

social and  
economic  
justice,  
equity  
and respect

society

knowledge

VALUES  
&  
skills

The School of Social Work and Family Studies

the  
UBC  
bridge

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## Social Work and Family Studies to Propose a PhD Program: Invitation to Respond.

The School of Social Work and Family Studies is pleased to announce that it will be seeking approval to offer a PhD program in Family and Social Welfare. As this program is still in the developmental stage and it will need endorsement at various levels before it can become a reality, your input and support would be very much welcomed.

At this time the School is conducting a needs assessment to determine whether there is sufficient interest among MA's & MSW's (present and former) to support a doctoral program. Although it is still under discussion, the following is a preliminary description of that program:

The Ph.D. Program in Family and Social Welfare will provide students with a background in social work, social policy, social development or family studies, opportunities for advanced scholarship and professional growth in the context of a research-intensive program. The program endeavors to balance broad growth in advanced scholarship with specialization in at least one area. It is designed to prepare professionals and scholars capable of leadership and of adding to the knowledge base of their field. Students are expected to take course work in relevant theory, methods (quantitative & qualitative), a doctoral seminar and develop a specialization. Via their program of work, students are expected to acquire a basic grounding in the core theoretical paradigms relevant to their course of study, in quantitative and qualitative research methods as well as specialized competencies in the methodological skills necessary for productive scholarship in the substantive area of their chosen research. A research-based dissertation adding to the field's knowledge base is the capstone of this program.

We are interested in such issues as:

Is this program needed in the province?

Would you, or others you know, be interested in taking such a degree?

Do you know of existing or possible future positions that would benefit from being staffed by individuals with this level of advanced education?

Are the goals of education for leadership especially via scholarly roles the correct ones? Is the program of studies appropriate?

If you would support such a program and/or would be interested to pursue such a doctoral degree, please advise **Professor Richard Sullivan** (email: Richard.Sullivan@ubc.ca) and also let him know what year you think you might be ready to begin doctoral studies. Remember, that your expression of interest is not an application. Rather, you will be providing useful information that will enable the School to assess the need for such a program.

Given the steps in the approval process, it will likely be the fall semester of 2005 before the first cohort of students will start. In the meantime, students can pursue interdisciplinary doctoral education with the School as their sponsoring unit. Applicants for interdisciplinary studies are always welcome.

Dr. Dan Perlman and Dr. Richard Sullivan,  
Co-chairs - PhD Task Force

## from the Director...

Graham Riches

It is with great pleasure that the School welcomed **Suzanne Moore** to the position of Administrator. This is a pivotal position in terms of ensuring the smooth running of all aspects of the School's administration with many demands on expertise, time and good humour! Suzanne joined the School in December 2002 from the Department of Educational Studies where she had served as Administrator Manager. Suzanne has already demonstrated her professional knowledge, skill and experience in moving the School's agenda ahead on many facets and we are delighted that she has joined us.



Visitors from the Japan College of Social Work with Graham Riches, Grant Charles and Richard Sullivan

It has also been the School's pleasure to welcome two visiting professors from Korea for sabbatical leave: **Dr. Youngja Jeon** (Inje University) whose field of studies is family counseling and family life education and **Dr. Kimin Nam** (Chongju University), an expert in social welfare administration and aging. We were also pleased to welcome a visit from the Japan College of Social Work led by its President **Dr. Shigehizo Takahashi** and **Ms. Maco Takahashi** from the Japan Women's University. **Dr. Richard Sullivan** hosted this event.

A recent event of major significance was the Celebration of the first graduating class of the MSW Collaborative Decentralized program held in Kelowna on December 3rd. The event was addressed by the three presidents of the collaborative institutions - **Dr. Martha Piper** (UBC), **Dr. Katy Binden** (OUC) and **Dr. Roger Barnsley** (OUC) and was attended by faculty, graduates and students in the newly admitted cohort.

The School's scholarly activity continues apace and is recorded in 'Research Flourishes' edited by the School's Associate Director **Dr. Dan Perlman** who returned in January from a year's sabbatical leave spent at the Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities and Social Sciences in Wassenaar, The Netherlands.

Faculty who have received new research grants from a variety of funding sources (including SSHRC, UBC Hampton, Community Care Research Fund, YWCA and Ministry for Children and Family Development, SSHRC/MCRI, Canadian Institute of Health Research) are to be congratulated: **Drs. Susan Cadell, Sheila Marshall, Jan Hare, Jim Ponzetti, Anne Martin-Matthews, Paule McNicoll, Frank Tester, Brian O'Neill, Mary Russell, Carrie Yodanis**. Also to be congratulated is **Dr. Hugh Shewell**, a UBC Social Work alumnus and social historian at York University for receiving an SSHRC grant to write the history of the UBC School of Social Work. This project is to be completed in time for the School's 75th Anniversary in 2005.

Early in the winter semester a Faculty retreat was held focusing on two

areas of priority: planning of a PhD programme (see p. 1) and the development of the theme of internationalization within the School's curriculum and scholarly activities. We were pleased to welcome **Dr. Olav Slaymaker**, former Academic Director of the UBC Liu Institute for the Study of Global Issues to lead of team of School panelists (**Drs. Frank Tester, Grant Charles and Carrie Yodanis**) in anticipating areas of scholarship, teaching, overseas practica and international faculty and student exchange. At the invitation of Professor **Peter Boothroyd** (UBC School of Regional and Community Planning) I had the opportunity in December 2002 to visit Dalat University in Vietnam where a new School of Social Work and Community Development is being planned. This is one outcome of a CIDA funded poverty reduction project and it is hoped that the School as part of its commitments to internationalization will be able to contribute to this development and benefit from educational exchanges. The School's support of international student practica through CUSO is an important initiative in this regard. We were pleased to welcome **Claire Dansereau**, Executive Director of CUSO to talk with students about overseas practica possibilities later in the semester.

