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Editorial

Since I began teaching at the UBC School of Social Work 27 years ago, the world has changed and yet, in many ways, it has not. The impact of globalization has been dramatic, but oppression and poverty continue to be characteristic of societies everywhere. So, the world has not changed in such a way that the practice of social work has become irrelevant. Indeed, one might argue that the challenges for social work have become even wider and more profound. Thus, as I reflect on the past, and consider the present and the future, it is clear that every era is a time for social work –and by this I mean a social work practice that is founded on values such as the dignity and worth of every human being, a belief in people and their capacities, treating people with respect, social justice, human rights, caring, compassion, and, of course, community. It is also clear to me that no matter how technologically advanced we become, the measure of our progress as a society will always be the extent to which we excel at our humanity.

A major challenge for a School of Social Work and Family Studies, therefore, is to place the values of social work at the centre of its mission, and to use these values as reference points in the following areas:

The professional education of students. As a School, I believe we have an excellent definition of social work. We need to stand by this definition and become credible in how it is expressed in the curriculum and in the professional education of students. This applies not only to the curriculum that is described in course outlines, but also to the curriculum that is imparted in the way we treat and relate to students. For me, the most effective way to teach social work is to practice it in the act of teaching itself, as well as in the day-to-day interaction with students in and outside the classroom.



The task of institutional change. We need to use our location within the university not for status and academic privilege but to challenge the institutional structures and processes that oppress, and transform or eliminate them. We must address the extent to which individualism and competition, instead of collegiality and cooperation, are emphasized and rewarded. We must also develop and support initiatives where students, staff and faculty work together to create an environment that builds community.

Relating to the external community. We must use our location at the university to truly be, as we claim, “the bridge to the community”. Indeed, we need to be grounded in the community. The community serves as our definitive instructor since it is the laboratory for our learning, our service, and the search for new ideas.

Finally, if we modelled social work practice as we carry out our role and responsibilities as faculty and as social work practitioners, perhaps students would not have to ask the perennial question: “What is social work?” They would experience and know it in the process of their education and life at the School.

Roopchand Seebaran has taught at UBC since 1975 and is the Coordinator of the Distance Education MSW program. He has inspired many students throughout the years. Roop retires in July of this year; he will be missed.

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The important message from the School is that the process of change, which was initiated by the merger in 1999 and the publication of the School's Academic Plan continues apace. Evidence for this lies in the reports of faculty, staff, students and alumni in this second edition of *The Bridge*. There is much to recognize in the many accomplishments and commitments to chart a new path



The academic year got off to an excellent start with Celebration 2000 jointly organised by the Alumni Association and the School. This event commemorated Social Work's 70th Anniversary and Family Studies 25th Anniversary at UBC and was held to celebrate the merger and new beginnings. It brought together over seventy alumni, faculty, staff, students and we were particularly honoured by the presence of **Dr Martha Piper**, UBC President who addressed the conference, and spoke strongly of her support for the School and its educational, research and community mandate.

In terms of looking to the future I would like to recognize the quality and abilities of our students. Eight of the 21 current Family Studies graduate students presented papers at academic conference this year (**Leanne Mak, Kimi Tamaka** - National Council for Family Relations; **Barbara Chaulk** - Canadian Association for Research in Home Economics; **Kelli Sullivan** - Society for Research on Adolescence, and **Heather Brown, Kesto Kester, Jamie Wood, Ayla Reshef** - Child Development 2000 and Society for Research on Identity Formation). Social Work graduate students presented at the IFSW/IAASW Montreal conference (**Andreas Hernandez**) and at the International Conference of the Association for Advancement of Social Work with Groups (**Gwen Bevan** and **Deborah Headley**). Congratulations also to **Martine Charles** on the award of the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. and to doctoral students **J. Sims Gould** who received the Rhodri Windsor-Liscombe Symposium Award for the best paper presentation and **Rachelle Hole** for a co-authored publication in Social Science and Medicine. **Maria Ngyuen**, BSW student presented at the joint conference between the School and the Canadian Council for Refugees on "Acknowledging various forms of knowledge: Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition".

Looking to the future always means being mindful of the lessons of history. It is therefore especially pleasing to announce that **Dr Hugh Shewell** of the School of Social Work at York University has agreed to research and write the history of the UBC School of Social Work. Hugh is a UBC MSW graduate and a social welfare historian of note. He will be assisted in this task by **Beverley Scott**, University Librarian and well known for her expertise and active support of the School. A reference committee, chaired by the director, comprising a number of UBC professors emeriti (**Richard Splane, Elaine Stolar, Dennis Guest, Mary Hill**), Alumni President **Kimberley Azyan, Stuart Alcock** and **Jo Hinchliffe** has been struck to guide the project.

