Knoxville

The Knoxville Branch started a number of pilot field practice units fall semester. These placements offer experience in a greater variety of public service settings: public assistance, middle schools, and public housing and self-sufficiency programs.

Six graduate and undergraduate students placed in a field unit in public assistance with the Department of Human Services in Knox County are providing case management services for the Department's participants in the new JOBS program, which is designed to help public assistance recipients move from welfare to self-sufficiency. Dr. Dennis Morawski (UT '90) was hired by the Community Action Committee (CAC) to set up the case

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Memphis

Lanetta Gann, a second-year field placement student with Shelby County government, sees empowerment of public housing residents as her personal mission. She has acted on that commitment by putting her social work skills in community organizing and development to work in helping the residents of Shelby County's Horton Gardens and Kefauver Terraces organize themselves to manage their own housing developments.

Under the Fair Housing Act of 1987, residents of public housing can form an association, then a management association, then a management corporation to contract to run their own developments. After successfully managing the development for three years, residents can arrange with the housing authority for transfer of individual

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NASW-Knox Chooses Social Workers of the Year

Students and faculty of the College were recognized by the Knox Branch of the National Association of Social Workers in an awards ceremony March 7.

Phyllis Betz, Knoxville Field Coordinator, was named Social Worker of the Year. "She was given this award for the absolutely

outstanding, creative job she is doing in the Social Work community," commented Jane Kronick, Acting Associate Dean for the Knoxville Branch. "I am getting lots of feedback that she is doing a spectacular job in the field, as well as playing an important role in encouraging good things that are happening out in the community."

Brenda Haag was named BSSW

Student Social Worker of the Year for her academic achievements, her leadership in the revitalization of the BSSW-Student Social Work Organization under her presidency, and her dedication to serving others. In her home community of Talbott, she has been an outstanding leader of a children's group, volunteer aide at the elementary school, fund-raiser for families in need.

Memphis (continued)

units to ownership by qualified residents. Nationwide, 13 resident management corporations have contracts to operate developments. HUD officials report that 70 other resident management groups around the country have begun to organize.

Horton Gardens and Kefauver Terraces, presently an association, intend to form a management corporation. With the funds available from the Shelby County Government and a grant from Housing and Urban Development, residents will receive leadership and management training over a two-year period. County officials have contracted with Chuck Hobbs, a former Reagan White House aide, as the veteran to guide the entire project. Kimi Gray, na-

tional spokesperson for tenant management, has been recruited from Washington also. Locally, Ms. Gann and Free The Children (an anti-poverty initiative) will act as

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on-site technicians for the residents association. Their goal is to train the trainers to carry on, to support and assist the residents to help themselves out of public dependency, to make taxpayers out of families dependent on tax dollars, enabling people to take control of their own lives.

Ms. Gann explains her determination: "I was raised in public housing, having lived there for 19 years. Throughout those years, I believed that the country encouraged poor people to act as 'victims' and to be dependent by the many ways that the government social services controlled the lives and decision-making processes of its poor.

Nashville (continued)

bill would amend TCA Title 49, Chapter 6 to make students who are eligible to receive free or reduced-price lunches automatically also eligible also for a waiver of school

fees for required materials and activities.

Ms. Munson has had the opportunity in this placement to follow the legislative process from beginning to end, beginning with research for the bill, contacting other states and

Tennessee parent groups. She has found sponsors in Senator Thelma Harper and Representative Roscoe Dixon. In preparation for the presentation of her bill before the Senate, Ms. Munson is talking with all Tennessee Senators.

Knoxville (continued)

management unit and to provide field instruction for the students.

Knoxville's Community Development Corporation (KCDC), who are developing a model neighborhood program to prepare selected residents for self-sufficiency and

housing outside of public housing projects, hired Pat Green as project director and as a field instructor to four graduate and undergraduate students placed there. This unit, as well as the DHS unit, give students additional opportunity for exposure to public welfare services.

Dr. Emily Walker, Principal at Beardsley Middle School, appealed to the College for student help to deal with some of the crises the staff and students at the school must deal with daily. (Beardsley serves youth who come from highly disorganized homes where abuse and neglect, crime, violence, substance abuse,

Sue Mitchel-Naage, who is working on dual Master's degrees in Public Administration and Social Work Administration and Planning, was named MSSW Student Social Worker of the Year. Ms. Mitchel-Naage is a full-time student, chair of SWO for Master's students, employed full-time, mother of two, and wife of a graduate student in music.

