

## MSW Students Attended 2018 International Summer University

*From July 8 to 18, 2018, the International Summer University in Social Work (ISUSW) was held in Jerusalem, Israel.*

*Three MSWs, Hannah, Kimberly and Dana, participated in the conference. They share their reflections on the experience.*

The ISUSW is an annual ten day conference wherein graduate students and professors from universities around the world convene to discuss an important social work topic.



*Hannah Rushton, Kimberly Ajele and Dana Seidel at the 2018 ISUSW.  
Photo credit: Hannah Rushton.*

The focus of this year's ISUSW was child welfare policy and practice. The conference consisted of lectures delivered by professors from Israel, Canada, Switzerland, China, Hong Kong, the United States, Burkina Faso and India, all discussing the concept of child welfare and related issues from the perspective of each country and culture. Students in attendance had the opportunity to learn of the differences and similarities of child welfare social work from said lectures as well as enlightening discussion with other students, which were then translated into student presentations delivered on the last day of the conference.

In addition to these presentations, the summer university involved tours of agencies and historical sites in Israel, which provided a diverse and enriching depiction of social work with children as well as the social and political issues specific to the Israeli context.

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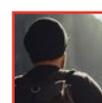
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# Director's Report



This is a revival year. The four new faculty members, Christiana Bratiotis, Mohamed Ibrahim, Barbara Lee and Ashley Quinn, who joined us last year, have brought new insights, expertise and energy to us. They have transformed the School in many ways: teaching, research, collaboration and program development, just to name a few. The synergy of these new colleagues and our existing team members have generated a fruitful year for us (see faculty updates starting [page 4](#)).

Meanwhile, we have successfully organized [two summer school programs](#) in May and July for 24 students from our international partners in Hong Kong and Mainland China. Three of our MSW students also had the opportunity to join the annual [summer institute](#), which was held in Jerusalem in July. The institute this year focused on child welfare policy and practice, with presenters from Israel, Canada, Switzerland, China, Hong Kong, the United States, Burkina Faso and India.

We also celebrated the great achievements of [Dr. Patsy George](#) who received an honorable degree from UBC. Dr. George has lived and practiced the calling of social work by advocating for and serving the marginalized and vulnerable population in both local and international communities.

The School has a long tradition of partnership with various community organizations in Metro Vancouver. In March, led by the [Centre for Inclusion and Citizenship](#), we co-organized a symposium on Basic Income, Social Security and Poverty Reduction which was well attended. To further the debate on poverty, in the coming September, led by Dr. Timothy Stainton, we will co-organize a seminar on food security. Championed by Dr. Barbara Lee, we are also co-organizing a series of research seminars with MOSAIC, one of the major settlement service organizations, to share our research findings with the practice community. In June 2019, the School will be hosting the annual Canadian social work conference. Details of these activities will soon be posted on our [website](#). Please stay tuned!

Since 2016, the School has been trying to rebuild the full capacity. On July 1, we welcomed [Ms. Marie Nightbird](#), our newly recruited Indigenous Instructor, who will be a key champion to ensure that our School effectively responds to the recommendations made in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report. Marie will be working closely with the newly set up Indigenous Program Working Group headed by our Scholar Elder, Dr. Richard Vedan, and joined by Dr. Ashley Quinn and a few other members from the Indigenous community.

Meanwhile, Dr. Mok Escueta, our instructor, decided to return to his private practice and left the school in July. His contributions to the school will not be forgotten. Two senior members, Ms. Liz Jones and Dr. Margaret Wright, will also retire at the end of December. As many people know, Liz and Margaret are irreplaceable members of our School. While sadly preparing for their departure, I would like to invite you to come and celebrate their great contributions to our School and UBC by then. With the Dean's support, we are recruiting four members, including a new director, to fill the gap. Hopefully, by July 1, 2019, we will have a new director and three new faculty members joining us to celebrate our 90th Anniversary.

*- Miu Chung Yan, Professor and Director*

# Program Reports

## *Curriculum Mapping Engaged Three BSW Cohorts*

Through the dedicated collaborative efforts of many individuals on the BSW Curriculum and Field Education Committee, Alyson Rayner, our dedicated consultant, and the School as a whole, we completed our two year project of BSW Curriculum Mapping and redesign in the fall of 2017. Fully 73% of three BSW cohorts participated in surveys to assess and evaluate each course offered in the program. All recommendations made by the Committee were accepted by the School's faculty. Although an ongoing process, the recent efforts have resulted in many significant changes and shifts to the program, as well as strengthening components and directions already embedded. We hope to sustain this process moving forward.

As has been the case in previous years, we continue to have a very active BSW Curriculum and Field Education Committee which meets on a regular basis to provide oversight of the program as a whole.

*- Respectfully submitted,  
Mok Escueta, BSW Chair*

## *Field Education Program Expanded Portfolio and Added Initiatives*

Field Education is the 'signature pedagogy' of Social Work. During 2017- 18, we were able to expand our portfolio considerably to meet a higher standard for our service to students, field instructors, faculty and the community.

We were fortunate indeed to receive additional funding, and the team in 2017 - 18 was made up of a faculty Chair (Elizabeth Jones), two Field Education Coordinators (Jacky Coates and Tina Buttar), and a full-time assistant (Jenny Li). As a result, we expanded our work beyond just 'matching' students and field instructors, to recruiting new field placements, spending time in the community getting to know resources, doing more training for field instructors, and generally learning much more deeply about how we can provide excellent service.