Many thanks are due to all faculty, staff, field education instructors, social agencies and students for all their many contributions to the educational work of the School. It is not possible to single out everyone's achievements but a real flavour of them can be sensed from the pages of *The Bridge* and from the School's Annual Report 1999/2000. Both these publications are on the School's website as well as much more. Finally I would like to thank Jo Hinchliffe and her editorial team for all the work and creative energy that has gone into our latest newsletter, and to recognize the constructive and ongoing warm relationship between the School and the Alumni Association

Graham Riches has been the Director of the School since 1998.

Social Work Alumni Update

Hello! and thanks to all of you who have given me feedback on the new version of the newsletter. Many of you commented on enjoying the Alumni updates, and were surprised to see no feedback form in the last issue. We will ensure that this is included with every second issue that is sent out (although feedback is welcome at any time). We really hope more of you will let us know your email address - this would greatly promote communication and consultation on Board and School activities.

On September 16, 2000 the Board held its annual AGM in conjunction with the School's "Celebration 2000, 70th Anniversary". This was a great day, well attended both in the morning at Green College, and in the afternoon at the School. It was a bit unusual holding our AGM first thing in the morning but **Richard Vedan** set the tone with a terrific "First Nation's Welcome". Professor **Jim Ife**, Head of the School of Social Work and Social Policy, University of Western Australia gave the Keynote presentation on "Realizing Human Rights through Creative Practice".



Shahzina Karim, Lynne Guinet, Kimberley Azyan, Brian O'Neill

The continuing Board members include **Lynne Guinet, Carole-Anne Soong, Charles Hardy** (treasurer), **Brian O'Neill** (faculty rep), **Shahzina Karim** and myself. Unfortunately, **Marianne Cardiff** had to withdraw from the Board but we hope she will rejoin us in future. **Joanne Davis, Gina Scarpino** and **Doris Griffiths** also volunteer for events with the Board. Thanks to everyone for their contributions, energy and commitment.

We are still brainstorming ideas on how to best use the Jack McDonald bequest funds and we would welcome any thoughts on this or other initiatives you feel the Board should consider. We are also very open to any alumni who would like to volunteer to be on the Board, or just attend a brainstorming session or two! Our meetings are held once a month (usually on a Thursday), at the School from 6:00pm to approx. 7:30. Just so you know a little more about us and why we are on the board, the members have added their own comments...

Charles Hardy is away on vacation but on his behalf I'd like to acknowledge his contribution to the Board for 5 years now, most of those years as our Treasurer. Charles is a Long Term Care Case Manager with the Pacific Spirit Community Health Centre in Vancouver. Charles has always been a strong spokesperson on the Board for ongoing training and support for social workers in the field.

Carole-Anne Soong: "I joined the Board several years ago at the urging of the former chairperson, Marty Lund. As the only "retired" person, I've enjoyed working with all the other busy full-time career members. Our Alumni Board participation allows us to give back to UBC and as well offer our input regarding developments in the social work profession. My focus of attention relates to the importance and necessity of continuing education programs in social work. I am keenly aware of the major influence a course on community development had on my 22-year career within the federal Departments of Secretary of State and Canadian Heritage. In the early 1970's, when I registered for a class with Roop Sebaran, little did I know at that time how those sessions would impact my method of work."

Shahzina Karim, M.S.W. 1997. I am presently working at Vancouver Hospital & Health Sciences Centre UBC Hospital, Mood Disorder Unit. Recently, I have become involved with a group of social workers, at

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Address to the September 16, 2000 Celebration

Dr Martha C. Piper, President

It really is a pleasure to be here this afternoon to participate in a significant milestone in the history of our university – the joining of two complementary programs to create another first for UBC – a School of Social Work and Family Studies that is altogether unique in Canada.

This particular merger has accomplished a number of objectives. Not only has it enriched the curricula of both respective programs, but it has also provided a strong foundation of interdisciplinary and inter-professional learning and research, as well as much-needed academic and professional leadership in the community.

But perhaps more importantly, this merger is indicative of some of the challenges we face, as a society, in the 21st century. Over the past half-century, economically advanced countries, such as Canada, have made the shift into what is being called the information age or the post-industrial era.