"With a college education I left powerlessness behind and learned the power of collective action. My primary reason for seeking a Masters in Social Work was to learn how to assist poor people to organize themselves effectively. With this very exciting field placement I am able to place at the disposal of the residents my acquired social work skills in community organizing and development.

"Empowerment of groups has historically been the impetus for the existence of social work. What better way to do this than by engaging in this revolution?"



Michelle Munson

and teen pregnancy are commonplace.) Three first-year masters students are placed there this academic year. They are getting lots of experience in the frustrations of working in a setting that has scarce resources and overwhelming problems. Diane Lewis is the field instructor for the Beardsley unit.

Faculty

Dr. Muammer Cetingok delivered a lecture on "The Use of Computers in Social Work Practice" at a Turkish school of social work during the summer. He also presented a paper entitled "Free the Children: Breaking Poverty's Grip on Memphis, USA" with John R. Wheat, MD at the 25th Congress of the International Association of the Schools of Social Work in Lima, Peru.

Dr. Catherine Faver has been selected as a 1990-91 Fellow of the Social Science Research Institute of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. She has also received a grant from the Southern Regional Education Board for her research project entitled *Sustaining Women's Leadership: an Analysis of Emily Greene Balch*. The grant will enable Dr. Faver to research historical documents in the National Archives in Washington, DC.

Dr. Judith Fiene published "Snobby People and Just Plain Folks: Social Stratification and Rural, Low-Status Appalachian Women" in *Sociological Spectrum*, 10, 527-539, 1990. Data for this article came from her doctoral dissertation on the social reality of rural, low-status Appalachian women. The article deals with the women's behavioral expectations in social exchanges.

Also, Dr. Fiene presented a paper, "Case Management with Rural Families of Developmentally Disabled Children: Interagency Collaboration, co-authored with Patricia Taylor at NASW's Meeting of the Profession, Boston, November, 1990. The presentation was made as part of a master class entitled, "Interagency Collaboration and Case Management: Maximizing Services for Families under PL 99-457."

Dr. Hisashi Hirayama spent two months in Kyoto, Japan during the summer. He taught a summer session for graduate students at Shikoku Gakuin University and also worked with two Japanese colleagues on a book about group work.

Professor Akio Miyazaki, Professor of Social Welfare at Shikoku Gakuin University, Japan, is spending his sabbatical year in the Memphis Branch. His major interests are in the areas of aging, computer usage, and program evaluation.

Dr. Kate Mullins attended the 25th Congress of the International Association of the Schools of Social Work in Lima, Peru this summer. She is now doing a research study to update information on homeless men in Shelby County.

Frank Spicuzza and Maryanne Lynch Cunningham have received word that their proposal to conduct an initial validation study of the Senior Comprehensive Examination in Social work has been funded by the UTK Center for Assessment Research and Development for the period of July 1, 1991 to July 30, 1992.

Also, Dr. Spicuzza's article, "Assessing the Baccalaureate Social Work Learning Experience: UT's Two-Part Examination" was published in *Assessment Update*, Vol. 2, No. 4, Winter, 1990.

Dr. Carl Wilks presented a paper entitled "Drug Abuse and Aids, Our Community at Risk: Choices for Change" at the Southeast Regional conference for the African-american Community in Atlanta, Georgia. He served also as co-chairperson of the Clinical Section of the TCSW spring Conference Program Committee.

The College and the Community

HABIT wins National Program Award

HABIT (Human-Animal Bond in Tennessee), a program sponsored by the College of Social Work and College of Veterinary Medicine, has won the Model Program Award of the Delta Society's 1990 Awards of Excellence. The national award, which includes \$2,500, was given to HABIT for its multifaceted work, which brings animals into hospitals

and other facilities for animal-assisted therapy and visitation programs.

HABIT currently includes 34 programs using 150 medically and behaviorally screened animals and 120 active volunteers in nursing homes and retirement centers, mental health facilities, hospitals, and rehabilitation centers. In 1988,

HABIT volunteers helped convince the Tennessee State Health Facilities Licensing Board to issue the first state waiver allowing animals into a psychiatric hospital. Until that time state regulations banned animals from entering health-care facilities.

For more information about HABIT contact Ben Granger, College of Social Work, Knoxville.