We had 8 workshops for Field Instructors on such topics as **"Mentoring Millenials"**, **"Trauma Informed Practice"**, **"Field Supervision towards Job Readiness"**, **"Ethical Supervision"**, among others, and thank Ivy Williams, Marisa Tuzi, Moira McIntyre, Leya Eguchi, Tanyss Knowles for providing leadership in these offerings.

As well, the Field Education Team was given the responsibility to create a "Continuing Professional Development" (CPD) component. Accordingly, we offered two workshops for the general social work community on **Narrative Therapy** (Matty Devenish, instructor) and **Hoarding** (Christiana Bratiotis, instructor).

We look forward to developing more of these initiatives and continuing to solidify the Field Education Portfolio.

*- Respectfully submitted,  
Elizabeth Jones, Field Education Chair 2017-18*

# Faculty Update

## *Welcoming Our New Faculty Member!*

### **Marie Nightbird**

Marie Nightbird, MSW, RCSW, joined the Faculty as a full-time instructor on July 1, 2018. Marie has been employed by UBC since 2014 having worked as a sessional instructor in the School of Social Work for 1½ years and as an education coordinator in Indigenous programming in the Faculty of Medicine for 4½ years on a half-time basis. She also provided short-term coverage in the field education program in the School of Social Work and in student counselling services.

Marie's career in social work started in the early 1980s. She has a MSW from UBC, a BSW from UVic, and is a registered clinical social worker. Areas of interest include Indigenous healing and wellness, and violence against women. Marie has worked in health authorities as a supervisor of an Indigenous wellness program and social worker in an inner city emergency department; in a women's organization as counsellor and coordinator of a crisis line; in a delegated urban Aboriginal child welfare agency as supervisor of a family preservation program; in a community-based criminal justice program as an employment counsellor and coordinator of a federal institution's visitors program; and in a drop-in centre for street entrenched and at risk youth as a counsellor and program developer. The counselling and consulting services she has provided through her private practice since 2005 have focused on services to residential school survivors and intergenerational survivors.

Recent highlights of Marie's career include having provided counselling services to residential school survivors during the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's statement gathering and healing events, and during legal compensation claims. She was involved in the development and management of an Elder's program in a health clinic in the Downtown Eastside. Highlights while working at UBC include being involved with the UBC 23 24 Indigenous Cultural Safety training program and teaching the 'First Nations Social Issues' and 'Communication Skills in Social Work Practice' courses in the School of Social Work.

## Research Round-Up

### **Christiana Bratiotis**

#### ***Recent Publication:***

Kwok, N., **Bratiotis, C.**, Luu, M., Lauster, N., Kysow, K., Woody, S.R. (2017). Examining the role of fire prevention on hoarding response teams: Vancouver fire and rescue services as a case study. *Fire Prevention*. doi 10.1007/s10694-017-0672-0

#### ***Accepted, Forthcoming Publication:***

Luu, M., Lauster, N., **Bratiotis, C.**, Edsell-Vetter, J., & Woody, S. R. (in press). Squalor in community-referred hoarded homes. *Journal of Obsessive-Compulsive and Related Disorders*.

### **Juried Conference Presentations:**

Edsell-Vetter, J., **Bratiotis, C.**, Mayes, T., & Ayers, C. (July, 2018). *Community Responses to Hoarding Disorder*. Symposium Paper. Annual Conference of the International Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder Foundation, Washington, D.C.

Edsell-Vetter, J., & **Bratiotis, C.** (July, 2018). *Effective Case Management Approaches for Hoarding Intervention*. Open Paper. Annual Conference of the International Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder Foundation, Washington, D.C.



Christiana (left) and colleagues at the Annual Conference of the International Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder Foundation.

Mansueto, C., Yadin, E., **Bratiotis, C.**, Szymanski, J. & Cogen, S. (July, 2018). *OCD Advocacy in the Public Domain: Mass Media, The Law, Community Agencies, National Security and Public Policy*. Symposium Paper. Annual Conference of the International Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder Foundation, Washington, D.C.

Woody, S. & **Bratiotis, C.** (November, 2017). *Making Space for Life: Cognitive-behavioural Strategies for Hoarding Behaviour*. Full-day Pre-Conference Institute. Annual Meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, San Diego, CA.



### **Invited Addresses & Presentations**

**Bratiotis, C.** (June, 2018). *Building Sustainable Partnerships: The Path Forward*. Master Workshop. Niagara University Conference on University, Community & Government Partnerships for Race, Equality & Mission. Niagara, NY.

**Bratiotis, C.** (May, 2018). *Too Much Stuff: Understanding Hoarding Disorder*. Full-day Training. Canadian Mental Health Association of Calgary, Hoarding Conference. Calgary, AB.

**Bratiotis, C.** (April, 2018). *Hands-On Approach to Hoarding*. Keynote Address. Annual Hoarding Conference. Wichita, KS

Christiana (third from left) and colleagues at the Niagara University Conference.

## Grant Charles

Grant Charles is the lead editor (with S. Rogers, M. Degagne and G. Lowry) of a recently published book *“Speaking My Truth: The Journey to Reconciliation”*. He has a chapter entitled *“Worrying about Reconciliation: Building upon our Commonalities and our Differences as a Way to Move Forward”* in the same book. The launch of this book at the Indian Residential School History and Dialogue Centre was hosted by the Centre’s Director, Dr. Mary Ellen Turpel Lafond with opening comments by UBC President and Vice-Chancellor Santa Ono. He is co-author (with G. Lowry) of *“Towards a Creative-Critical Approach to Sharing Narratives of Student-to-Student Abuse in Canada’s Indian Residential School System”* in *Cogent Arts & Humanities: Culture, Media & Film*.



