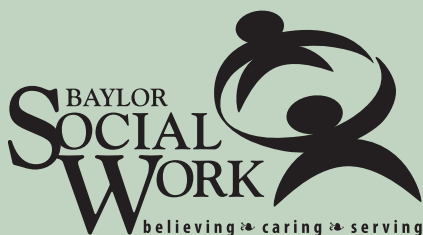


COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Newsletter from Baylor University School of Social Work • Volume No. 14

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In coming months, look for alumni profiles and updates at www.baylor.edu/social_work



SSW hosts regents' spouses, arranges tour of field agencies

In one of Gerrie Lilley's first decisions as Baylor First Lady, she chose the School of Social Work to host the regents' spouses during the board's regularly scheduled meeting Feb. 3.

At the luncheon concluding the morning's events, Mrs. Lilley spoke warmly and gratefully of the work conducted by the School, its students and those who enter the profession. "Social work needs to be knowledge-based, and I'm so glad to learn that is emphasized throughout your programs," she said.

"We were thrilled Mrs. Lilley asked us to be the first school to host the spouses," said Diana Garland, dean of the School. "It was an opportunity for us to highlight our programs, students and their field work."

While new Baylor President John Lilley met with the regents, 18 spouses received an overview of the School's programs and faculty research from Garland and associate deans Dennis Myers and Gaynor Yancey. Baccalaureate and graduate students displayed posters of their research projects and answered ques-



Mrs. Richard Scott enjoys a few moments with a student at Brook Avenue Elementary, site of the Communities in Schools program where some SSW students intern.

tions from the spouses; faculty and staff gave tours of the School. Students participating included Davey Gibson, Katie Homiak,

Tracey Kelley, Mallory Homeyer, Anne Ferguson, Golda Waselovich and Tihara Vargas.

Mid-morning the group dispersed for field trips to three of the School's participating field agencies: the Advocacy Center, the Communities in Schools program at Brook Avenue Elementary and World Hunger Relief International. Social work students interning in the agencies who helped host the spouses

"Social work needs to be knowledge-based. I'm so glad to learn that it is in your programs."

Gerrie Lilley
Baylor First Lady

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RUMBLINGS OF GROWTH

We may be in the parking garage, but we're here to stay *by Diana Garland*

I'm dreaming of a new building. Not that I'm not grateful for our offices in the Speight Plaza Parking Facility (fancy name for a garage) – I am. We have called the parking garage home for five years, and it has really been a cozy home, although I can't shake the feeling that it is a morphed and upgraded set for the old television sitcom "Taxi."

I truly am grateful for these offices. The hall is filled with laughter and conversation; I listen with joy to the voices of beloved colleagues, grateful that I have such great folks with whom to share my days. Before we moved here, we were scattered in offices across the campus. Our staff was stuck in a crowded, windowless audiovisual closet near the sociology department. Some faculty members were in offices in the attic. I'm glad we can be together now; but soon, that won't be possible.

When we moved into the parking garage, we had seven faculty and staff members; now there are 24 of us. Our one classroom was big enough five years ago, although juggling both undergraduate and graduate class schedules was a bit of a challenge.

Then we had 17 students in our graduate program; now we have more than 70. Many of our undergraduate classes have grown so large that we have more than one section of required classes. We are expecting another record entering class this fall. Our classes once again are meeting all over the campus. Some students have no classes actually *in* the physical facility of the school, making it hard to build a feeling of community.

We've become used to the rumble of pickup trucks driving over our heads during the change-of-class time when students are coming and going. When I return from being away several days on a business trip, I realize that rumble has become a comforting sound, the sound of "home." Visitors in our windowless classroom often think there must be a terrible thunderstorm blazing across the skies. "No," we say comfortingly, "It's just trucks over your head."

Our current facility doesn't communicate to the world that this School is permanent, nor the quality of what occurs within these cramped spaces. We are here, and we plan to stay and grow, but our facilities hinder

us. There is no place to expand, and we need to grow physically to do the important work before us.

- We need the Center for Family and Community Ministries to be more than the corner of Dr. Singletary's desk. The same is true of the Institute for Gerontological Studies and Dr. Jim Ellor.

- We need classrooms that will accommodate the size of our classes and the kind of creative teaching at which this faculty excels.

- We need space for a growing faculty, for workshops and conferences.

- We need visibility and accessibility to the community so that we can more easily interact with leaders of family ministries, literacy and aging agencies and social workers.

- We need a space where we can get together to work on shared projects.

We need a building, a "School of Social Work." We don't have the resources for this next step, so we are praying for direction and seeking to find those who can help us make this dream a reality. I hope you will pray with us and for us. Exciting days are before us; I just know it!

... Is that thunder?



Diana R. Garland is dean of the School of Social Work and founding director of the Center for Family and Community Ministries.

GARLAND GIVES CWSE KEYNOTE

Dean Garland was invited to give an invitational address at the Council on Social Work Education's annual meeting in Chicago in February. Titled "Religiously Affiliated Organizations and the Opportunities and Challenges of 'Faith-based' Social Initiatives," the presentation drew heavily on recent research completed by the School. The presentation is available on the School of Social Work's Web site:

www.baylor.edu/social_work



Several School of Social Work students presented posters on their research for the regents' spouses during their visit to the School Feb. 3. Anne Ferguson (center), a senior BASW student, answers questions during one of the breaks in the morning schedule.

SPOUSES

continued from page 1

included Meredith Jones, Krys Mickle, Dana Earls and Krissi Vandagriff.