Family Therapy Lunch Seminars Well Attended

The Symposium for the Advancement of Family Therapy (SAFT) Master Tape Lunch Seminars are having record turnouts. Professionals attending these seminars, held at the UT Knoxville Student Center, view and discuss videotapes of master family therapists such as John Gottman, Augustus Napier, and

Frank Pittman. The Napier tape, *Heroism, Men, and Marriage*, was shown three times in order to accommodate the number of persons interested in this topic. (Space limits to 50 persons the number who can participate at each session.) The registration charge is \$10 and preregistration is necessary. For information

about future seminars, call Debbie Woods at 588-6425 (w) or 687-1078 (h).

Evan Imber-Black, whose tape *If Only We Could Cancel Christmas* was shown at the November, 1989 luncheon seminar, will be the presenter at the SAFT Fall Symposium October 21-22, 1991.

New Nashville Library Opens to Alumni, Public

The Nashville Branch Library collection (approximately 16,000 volumes) is housed on the second floor in the new Nashville Branch location at 1720 West End. (Please see story on the new Branch office.) Librarian Lynetta Alexander and her assistant Jennifer Bruer are always glad to be of assistance. The library is currently open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Monday through

Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Friday, and Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The library is open to the public for reading and research. Under University of Tennessee rules, there is a \$50 yearly fee for alumni to check out books, unless a \$100 donation is given to the University of Tennessee, Knoxville annually.

The inventory just finished has in-

cluded that many books are missing. Alumni who know the whereabouts of any of the missing works are requested to please bring them by or mail them to the library. The librarians would also be glad to consider donations of books or journals for addition to the library. Current students would certainly appreciate it! To call for assistance, dial (615) 329-4851.

Nashville Branch Moves; Dr. Bell Named Director

The College officially introduced its new Nashville Branch office to the Middle Tennessee social work community with a reception August 16. State Senator Douglas Henry



Tennessee Senator Douglas Henry

and Dean Eunice Shatz welcomed over 200 social workers from the area as well as College faculty and staff from Knoxville and Memphis.

In addition to a new location, the Nashville Branch has a new Director: in June Dr. William J. Bell took the post as Associate Dean and Director of the Nashville Branch. Dr. Bell has been with the College for over twenty years of his professional career.

The Nashville Branch moved in May from the Tennessee State University campus to the second and third floors of the 1720 West End building, about five blocks from Vanderbilt campus and three blocks west of the Interstate Loop 265.



Nashville faculty and friends
celebrate new Branch location

Because the office was located for sixteen years at the TSU campus, staff and faculty are missing their longstanding friends, as well as the stimulation and convenience of working on a university campus.

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Visiting Professor Takes Tennessee Back to China

What does a Chinese academic take home with him from Tennessee? Information about community development and the development of social services. At least that was what Dr. Zhu Chuanyi took back with him to his native province of Heilongjing, where he is Senior Advisor and Researcher in the Institute of Social Welfare and Social Progress and Director of the Division for American Society in the Institute of American Studies at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.

Dr. Zhu is a frequent visitor to this country and has traveled to a number of schools of social work as he pursues his interests in gerontology and community development.

He came to The University of Tennessee because of his interests in the Tennessee Valley Authority project, its history and development. Dr. Zhu was interested in exploring successful community development activities here, given the similarity of geography and climate between Heilongjing Province and

Tennessee. Geographically, Heilongjing Province is to the Peoples Republic of China as Tennessee is to the United States.

During his stay he visited with officials in the Tennessee Valley Authority, with community agencies such as Big Brothers and Big Sisters, and with faculty and deans of the Colleges of Business and Social Work. He also met with Chinese students studying at The University of Tennessee.

A highlight of his stay was a visit to the Highlander Center in New Market, currently directed by Dr. John Gaventa, who is also on the faculty of the UT Sociology Department. Begun in 1932 and based upon the work of Myles Horton and Don West in developing leadership for democracy in the union movement, it has become known not only in Appalachia but nationally and internationally for community empowerment and influence over local and regional social, economic, and environmental factors.

Dr. Zhu returned to China armed with a video cassette on the Highlander Center's program and a variety of written materials and recorded music. Before leaving he invited the Dean to visit Heilongjing Province to exchange ideas about community service programs and consult on courses and curriculum in social work which could become the base of a beginning degree program at the Heilongjing Academy of Social Science.

Mr. Wang Ya Lin, Director of the Institute of Sociology at the Academy is expected to visit the United States in the spring with several colleagues. Dean Eunice Shatz anticipates that he will visit the College of Social Work to plan definitively for a visit to the People's Republic of China in early fall. "We are excited and challenged by the opportunity to work with our colleagues in China and to participate with them in the development of the social work profession," Dean Shatz said.