People often associate the information age with the advent of the Internet, in the 1990s, but the shift from the industrial era started more than a generation earlier. This period, roughly the mid-1960s to the early 1990s, was also marked by seriously deteriorating social conditions in most of the industrialized world. Crime and social disorder began to rise; marriages and births declined and divorce soared; one out of every three children in the United States and more than half of all children in Scandinavia were born out of wedlock.

As Francis Fukuyama notes in a recent *Atlantic Monthly* article, these changes were dramatic, occurring over a wide range of countries and appearing at roughly the same period in history. Fukuyama argues quite convincingly that the evolution of the information age and the disruption of social order are intimately connected and suggests that the changing nature of work, the employment of women, the availability of birth control, increased longevity and the culture of individualism and innovation have all weakened the bonds holding families, neighborhoods, and nations together.

While we might question the simplicity of this explanation, it is not surprising to think that the technological change that brought such massive changes to the marketplace might also cause similar disruption in the world of social relationships. Yet Fukuyama argues that social order, once disrupted, tends to get remade. And, while during the industrial age it was believed that social order had to come from a centralized, rational, bureaucratic government hierarchy, we now believe that in the information age social order will come from people...individuals who through self-organization will employ internalized rules and will rely upon norms of behaviour—norms of behaviour often associated with kinships and families.

Whether tomorrow's information-age democracies can maintain social order in the face of technological and economic change is among one of the greatest challenges we face. The merger we celebrate today underlines the importance of addressing this challenge. By combining our quest for social order with our understanding of kinships as a source of social connectedness, the new School of Social Work and Family Studies will enhance our understanding of the social complexities of modern society. Timely, yes. Forward thinking, most definitely. Innovative, for certain. Indeed, the joining of these two programs illustrates UBC's commitment to responding to the constantly changing needs of families and communities, as well as our determination to enhance new knowledge discovery in this modern era of rapid societal change.

Such has been the history of the School of Social Work, which as many of you know, originated in 1929 in response to post World War One economic, social and health problems. And for the next 70 years, it continued to evolve in step with the constantly changing needs of our

communities – needs that have become more complex and more acute in recent years.

Indeed, if one reads Elaine Stolar's succinct chronology of the school in the *New Canadian Encyclopedia of Social Work*, we find that throughout its history, UBC's program has managed to keep pace with these changes, thanks to an extraordinary degree of commitment on the part of its faculty, staff and students. In this context, the merger of these two programs merely represents the most recent evolutionary phase in the history of these important disciplines at UBC.

Therefore, as we look both forward and back, we should take great pride in UBC's contribution to these vital and dynamic disciplines. Indeed there is much today we can celebrate, and while there are countless individuals to be commended for creating the modern UBC School of Social Work and Family Studies, I would be remiss in not acknowledging two people who are with us today.

First, I would like to welcome the former director of the erstwhile BC Community Care Association, Ms. Leslie Arnold. Thanks to the association's generous donation, the School has established the Community Care Research Association, which will facilitate collaborative community care research for graduate students and faculty.

I would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and welcome another individual who is well known throughout this province for his amazing record of philanthropy, and after whom this very building has been named – Mr. Jack Bell.

In addition to his generous support of the program, Jack Bell was also responsible for inspiring its motto – "Compassion Always."

"Compassion Always..." As I give thought to this simple phrase, it occurs to me that, in essence, it is compassion that we are celebrating today, for it is compassion that has, for the past 70 years, been the driving force for students, practitioners and academics alike; Compassion that has resulted in UBC's long history of working with field workers and agencies in our communities; Compassion that will inspire today's students – the ones whose responsibility will include providing a set of checks and balances to preserve social justice and human rights as global, technological change gathers speed.

Indeed, as the 21st century unfolds, practitioners and academics alike will be required to contribute to a high level of debate on all matters of social justice and public policy. Viewed in this light, there can be no mistake that the UBC School of Social Work and Family Studies is an essential part of our academic community, and of the communities we will continue to serve.

Adrienne Clarkson in her installation speech as Governor-General of Canada spoke of the Inuit quality of *isuma*, which is defined as an intelligence that includes knowledge of one's responsibility toward society. The Inuit believe that it can only grow in its own time. As we mark this important union, let us all be joined in *isuma* – *isuma* that continues to grow as we evolve and change – *isuma* that results in enhanced awareness and informed understanding of our responsibility toward society.

And so, on behalf of the University of British Columbia, I wish to extend my sincere congratulations to all of the faculty, staff, alumni and students of the UBC School of Social Work and Family Studies for all that you have accomplished, and extend my best wishes as you prepare for the challenges that inevitably lie ahead. Given your history, I have great confidence for your future.