Left: Book cover of *“Speaking My Truth: The Journey to Reconciliation”*. Right: Grant Charles with Santa Ono at the book launch.

Grant recently presented at Pediatrics Grand Rounds at British Columbia Children’s Hospital with C. Warf and T. Warshawski on *Adolescents, Overdose & Addictions: Is it Time for Secure Care in BC?*. Grant along with P. Ranahan and B. Anderson-Naithe presented *De/valuation, Conflict-collaboration, and Solidarity: Perspectives on Interprofessionalism in Child and Youth Care Practice* at the 20th National Child and Youth Care Conference in Richmond, British Columbia. He also presented *Permanency at the Longhouse: Removing the Barriers to Customary Adoption in Indigenous Communities in British Columbia* at the ISUSUW Summer Institute at Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Israel and *Ethics and Evidence: Challenging our Practice Assumptions* for the Thompson Nicola British Columbia Association of Social Work in Kamloops.

Grant was one of 25 people from across the country invited to take part in a forum to advise former Truth and Reconciliation Commissioner Grand Chief Wilton Littlechild and the other members of the board of the Interim National Council for Reconciliation on the establishment of the new council. The council will monitor adherence to the TRC recommendations across the country. He also served as a member of the Organizing Committee for the 2018 Child and Youth Care World Congress. He was recently appointed to the Commission on Accreditation Council of the Canadian Association of Social Work Education. He continues as a member of the UBC Behavioural Ethics Review Board.

He was awarded a SSHRC Partnership Grant (Stage One) as a co-investigator (*Transforming the Field*)

*Education Landscape: Intersections of Research and Practice in Canadian Social Work Field Education*) with Julie Doulet (PI) et al. He is also a co-investigator on a team that was awarded an Insight Development Grant entitled *Young Carers Coming of Age: Examining Transitions to Adulthood in the Context of the Caregiving Relationship* with A. Breen (PI), H. Chalmers and V. Stamatopoulos.

He continues his work as PI on *“Witnessing the ‘Dark Secret’ of Student-to-Student Abuse in Canada’s Indian Residential Schools: Situating Survivor Testimony, Scholarship, and Creative Practice in a Process of Reconciliation”* with M.E. Turpel-Lafond, M. Degagne, G., Lowry, N. Clark, A. Bombay, G. Belliveau, G. Angecone and S. Hunt and with S. Marshall (PI) and R. Young on *Being My Future: Adolescents’ Future Oriented Projects with Non-parental Adults*).

One of the graduate students he is supervising, Nasim Naraghi, was recently awarded a Tri-Council Canada Masters Scholarship.

## Edward Kruk

Edward Kruk has had a busy year during his study leave, which included a number of keynote presentations and collaborations with various social agencies and academic institutions around the globe, from the U.S. to Iceland, Belgium, Spain, Germany, Turkey, Iran, and South Korea. These included taking responsibility for the annual two-day conference of the Montana Psychological Association, at which he presented on “Facilitating the Development of Co-Parenting Plans with High Conflict Parents After Parental Separation; and Psychological Intervention in Cases of Parental Alienation After Parental Separation.”

He was invited to be a keynote speaker at the First International Congress on 60 Years of Social Work in Iran, co-sponsored by the Iranian Association of Social Workers and the International Federation of Social Work, in Tehran, and took the opportunity to visit and work with several Iranian social agencies serving children and families, as well as people struggling with addiction. During his time in Iran, he facilitated a workshop with the Iranian Association of Social Workers on “Family Mediation and Conflict Resolution; Facilitating the Development of Co-Parenting Plans After Parental Separation,” and a workshop with faculty and graduate students at Allameh Tabatabaie’i University on “Shared Parental Responsibility as an Emergent Paradigm for Post-Divorce Parenting: The Role of Social Workers.”



Edward Kruk presents keynote at the 2017 International Parental Alienation Awareness Day Conference, Iceland.

He also spent some time with social work faculty and the Institute of Women's Studies at Gyeongsang National University in South Korea, making a presentation on "Shared Parenting as a Women's Rights Issue." The latter was the culmination of earlier work on this topic in Iceland, Turkey and Iran.

He continued to publish his monthly blog on "Co-Parenting After Divorce" for *Psychology Today*, and published "The Rights and Needs of Children After Parental Separation: The Case for Shared Parental Responsibility," in Ricardo Simões' *Shared Residence in Portuguese Society*; and "Arguments Against Presumptive Shared Parenting as the Foundation of Family Law: A Critical Review," in the *Journal of Divorce and Remarriage*. He also authored *Co-Parenting After Separation*, a Continuing Education course for social workers and human services professionals, for Western Schools.

He continues to serve as President of the International Council on Shared Parenting, and will be hosting the Fourth International Conference on Shared Parenting, sponsored by the Council of Europe, in Strasbourg in November.