It also is important to note a number of research colloquia which have recently been organized in the School and community and addressed by faculty, visiting professors, community experts and students. These have included: **Dr. Yves Vaillancourt** (Ecole de Service Sociale, UQUAM): 'The Social Economy in Quebec and the Voluntary Sector in Canada: Two Separate Worlds?'; a co-sponsored community colloquium and panel with CCPA-BC, SPARC- BC and the SFU Community Economic Development Centre at which **Dr. Tim Stainton** spoke with **Dr. Vaillancourt, Marcia Nozick** (DEDC) and **John Restakis** (Canadian Cooperative Association): 'The Future of the Social Economy - Canada, Quebec and BC'; the student organized Social Justice Day led by **Paula Brouwer, Angela Elzinga, Tracy White, Tara Jarvis and Karen McMorland**: '15,000 Homeless in BC: Is This Just?' addressed by **John Argue** (Working Group on Poverty), **Henry Dukta** (Downtown Eastside Residents Association), and **Kimiko Karpoff** (Lower Mainland Network for Affordable Housing); the co-sponsored Celebrate Social Work Week 2003 event with BCASW and the UBC Social Work Alumni on 'Advocacy: Social Justice Builds Community' featuring the poster displays of **Dr. Mary Russell's** and **Dr. Deborah O'Connor's** MSW research class; the research colloquium held at Robson Square on 'Contemporary Issues in Adoption' addressed by **Dr. Grace Ko** (Instructor), **Dr. Richard Sullivan** (Associate Professor) and **Dr. Michael Grand** (Visiting Professor from Guelph University); and 'Diverse Approaches to Qualitative Analysis', a guest seminar presented by **Dr. Sue Wilkinson** (Loughborough University) and **Ruth Wynn Woodward**, Endowed Professorship in Women's Studies (SFU).



Sydney Weaver, MSW student  
Social Work Week poster display

Graham Riches has been Director since 1998

# Students: News & Views

The Volunteer Mentoring Program in the Department of Social Work and Family Studies has experienced great success this year. Since the beginning of September, 28 volunteers have contributed close to 250 hours to 40 separate research projects that focus on the research of 10 different professors in the department. These numbers represent a huge contribution on the parts of both the professors and the volunteers. Through research, the volunteer

program provides undergraduate students an opportunity to make valuable connections with the professors they have come to UBC to learn from. As well, professors have the opportunity to work closely with students and to mentor them at a more personal level than they are normally able to in a regular classroom setting. The benefits of this program are invaluable for both professors and students but they also extend further to the Social Work and Family Studies

Department and to the communities tied to UBC. Better prepared students mean long term success for the department and greater depth of resources for the community. The Volunteer Mentoring Program is continually expanding and is committed to providing many more years of continued success.

*Lyanne Westie is a 3rd year BA student in Family Studies*

## Social Work *Alumni* Update

I would like to thank all the board members for their continued commitment: **Lynne Guinet, Kathy Hamilton, Carole Anne Soong, Shahzina Karim, and Brian O'Neill.**

The board has continued to be active in joint events such as the convocation celebrations here at the school (very popular!) and the recent BCASW forum on Advocacy, held at the Liu Centre. I was particularly honored to be invited to the reception of the first cohort of MSW graduates in Kelowna; we have some terrific new alumni out there in the field!

I would also like to confirm that the board did make the donation (which was proposed in the last newsletter) of \$500 to the VGH/UBC Foundation for the scholarship that is being set up in memory of Mary Blake.

## President's Message

The board continues to meet monthly and we are currently working with school on planning a joint function (perhaps a "Social Justice Day"). Scheduling will be dependent on key note speakers. We are also exploring with Grant Charles the possibility of co-sponsoring a conference for field instructor practitioners in the spring. If anyone is interested in these specific activities, or interested in joining the board, please let me know.

Take Care,  
Kimberly Azyan

*Kimberly Azyan has been President of the Social Work Alumni Division since 1997*

## Donors and Contributors:

### Donors and Contributors:

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

Ms Pamela Black \* Ms Vivian Chan \* Ms Janet Chasse \* Ms Kartine Cheung \* Dr John Deakins \* Ms Kamaljit Dhaliwal \* Ms Catherine Dickson \* Ms Jean Fielden \* Ms Susan Fielden \* Dr Stephen Gilliland \* Ms Esme Gooderham \* Mrs Susan Hayes \* Mr John Hildebrand \*

Ms Jamie Ho \* Ms Lisa Kawazoe \* Dr Susan Kemeny \* Ms Angela Kim \* Ms Lucia Kwong \* Mr Richard Lawrie \* Ms Betty Lefroy \* Ms Betty Lefroy \* Ms Betty Lefroy \* Ms P Lewzey \* Ms Cindy Lim \* Ms Evelina Lo \* Ms Erica Mah \* Ms Dianna Mah-Jones \* Dr R Mann \* Ms Jean Murphy \* Ms Sharon Park \* Mrs Helen Penn \* Dr Daniel Perlman \* Ms Kelley Rooney \* Ms Jessica Rothstein \* Mrs Catherine Stevenson \* Ms Margaret Sy \* Ms Wai Tong \* Ms Patricia Tracey \* Mrs Ruby Traill \* Mr John Wrobel \* Mr Gordon Wylie \* Mr Gordon Wylie \* Ms Kay York \* Mrs Jenny Young \* Mrs Jenny Young

### THANKS! to Class Act...

The Family Studies students were able to raise \$290 for Class Act this year. With the help of matching funds, the total raised for the School is \$870. Thank you on behalf of all students.

## SOCIAL WORK STUDENTS FOR

# SOCIAL JUSTICE

## host the Affordable Housing Forum

Social Work Students for Social Justice is a group of social work students who are united by their strong conviction that working towards social justice is integral to social work practice. Founded in September, 2002, our passion was fueled by the increasing devastation and pain resulting from the neo-liberal agenda adopted by the BC Provincial government. In response to the crisis of homelessness evidenced by the Woodward's squat, we decided to host the Affordable Housing Forum.