Martha Piper, Lynne Guinet, Brian O'Neill

Students: News & Views

Family Studies Student Association

As people go about their busy days on campus, the friendly Jack Bell lounge serves as a place where students and professors of the School of Social Work and Family Studies (and visitors as well) can relax, study or just mingle. Several students from Family Studies meet at the lounge every week to discuss various topics. The focus of recent meetings have been on the graduation dinner, Class Act, and fundraising for grad. In terms of fundraising, students have sold, and are currently selling raffle tickets. Draws have been made last term and a few will take place this term in the coming months.

Last December, students and professors had the opportunity to introduce themselves during an elegant evening (Winterfest 2000) at the university's Botanical Gardens Pavilion. Apart from gathering for the weekly meetings at the Jack Bell lounge and going to events such as Winterfest 2000, the students of Family Studies also try to get to know each other a little better through social gatherings. Although coordinating such gatherings (done by FMST Social Coordinator, **Fabiana Genmari**) can sometimes be difficult and turn outs can be low, all involved remain enthusiastic and committed to the value of such gatherings-to forge stronger bonds among those who are taking part in the same program.

Family Studies students are also happy and excited about the Provisional Certified Family Life Educator (CFLE) program which was announced last term. Many feel that becoming provisionally

certified will increase the potential for job opportunities upon graduation and will also help bring more interest into the School.

In FMST 436 (a course conducted last semester), students visited the BC Council for Families. Staff at the Council gave a thorough discussion concerning the type of work that they perform and made the visit an insightful and valuable experience. We hope that these kinds of experiences related to work in Family Studies will continue and expand in the future. As well, students feel that developing a [practicum] for the Family Studies program will be a worthwhile venture for the future. It would give students a clearer idea of the kinds of work available to graduates of Family Studies.

Since the merger between Social Work and Family Studies is still very new, students from both areas are still at the forefront of "recognizing" and learning about one another. We hope that more effort will be made in the future to dissolve any lingering feelings of distance between Social Work and Family Studies students so that the merging of the two Schools is not only one of location, but one of spirit as well.

Let's look forward to a productive future together and congratulations to all those graduating at the end of this semester!

Agnes Tong and Kristy Watson are Majoring in Family Studies.

Doctoral Studies

The School of Social Work and Family Studies participates in the Individual Interdisciplinary Graduate Studies Program. Currently we have two doctoral students: **Rachelle Hole** is in her first year and **Joan Sims Gould** in the second year of her program. Both have been recognized for their scholarship. Rachelle received a University Graduate Fellowship and Joan received the Simon's Foundation Doctoral Scholarship and a University Graduate Fellowship. In addition, Joan received the Donald Menzies Award from the Canadian Association of Gerontology and the Rhodri Windsor-Liscombe Symposium Award (for best paper presentation at the 2000 Individual Interdisciplinary Graduate Student symposium at UBC).

Rachelle Hole is combining areas of social work practice with educational psychology and special education in her interdisciplinary program and is being supervised by **Dr. Paule**

McNicoll, Social Work, and **Dr. Janet Jamieson**, Education. Rachelle may be known to many of our alumni, as she received bachelor's (1993) and master's (1995) degrees from our School. She came to us with a bachelor's degree in Psychology from the University of Manitoba. Her proposed research combines her psychological training and interest in identity development, her professional practice and policy emphasis in Social Work, and her experiences in working with the deaf population. She plans to conduct a qualitative study of "Hearing Loss and Identity Formation".

Joan Sims Gould is being supervised by **Dr. Anne Martin Matthews**, Professor of Family Studies and Associate Dean of Graduate Studies and Research in the Faculty of Arts. For her interdisciplinary program, Joan is combining family studies theory and research with social work practice in the area of

gerontology, specifically caregiving. Joan has undergraduate degrees from McMaster University in Life Sciences and in Gerontology, and an MSW from Lakehead University.

Her proposed doctoral research is "Typologies of Canadian Caregivers in an Aging Population". Her research on caregiving emphasizes the context and the reciprocal relationships between recipient and giver. She is developing and testing the model on a large Canadian database collected by Dr. Martin Matthews. Such a model could prove valuable in expanding our understanding of caregiving, and is timely, given health policy that increasingly relies on family caregivers for the elderly.

Phyllis Johnson is the Coordinator of the Graduate Program for Family Studies that includes the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. program.

