6-1-2002

Stimulus, Spring/Summer 2002

UT College of Social Work

Follow this and additional works at: http://trace.tennessee.edu/utk_socstim

Recommended Citation

http://trace.tennessee.edu/utk_socstim/44

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the Social Work Office of Research & Public Service (SWORPS) at Trace: Tennessee Research and Creative Exchange. It has been accepted for inclusion in Stimulus Alumni Newsletter by an authorized administrator of Trace: Tennessee Research and Creative Exchange. For more information, please contact trace@utk.edu.
Dr. Charles Glisson Appointed University Distinguished Research Professor

by Kate Miller

On September 20, 2001, Dr. Charles Glisson received one of the University of Tennessee’s highest awards when he was formally appointed a University Distinguished Research Professor. This title is awarded to candidates at the rank of professor who have displayed an exceptional record of teaching, research, creativity, and/or service.

Over two decades ago, Dr. Glisson began his work with one of the first studies to examine the interaction between human service technologies and the social context of the organizations in which they are implemented. Since then, he has studied a variety of service system characteristics, service quality, and service outcomes of children’s mental health services. His organizational research has continued to his current NIMH funded study, Technology and Structure in Children’s Service Systems.

Dr. Glisson has an outstanding record of achievement both at UT and in the social work research community. He is currently a Professor at the University of Tennessee College of Social Work and Director of the Children’s Mental Health Services Research Center (CMHSRC). He has shown a tremendous commitment to both research and education during his career in the field of social work, resulting in numerous honors, awards, appointments, and publications.

In addition to the University Distinguished Research Professor appointment, Dr. Glisson has received the 2000 Outstanding Research Award from the National Society for Social Work and Research and the Alexander Award for Outstanding Teaching and Research from UT. He has been a member of and served as an officer for numerous national, state, and university committees. Some of these include Group for the Advancement of Doctoral Education (GADE), Society for Social Work and Research, University of Tennessee Research Corporation (Board of Directors), and the Technical Advisory Committee of the Tennessee Commission on Youth and Children. He has performed editorial review for journals such as The Journal of Applied Behavioral Science, Administrative Science Quarterly, and Children and Youth Services Review. His research was referenced in the 2000 U.S. Surgeon General’s report on children’s mental health and two recent NIMH publications, Translating Behavioral Science into Action (NIH, 2000-4699) and Bridging Science and Service (NIH, 1999-4353), as a promising new direction in effectiveness and dissemination studies.

Since founding the CMHSRC 15 years ago, Dr. Glisson has directed interdisciplinary, NIMH-funded research continuously. Currently, the CMHSRC has a staff of 20 who implement research with faculty from medicine, clinical psychology, industrial organizational psychology, economics, child and family studies, statistics, and social work. The research conducted by the CMHSRC has focused on children at risk...
Gisson Named University Distinguished Research Professor

for behavioral and mental health problems, and most of the research has targeted services provided by child welfare and juvenile justice systems. He continuously strives to further the mission of CMHSRC which “seeks to help children and society by developing a body of knowledge about children who are at risk, the factors which place them at risk, the quality of the services being provided to them, and the long-term outcomes.” According to Dr. Gisson, “As we enter the new millennium and our society becomes more and more complex, the demands on both children and parents will continue to increase.”

Dr. Loren W. Crabtree, Vice President and Provost of UT, says that he is “both extremely proud of Dr. Gisson’s accomplishments and pleased that he has chosen to conduct his professional work at the University of Tennessee. Since joining the UT staff, Dr. Gisson has contributed to the university as an outstanding educator, mentor, and researcher.”

Dean Karen Sowers states, “Dr. Gisson’s appointment as University Distinguished Research Professor is a great honor not only for Charles but for the College as well. There are only two persons (of which Charles is one) within the entire university who have received this prestigious honor. Charles is an outstanding researcher who has been recognized in the past for his scientific excellence by the Society for Social Work and through the University as a Jefferson Prize winner. His research has moved our profession forward in very meaningful ways and has improved the quality of life for children and families at risk.”

Kate Miller is a publications specialist with the College of Social Work Office of Research and Public Service and is the editor of Stimulus.