We hosted the Affordable Housing Forum to raise awareness about homelessness and the need for affordable housing and to inspire individual and collective action to address these injustices. About thirty students and faculty members met together to hear from community activists. We were pleased that Henry Dukta, from the Downtown Eastside Residents Association (DERA), Kimiko Karpoff, from the Lower Mainland Network for Affordable Housing, and John Argue, from the Working Group on Poverty, could join us for this exciting event. Henry opened the forum by illustrating, through a powerful account of his own experiences, that homelessness and the lack of affordable housing are intensely personal issues. Kimiko showed us that affordable housing is a social justice issue and discussed the link between the personal and political aspects of affordable housing. John presented the personal problem of homelessness and lack of affordable housing as a political issue that can be addressed through public solutions. All of the speakers presented actions that we could take and policies that should be implemented to ensure affordable housing for all residents in British Columbia.

These speakers helped to expand the audience's understanding of the issues related to affordable housing and promoted critical thinking about what needs to be done about these issues. Following the presentations, both the audience and the speakers moved into small groups for discussion. The forum's participants had the opportunity to interact with each other and brainstorm about barriers to effecting social change, how to remove those barriers, and specific actions that we can take to promote affordable housing, both individually and collectively.

As a result of the successful Affordable Housing Forum, the audience left with a broader base of knowledge about the issues related to affordable housing. Through the presentations, discussions, and handouts prepared jointly by the speakers and Social Work Students for Social Justice, the participants also left with ideas about what they could do the next day, the next month, or the next year to express



Left to right – Kimiko Karpoff, John Argue, Henry Dukta and Paula Brouwer

their concern and work towards increasing the availability of affordable housing. Some examples of the opportunities that participants learned about are individual action through voting, letter writing, and educating friends; group action through demonstrations and forums; academic action through writing research papers; and community action through supporting not-for-profit projects, working with the municipal government, and building community support for affordable housing.

The Affordable Housing Forum would not have been possible without hard work and financial support. We thank Angela Elzinga, Heather Tigchelaar, Tara Jarvis, and Karin McMoreland for their enthusiasm, dedication, and creativity as members of Social Work Students for Social Justice. Angela Elzinga has been a constant source of helpful suggestions, encouragement, and wisdom as we worked to keep the group together and we are very grateful for her teaching and support. We really appreciate that the three speakers, Henry Dukta, Kimiko Karpoff, and John Argue, took the time out of their busy schedules to share their personal and professional experiences. The AMS Social Justice Group and the School of Social Work and Family Studies provided the funds to provide an excellent lunch and pay for the logistics of hosting this event. Finally, thank you to the School of Social Work and Family Studies for supporting the Affordable Housing Forum and allowing us to use the reading room.

We have enjoyed co-facilitating Social Work Students for Social Justice and we have learned a lot through hosting and attending the Affordable Housing Forum. We hope that social justice efforts will continue in the School of Social Work and Family Studies.

Thanks!

Tracy White and Paula Brouwer  
4th year BSW students



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

- Abbing, Angela  
Public and Private Money: An Exploration of Individualized Funding for People with Disabilities
- Anderson, Carol Ann  
Advocating for Child Care: Onto the Social Policy Radar Screen
- Bird, Marie Christine  
Exploration of the Role of the Community Response Network in Kelowna
- Bodurtha, Dawn  
Cultural Issues in Hospitalization: Visible Minority Immigrant Women and Hospital Care
- Brown, Matthew  
Body image: does it matter to men?
- Bruno, Doris  
Effective Social Work Practice in Aboriginal Communities: Decolonization Through Bi-cultural Partnerships
- Bunjun, Benita  
Variables Associated with the Employment and Occupational Status of Southeast Asian Women Refugees
- Catton, Kristen  
The Experiences of Children with Lesbian and Gay Parents
- Charad, Judi L.  
Group Therapy as Experienced by Child Victims of Sexual Abuse: A Phenomenological Analysis
- Chiu, Bernice Kit Sheung  
Coping with Wife Abuse in the Interaction of Two Cultures: the Experience Out-of-Town Brides from China
- Daigneault, Julie  
The Impact of First Nations Curriculum on Social Workers' Practices
- Ekman, Melanie Lila  
An Analysis of the HealthCare Response to Women Abuse: Advocating a New Approach
- Fletcher, Meaghen Barbara Anne  
I Wish I had More Stories: Daughters Explore Motherloss
- Gill, Haranup Annu  
The Experiences of Indo-Canadian Women Caregiving for Elderly Family Members
- Goguen-Archer, Adrienne  
Drug Users' perceptions and Experiences of Hospital Care
- Hale, Carol  
Social Work Practice with Families with Children with Special Needs: Supporting Adaptation and Resilience
- Haley, Maggie  
Treating Borderline Personality Disorder in Community Mental Health Centers
- Hall, Yolanda  
Laughter Matters: Humor and Fun in Social Work Practice
- Hancock, Jennifer  
Role Strain Within Forensic Psychiatric Social Work Practice
- Heidebrecht, Paul  
'I Wanted to Really be Something...': Schizophrenia and 'Male Identity'
- Hill, Jennifer  
Who Minds the Child? The Negative Effects of Consumerism on Children
- Hughes, Andrew  
A comprehensive review of a program for high risk youth in the central Okanagan, British Columbia
- Jenkinson, Paul  
Where Do We Go From Here: The Experience of Attachment-Disordered Children in Foster Care
- Johnson, Lisa  
Understanding Violence Among Girls: A Feminist Perspective
- Kealy, David  
The Experiences of Older Parents Who Are Caregivers for Adults with Serious Mental Illness
- Kealy, Robyn  
Older Women's Self Esteem
- Kormendy, Helen Anne  
Best Practices for Rural Child Protection Workers in the Province of British Columbia
- Kyba, Nadia  
Peer Relationships in the Lives of Grade Seven Girls Living in the Vancouver Inner City
- Lee, Eun-Kyong  
Intergenerational Solidarity in Asian Immigrant Families: The experience of Employed Canadians
- Leslie, Elizabeth  
Feminist Social Workers: Examining their Practice within the Medical Model
- MacKinlay, Maureen Jane  
All my Mother Wants is Family: Family Members of Parents with Cognitive Impairments Share their Experiences with Caregiving and Community Supports
- MacPhee Katherine  
No Safe Refuge: Barriers to Accessing Transition Houses and Women's Shelters from a Hospital Emergency Department
- McNeely, Carrie Anne  
Through the Eyes of Adult Children of Divorce: A phenomenological Approach to Understanding the Development of Resilience
- Mitchell, Shelley  
The Engagement Process for Individuals Diagnosed with the Co-Existing Conditions: Mental Illness and Addiction
- Molavi, Mina  
Visions of Motherhood: Issues Among Iranian Mothers During Postnatal Care
- Moore, Andrea  
Attitudes, Knowledge and Role Perception Regarding Chronic Pain: A Survey of Social Workers in Health Care
- Murphy, Jennifer  
Parolee Experiences of Reintegration into Community
- Reid, Michelle Wilma  
Impacts of First Nations Women Child and Family Service Social Workers' (FNWCFSSW) Work on Their Holistic
- Salter, Suzanne  
Changing the Rules of the Game: Individualized Funding in BC: Implication for Families & Social Workers
- Schofield, Zhila  
Complementary and Alternative Medicine: Implications for Social Work Practice
- Scribner, Karla Diane  
Older Women and Alcohol Use, A Feminist Perspective
- Siguenza, Rene  
Social Knowledge: Applying a Conceptual Model of Adult Romantic Relationships to Dating in Adolescence