### **Barbara Lee**

Dr. Barbara Lee is leading a 2-year educational research project called "Using Simulation in Social Work Education Specializing in Children and Families". The first year of the project will involve the development and implementation of child welfare simulation workshops for BSW and MSW students. In the simulation workshops, students will have the opportunity to work with standardized actors portraying clients in a child welfare scenario. Students can practice their interviewing skills in a way that mimics 'real' social work situations and receive constructive feedback regarding their performance from the instructor and their peers, all in a 'safer' learning environment. The second year of the project will involve developing and implementing the Objective Structured Clinical Evaluation (OSCE) adapted for child welfare. In the OSCE, students undergo a simulated interview while instructors objectively observe and assess student's practice competency through the use of validated OCSE performance rating scales.

The aims of the research are to identify student strengths and challenges in the areas of engagement, assessment, relationship with the clients,



*Team Photo: Michelle O'Kane (left), Daniel Ji, (middle), and Barbara Lee (right).*

and to identify strengths and challenges in how students reflect on and conceptualize their practice with children and families. The project will also test and evaluate the effectiveness of using simulation as a teaching and learning modality in social work education. The project will culminate in an open access online educational toolkit that will comprise of educational modules, virtual simulation, and critical reflective learning activities. The virtual simulation consists of high quality videos of standardized clients portraying key components of a child protection investigation, such as the initial contact from the social worker, addressing the allegations of maltreatment, and situational context of the client and their family. The virtual simulation offers a more cost-effective and sustainable method to bring simulation into the classroom. It will be available as a free, open educational resource.

Barbara is working with two second year PhD students, Daniel Ji and Michelle O’Kane. Daniel and Michelle join the project with extensive child welfare experience. Daniel has six years of front line child protection experience in Vancouver’s Downtown Eastside and two years of practice analyst experience working with Delegated Aboriginal Agencies. His research explores adolescent resistance and growth in the context of parent-child relationships. Michelle is a second year PhD student who came to UBC from the UK having worked in child welfare since 2005. Her research focuses on the conceptualization and implications of supervisory neglect.

The research project is supported by UBC Teaching and Learning Education Fund (TLEF), UBC Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL), and UBC Open Textbook/Educational Resource (OER).

Dr. Barbara Lee is a co-investigator on a multi-university SSHRC funded research project called “Evaluating Decision-Making and Relationship Competence when Reporting Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect”. Child maltreatment exists and the decision to report is often an ambiguous and uncertain exercise. Social workers are mandated to report suspected child abuse, while maintaining a relationship with the family and provide ongoing quality care. The therapeutic relationship can be compromised when faced with negative client emotions regarding the report to child welfare.

In collaboration with Dr. Lea Tufford (principal investigator, Laurentian University), Prof. Marion Bogo (co-investigator, University of Toronto) and Dr Elizabeth Wenghofer (co-investigator, Laurentian University), Barbara has developed a comprehensive educational toolkit to train social work students and practitioners in decision-making, and relationship maintenance, in the mandatory reporting of child maltreatment. The SSHRC funded project will develop the performance and reflection scales to capture the procedural and meta-competencies specific to the mandatory reporting of child maltreatment, test their reliability and validity, and compare the educational toolkit with intervention and matched comparison groups. This study will assist social work students and practitioners to understand the impact of a range of factors on effective and accurate decision-making and how to maintain the relationship in situations of suspected child maltreatment. This study aims to develop a theoretical model that identifies the components of holistic competence with respect to mandatory reporting.

## Sheila Marshall

Sheila continues to work as an associate editor with the *Journal of Adolescence*. The research published in the *Journal* covers a wide range of topics relevant to youth practitioners, social workers, educators, and researchers. Unlike many journals, this journal generates funds for a not-for-profit organization, the Foundation for Professionals in Services to Adolescents (FPSA). FPSA offers professionals working with adolescents the funding to take courses, attend conferences and training relevant to working with youth.



Turning to research, the *Being My Future* project, funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, is underway with four research assistants collecting data with youth. This project, conducted with Grant Charles (social work) and Richard Young (counselling psychology), is intended to observe how adolescents talk about their futures with non-familial adults.

Three papers on transitions for adolescents and young adults with disabilities were completed and accepted for publication this year:

Marshall, S.K., Goessling, K., Young, R.A., & Wozniaki-Molnar, A. (in press). Researching the transition to high school for adolescents with a disability: Qualitative Action-Project Method as an exemplar approach. *International Journal of Disability, Development and Education*.

Marshall, S.K., Stainton, T., Wall, J.M., Zhu, M., Murray, J., Wu, S., Bouhali, A.E., Parada, F., Zaidman-Zait, A., & Young, R.A. (in press). Transition to adulthood as a joint parent-youth project for young persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities. *Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities*.

Young, R.A., & Marshall, S.K., Stainton, T., Wall, J.M., Curle, D., Zhu, M., Munro, D., Murray, J., Bouhali, A.E., Parada, F., Zaidman-Zait, A. (2018). The transition to adulthood of young adults with IDD: Parents' joint projects. *Journal of Applied Research in Intellectual Disabilities*, 31, 224–233.

A few years ago, Sheila and two other Canadian colleagues began working with two researchers in Saudi Arabia. There is very little research on the transition to adulthood in Saudi society. In a country with a 'youth bulge', such work is critically important for understanding how to support families, particularly as the country is shifting away from its dependence on oil production. It is exciting to see the first English language publication from this project:

Khalifa, H., Alnuaim, A.A., Young, R.A., Marshall, S.K., & Popadiuk, N. (2018). Crafting continuity and change in Saudi society: Joint parent-youth transition-to-adulthood projects. *Journal of Adolescence*, 63, 142-152.