Each year the College of Social Work is the recipient of gifts from alumni and friends that make a difference in what the College is able to accomplish. Besides providing significant future support for the College, these gifts can have favorable tax consequences for the donors, since no matter what your income, if you itemize, you can almost always lower your income taxes through charitable giving. This is true whether you contribute annually or through a planned gift. See the article on page 7 for more information.

Betty Lynn Hendrickson, a long-time social worker for the Anderson County office of the Department of Human Services (DHS), always had visible love and compassion for others and was very dedicated to her work. For decades, Hendrickson’s mother was director of the Anderson County Red Cross, and Hendrickson wanted to carry on the family tradition of social work. She attended Sullins College and graduated from the University of Tennessee in 1953 with a BA in sociology.

Hendrickson began her career as a caseworker with the Anderson County DHS in 1957 and retired as a supervisor after 37 years of social services. Throughout her life she worked to improve the circumstances of needy individuals and always offered encouragement and motivation to her fellow social workers.

Hendrickson’s caring and compassion went beyond her job at DHS. In 1961, she took over the family business, Hendrickson’s Feed Store, a Clinton landmark, and owned and operated it until it closed in 1995. The store carried an array of farming merchandise and was a regular gathering and shopping place for the local farmers and their families. Along with a warm welcome, Hendrickson always offered free advice and instructions with the merchandise she sold.

To help others when times were hard, Hendrickson offered store credit to all her customers. Her kindness allowed her business to grow and resulted in many friendships.

Sadly, Hendrickson passed away in 1996, but her dedication to social work continues through a $300,000 endowment she left to the UT College of Social Work. The interest from the endowment will help support the mission of the College.

Dean Karen Sowers stated, “Ms. Hendrickson was a compassionate person who devoted her life to helping others less fortunate. This endowment will allow her caring and concern for others to continue to benefit others.”

Kathy Perkey is the editorial assistant for Stimulus.
It was 1942 when the School of Social Work first opened its doors. Men were going off to World War II and women were taking jobs as never before. There were severe shortages of social work and social agency staff.

The expanded need for social workers had begun during the Great Depression of the '30s with the growth of social security services and public and private welfare agencies. The need increased with the onset of the war.

The American people were reorganizing themselves to pull together in a great common effort. So, it's not surprising that the (then) Nashville School of Social Work began just that way—the product of many persons pulling together to set up a School that was an administrative and academic unit of Vanderbilt, housed its students in Peabody College dorms, and taught in Scarritt classrooms. By 1944, the School had been accredited by the American Association of Schools of Social Work. Specializations in medical social work, psychiatric social work, and social group work were hallmarks of the curriculum. As early as 1946, the school had students from 20 states and the District of Columbia.

In 1950, over 114 students were enrolled, and field placement sites had been expanded to accommodate the growing numbers of students. On July 1, 1951, the School officially became The University of Tennessee School of Social Work, and in the same year, the M emphis Branch of The University of Tennessee School of Social Work was opened to students. Not only were there many agencies in M emphis ready to accept field placements, but the University Medical School offered both housing for the program and faculty to teach medical social work. The first class of the M emphis Branch started their year with a fall quarter in N ashville, then moved to M emphis to finish their year's study. In addition, part-time classes were available in M emphis.

Classrooms were housed at the M emphis Law School and at the Goodwyn Institute, where branch offices were located. By 1952, the School of Social Work was offering courses in N ashville, K noxville, and M emphis with over 150 M SSW students.

The decade of the 60s began with serious budget difficulties for the State of T ennessee, and as a direct result, the M emphis Branch of the School of Social Work was closed for five years, from 1960 to 1965. When it reopened in 1965, the School went home again to the Administration Building on the University of T ennessee Medical School campus. Enrollment continued to grow on all three campuses.

With the advent of the 70s, more faculty were hired and enrollment grew. An ad hoc doctoral committee was charged in 1974 with exploring the feasibility of a doctoral program in social work. The expansiveness of the 60s—in enrollment, locations, focus of practice—became the consolidation and formalization of the 80s. Both the Ph.D. and BSSW degrees became institutional realities during the 80s. The doctoral program in social work was approved by the T ennessee Higher Education Commission in 1982 and opened for its first fall quarter in 1983. The bachelor's degree was first awarded in 1980 under Human Services in the College of Liberal Arts. Accredited in 1982, the baccalaureate program became a Bachelor of Science in Social Work under the College in 1985.