College Notes Faculty Deaths

The College sadly notes the death of two current professors and one former professor since the last issue of Stimulus was published. **Carmelo Cocozzelli**, Assistant Professor, died of injuries sustained in an accident on June 18, 1990. **Mary Sites**, who taught from just after World War II until she retired in 1968, died June 30th in St. Paul Minnesota. Most recently, **Carl Wilks**, Associate Professor at the Memphis Branch died suddenly and unexpectedly at home in January, 1991.

A PhD in social work from the Jane Addams School at the University of Illinois in Chicago, **Dr. Cocozzelli** joined the Knoxville faculty in September of 1987 after two years on the faculty of the

School of Social Work at the University of Hawaii.

He brought to the Knoxville faculty important knowledge and competencies, particularly in the areas of alcohol and substance abuse and in statistics and the use of computers in social work, areas in which he had a substantial publication record. At the time of his death, he was developing a study of naturally recovering alcoholics.

His death was a shock both to the faculty and to the many students who had found in him a warm and supportive mentor. His Thanksgiving dinners for doctoral students are examples of the extent to which he cared for his students. On September 25, 1990 faculty,

students, and alumnae honored him by joining in a memorial service led by Father McQuade of the John XXIII Catholic Student Center on the Knoxville Campus.

Ms. Sites died at the age of 93 of a heart attack in St. Paul, Minnesota. She was a professor at the College, where her major area of teaching was in medical social work, from 1946 until her retirement in 1968.

Dr. Wilks came to UT in September, 1977, teaching in the treatment concentration and specializing in children and adolescents.

He was active in many College and University committees, most recently the College Faculty Committee and the Policy and Advisory Council. He monitored and allocated funds for the Whitney Young scholarship fund and was

PhD Students Choose UT for College's Research

The strong research orientation of the College's doctoral program is a common denominator among students choosing UT for their PhD studies. The research training is designed to prepare students accepted for academic and research positions following graduation. All five of this year's new students accepted for Fall 1990 list research as their reason for coming.

Otherwise, new students represent a cross-section of backgrounds, interests, and geographic homes. Myung-Shin Lee is from Korea and received her MSW from the University of Southern Mississippi. Tanya Jo Ramsey grew up in Wyoming and received her MSSW from UT Memphis. Joe Takeda is from Japan and received his MSW from Kwansei Gakuin University. Phillip Ward moved here from Iowa but grew up in Alabama, receiving his MSW from the University of Alabama. And Larry W. Williams is

from Michigan and received his MSW from the University of Georgia.

Many of the 26 students currently enrolled the College's PhD program are involved in research already. For example, four doctoral students have recently completed work on a project funded by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) Task Force on Social Work Research to systematically assess the research methodologies used by social workers in all articles published over a twelve-year period in various social work journals.

Another six doctoral students are participating as research assistants in the second year of a three-year project, also funded by NIMH, to examine the coordination of services to children who are in the custody of the state of Tennessee.

Of those currently enrolled in the PhD program, 17 have completed their comprehensive examinations

and are working on their dissertations. Two students defended their dissertations in 1990, making a total of six graduates of this young program. All but one of the graduates have assumed faculty positions in graduate social work programs.

The committee received 21 applications for the PhD program for Fall 1990, the highest number received to date. Although applications to the program continue to rise, the Admissions committee has continued to admit only 5 students to the program each year.

The Group for the Advancement of Doctoral Education reports that there were four times as many faculty positions available for social work PhD graduates as there were graduates last year. This means that employment prospects for the type of graduates produced by the UT Social Work doctoral program continues to be excellent.

chairperson of the board of the Lowenstein House Psychosocial Rehabilitation Program.

He was very active in the National Association for Social Workers chairing the state and national Committees on Inquiry. He also advised the National Association of Black Social Workers student organization.

"He was a very committed and busy person," said Dr. Nellie Tate, Memphis Branch Director. Memphis faculty and staff participated as honorary pallbearers at the Memphis memorial service.

"He was always available for students, even though he wasn't advisor for all the students. Many students sought him out because he always had time to listen."

Joyce Harris is New Nashville Field Coordinator

Joyce N. Harris, MSSW, became the branch field coordinator in July, accepting a full-time position with the College. Ms. Harris is a native of Nashville, a graduate from Tennessee State University, and received her MSSW from the Nashville Branch of the College. Prior to joining the faculty, she served as program manager of adoption, managing the state-wide adoption program for the Tennessee Department of Human Services.