Sheila and her research assistants, Andrea Johnson, Mauricio Coronel-Villalobos, and Sneha Shankar presented research at the annual conference of the Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine ("Examining item characteristics and DIF of the MDS for young adolescents: Implications for community mental health research") and the biennial meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence ("Mattering to parents and friends: Testing cross-lagged associations with psychosocial well-being").

## Tim Stainton

As usual most of Tim's research work is done under the Centre for Inclusion and Citizenship so is detailed under the Centre's entry ([see page 15](#)). Tim has been deeply involved in the issue of Medical Assistance in Dying and is a member of the Federal Expert Panel reviewing the evidence related to mature minors, psychiatric conditions and advance directives.



He has also been working with an international group to develop a position paper and policy statement on the 'new eugenics' for the International Association for the Scientific Study of Intellectual and Developmental disabilities (IASSIDD) considering the implications of pre-natal testing, neo-natal euthanasia and assisted suicide for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Locally he is involved in the 're-imagining community living' initiative recently begun by the new provincial government.

## Miu Chung Yan

This year, I have been continuing on the two research projects in the inner group dynamics among the Chinese immigrant communities in Toronto, Calgary and Vancouver and of an international comparison in the socio-political impacts of Chinese and South Asian immigrants' settlement and integration processes in Vancouver, Singapore and Los Angeles. For both projects, data collection have been mostly completed. Preliminary findings of the inner group project were presented in March at the *Metropolis Conference* at Calgary and in July at the *Joint World Conference on Social Work, Education and Social Development* at Dublin. Working with social work educator from Ireland, the United States and Hong Kong, I also co-organized and moderated a workshop at the Dublin conference. The workshop, entitled as Place-based Community Informed Social Work Education: Challenges and Promises, was an international collaborative effort to respond to the marginalization of community practice in social work education. The attendees of the workshop came from ten different countries and four different continents. Through an enthusiastic discussion, the attendees proposed a few follow-up actions to generate an international synergy to tackle this issue.

In terms of publication, I had published three co-authored journals articles and one book chapter last year. Two are published in *International Social Work*, entitled Incorporating individual community assets in neighbourhood houses: Beyond the community building tradition of Settlement Houses, and Examining the neoliberal discourse of accountability: The case of Hong Kong's social service sector. The other one, Youth unemployment: Implications for social work practice, was published in *Journal of Social Work*. The book chapter, An inhospitable transition: Immigrant youth and the labour market, was included in an Oxford University Press book, *Immigrant Youth in Canada: Theoretical Approaches, Practical Issues, and Professional Perspectives* edited by Wilson-Forsberg, Stacey and Andrew M. Robinson.

In April, I was invited to be a member of an international review panel by Chinese University of Hong Kong to review its Department of Social Work. While I was in Hong Kong, I also visited and gave a presentation at Caritas Institute of Higher Education as its Honourable Professor.

## School Events

### *2018 International Summer Social Work Program: Diversity and Social Work*

After the success achieved in the exchange with social work students from China in 2017, this year the UBC School of Social Work hosted two new International Summer Programs: one in May with nine undergraduate students from the Hong Kong Polytechnic University (HKPU), and a second one in July with a similar group coming from four different universities in the Chinese province of Guangzhou.

This year's programs focused on the topic of Diversity and Social Work. With interactive presentations from instructors and students of the School, and from other guest speakers, visitors explored the notions of power and intersectionality, as well as the challenges and opportunities diversity brings for social work practice.

Visiting students also learned from guided visits around the city and to community service providers, such as Collingwood Neighbourhood House, Mosaic, and the Social Planning Offices of the City of Vancouver near the Downtown East Side. Each of these scenarios represented an opportunity for exchanging knowledge, discussing about cultural differences, self-care strategies, and the perspectives for social work in a globalized community.



*July Summer School students tour the city with Baldwin Wong, Social Planner, City of Vancouver.*

Besides pointing out how beautiful they found the city of Vancouver, program participants expressed how much they liked the teaching methodologies at UBC, which allowed personal engagement, vivid discussion, and participatory learning.

They also acknowledged how much they learned in the agency visits, where they were able to see their achievements, their challenges, and the application of theoretical concepts in the field.

The program concluded with a great display of creativity by participants in exploring how social work in both countries could learn from each other. While Canadian social work offers a great experience in building up spaces for diversity, students suggested that the Chinese efforts in the promoting social enterprises with people from the grassroots of the community could contribute to achieve the goals of social inclusion.

Visiting students expressed a great interest in learning more about the ethics of care, human rights approaches to social justice, and in having a longer than two-weeks period to enjoy more of the scenery offered by Vancouver and UBC Campus!

- Ricardo Chaparro-Pacheco, Program Coordinator

## *Patsy George Awarded Honorary Degree from UBC*

Patsy George, C.M., O.B.C., was conferred the degree of Doctor of Laws (LL.D.) on May 24, 2018, at the same convocation ceremony of our May 2018 BSW, MSW, and PhD graduates. View the awarding of her honorary degree [here](#).

Patsy George is a social worker and internationally recognized advocate for human rights and social justice. With a decades-long public service and professional career, Ms. George is the recipient of numerous distinctions including Order of British Columbia, Order of Canada, and a Woman of Our Times Award. She has had a career characterized by service and partnership with multiple communities in Canada and abroad.