*Continued on page six*

# Continuing Education

## in Social Work and Family Studies

Plans for a Continuing Education Program in Social Work are slowly developing. There's a grand plan, to be achieved in the long term, and a smaller plan (which fits the grand plan but focuses on the short term).

The grand plan is to offer Post-MSW specializations in Health, Families and Child Welfare and Community Development. Social workers who want to acquire such a specialization would have to take and pass 5 courses equivalent to 3 credits each. A minimum of two of these courses would focus on education, with the balance that could focus on training. Those who will complete the 15 credits will receive a higher education certificate from UBC. We intend to work out arrangements to offer these courses at lower costs to field faculty who are supporting the School by taking practicum students.

In the short-term, we may start offering 6 or 7-week courses (1.5 credits that could be bankable toward a specialization) in the fall of 2003. Since social workers in health are already organized -they have their own Association and the Hospital Links Committee meets every two months at the School - it was proposed to first offer courses related to

this specialization. To have an idea of what topics may be more needed, and therefore more viable, we are asking you to complete the survey enclosed with this newsletter.

There is still much to be done. We are also working towards joint planning with the Justice Institute. Both UBC and the J. I. are recognizing the wisdom of collaborating to bring exceptional people to Vancouver, share the risks and expenses, etc...

Faculty members in Family Studies have also expressed interest in a similar continuing education plan and courses in this discipline should be developed for the academic year 2004-2005.

If you have any interest in Continuing Education for the School of Social Work & Family Studies, please take the time to fill out the survey enclosed with the current issue of *The Bridge* and fax both sides to Margaret Landstrom in Continuing Education (604-822-1499). We are waiting for your feedback.

*Dr. Paule McNicoll, Associate Professor*

## Fundraising

Fundraising continues for three of our most recently established awards:

### Roopchand Seebaran Prize

In recognition and celebration of Professor Seebaran's significant contributions to community development, teaching and practice, and to anti-racist social work education during his academic career, the UBC School of Social Work and Family Studies is pleased to announce the establishment of the Roopchand Seebaran Prize. The prize will be awarded on an annual basis to BSW or MSW student(s) whose work on the subject of either community development or anti-racist social work is judged to be of the highest quality.

### Family Studies Scholarship Fund

Fundraising is underway to establish a scholarship for family studies students. The FMST student association as part of their Class Act 2001, the Association of Home Economists in Business in B.C. and the School has provided initial funds.

### Mary Hill Scholarship

Friends and alumni of the School have established a scholarship in honour of Mary Hill. Under the leadership of Kathy Hamilton (BSW, MSW) a group of committed fundraisers have raised over \$30,000 to endow a scholarship for students in Social Work who have an interest in the field of gerontology.

Anyone interested in contributing to these can send their donation to the Development Office, 6253 NW Marine Drive, Vancouver, V6T 1Z1. Tax receipts will be issued.

## RECENT GRADUATES – Continued from page five

Suckbinder, Kaur Bains  
Voices of Pain: The Abuse Experiences of Indian Sikh Women

Sutherland, Rayner  
A Feminist Analysis of Motherhood: Experiences Mothers of a Child with Autism Have with Their Support System

Swanson, Lori J.  
Till Death do us part: Community Development for Aging in Place in Rural British Columbia

Thoreson, Kathryn  
An examination of Chinese and Caucasian Canadians' money beliefs and behaviors

Toledano, Iris Maimon  
Risk Factors for Drug Addiction among Youth in the Downtown Eastside: A Drug User's Perspective

Winkler, Heidi  
An Exploration of Child Protection Workers' views of the British Columbia Comprehensive Risk Assessment Instrument

Wolfe, Lesley A.  
Women in Social Work: Does Women's Caring Lead to Burnout?

Kathryn Thoreson  
An examination of Chinese and Caucasian Canadians' money beliefs and behaviors

Rene Siguenza  
Social Knowledge: Applying a Conceptual Model of Adult Romantic Relationships to Dating in Adolescence

# Expanding access:

## *Celebrating First Graduates of Decentralized Collaborative MSW Program Delivered in the BC Interior*

On December 3, 2002 Presidents Martha Piper of UBC, Katy Bindon of Okanagan University College and Roger Barnsley of the University College of the Cariboo extended their congratulations to the first cohort of students to complete their MSW through an innovative approach to graduate social work education. Initiated in 1999, the Decentralized Collaborative MSW (De MSW) offers an MSW program on a part-time basis through a combination of on-line and face-to-face delivery. Courses are offered by faculty from the three institutions.

Approximately fifty people attended the reception which was held in Kelowna. Graduates from the 1999 cohort of students, as well as members of the 2002 cohort, attended. In addition, Helen Allen (UCC), Daniel Salhani (OUC) and Graham Riches (UBC), directors of each of the participating schools of social work offered congratulations, as did faculty members, Roop Seebaran (Professor Emeritus and former Coordinator of the Distance Education MSW program) and Kimberly Azyan, President of the UBC Social Work Alumni. Carrie McNeely, the class

representative on the UBC Graduate Committee, reflected on her experiences in the decentralized MSW program, highlighting challenges and triumphs entailed in managing the roles of graduate student, professional social worker, and family member. The food was wonderful and the event provided an opportunity for students and faculty from the three schools to get to know each other better and to reminisce about their experiences in the program.