The M emphis Branch moved in the summer of 1983 to the main campus of the University of Tennessee in 1982, the baccalaureate program became a Bachelor of Science in Social Work under the College in 1985.

In academic year 1985–86 the status of the social work program was elevated from that of "school" status to a full-fledged College, offering three degrees: the BSSW, M SSW and Ph.D. degrees. As a College offering three degrees, the educational mission broadened and became more complex.

Academic degree programs were offered across the state and the College's Social Work O ffice of Research and Public Service (SW ORPS) engaged in cutting-edge professional continuing education, training, and consultation throughout the state of T ennessee.

By the beginning of the 90s, applications to the BSSW, M SSW, and Ph.D. programs were far greater in number than the College could accommodate. Graduates of the Ph.D. program were assuming faculty positions at prestigious institutions, and the College's Children's Mental Health Services Research Center was born through initial funding from the National Institute of M ental Health.

In the year 2002, the College of Social Work proudly celebrates its 60th anniversary. Over the last 60 years, the College has reached some important milestones. The College of Social Work is the highest ranked social work program in the state of T ennessee. The University of T ennessee, College of Social Work Education for the full eight year accreditation cycle, the College is well poised to look forward to the next 60 years. That vision for the future calls us to a creative commitment to the values of social justice, enhanced quality of life, and productive activity, which are respected in environments made more human by those who inhabit them.

---

K. M. Powers
An evening of congenial good fun describes the First Annual College of Social Work Homecoming Gala, which was held on Friday, November 9, 2001. This event served as the kick-off for the College’s 60th Anniversary celebrations. The event that took place at Rothchild’s Baron’s Place was an unqualified success, beginning with quick bidding for items offered at the Silent Auction and continuing through the late-night dancing with alumni who waved sparkling fiber-flashlights while doing the Cha Cha Slide.

Characterized by personal reunions and opportunities to renew individual friendships, the Gala also provided the perfect occasion to recognize several individuals for service to community and to the College. Dean Karen Sowers took obvious pleasure in announcing this year’s honorees. John Turner was presented the Heart of Social Work Award. The award is given to a non-social worker, friend of the College who has made a significant contribution to the field of Social Work and whose spirit shows a full understanding of the principles and heart that underlie the profession. Betty M. Robinson received the Outstanding Alumni Award. The award is given to the Alumnus who has made a significant contribution to the College over the past year.

This year a record number of 23 initiates were inducted into the local chapter of Phi Alpha. Phi Alpha is a national society honoring undergraduate and graduate students in social work who have achieved high academic standing both in their overall collegiate coursework and in their required studies in the field of social services. In a “Lighting of Candles” ceremony, active Phi Alpha members lit the candles of the initiates and presented them with the Phi Alpha Honor Society ribbon.

A silent auction went on throughout the evening, with alumni and friends bidding back and forth for items donated by many community businesses. Approximately $800.00 was raised from the silent auction. According to Frank Spicuzza, “This money will be donated by the Baccalaureate Student Social Work Organization at the Hooding and Recognition Ceremony in May. These funds will go toward endowing the Social Work Undergraduate Scholarship.”

Each of the gala attendees went home with souvenirs to remind them of the occasion and to announce the official start of the 60th Anniversary year for the College of Social Work of the University of Tennessee. Gifts included beautiful 60th anniversary timepieces and mugs.

Dean Sowers is enthusiastic about encouraging affairs that bring together the College’s best of the past with the College’s best of the present to seek creative ideas to stimulate
Don’t Miss the 2002 Gala!

Want to attend this event this year? Then be sure to mark your calendars for Friday, November 8, 2002—the Second Annual College of Social Work Homecoming Gala!!