Ms. Harris has had 16 years of social work experience in treatment and administration. Her expertise is in child welfare, with adoption as a specialty. Ms. Harris serves as a volunteer for several social service agencies in the Nashville Community.

(Please see page 1 story on field practice in all three branches.)

SWORPS Training/Research Expands to Reach more Tennesseans

The Office of Research and Public Service (SWORPS) continues to expand the scope of its service to the people of Tennessee through its training and research efforts.

In July, for example, SWORPS trained staff of the Jobs Training Partnership Act (JTPA) Service Delivery Area Four in interpersonal helping skills and cultural influences, particularly the effect of rural culture on interactions with clients who are working toward self-sufficiency under the Family Support Act of 1988. SWORPS staff also presented a one-day training session about racial and cultural sensitivity for staff of the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth.

In support of Tennessee's Child Protective Investigative Teams, SWORPS held seminars this fall on how to conduct child sexual abuse investigations; the legalities of child sexual abuse; and how the various social services, mental health, legal, and criminal investigations staff share responsibility for investigating reports of child abuse.

The more than five hundred professionals from these fields who attended training received a resource manual containing guidelines, protocols, and legal mandates as well as research articles about interviewing and investigation techniques.

Recent SWORPS research includes evaluation of the Tennessee Home Ties Program. This project, which involves the TDHS, the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation (TDMHR), and the Tennessee Department of Corrections (TDOC), is supported in part by the Edna McConnell Clark Foundation, with funding matched by the State of Tennessee.

The goal of the program is to keep families intact by using intensive, home-based therapy to prevent removal of children from their homes. The evaluation focuses on both the process of service delivery and the outcomes of intervention in these families.

The Office continues to supply certification training for new TDHS social counselors and ongoing training for existing workers. In addition SWORPS developed a nine-day, state-wide training institute for the TDMHR in cooperation with the National Mental Health Consumer Self-Help Clearing House. The curriculum focused on how to develop and operate client support groups; peer companionship; and expanded services, such as outreach programs, drop-in centers, consumer-run businesses, and client employment in case management services.

For foster parents, the Office assists in delivering the Model Approach to Partnerships in Parenting training program to potential foster and adoptive families and offers state-wide miniconferences for foster parents each spring and fall.

Gift House Sold to Create Scholarship

Thanks to the gift of John and Louise Harrison, the College is able to offer a new scholarship. The University recently sold for \$50,000 the property they donated to the College. These funds will go into the John and Louise Harrison Social Work Endowment, which produces income for social work scholarships.

BSSW Reaccreditation Underway

The College of Social Work's BSSW degree program is in the process of undergoing reaccreditation by the Council on Social Work Education, Commission on Accreditation. The Program Committee, consisting of core faculty, field instructors, and students, is completing the self-study

materials this academic year, with a site-team visit scheduled for Spring, 1992. The Committee thanks alumni who completed and returned the alumni survey. This information will be very helpful in determining where BSSW graduates are employed, what their salary levels are, what their evaluation of the

curriculum is, and ways they suggest to improve it.

During the past several years the program has grown to about 150 students, freshmen through seniors. The College is pleased with the quality of its students, their interest in professional social work careers, and the job market for graduates, which continues to be very strong.

Nashville branch move (continued)

Folks at the new location are gradually creating an "academic atmosphere" for students and faculty alike. Having the library within the new location is an important contributor to that atmosphere--it's an impressive collection whose access is more convenient than ever. All faculty and alumni are invited to drop in for a visit. (Please see related story on library hours.)

The new branch address is UTCSW, Nashville Branch, 1720 West End Avenue, Suite 230, Nashville, TN 37203.

SWORPS staff have also moved their offices to the West End Avenue location. SWORPS receives mail at the same address, Suite 330.

The telephone numbers remain the same: Nashville Branch, (615) 329-1212; SWORPS, (615) 327-0810 (social services training) and 327-0822 (foster and adoptive parent training).

Resignations and Retirements

Nina Lunn left the Nashville Branch at the end of the 1989-90 academic year to become a full-time clinical practitioner at the Knoxville Psychiatric Group in Knoxville after six years as the Nashville field coordinator.

Dr. Robert Rowen retired from the College of social Work August 31, 1990 after 24 years of service.

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