*Brian O'Neill, UBC Coordinator, Distance Education MSW program*

*Left to right – Graham Riches (UBC), Helen Allen (UCC), Roop Seebaran (UBC)*



*Martha Piper chatting with Grad ceremony attendees*



*Students – Zhila Schofield, Marie Bird, Mary Ann Murphy (OUC Prof), Brian O'Neill (UBC Prof and Program Coordinator), Shelley Mitchell, Helen Kormendy, Jennifer Hancock and Andrew Hughes.*

*Left to right – Richard Vedan (UBC), Kimberly Azyan (President, UBC Social Work Alumni), Graham Riches (UBC)*



# 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, 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.

- ◆ Director GRAHAM RICHES has recently published two articles dealing with food issues. The first, entitled "The Human Right to Food: Re-inventing Social Welfare," appeared in the *Canadian Review of Social Policy* (Issue 49-50, Spring-Fall, pp 251-259); the second, entitled "Food Banks and Food Security: Welfare Reform, Human Rights and Social Policy. Lessons from Canada?" appeared in a special issue on food of *Social Policy and Administration* (Volume 36, Number 6, pp 648-663).
- ◆ SUSAN CADELL received funding from the UBC's College of Health Disciplines and the Faculty of Arts to interview palliative care professionals about the Interprofessional Palliative Care Education Project. The results will be presented at the Roots and Wings Hospice Palliative Care Conference in May. She also received funding for the project Post Traumatic Growth and the Role of Support with Bereaved Parents from the School of Social Work and Family Studies Community Care Research Fund. Two of her projects have now been accepted for publication: Trauma and Growth in Canadian Carers (AIDS Care) and Factors Contributing to Post-Traumatic Growth: A Proposed Structural Equation Model (*American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*).
- ◆ PHYLLIS J. JOHNSON has a forthcoming article with Barbara Chaulk and Richard Bulcroft: "Effects of Marriage and Children on Financial Risk Tolerance: A Synthesis of Family Development and Prospect Theory". It will be published in the *Journal of Family and Economic Issues* in a special issue on positive aspects of risk. Phyllis is continuing her research with Asian groups. Some current studies, recently completed with the collaboration of graduate students, are: employment of Southeast Asian refugee women (with Benita Bunjun), Asian immigrants' attitudes about caring for older members of the family (with Eun-Kyong "Gene" Lee), and a comparison between Chinese Canadians' and Caucasian Canadians' beliefs and behaviours in relation to money (with Kathryn Thoreson).
- ◆ EDWARD KRUK is heading up the "Fathers of Separation and Divorce" research cluster of the Fatherhood Involvement Research Alliance, a group of fatherhood researchers from across Canada that were successful in the first round of the 2003 CURA competition. This project involves a program of activities that takes direct aim at increasing father involvement through the creation of a community-based agenda for research and social change.
- ◆ SHEILA MARSHALL, CHARLES GRANT, JAN HARE, AND JIM PONZETTI received a grant from the YWCA and Ministry for Children and Family Development to evaluate the infant services of Sheway. Sheway provides outreach to pregnant or post-natal women with substance use problems in the Downtown Eastside of Vancouver.
- ◆ SHEILA MARSHALL and graduate student KAREN KESTER have had an article entitled "Intergenerational similitude of ethnic identification and ethnic identity: A brief report on immigrant Chinese mother-adolescent dyads in Canada" accepted for publication in *Identity: An International Journal of Theory and Research*. The paper is based on Karen's MA thesis. With LEANNE MAK, a former undergraduate research volunteer, and Sheila recently had an article entitled "Perceived mattering in young adults' romantic relationships" accepted for publication in the *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*. Sheila has also received a 3-year SSHRC grant to study transition-to-adulthood as a family project. More specifically, the project addresses the means by which parents and adolescents construct and organize present and future education, employment, relationship choices and opportunities as their adolescents leave high school.
- ◆ ANNE MARTIN-MATTHEWS has completed her term as Dean *pro tem*, but even those responsibilities didn't disrupt her very active program of research. She has become a Network Collaborator on a \$3 million SSHRC MCRI Collaborative Research Initiative examining the hidden costs/invisible contributions of the marginalization of 'dependent' adults. The research team will include researchers from Alberta, BC, Ontario and Nova Scotia, as well as the U.S., Britain, the Netherlands and Australia. Anne will be involved in several projects on families and aging in rural environments, and on work-family balance issues in the context of care for 'dependent' adults. The main goal of the research will be to balance the costs of caring for elderly relatives against the contributions they make to their communities. Anne has also been invited to join the 'Social Theme Working Group responsible for recommending content for the Canadian Longitudinal Study of Aging (CLSA). The CLSA will be a 20-year, Canadian Institutes of Health Research longitudinal national study with a large age-stratified sample aged 45+. This very large project will examine multiple areas of aging, including: Clinical, Psychological, Health Outcomes, Biological, Health Services, Methodology, Lifestyles, and Cross-cutting Themes. Anne has been elected to the Executive of the Research Committee on Aging of the International Sociological Association for the period 2002-2006. In early April she gave the Keynote address at the Child and Family Research Symposium, Department of Family Studies, University of Manitoba, on April 4, 2003. She talked on "Issues of time and space in the negotiation of family relationships over the life course: Intergenerational age structure and the provision of care at 'home'." In June, Anne will co-host an Exploratory Workshop at UBC on "Transdisciplinary Research to Prevent the Epidemic of Hip Fracture" sponsored by Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies. The workshop will include clinician scientists, biomedical researchers, and social scientists in discussions of the unrecognized risks for hip fractures and novel interventions to better prevent hip fractures in persons over the age of 60.
- ◆ PAULE MCNICOLL and FRANK TESTER continue their productive collaboration. Their paper "Tsumajijaksag: Mindful of the state. Social construction of mental health in the eastern Arctic" has been recommended for publication in *Social Science and Medicine*. In October, they gave a paper "Group work wisdom of the Inuit" at the 24th Annual International Symposium on Social Work with Groups in New York. This summer they will give a presentation "Globalization and the loss of common human heritage: Qallunaat and Inuit communication in the eastern Arctic" at the International Conference on New Directions in the Humanities, University of the Aegean, Island of Rhodes, Greece. PAULE has one journal article and one book chapter that have recently been published and one chapter that is forthcoming: McNicoll, P. and Lindsay, J. (2002). Group work in social work education: The Canadian experience. *Canadian Social Work Review*, 19, 1: 153-166. McNicoll, P. (2003). Current innovations in social work with groups to address issues of social justice. In Sullivan, N. E., Mesbur, E.S., Lang, N. C., Goodman, D. and Mitchell, L. (Eds.) *Social work with groups: Social justice through personal, community and societal change*. New York: The Haworth Press: 35-50. McNicoll, P. (2003 or 4). Putting social justice on the agenda: Addressing habitual and social barriers. In Lewis, E. (Ed.) *1923-2001 and beyond: Growth and development through group work*. New York: The Haworth Press.
- ◆ DEB O'CONNOR and Anne Martin Matthews, in collaboration with six other faculty members from across campus have submitted a proposal to the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research to develop a "Centre for Research on Personhood and Dementia." Out of 75 such proposals, their submission was among 30