Also, watch your mailbox for the Fall Professional Continuing Education Brochure, which will feature these exciting workshops:

✓✓✓✓✓ How to Start and Care for a Private Practice
✓✓✓✓✓ How to Write Self-Help Books and Articles
✓✓✓✓✓ Finer Points of Public Speaking
✓✓✓✓✓ Treating Eating Disorders
✓✓✓✓✓ Facing and Embracing Fear
✓✓✓✓✓ Key Elements of Successful Grant Writing
✓✓✓✓✓ Ethics in Social Work Practice
✓✓✓✓✓ Meditation in Clinical Practice

For more information about these and other workshops, call (865) 974-6016 or view our online catalog by clicking on “Professional Continuing Education” at http://sworps.utk.edu

Social Work students (l. to r.) Christy Hawkins, Jessica Harris, Aubrey Cribs, Julie Edwards, Ashley Clemons, and Suzanne Beal participate in the Phi Alpha Honor Society Initiation.

growth for the future. This event exemplifies the thinking and the energy that goes into making that kind of progress happen.” She also says, “When I interviewed for the position of Dean at the College, alums continually noted a desire to have opportunities to gather in fellowship with their fellow alums and former faculty. The gala was one way that we could provide our alums a chance to reconnect with the College in a fun and meaningful way.”

Homecoming 2001 at the University of Tennessee drew crowds of alumni to the city of Knoxville. Events were scheduled throughout the city over the course of the weekend, but none, save of course, the Vol Homecoming game on Saturday afternoon, outshone that of the College of Social Work, either in attendance or outright goodtime spirit. Special thanks to corporate sponsors, Centerstone Community Mental Health Center, Inc., TIS, and TVA, and to other generous donors including The Mental Health Association of Greater Knoxville, Elizabeth S. McColl, Betty M. Robinson, Mary Catherine Willard, LeeAnn Furrow-Tolstma, Rebecca Henderson, Douglas Henry, and Nevin C. Trammell.

Betsy DeGeorge is the manager of publications for the College of Social Work Office of Research and Public Service.

Dean Sowers (l.) presented Betty Robinson (MSSW ’90) with the Outstanding Alumni Award at the 2001 Gala.

Bill Parsons (l.) and his wife Terri (MSSW ’96) chat with Ben Harrington, the executive director of the Greater Knoxville Mental Health Association.

Homecoming 2001 at the University of Tennessee drew crowds of alumni to the city of Knoxville. Events were scheduled throughout the city over the course of the weekend, but none, save of course, the Vol Homecoming game on Saturday afternoon, outshone that of the College of Social Work, either in attendance or outright goodtime spirit. Special thanks to corporate sponsors, Centerstone Community Mental Health Center, Inc., TIS, and TVA, and to other generous donors including The Mental Health Association of Greater Knoxville, Elizabeth S. McColl, Betty M. Robinson, Mary Catherine Willard, LeeAnn Furrow-Tolstma, Rebecca Henderson, Douglas Henry, and Nevin C. Trammell.

Betsy DeGeorge is the manager of publications for the College of Social Work Office of Research and Public Service.
Immediately following the tragic events of September 11, the Phi Alpha Honor Society Epsilon Iota Chapter sought effective ways to help, express concern, and show solidarity with all the terrorist victims in New York. In a short time, the Phi Alpha members organized a donation drive in conjunction with the Salvation Army in Knoxville. Several members met early on Saturday, September 15, 2001, and set up to receive donations on the lawn of Henson Hall. The donation drive was successful in securing a truckload’s worth (literally, not the expression) of goods, which were transported to the Salvation Army for delivery to New York later that same day. Many thanks to all who participated.

- Chris Hargrove
Charitable Giving Benefits Donors as Well as the College

By Donna Bletner and Kathy Perkey

A tax-deductible gift to the University of Tennessee for the College of Social Work non-endowed enrichment account is a familiar way of contributing to the College. A monetary donation to this account can easily be made by simply filling out the postage-paid donation card included in this newsletter. Planned giving is less familiar to most of us, but it can take many forms and can have a greater impact on both the donor and recipient. The following are summaries of different planned-giving vehicles.

Bequests
A bequest, through a provision in your will, is the simplest way to make a deferred gift. It can be for a specific amount or for the remainder of your estate after other distributions are made, and it can be directed toward general purposes (e.g., undergraduate scholarship fund). The value of the gift is excluded from your estate for tax purposes.