Distance Education

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Views from Away



On September 17, 1999, a group of 32 anxious, but enthusiastic social workers gathered for what would ultimately be their first day of a three-year trek towards a masters degree in social work, offered through UBC distance

education. In what has turned out to be comparable in many ways to scaling Mt. Everest, we have lost 7 travelers on the journey and are now a group of 25 ranging in age from late 20's to 50 something. Being the first cohort to pass through the program has encompassed experiences of varying degrees of joy and frustration, education and learning (which as it turns out are sometimes completely different things), for faculty and students alike.

The workshop (Fall & Spring) and on-line (Winter) format of the course delivery was designed to accommodate students who were working full time, raising families, traveling significant distances to attend, and faculty who were carrying course loads at their home institutions of UCC, OUC, and UBC. Many students have found themselves putting in 10 to 15 hours per week on readings, course postings, group projects

(made more interesting by geographical distance), and term papers – an amount we likely underestimated at the onset – and are finding the demands somewhat overwhelming.

However, that being said...25 weary travelers go on. Its difficult to tell how many of us would sign up for such an adventure again or how many of us simply refuse to quit because the summit is in sight. What I can say for certain is that the quality of education has been solid, the members of faculty have been interested in our learning goals and responsive to our concerns, and the group who struggle on have developed a camaraderie exceptional to students enrolled in a masters program. Ultimately, the program has provided access to a masters degree to a group of social workers who otherwise may never have had the opportunity. So, despite the ever present sense of being overwhelmed by the steepness of the learning curve and demands of the climb, many of us are grateful for the opportunity, appreciative of the energy and commitment expended on the program by UBC, and hopeful that our experience will pave the way for others in the future.

Carrie McNeely received her BSW through the University College of the Cariboo and the U.of Victoria. She lives in Kamloops and represents the Distance Education MSW students on the School's Graduate Committee.

And from farther afield

During the summer of 2000, I travelled to Guatemala to work on a health promotion project with seven other students from UBC's Global Outreach Students Association. This experience served as my fourth year social work field practicum.

Global Outreach Students Association (GOSA) is a multi-disciplinary students association founded in 1993 whose mandate is to promote community health in local and international settings. The association operates very much from a "determinants of health" philosophy, one that recognizes the strong correlation between health and socio-economic factors.

Our team was partnered with Grufeprofam (Grufe), a Guatemalan women's organization that is working hard to improve the work and living conditions of women employed in the maquila factories in and around Guatemala City. Their work includes lobbying, advocacy, community organizing, and the provision health services for women and their families. All too often, maquila factories, sometimes called sweatshops, are hotbeds of exploitation and ill-treatment. Women, who make up a significant part of the labour pool, are often subject to very poor working conditions, unfair labour practices, abuse, and very poor

wages. Access to medical services and information is also a significant issue.

During our time in Guatemala, we engaged in a number of projects, some in co-operation with Grufe, and some independently. With Grufe, we helped to organize two community health fairs for women in Barcenas, the community where we lived and worked. During these fairs, women were offered free pap tests and medical consultations, and received information on reproductive health and other pertinent issues, such as domestic violence. We also worked with this organization to organize and conduct workshops on women's labour rights.

In addition to the work I did with my team, I had the opportunity work for several weeks with a social work student from San Carlos University doing her practicum at the community's only health center. Together, we developed and presented to three women's groups, a workshop on Women's Rights and Domestic Violence. We also did a lot of individual and family casework in the community, doing our best to locate all-too scarce, and critically needed resources such as medicine, wheelchairs, and in some cases, basic housing, food, and medical attention.

My time in Guatemala was a significant learning experience. This was my first time working in a developing country, and my first real exposure to the extreme poverty in which so many people in the world are forced to live. It was also my first time working in a country where it is often dangerous to talk about topics such as labour and human rights, and to engage in community organizing work. I came back with a new-found gratitude for both the freedom and prosperity we possess in our country. But I also came back with a greater understanding of how our freedom, prosperity, and are often built on the backs of other peoples' misfortune and exploited labour. In the "global village" that the world has now become, I believe we all share an obligation to ensure that injustices are not perpetrated in our name. Perhaps social workers – with our mandate of working in the interest of social justice, have an even greater responsibility to engage in this very formidable, but necessary task.

Lesley Washington will graduate with her BSW in the Spring of 2001. She currently works in Victoria as a Research Officer with the NDP Caucus.