teams invited to develop a full proposal. Deborah co-authored an article with A. Freeman which appeared in the most recent edition of the *Canadian Social Work Review* entitled "Seen but not heard: Older women's experience of hospitalization." The article is based on Amy Freeman's graduate thesis research. Additionally, Deb's chapter "Anti-Oppressive Practice with Older Adults: A Feminist Post-structural Perspective" is scheduled for release in April 2003 in an edited book by W. Shearer. Two other publications "Toward Social Justice: Teaching Qualitative Research" which is co-authored with Brian O'Neill (*Journal of Social Work Education*), and "Towards Empowerment: Re-Visioning Family Support Groups" (*Journal of Social Work*) are in press. A third, co-authored by Jenny Young and Megan Saul, which focuses on the experiences of living with paraplegia, has been accepted for publication by *Health and Social Work*. Deborah's SSHRC funded research exploring the impact of family support group continues. She presented a paper on it at the Canadian Gerontology Association annual conference in November, 2002, entitled "Teetering the Tightrope: Reconceptualizing caregiving interventions to respond at both individual and community levels" and another paper coming out of this research will be presented in June in Halifax.

- ❖ BRIAN O'NEILL had a chapter on "Heterosexism: Shaping social policy in relation to gay men and lesbians" published as part of the third edition of A. Westhues's *Canadian social policy* book and article entitled "We didn't connect at all: The experiences of a gay client" that appeared in the 2002 volume of the *Journal of Gay and Lesbian Social Services*.

- ❖ DAN PERLMAN has done an entry for the forthcoming *Encyclopedia of health and behavior* synthesizing the considerable body of evidence that loneliness is associated with, and probably plays a causal role in, mental health physical health and age-adjusted mortality. He has also recently reviewed Grath Fletcher's book, *The New Science of Intimate Relationships*. This engagingly written volume develops the role of evolutionary principles plus cognitive processes in close relationships.

- ❖ MARY RUSSELL and BARBARA HARRIS are co-investigators on a \$2.5 million SSHRC MCRI Collaborative Research Initiative examining the well-being of pre-school children. The C.H.I.L.D. Project: Building a Consortium for Health, Intervention, Learning and Development in a Community Setting includes eleven different studies representing a wide range of disciplines. Mary and Barbara will be examining the experiences of parents as they progress through a parenting program (Project Parent) provided by Family Services of Greater Vancouver to parents whose children have been taken into care.

Mary continues to work with the Victoria Family Violence Prevention Project on developing the Relationship Beliefs Scale, a measure of men's respectful and abusive relationship beliefs as well as exploring women's relationship beliefs.

Mary and Alayne Hamilton from VFVPP will be presenting their findings at the 8th International Family Violence Conference in New Hampshire in July.

Mary and Linda Light, formerly of Victim Services Division, Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General will be reporting on their research on Empowering Women who are Victims of Violence at the Violence and Women's Health Conference in Vancouver in April.

Mary and Annemarie Goeckel, of Family Services of Greater Vancouver, will be reporting on their study of women in the Dew substance abuse program at the 2003 National Conference on Women's Substance Use Treatment in Vancouver in September.

Mary and Bonnie White's study of the Family Advancement Program at Family Services of Greater Vancouver was the basis of a 2002 Social Work Education publication, *Social Workers and Immigrant Client Experiences in Multicultural Service Provision: Educational Implications*.

James McGuire's 2002 edited collection, *Offender Rehabilitation and Treatment: Effective Programs and Policies to Reduce Re-offending*, includes a chapter, "Changing beliefs of spouse abusers" based on Mary's work with the Confronting Abusive Beliefs program at Family Services of Greater Vancouver.

- ❖ TIM STANTON'S research time of late has been taken up on what you might call 'field testing' key parts of his research on individualized funding, independent planning and self determination. Following up on his participation on the Community Living Transition Steering Committee where he chaired the committee charged with designing the new service delivery and support system, he was appointed by the Minister of Child and Family Development to the Board and Executive of the Interim Authority for Community Living British Columbia charged with preparing for the assumption of responsibility for Community Living Services this fall. His work on this was part of the report of the Transition Steering Committee *A New Vision of Community Living: a Vision of Choice and Change* which is available from MCFD. He also received a small grant from the Faculty of Arts to complete the write up on his Welsh direct payments research. Finally he co-authored an article with N. Thomas, S. Jackson, I. Cheung, S. Doubtfire and A. Webb (2003) on "The Needs of Young Carers in Wales," *Child and Family Social Work*, V. 8.1.