Qualified Retirement Accounts
Retirement accounts are particularly suited to charitable contributions. Such accounts are often subject to income taxes and estate taxes at a combined rate that could be as much as 75% or higher on large, taxable estates, leaving very little for heirs.
Generally, the undistributed balance of a qualified retirement plan is fully included in your gross estate for estate tax purposes. Also, beneficiaries are subject to income tax on the distribution in the form of “income in respect of a decedent.” Only a surviving spouse has the option of rolling over plan assets. Many of these taxes may be avoided or reduced by using the planned assets for charitable giving.

Real Estate
A gift of real estate also may have significant tax advantages. Real estate may have appreciated so much over the years that its sale would mean a sizable capital gains tax. By making a gift of the property, you would avoid the capital gains tax and receive a charitable deduction for the full, fair market of the property. It is also possible to make a gift of your home, farm, or vacation home and continue to use it for your lifetime, while receiving a current income tax deduction.

Life Insurance
A gift of life insurance can provide a significant charitable deduction. You could purchase a new policy or donate a policy that you currently own but no longer need. To receive a deduction, designate the University as both the owner and beneficiary of the policy. Generally, for gifts of policies on which premiums remain to be paid, the income tax deduction is slightly above cash surrender value or the policy’s cost basis, whichever is less. For gifts of fully paid policies, the income tax deduction is generally the replacement cost or the cost basis, whichever is less. The full, face value of the policy is removed from your taxable estate, reducing estate taxes.

Charitable Remainder Trusts
A charitable remainder trust is a gift plan defined by federal tax law that allows you to provide income to yourself or others for life, while making a generous gift to the College of Social Work. As a trust donor, you would irrevocably transfer assets, usually cash or securities, to the University (or a bank trust department, if you prefer). During the trust’s term, the University would invest the assets. Each year we would then distribute income to you. For a charitable remainder unitrust, the income would be fixed percentage of the unitrust’s value, as revalued annually. For a charitable remainder annuity trust, the income is a fixed dollar amount, based on a percentage of the trust’s initial value. This offers a good way to provide income for retirement. If you fund a trust with stock now paying you low dividends, a charitable remainder trust may actually increase your income.

The 2001 Tax Act (officially called The Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001) provides for a myriad of tax relief measures. Some are immediate while many are phased-in over the next ten years. You should consult your accountant or tax advisor to find out how you can make good use of the income tax charitable deduction under this tax while providing meaningful support for the College of Social Work. The Development Office would be pleased to work with you and your own financial and legal advisors to accomplish your financial and philanthropic goals.

Donna W. Bletner is the Development Director for the College of Social Work. If you have questions, please call or write her at A305 Claxton Complex, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996-3400, (865) 974-3994.

Kathy Perkey is the editorial assistant for the Social Work Office of Research and Public Service.

Remember to fill out the enclosed donation card to make a monetary donation to the College of Social Work non-endowed enrichment account!
The College of Social Work would like to extend a warm welcome to the following new faculty members:

**Brian Bride** joined the College of Social Work's Nashville campus as Assistant Professor and teaches foundation and clinical concentration courses. He serves on the Minority Affairs Committee as the Nashville Chair, is faculty advisor to the Master's Social Work Organization for the campus, and is the faculty liaison with field practicum sites. Before joining UT-Nashville he worked as an Instructor for the University of Georgia School of Social Work, while also completing his doctoral studies. He also worked for St. Jude’s Recovery Center, Inc. in Atlanta where he was responsible for individual and group therapy, clinical supervision, program development, management, and evaluation.

Bride holds a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from the University of Florida, a Master's in Social Work from Florida State University, and a Ph.D. in Social Work from the University of Georgia. His professional accomplishments include receiving an Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award from the University of Georgia, publishing articles on substance abuse treatment and children's mental health, and co-editing the book Death and Trauma: The Traumatology of Grieving. Bride's research interests are substance abuse treatment, traumatic stress, and measurement.