The Family, Child, & Community Research Mentoring Project is now operating. The project helps undergraduate students gain research experience by volunteering to work with faculty and graduate students. The project received Public Sector Youth Employment funds in October. The funds allowed us to hire two graduate students, Cynthia Lin and Maria Valente, to help link undergraduate students with faculty in need of help with research. Students have been helping faculty with tasks such as transcribing, coding data, and literature searches in the libraries. Faculty often need help with data entry. Data entry requires familiarity with statistical software. Recognizing a need for students to be oriented to software, the two coordinators, Cynthia and Maria organized workshops for a large number of interested students.



Cynthia Lin and
Maria Valente

Social Work Alumni Update

continued from page two

the hospital and the community level, who are looking at regulating our profession. The promotion of social work and the protection of our title are topics that we are looking at right now. I would encourage other social workers to get involved in these groups. As an Alumni Board Member I would like to get as much feedback from our alumni. This is a critical juncture in the development of our profession. We need to develop consensus and strategies to strengthen our profession.

Lynne Guinet, M.S.W., 1974. There have been many changes in social work education and practice since I graduated from UBC in 1974. All my social work jobs have been in health and mental health and I have worked at B.C.'s Children's Hospital for many years. The Alumni Board provides a way to keep connected to the school and current social work education. I enjoy participating in events such as the receptions for graduating students. Promoting the value of social workers in health care is an important issue for me.

Brian O'Neill, I received my MSW from Carleton University in 1971 and my Ph.D. from Wilfrid Laurier University in 1994. As the liaison between the School and the Alumni since 1996, I am committed to supporting links among our former social work students and between them and the School. I think it is very important that the School and the alumni continue to work together to advance the goals of social work in all areas of practice. I think the alumni association is an effective way for former students to speak to the School, their peers, and the broader community. The alumni have been, and continue to be an important resource to the School in providing professional education in British Columbia.

Kimberly Azyan graduated from UBC in 1992 (BA'85, BSW'89, MSW'92) and has been President of the Social Work Alumni Division since 1997. She has been working with the Public Guardian and Trustee's office for the last 6 years, currently as the Acting Director of Adult Services. Prior to this she worked as a ministry social worker with the downsizing of Woodlands, and before that, in child protection. One of her interests, as a Board member, is around enhancing the School's Masters program to promote strong, "social work" supervisory and managerial skills. She's also very interested in building a stronger connection to BCASW. She loves gardening and good wine, and tries to incorporate these interests into the occasional board meeting!

Recent Graduates: Thesis/Graduating Essay Topics in the MSW and MA programs.

Bevan, Gwen *Group Work Revival: A Study of the Continuing Education Needs of Group Workers*, **Harris, Barbara** *The Voices of Five Urban Native Women Recovering from Addictions: an Argument for the Holistic Integration of Treatment and Aftercare Services*, **Neufelgise-Ross, Cindy** *Stress and Coping Strategies Amongst British Columbia's Child Protection Workers*, **Singleton, Richard David** *An Analysis of Suicide Attempts Among Consumers of Vancouver Community Mental Health Services (VCMHS)*, **Smalley, Keri L.** *Examining the Effects of Raising Autistic Children on Family Functioning: Using the Double ABCX Model*, **Berrelkamp, Deborah** *Hospital Restructuring: Creating a Niche for Social Workers in Health Care*, **Bufton, Wendy** *Women's Experiences of Approaching Their Physicians With Disordered Eating*, **Headly, Deborah** *Vicarious Traumatization: The Experience of Child Protection Social Workers In Working With People Who Have Been Traumatized*, **Norris, Wendy** *Under One Roof: Women's Experiences of Peer Relationships in a Residential Setting for Disordered Eating*, **Baker, Vikki** *Stress and Coping of Families, Children and Adolescents Facing Death, Loss and Grief, Bereavement and Mourning: Interventions for Social Work practice*, **Grbavec, Michelle** *Sustainable Community Practice*, **Spilker, Ann** *Feminist Supervision: Oxymoron or Redefinition of Power.*

FIRST NATIONS' PROGRAM UPDATE

In concert with the Squamish First Nation the School is exploring a proposal for the development of an integrated First Nations BSW, satellite campus program. With funds made available by the Squamish First Nation, the Ministry for Children and Family, and the UBC Dean of Arts preliminary research is underway to determine the curriculum needs of First Nations communities. Professor Richard Vedan is coordinating the project. Barbara Harris has been employed as research assistant and has just completed a visit of First Nations programs across the country to determine what approaches have been successful. Two community-based focus groups were held in the Squamish First Nations recreation centre on February 08 and 09, 2001 with community members of the Squamish First Nation in attendance along with their invited guests from the Musqueam, Burrard, and Tswassen communities. A third community-based focus group held at the Urban Native Health Society on East Hastings on February 16, 2001 was attended by representatives of urban Aboriginal and First Nations agencies in the urban.