- ❖ FRANK TESTER and PAULE MCNICOLL have been examining alternative ways of explaining Inuit suicide. In May, Frank has been asked to speak in Iqaluit, NT at 'Sivumut' a conference on Inuit Suicide sponsored by the Canadian Association for Suicide Prevention. Also in May, Frank will be making his first trip to Mozambique. He will be evaluating the 'Turning Arms into Ploughshares' initiative undertaken in Mozambique for the past eight years. The project aims to disarm as much of the civilian population as possible by offering community

development tools, workshops on reconciliation and peace building, turning arms into works of art, and promoting the interests of peace and reconciliation in Mozambique internationally, particularly through the United Nations. The project was an initiative of the Canadian Government with the involvement of CUSO and a number of German and Japanese NGOs. Frank has been appointed Adjunct Professor of Native Studies, University of Manitoba as well as to the Family Court/Youth Justice Committee of the City of Vancouver.

- ❖ RICHARD VEDAN, in collaboration with Jo-ann Archibald (Education) and Rod McCormick (Counseling Psychology), has been awarded a 3-year Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR) - Institute of Aboriginal Peoples' Health (IAPH) grant of \$1,500,000.00. Their proposal, entitled "What works: The 4 R's of Aboriginal Health (Respect, Reciprocity, Relevance, Responsibility)" is designed to build an Aboriginal research capacity and an environment for research activity. Richard will be Coordinator/Leader for Theme 1) 'Respecting community health strengths for developing health assessments and ethical research practices' which will be focus on community based, capacity building activities to enable First Nation to determine research agendas specific to their needs.

In November, JIM WHITE and colleagues Sheila Marshall, Jamie Wood, Phyllis Johnson, Anne Martin-Matthews, and Jim Ponzetti presented a paper at The National Council on Family Relations Theory Construction and Research Methodology Workshop entitled "The concept of family structure: Functionalism's last bastion." Three members of this group (Jim White, Sheila Marshall, and graduate student Jamie Wood) are currently completing a chapter (Family Structure, Child Well-Being and Post Secondary Saving: The Effect of Social Capital on the Child's Acquisition of Human Capital) for a forthcoming book published by McGill-Queen's University Press. JIM WHITE is currently working on a book entitled *Advanced Family Theory: Models and Metaphors* (Sage Publications) and is completing the third edition of *Families in Canada* (Prentice-Hall).

- ❖ CARRIE YODANIS is continuing her research on how cross-national differences in social institutions and culture are related to violence against women, the distribution of power in relationships, and other relationship dynamics. She presented findings from this research at the Eastern Sociological Society meetings in Philadelphia. At the National Council on Family Relations annual conference in Houston, TX, she presented the findings from a study, conducted in collaboration with Swiss colleagues, on power, communication problems, conflict, and commitment among couples who do not share the same first language. She has also written an entry on cross national childcare for the *Encyclopedia of Community* and co authored an article, forthcoming in *Teaching Sociology*, on using international data sets in the classroom.

# Policy Watch

This is an excerpt from the January report prepared for the Friends to Women and Children by **Dr. Paule McNicoll** and **Deborah O'Connor**, Associate Professors of Social Work.

## **BC health care cuts and caregivers: Diminishing support, shifting responsibility**

Family members have long been recognized as the cornerstone of our health care system, providing over 85% of the care to disabled, frail and chronically ill older persons. The vast majority of this care is done by women, many of whom are seniors themselves, and often has negative impact on the physical and mental well-being of the family member as well as serious financial consequences. Recent changes by the BC Liberal government have resulted in an off-loading of responsibility onto the already strained shoulders of family members. A quick tour of the various cuts to the health and social care systems demonstrates the impact of these cuts to the lives of the people who experience them and the increased reliance upon others, usually a family member, that results.

### **Home support/care.**

Home support/care encompasses a range of medical, social and practical services necessary to help people remain in their own homes and communities as they grow older or need additional support. The intent is to avoid costly institutionalization and/or shorten hospitalization. Since the BC Liberals took power in June 2001, they have cut the budget for home support for the frail, elderly and disabled by 30% and further cuts are expected. An entire tier of services has been eliminated and eligibility requirements have been tightened. These cuts to home care support have left increasing onus on already stressed family members to pick up the slack.

In June 2002, the government instituted a payment to family caregivers' policy, which may be of some use in a few cases. However, the narrow criteria for eligibility effectively seem to disqualify most family caregivers.

### **Hospital and Long-term care.**

Despite lengthy wait lists, long-term care facilities are being closed. There are currently 25,000 residential care beds in B.C. and in the next 2 years, 3,111 of these will be phased out, despite an increase of the aging population. These cuts will result in the closure of a number of facilities. Additionally, criteria for the remaining facility care has been upgraded. Ultimately this means that when family members reach breaking point, few options

will be available. Moreover, staffing cuts in long-term care facilities and hospitals are forcing family members to increase their involvement in care to insure the basic needs of their loved ones are met (e.g., feeding). A recent study of the hospitalization experience of older women supported the increasing role of family in hospital care. One mother went so far as to describe her hospital experience by stating: "I survived thanks to my daughter". The cuts are not only affecting family caregivers: professional caregivers feel the increased stress, the pressure to care for needier patients with fewer resources. The majority of these formal caregivers are women and those with the most contact with patients often come from marginalized groups such as visible minorities and immigrant populations. In other words, some of the most under-recognized and marginalized groups of workers are the ones being most severely impacted.

### **Supportive Living B.C.**

In April 2002, the liberal government announced its plans to develop 3,500 supportive living homes throughout BC by 2005. It is unclear at this point the impact that this program will have in picking up the slack created through the closure of residential care beds. It is clear however that in order to receive supports that they once could have received in their own home (for example meal preparation, laundry...), older persons and persons with disability will now have to go through the trauma of relocating to an alternative setting.

### **Disability (Act for people with Disabilities)**

There were two levels of disability in BC until September 30, 2002: temporary (e.g., people who are HIV-positive, people who have a diagnosis of clinical depression or multiple sclerosis) and permanent. The new legislation abolished the former category and the approximately 7,000 recipients formerly entitled to it, must apply to receive a new benefit for a Person with Persistent and Multiple Barriers to Employment (PPMB). These people will be screened for their ability to get a job. Additionally, many of the 45,000 people who receive the permanent disability

benefits are being reassessed under narrower criteria for eligibility. If no longer considered permanently disabled their case will be reviewed periodically; monthly income will decrease from \$786 to \$510; benefits such as extended medical, bus passes and basic dental care will be eliminated; and the possibility of topping monthly income by \$300 without penalty will be removed. Someone will be expected to pick up the slack such changes will engender – one can assume it will be the already stressed family members.