**Michael Sullivan** joined the College's Memphis campus as Assistant Professor and teaches foundation and practice courses. His classes include Practice I and Human Behavior in the Social Environment II. Prior to joining UT, he coordinated a program designed to assist welfare recipients with supportive services while they obtained a marketable 2-year degree, job-readiness training, and employment assistance after graduation. He worked in the social work field for 15 years before receiving his Ph.D. His career includes administrative positions and direct service positions such as emergency services, public health, and facilitating clinical groups.

Sullivan holds a Master's in Social Work from ETSU, a Master's of Science in Social Work from UT-Knoxville, and is currently a Certified Master Social Worker. In 2001, she was nominated for the ETSU Distinguished Staff Award, and in 1997, she received the ETSU Family Physicians of Kingsport Outstanding Staff Member award. In addition to field education, Bowers-Mitchell has a great interest in child care and child abuse studies. She is very excited about the College's M SSW Field Education Program and welcomes the opportunity to talk with any interested students.

**Drema Bowers-Mitchell** joined the UT College of Social Work's Knoxville faculty in August 2001 as the Coordinator of Field Services for the M SSW Program in Knoxville. She is responsible for the Master's field education. Her job duties include developing field practice settings, matching students with appropriate field practice settings, coordinating field consultation visits between the College and agencies, providing training for field instructors, evaluating field settings and field instructors, developing field education policies and procedures with faculty, and other relevant academic duties (including teaching and committee assignments). Before joining UT she was a Medical Social Worker/Clinical Instructor with the James H. Quillen College of Medicine at East Tennessee State University (ETSU). While at ETSU, she helped create the Child Advocacy Team (C.A.T.), which was designed to teach resident physicians how to recognize, report, and treat victims of child abuse.

Bowers-Mitchell holds a Bachelor's degree in Social Work from ETSU, a Master's of Science in Social Work from UT-Knoxville, and is currently a Certified Master Social Worker. In 2001, she was nominated for the ETSU Distinguished Staff Award, and in 1997, she received the ETSU Family Physicians of Kingsport Outstanding Staff Member award. In addition to field education, Bowers-Mitchell has a great interest in child care and child abuse studies. She is very excited about the College's M SSW Field Education Program and welcomes the opportunity to talk with any interested students.

**–Kathy Perkey**
A major highlight of the Tennessee Conference 2002 was a reception at the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame. The event was held Friday, February 8th and provided all attendees the opportunity to enjoy food and drink, network, and attend an inspirational tour of the facility. Betty Robinson, MSSW '90 (r.), who is a member of the CSW Board of Visitors, joined faculty members Colleen Galambos (holding cup) and Theora Evans (l.) at the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame reception at the Tennessee Conference.

Social Workers Gather for Tennessee Conference 2002

The Tennessee Conference 2002: Designing a New Curriculum for Social Work Education, was held at the Hyatt Regency in Knoxville on February 8–10, 2002. The conference was hosted by the University of Tennessee College of Social Work, and welcomed groups of educators from across the United States, France, and Canada, who came together to design a new curriculum for social work education with the goal of bridging practice and education. This was furthered through debating issues and brainstorming ideas. Workgroup panel presentations and informative sessions facilitated this flow of ideas. Topics included Social Policy Curriculum in a Global Context, Evidence-based Social Work: A Professional Educational Model for the 21st Century, and A New Curriculum for Social Work Education.

Conference Highlights 60th Anniversary Celebration

Alumni, faculty, students, and staff recently had the opportunity to attend two statewide conferences that featured receptions for the 60th Anniversary of the University of Tennessee College of Social Work. The two conferences were the Council on Social Work Education’s (CSWE) Annual Program Meeting held February 24–27, 2002, at the Opryland Hotel in Nashville and the Annual Tennessee Conference on Social Welfare (TCSW) held at the Loews Vanderbilt Hotel in Nashville on March 25–27, 2002.

At the CSWE conference, alumni, faculty, staff, and students attended a reception on Tuesday, February 26th. The event included live music, food, and drinks. The reception at the TCSW conference on Monday, March 25th served as the main 60th anniversary celebration for UT College of Social Work alumni. Alumni, faculty, staff, and students enjoyed drinks, hors d’oeurves, live music, and the opportunity to meet and greet friends both old and new.