Patsy was a founding member of the BC Organization of Immigrant Women and Vice President of the National Organization of Immigrant and Visible Minority Women of Canada. She was founding member and past President of Pacific Immigrant Resources Society, providing language training, settlement support and leadership development of immigrant and refugee women and early developmental supports for their preschool children.

Her support of human rights, multiculturalism and anti-racism initiatives locally and nationally have included serving on the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, being Director of Multiculturalism BC wherein she developed a mentorship program within government to create career paths for qualified immigrants and refugees within public service and government, and serving as a member of the BC Hate Crimes Team, bridging between police and First Nations while supporting First Nations to pursue legal remedies for hate related crime.

In the child welfare arena, Patsy was a founding member of the Native Indian Child Welfare Advisory Committee in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, formed among parents, elders, Native homemakers, service providers and provincial child welfare workers to try to reduce the number of First Nations children coming into care.

Patsy also was an Order in Council appointee to the Community Panel charged with the review of Family and Child Welfare Legislation in BC. She has been voluntary chair of Parents Together of BC an organization



*Patsy George speaks to social work graduates.  
Photo credit: University Photographer.*

formed to provide self-help support to parents experiencing conflict with their adolescent children. Through her close association with the schools of social work in BC, she has mentored numerous students over the years and has established scholarships to support their studies at UBC, Capilano University, and the University of the Fraser Valley.

At the international level, Patsy was Founding Director of the Stephen Lewis Foundation of Canada dedicated to creating care and support for children and women impacted by HIV in sub-Saharan Africa. She played a pivotal role in the organizations establishment, fundraising efforts and strategic programming including the Grandmother to Grandmother Campaign which has had a continuing impact. She is past President of the United Nations Association in Canada, Vancouver branch wherein she worked to promote public discourse on international issues through partnership projects with UBC, SFU and several NGOs. As President of the International Council on Social Welfare and as North American Vice President of the World Organization, Patsy has participated in a number of UN Summits and Forums contributing to the development of international agreements and protocols to fight poverty, enhance social cohesion, human rights and sustainable development.

Other than her close connection and contribution to our School of Social Work, Patsy has also contributed significantly to the School of Nursing over the years. She has been an ardent and enthusiastic supporter of their international development programming in particular, being a strong supporter of faculty and students. By supporting tables of students at various international fundraising and educational events in the community, she provided mechanisms for nursing students to interact with others in the senior international development community and to catch the fire of enthusiasm for the value of this work.



*Patsy George receives her honorary degree. Photo credit: University Photographer.*

## Centre Updates

### *Centre for Inclusion and Citizenship*



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA  
Centre for Inclusion and Citizenship

The Centre for Inclusion and Citizenship (CIC) is firmly rooted at both UBC campuses and is Canada's only university-based

research centre with an exclusive focus on social policy and issues concerned with the full inclusion and citizenship of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. It is hard to believe that we are celebrating our 10th anniversary in the coming year!

As the community first envisioned, it has become a network of people and organizations locally, nationally and globally who share our passion for inclusive citizenship. We continue to engage in a wide variety of research, educational and community oriented activities here in BC and across Canada and the world.

"As academics and researchers at the university, one of the most meaningful aspects of our work, is the opportunity to do research in partnership with community stakeholders. We take seriously our community relationships and appreciate opportunities to collaborate around issues of relevance to our partners." – Dr. Rachelle Hole, CIC Co-Director, UBCO

### Research Project Highlights

#### **TYDE – Transitioning Youth with Disabilities and Employment**

Over the past two years, it has been a privilege to engage with long time partners and establish new relationships in this initiative. Recognizing the ongoing barriers that self advocates experience to meaningful paid employment, a collaborative,

inter-ministerial, cross-sectoral partnership is crucial to effecting change. Through TYDE, we hope to make positive change in supporting youth with disabilities and their families to improve employment outcomes for self advocates. Find out more about our partners and future work at [www.mytyde.ca](http://www.mytyde.ca).



#### **Sex, Lies and Citizenship: A Participatory Theatre Project**

This is an exciting community-based participatory theatre project focused on improving sexual health knowledge and positive sexuality among self advocates being undertaken with the Community Living Society as our lead community partner.

Individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities are presently coming together to explore the opportunities to participate in participatory theatre and the "troupe" will be formed in January 2019. Public performances will take place at the Anvil Centre theatre in May 2019.



We have recently completed a three-year **evaluation of Ready, Willing and Able (RWA)**, a national employment initiative designed to increase the labour force participation of people with an intellectual disability or Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Active in 20 communities across Canada, with a branch in all 13 provinces and territories, it is a national partnership of the Canadian Association for Community Living (CACL), the Canadian Autism Spectrum Disorders Alliance (CASDA) and their member organizations.



This past year, we have continued to support the **Wingspan Collaborative** which is a VPRI Research Excellence Cluster and an intellectual 'studio' of interdisciplinary scholars in disability studies, arts, culture and public pedagogy across many disciplines at UBC. The cluster collaborates on common projects regarding the rights of people with disabilities and who proactively promote the idea that while individual disabilities pose impairments, they should not be seen as deficits but instead as differences that enrich collective human experience and the arts.



*Dr. David Piachaud with Dr. Tim Stainton at the Symposium on Basic Income, Social Security and Poverty Reduction.*

In our newest project, **“Promoting Human Flourishing in the Context of Medical Assistance in Dying”** we are working to develop and share cultural narratives about the meaning of disability, frailty and suffering in the context of the emerging system for Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) in Canada. Part of a larger national initiative being led by the Canadian Association for Community Living, Jordan Wadden, a UBC Vancouver PhD Student in the Department of Philosophy is working with me on this.