## **Non-profit organizations and volunteer supports**

Although the need for their services has never been more urgent, there appears to be a general lack of designated funding upon which not-for-profit and volunteer support programs can rely. This has resulted in the elimination of some support programs such as Senior Citizen's Counselors program – a program of approximately 160 volunteers which made over 6,000 contacts per month with seniors to provide assistance around program availability and eligibility issues – and the Senior's Advisory Council. Other programs, such as the Caregiver's Association of BC (CABC) and Advocates for Reform, are barely surviving, with no access to dependable funding.

Furthermore, there appears to be no rhyme or reason around the decisions to cut support services. In June, 2002, the Richmond Caregiver Support program was eliminated; this program provided support to over 200 family caregivers on an annual budget of approximately \$50,000. Humanitarian reasons aside, family support groups have been linked to delayed institutionalization and the meager savings doesn't seem to justify the expensive alternative. Moreover, although operated by the same health board, the Vancouver Caregiver Support program was able to maintain its program – a decision that made much more sense, but leaves one wondering at the logic of the decision to cut the Richmond program!

## **Conclusion**

None of the above cut benefits were mere fringe as was assumed by the B.C. Liberal

*Continued on page eleven*

## Thanks to our Sessional Instructors

Thanks are due to all the **sessional instructors** who taught in 2002/2003, for their many contributions to the educational work of the School.

Joe Blom	Barbara Casson	Adrienne Chan
Sing Mei Chan	Laura Hurd Clarke	John Cringan
Simon Davis	Frances Grunberg	Barbara Harris
Leslie Kemp	Grace Ko	Todd Martin
Nicholas Phillips	Elizabeth Robinson	Maria Weatherby

### MSW Research Class

Top to bottom; left to right

Heather Ouellette, Mario Brondani

Whitney McMillan, Sherry Lynch, Matana

Pruksapong

Cheryl Sacht-Ward, Tasha Embree, Gerry

Kasten

Nelson Hui, Kathy Pitlar, Sanjida Nasreen

Deb O'Connor (Instructor), Karen Hudson,

Farah Kanani

Farimah Shakeri Shemirani, Maria Robichaud



## The friendly staff at the School of Social Work and Family Studies

Left to right; Kristin Schopp, Pascaline Nsekera, Derek Dong, Ivy Chan, Marjorie Paukner, Alina Yuhymets

### Policy Watch – continued from page ten

government. As an example, a pan-Canadian evaluation of home care programs published at the end of the mandate of the NDP government (January 2001) had the following observation on the Simon Fraser Health region, the representative area for British Columbia: "Recent service cuts, particularly in homemaking and home supports, have been identified as pushing some borderline and vulnerable people living independently in the community into a crisis that results in a visit to emergency and admission to hospital." (p.68)

The B.C. Liberals, faced with that situation, made extensive further cuts, while promising that they would not allow people to live at "undue risk". What constitutes 'undue risk' and 'undue risk' to whom? At what point will it become clear that families are already shouldering the bulk of the care for older, frailer members of our society. Recent cuts are punitive and fail to recognize that family members do not turn to formal supports until long after their own resources – both financial and personal health – have been exhausted.

<sup>1</sup>National Advisory Council Aging

<sup>2</sup>Info for Change at <http://www.infoforchange.bc.ca>

<sup>3</sup>Idem

<sup>4</sup>Freeman, A. and D. O'Connor (2002) Seen but not

heard: Older women's experience of hospitalization.

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<sup>5</sup>Info for Change at <http://www.infoforchange.bc.ca>

<sup>6</sup>Info for Change at <http://www.infoforchange.bc.ca>

<sup>7</sup>O'Connor, D (1999) Constructing Community Care:

ReStorying Support. In S. Neysmith (ed) *Critical Issues*

*for Future Social Work Practice with Aging Persons*. New

York: Columbia University Press.

## CONVOCATION

Wednesday May 21, 2003

14

On campus Master of Social Work graduates

2

Off campus Master of Social Work graduates

4

Master of Arts in Family Studies graduates

36

Bachelor of Social Work graduates

Major - 47; Minor - 11

Bachelor of Arts in Family Studies graduates

114 total

***Congratulations Graduates!!***

## Quick Picks

*Did you know....??*

**Candy Lai** [celewood@yahoo.com] is a BA Family Studies graduate (2001). I'm currently a Criminal Intelligence Assistant with the RCMP.

**Peter Griffiths** (BSW 1964, MSW 1966) would enjoy hearing from former social work colleagues and classmates at petergrif@sk.sympatico.ca. Although he retired in 1999 after 35 years with mental health services in Prince Albert, Sask., he continues the two weekly information columns he has written for two newspapers since 1977. They were donated to the Sask.Prov. Library's and are posted at their website at [www.lib.sk.ca/booksinfo](http://www.lib.sk.ca/booksinfo).

**Kristen Catton** has been accepted to present her graduate poster entitled "The Experiences of Children with Lesbian and Gay Parents" at the Maternal and Child/Youth Health 2003 conference in November. Brian O'Neill is her supervisor.

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The next edition of The Bridge will be published in the Fall of 2003. Please send any comments, questions or items of interest to the Editorial Committee at the address above by Sept 20, 2003.

### VISION STATEMENT

The School is committed to collaborative learning, research and practice with diverse communities to promote social well being.

### MISSION STATEMENT

The School integrates academic and professional knowledge in the education of students for service and community participation; is committed to the creation, dissemination and application of knowledge about individuals, families and communities in the global environment; and encourages reflection and action in engaging public debate about social issues and alternative perspectives, policies and practices.

## 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

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e-mail

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Your news:

**Return to: The School Administrator, 2080 West Mall, Vancouver V6T 1Z2**