At both receptions, all attendees had the opportunity to preview the College of Social Work 60th Anniversary Memorial Quilt. The quilt was created by alumni, faculty, staff, and students who donated money and created quilt squares as individuals or in groups. The themes of the quilt squares were 60 years of professional social work, what individuals/groups do as professional social workers in the State of Tennessee, and/or fond memories of the College.

And remember, the final event celebrating the 60th Anniversary of the University of Tennessee College of Social Work will be the Second Annual College of Social Work Homecoming Gala to be held on Friday, November 8, 2002.

–Nancy Meyer-Adams and Kate Miller
BSSW Students Raise Funds through Knoxville’s CANstruction 2001 Project

by Gina Costello and Frank Spicuzza

In November of 2001, the Bachelor of Science and Social Work (BSSW) student organization participated in a fund raising event for the Knoxville Second Harvest Food Bank. The students used ingenuity and clever design to create a fantastic sculpture made entirely of cans. CANstruction Inc. sponsored this community project and others like it across the nation.

CANstruction is a national community service project that inspires creativity and competition among designers and volunteers while providing food for thousands of hungry people. Through the volunteer efforts of the Society of Design Administration, local community service groups construct sculptures made of canned goods that are later donated to local food banks.

The structure, which included a “Power T” and a pair of opened hands cradling the State of Tennessee, was named “UT College of Social Work: A Helping Hand Across the State.”

According to social work senior Sandy Roof, even with a fundamental design plan there was a lot of trial and error during the actual construction. The helping hands proved to be the most difficult feature of the structure. Roof said, “It was a matter of us building up the cans and then looking at our own hands to see if we needed to add another layer.”

Many other local service organizations participated in the CANstruction event in Knoxville. Over 16,000 pounds of food were contributed to Second Harvest as a result of the CANstruction event. By participating in CANstruction, BSSW students addressed the dietary needs of many members of our community as well as enhanced their problem solving, leadership, and team-building skills.

Gina Costello is the production coordinator for the Social Work Office of Research and Public Service. Frank Spicuzza is a Professor and the director of the CSW Undergraduate program.
Announcing the Management and Community Post Master's Certificate Program

This certificate program is designed for M.S.S.W. graduates who focused on a degree with a clinical concentration. The program is designed so that participants can attend management and community practice classes that are already scheduled. The program requires 15 hours of coursework including three required courses and two electives from the management and community practice curriculum.

If you are interested in applying for admission to the Post Master’s Certificate Program in Management and Community Practice, contact Nancy Meyer-Adams at (865) 974-6498 or nmeyerad@utk.edu for more information.

Two CSW Doctoral Candidates Awarded Minority Fellowships

Edgar Tyson received a Minority Doctoral Fellowship Award in Clinical Training for the 2001-2002 academic year. The award is sponsored by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) through the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). The fellowship was established for doctoral students preparing for leadership roles in the mental health and substance abuse field.

Through this grant, Edgar will be able to further his doctoral research on the early identification of and intervention with anti-social youth. Edgar’s goal is to be a leader in clinical research.

Thomas Alex Washington received a 2001-2002 Underrepresented Minority Research Fellowship (UMRFP) award on June 1, 2001. The award is provided by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) Research on AIDS Office through the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). This CSWE fellowship prepares doctoral students to be among the next generation of NIMH funded mental health researchers, while NIMH gives minority doctoral students the opportunity to focus on recognized mental health issues.

Support from NIMH’s Research on AIDS Office is allowing Alex to further his AIDS-focused research in conjunction with his dissertation, Factors Associated with HIV Testing for Women During Prenatal Care.
The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, religion, national origin, age, disability or veteran status in provision of educational programs and services or employment opportunities and benefits. This policy extends to both employment by and admission to the University. The University does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex or disability in the education programs and activities pursuant to the requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990. Inquiries and charges of violation concerning Title VI, Title IX, Section 504, ADA or the Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA) or any of the other above-referenced policies should be directed to the Office of Equity and Diversity, 1840 Melrose Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37996, telephone (865) 974-2498 (TTY available). Requests for accommodation of a disability should be directed to the ADA Coordinator at the Office of Human Resources Management, 600 Henley Street, Knoxville, TN 37996-4125.