### **Community Engagement and Learning Highlights**

Throughout the year, we undertake several opportunities to meet, engage and consult with our many partners, members of the community and government.

In April, we were pleased to partner with the School of Social Work and others to host the **Symposium on Basic Income, Social Security and Poverty Reduction**. The symposium featured a keynote by Dr. David Piachaud, Professor Emeritus of Social Policy at the London School of Economics.

Recommendations resulting from the day's discussion were submitted to the Provincial Government's consultation on poverty reduction. Participants at the forum concluded that "Most importantly, basic income, or any poverty reduction strategy adopted, needs to be build on the foundation of human rights, human dignity and kindness." The report is available on the [CIC website](#).

In May, we partnered with the National Leadership Consortium on Developmental Disabilities at the University of Delaware to develop and deliver the first BC Leadership Institute on Developmental Disabilities at UBC Okanagan. This was a week long intensive program supporting leaders from community living organizations and government to transform supports for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.



Also in May, we were pleased to have the School of Social Work Director, Dr. Miu Chung Yan, join us for a meeting of our Provincial Advisory Board when we hosted the Honorable Shane Simpson, Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction. The Minister was very generous with his time and we look forward to continuing to develop our relationship with him and the ministry as it is the key government agency (responsible for Community Living BC) providing funding to support individuals with developmental and Intellectual disabilities in BC. We also look forward to participating in an initiative the minister is undertaking to re-image community living services in BC. We believe we are well positioned to share our wealth of research on best practice and inclusive policy development promoting full inclusion and citizenship for individuals and families in BC.

We have much work to do in achieving a world where everyone is included and welcomed as full and equal citizens. We are proud of the contributions we are able to make in realizing this vision and hope you will join us in our efforts as we move into our second decade.

"The uniqueness of the Centre cannot be overstated. From the very beginning, the work of the Centre has been informed by the voices of those in community who care deeply about inclusive citizenship. The Centre for Inclusion and Citizenship is a network of people and organizations. Our many research initiatives and projects relate directly to efforts that are occurring every day in communities across British Columbia as individuals with intellectual disabilities, families, educators, service providers and others work to build inclusive community. The work of the centre is the work of community."

– Dan Collins, Chairperson, CIC Provincial Advisory Board

*Save the date!* Join us at UBC Okanagan on December 3rd. For the third year, we are once again co-hosting the Inclusion BC and BC Self Advocacy Foundation's International Day of Persons with Disabilities Film Festival.

And, keep an eye open for more about how we will be supporting and encouraging people with disabilities to vote in the upcoming elections in October as we will be re-launching our I Am Voting initiative. Find us at: <https://www.facebook.com/IAmVotingBCElection2017/> #IAmVoting

Please visit our website at <https://cic.arts.ubc.ca/> to see the range of projects and initiatives underway, like us on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/CentreForInclusionAndCitizenship/> and follow us on Twitter @CICUBC.

- Submitted by Dr. Tim Stainton, Professor and Co-Director  
Centre for Inclusion and Citizenship

## Student Updates

### *BSW grad nominated as graduating student leader in Faculty of Arts*

Anna Balsevich was nominated by the School as a graduating student leader for her exceptional leadership in CHIUS over her two years in the BSW program.

CHIUS (Community Health Initiative by University Students) is an interdisciplinary team of UBC students, residents, faculty, and community members that develop and offer community-based clinical and social initiatives to meet health care needs in Vancouver.

Along with all nominated students, Anna attended the Dean's Reception on March 28, 2018.



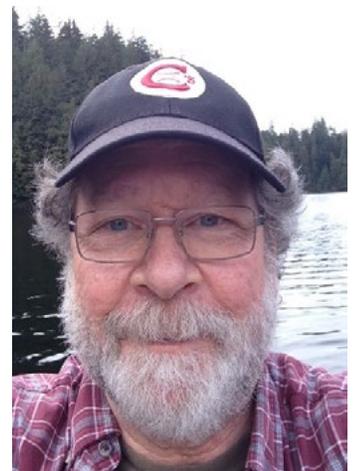
*Anna at the Dean's Reception.*

### *PhD Student Participates in Social Welfare Research Summit*

*Reflection from Jon Breen, PhD candidate at the School:*

The Social Welfare Research Summit was held this past December at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. The Summit was designed to provide PhD students with a deeper understanding of contemporary social problems and help to establish international research networks among those new to the field. Twenty-five schools of social work from around the world were invited to select a PhD student to attend. I was fortunate enough to be selected.

The theme of the Summit was "Social Inclusion and Sustainable Development in a Polarizing World". Four subthemes – those of New Social Technology, Youth, the Ageing Population, and The Family – were presented and considered by participants. Current thought and perspectives were offered by CUHK faculty and visiting scholars from Ireland and Canada. In addition, the Summit presented a very unique developmental strategy for participants.



*Jon Breen, UBC School of Social Work PhD candidate.*

We each selected one of the four subthemes and worked with our fellows to develop a framework for a related research project that would be informed by the internationality of the participants. Our group developed a project that would conduct a comparative analysis between two different jurisdictions, with a focus on the impact of the changing meaning of family and policy development. The process involved in developing this project proved, in many ways, to be the most valuable aspect of the Summit. Working with this remarkably diverse group of colleagues required sensitivity, an appreciation of varied cultural norms, and a recognition of differing priorities and social environments. All in all, a very valuable learning opportunity.