Over the next months the input from the community-based groups will be used to develop a culturally congruent curriculum and innovative means of delivery to address the educational needs of First Nation social workers.

Richard Vedan is an Associate Professor with the School and the Advisor for First Nations students.

Donors and Contributors:

The School would like to thank the following individuals for being financial supporters over the past year. We apologize to anyone whose name has been inadvertently left off this list.

Ms. Charlene Avalos ❖ Ms. A. Joyce Bewley ❖ Mr. Paul A. Bingham ❖ Mrs. Barbara F. Bjerring ❖ Mrs. Edythe M. Blake ❖ Mrs. Barbara Gail Brett ❖ Mrs. Marguerite H. Campbell ❖ Mrs. Suzanne I. Campbell ❖ Dr. Corrinne Alexis Caldwell ❖ Mrs. Lily On-Ping Chan ❖ Mrs. Gillian Chetty ❖ Mrs. M. JoAnn Collins ❖ Mr. Simon P. Davis ❖ Mr. A. Blair Dunbar ❖ Miss E. Jane Fisher ❖ Ms. Suzanne Gadoury ❖ Mr. Michael Gildersleeve ❖ Ms. Kathryn L. Gjernes ❖ Mr. Peter David Griffiths ❖ Ms. Lynne Guinet ❖ Mr. Randal George Harris ❖ Mr. Rodwell

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Research Flourishes

For members of the School of Social Work and Family Studies, scholarly endeavors are a key part of their activities. It is through scholarly activities that we come to better understand social injustices and the family, inform policy, advance practice, and test the effectiveness of social work interventions. Thus research is an ongoing, central process at the School. In the past few months there have been several noteworthy developments.

- ❖ The School's Director, **Graham Riches**, has published an article entitled "From Modest Rights to Commodification in Canada's Welfare State" in the *European Journal of Social Work*.
- ❖ **Helen Allen** has recently given three presentations: the first on the role of knowledge from life experience in social work education at the 7th International Conference on Experiential Learning, Auckland, New Zealand; the second on the role of Canadian churches in refugee activism, policy debates and refugee sponsorship at the Fifth International Metropolis Conference, Vancouver, BC; and the third on an examination of field education in child welfare at the Joint Conferences of the International Federation of Social Workers and the International Association of Schools of Social Work, Montreal (available on the CASSW web site at http://www.arcaf.net/social_work_proceedings/abstracts5/Allen.html).
- ❖ **Dr. Christensen** was an invited speaker at the Canadian Academy of Psychiatric Epidemiology, 2000 Annual Scientific Symposium in Victoria, BC, where her address concerned "The Changing Profile of Canada's Elderly: New Approaches to Epidemiology."
- ❖ **Paule McNicoll** gave a plenary address at the 22nd Annual International Symposium of the Association for the Advancement of Social Work with Groups (AASWG) in Toronto in October 2000. The talk, entitled "Current innovations in social work with groups to address issues of social justice," will be published in the book of proceedings of the conference.
- ❖ **Deborah O'Connor** and **Anne Martin-Matthews** were part of an interdisciplinary research group that received funding to host a two-day workshop in November on Dementia and Personhood. The participants included an international roster of researchers interested in reconceptualizing the dementia experience in order to recognize personhood and dignity.
- With funding from a UBC instructional technologies grant, Deborah has also developed an interactive CD-ROM entitled "From patient to person: Changing the lens on dementia care". The CD-Rom is currently being tested in the three participating departments.
- ❖ Drawing upon his experience in teaching the interprofessional HIV/AIDS prevention course to students in medicine, nursing, pharmaceutical sciences and social work, **Brian O'Neill** has co-authored a paper entitled "Interprofessional education: One aspect of achieving quality health and social care." This paper was presented at the Fourth International Conference, Strategic Issues in Health Care Management, University of St. Andrews, Scotland and will be published in the proceedings of the conference.
- ❖ **Mary Russell** went to Cyprus in November to present a paper on "The many faces of family violence." She has been involved in two other projects during her sabbatical; one to empower women who are victims of violence in their dealings with the criminal justice system and another on social work practice with immigrants and refugees. Results of the latter project are to be published in the *Journal of Ethnic and Cultural Diversity in Social Work*.
- ❖ **Frank Tester, Paule McNicoll** and **Peter Irniq** have a paper on self-esteem, homesickness and the Inuit TB epidemic that will be published in the *Etudes/Inuit/Studies*.
- ❖ **Richard Vedan** received a grant from the Vancouver Foundation via the Grandview Woodlands Community Centre Society to review the Warriors Against Violence treatment program. He will determine elements appropriate for inclusion in a program to assist First Nations youth in addressing violence issues. A report of this work will be published by the Grandview Woodlands Community Centre Society and his findings are already being used to secure ongoing funding for youth initiatives.
- ❖ In the *Journal of Law and Family Studies*, **Phyllis Johnson** has recently published a study of how Canadian and US inheritance laws influence family dynamics. Phyllis also continues her study of refugees adjustment, publishing an article on ethnic differences in self-employment among Southeast Asian refugees in Canada in the *Journal of Small Business Management*.
- ❖ **Sheila Marshall** has been awarded a Health Canada contract to draft a literature review and policy statement on how parent-child relationships influence adolescents' identity development.
- ❖ At the end of 2000, **Anne Martin-Matthews** completed a four-year term as Editor-in-Chief of the *Canadian Journal on Aging*. On that occasion, Anne wrote two editorials reflecting on the progress and directions of research on aging: "Canadian research on aging: Decade of maturation, time of change" and "Gerontology in Canada: A decade of change." With her editorial responsibilities behind her, Anne has recently been named to the founding Advisory Board of the Institute on Healthy Aging of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. Anne's ongoing research with Lori Campbell of McMaster University has also recently been published in the *Journal of Family Issues* in an article entitled, "Primary and proximate: Implications of distance and relationship in men's caring roles."
- ❖ **Jim Ponzetti** has received certification from Family Services of Canada as Certified Canadian Family Educator. Jim is also certified by the National Council on Family Relations as a Family Life Educator (CFLE).
- ❖ **Dan Perlman** gave a keynote address on the dark side of relationships to the joint meeting of Mexican Congress of Social Psychology and Mexican Congress for Relationships. An expanded version of his presentation will be published in the *Revista de Psicologia Social y Personalidad*.