Equally valuable, although not originally on the Summit agenda, my attendance in a wheelchair, and being

accompanied by my wife as a support person, exposed the Summit organizers and participants to a range of unanticipated disability-related issues. Principally, these revolved around accessibility challenges. Although I had previously advised of my circumstance, it quickly became apparent that the Summit organizers, and the university itself, were not well experienced with the needs of wheelchair users and others with disabilities. However, I found that these shortfalls were attended to as quickly and appropriately as possible in the circumstances. Our residential accommodations were not accessible; we were immediately provided with an alternative. Daily transportation to and from the university was not accessible; we were provided with an accessible taxi. One of the service agency visits was not accessible; we were provided with a fascinating tour of the community it served. These, and a number of small challenges, were managed very well and in good spirits. However, it was very clear that disability is still in the early stages of consideration. For example, a fire alarm went off during our Summit, which took place on the fifth floor of a CUHK building. Although it turned out to be a false alarm, there was no policy in place for evacuating a person in a wheelchair nor was there a “place of refuge” available in the building.

I have raised these disability issues, not to be critical, but to illustrate how disability-related challenges are quite different in different environments. In Hong Kong, and many other jurisdictions represented at the Summit, situations that we may take for granted are still in need of further consideration. Here at UBC, we may face our own challenges, but we have also seen creative solutions generated by faculty, students and staff. In my case, I was able to attend this Summit through the support of the School and through the ongoing support of the Access and Diversity Office, the latter of which provided funding for airfare for my wife/support person and for taxi fares. This recognition of the additional disability-related costs for academic travel allows UBC students such as myself not only to attend events such as this Summit but also to demonstrate that disability itself is not a barrier.

*- Jon Breen, PhD Candidate*

### *Continued from Page 1: MSWs Participate in 2018 International Summer University*

This experience involved tours of several agencies, including some that work specifically with the Ultra Orthodox Jewish population and in Arab communities, as well as a tour of Yad Vashem (World Holocaust Remembrance Centre) and the Old City of Jerusalem.

A significant part of our learning and reflection was around the political situation in Israel and the many complexities around the current political climate in this country. Before our trip, we felt it was important to educate ourselves on the political situation in Israel and the occupation in Palestine. In our free time, we took a trip over to the West Bank and Bethlehem to see the wall and hear the stories from the Palestinians themselves. The Israeli West Bank Wall, often referred to as the “Wall of Apartheid” by the Palestinians and a “Security Wall” by the Israelis, is 708 kilometres in length. From Israel’s point of view, this wall is seen as a need for protection against extremist terrorist groups in both the West Bank and Gaza strip. Palestinians we spoke to expressed their challenges of reduced and restricted freedom of movement, loss of land, poor community conditions, experiences of political violence and limited health and medical services. It was extremely impactful to be able to visit the wall on both sides and hear about the impact of this on both Israelis and Palestinians. While in the West Bank, we explored the section of the wall that has become an area of expression and activism against the occupation - powerful images that we will never forget. The art depicted the struggle that Palestinians face on their side of ‘the wall’, the hope for equal human rights and a desire for peace.

Within the conference setting, there was limited dialogue about the current political situation until we and other students from other Universities began to bring this into the conversation. Without our curiosity and drive to uncover more, it would have been easy to see Israel without seeing anything to do with the occupation and injustice occurring just over the wall, mere kilometers from checkpoints and the many layers of 'the wall'. There was very little incorporated and acknowledged in conference content about the political situation that is occurring within this country. This was met with mixed feelings but as social workers, we felt the responsibility to ensure that we saw both sides of the political situation between Palestine and Israel with the hope being to understand how this area of the world could one day reach a peaceful resolution.



Section of the West Bank wall. Photo credit: Hannah Rushton.

Participating in the ISUSW this summer provided opportunities collaborate and network with other social workers who had worked in a variety of social work roles and across many different cultural contexts. We gained a better understanding of child welfare issues internationally from a social work perspective. Each of us has now completed our MSW and are returning to work in the social work field with children and families. Our participation in the ISUSW has given us a broader perspective on social issues in child welfare and has further taught us the importance of recognizing the impact of our own social location in the work that we do. Simply having the opportunity to engage in conversations with over forty other social work students about social change in child welfare was inspiring and left us motivated to continue these conversations about social change in our own workplaces. Through the ISUSW, we have not only expanded our professional networks, but have gained friendships with social work colleagues all around the world.

- Hannah Rushton, Kimberly Ajele and Dana Seidel

### Stay in Touch!

The Bridge is our newsletter connecting our alumni, students, and colleagues, spotlighting the various happenings in and around the School of Social Work at the University of British Columbia.

Our newsletter is distributed only in an electronic format. Feel free to get in touch with us to get on our newsletter emailing list. For more frequent updates, visit our website at [socialwork.ubc.ca](http://socialwork.ubc.ca) or Twitter [@SocialWork\\_UBC](https://twitter.com/SocialWork_UBC).

The School of Social Work is located on the unceded traditional territories of the Musqueam people - 2080 West Mall, Vancouver, BC, Canada

[www.socialwork.ubc.ca](http://www.socialwork.ubc.ca) | [@SocialWork\\_UBC](https://twitter.com/SocialWork_UBC)



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