Research on Internet and the Family: Will You Help?

The School's newest professor, Jim Ponzetti, has just received funding for a project on computer use and the family. If you are a parent with at least one child living at home and one or more computers in the household, Jim would very much like you to participate in a survey on computer use and family interaction. Just go to your computer.

The questionnaire can be found at <http://www.ares.ubc.ca/parents>.

Interested in Volunteering??

The Alumni Reading Room is looking for volunteers to help out Monday to Friday between 11:00 and 3:00. Social Work and Family Studies alumni are welcome to get involved. Please contact Jo Hinchliffe for further information.

Quick Picks

Dr. Tim Stainton, Professor at The University in Wales (Swansea) has accepted a Visiting Professorship at the School from August 2001 to July 2002. Dr. Stainton's research and teaching focuses on disability.

Dr. Jim White received promotion to Full Professor in the Fall of 2001.

Saleema Noon, MA FMST, is doing a column in the Vancouver Sun on the topic of parenting teens.

The School is sponsoring a team in the upcoming **Vancouver Sun Run** and hopes to launch this as an annual undertaking.

Sessional Instructor **Carol Madsen** produced healthy Miranda Gabrielle born on February 16th at 12:33 pm and weighing in at 8 pounds 9 ounces. Mom, Dad, Mikhaila and the babe are all doing well.

In October, the School's Administrator, **Jo Hinchliffe**, was elected President of the Association of Administrative and Professional Staff at UBC.

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The next edition of The Bridge will be published in the Fall of 2001. Please send any comments, questions or items of interest to Jo Hinchliffe at the address above.

MISSION STATEMENT

The UBC School of Social Work and Family Studies is committed through its teaching, research and community service to excellence in the development, dissemination and application of knowledge, values and skills relevant to social work and family studies. Consistent with the School's traditions, faculty, staff and students are committed to principles of social and economic justice, equity and respect for the realities of diverse cultures and the strengths of civil society.

ALUMNI REPLY FORM

Let us know what you are up to.

Due to the new working relationship with the School, membership fees for Social Work Alumni have been suspended for the time being. However, any donations would be gratefully received and used to support Alumni events.

Name _____

Address _____

e-mail _____

Does this match your mailing label? ____ Yes ____ No

Your news: _____

Return to: Brian O'Neill, 2080 West Mall, Vancouver V6T 1Z2