"As we were at Brook Avenue, it was awesome to look around and see the history of graduates from our School involved in the Communities in Schools program," said Yancey, associate dean of baccalaureate social work education. Graduates from every stage of the social work program's development – from a department within the College of Arts and Sciences through its status now as an independent School offering baccalaureate and master's degrees – were represented.

A luncheon in the Cole Drawing Room of the Hughes-Dillard Alumni Center concluded the morning.

CFCM receives grants to study childcare centers

Diana Garland, dean of the School of Social Work, and Jon Singletary, director of the Center for Family and Community Ministries, have received two grants totaling nearly \$80,000 to conduct the first major national study in 20 years of congregation-based early childhood education and family support.

The Louisville Institute, a Lilly Endowment program for the study of American religion based at Louisville Presbyterian Seminary, has committed \$40,896. The A.L. Mailman Family Foundation, which funds projects to improve early childhood education and the overall well-being of young children and their families, has committed an additional \$35,000 to conduct this yearlong research project.

The study will include developing a national survey instrument to be used in 10 states; in-depth interviews with congregation and childcare staff members in four sites; and a second-level of study with six to eight additional congregation-based childcare agencies. The final report, expected in June 2007, will be available on the CFCM Web site.

For more information, call 254-710-4819.

Family Dinner

6 p.m.

April 27

Join us at the Mayborn Museum on the Baylor Campus for the Spring Family Dinner of the School of Social Work.

Featuring presentations of student and alumni awards and firsthand testimonials.

New this year is the SSW Choir.

RSVP by April 19 to Krista Barrett at Krista_Barrett@baylor.edu or by calling 254-710-6400.



The **FALL CONVOCATION**, Sept. 8, held in the Powell Chapel of Truett Seminary was led by the Rev. Julie Pennington-Russell and Dr. Randall Bradley of the School of Music. The independent status of the School was recognized and the mission it carries forth from the WMU Training School and the Carver School of Church Social Work was consecrated for the future. Dean Diana Garland visits with Jim Williams, member of the School's Board of Advocates, at the convocation reception (top right).

An **NASW FAJITA MIXER** was held Aug. 29 in the home of Preston and Genie Dyer. MSW students, from left, Heather Renninger, Rebecca Russell and Ruth Cassidy (middle left) enjoyed good food and good fellowship.

HOMECOMING on Oct. 29 brought many alumni and students together. Rob Rogers, from left, alumna Jennifer Black, Helen Harris and MSW student Lauren Cox (middle right) visit in the School's Great Hall, and Harris welcomes BSW Class of 2027 member Sophia Margaret Watwood, daughter of alumna Meg Watwood (bottom right).





FALL/WINTER ROUNDUP

*Keynote speaker for the **DYER WORKSHOP** held Sept. 22 (above) was Dr. Andrew Achenbaum, professor of history and social work at the University of Houston. Achenbaum's address was titled "Suffering and Spirituality in Adulthood."*

*Faculty from the School of Social Work responded to **HURRICANE KATRINA**, calling a meeting of community religious and social service agency leaders together Sept. 2 (above right). Rita Cone (standing), MSW graduate and at that time field supervisor at Mission Waco, shared information at the meeting.*

FALL PINNING (right) was held Dec. 16 with the following graduates (from left): Elspeth Bennighof*, Tiffany Lehman*, Crystal Perales, Brittany Ocha, Heather Bowers and Mandy Stalcup*, with Dr. Gaynor Yancey (second from right).



** Phi Alpha Honor Society members*

THERE IS A SEASON

Undergraduate Program Update *by Gaynor I. Yancey*

During my 30 years of living in Philadelphia, the oftentimes loud sounds of HONK, HONK in the sky announced the coming of autumn. Even though the leaves and temperatures had not yet changed, the sight and sounds of the geese flying south for the winter presaged the changing season. And, the same thing happened when the cycle was reversed in the spring. These beautiful birds always announced the change of seasons, and everyone knew that the geese were only with us for a season.

In Central Texas, the barn swallows announce the change of seasons. Their calls are high-pitched in comparison to the geese. Additionally, they return to the places that they left the prior year before returning to South America for the winter. When you see the barn swallows appear, even if you did not have a calendar, you would know that it is March. When they leave at the end of the summer, without looking at a calendar, you will know that it is August. In those months between, though, the barn swallows work together frantically to find just the right covered space in which to build their nests, have their babies and nurture them to full strength to make the long trip to return to South America. Central Texans know that the barn swallows are only here for a season.

Ecclesiastes 3:1 (NKJV) says “to

everything there is a season; a time for every purpose under heaven.” In *The Message* translation, this verse reads a little differently: “There’s an opportune time to do things, a right time for everything on the earth.” So it is with the opportunity that is ours to provide the type of educational environment in which our students can learn about social work skills and the knowledge base that informs this profession that is so important in helping to address the needs of hurting people. We understand that

students are with us for only a “season,” that

We understand that students are with us for only a ‘season,’ that ‘opportune time’ to teach and nurture them in how to be good and competent social workers.

“opportune time” to teach and nurture them in how to be good and competent social workers.

From time to time, as the seasons change in

students’ lives, some students

take a moment to write about what is happening in the new “season” in their lives. For instance, recently I have had letters from two Baylor BSW graduates who went to two different universities to obtain their MSW degrees.

One wrote this note: “*Today I passed my state MSW licensure exam ... and while I was taking the exam, I heard the voices of my Baylor BSW professors and all of the things I had learned from you all. I would not have been able to pass the test without my education at Baylor ... each day I realize more and more what an amazing social work program Baylor has. Thank you for giving me the education of a lifetime.*”

Another student wrote: “*I hope that everyone is doing well that went on to the Advanced Standing program in the Baylor School of Social Work. I’m sure everyone is studying so hard! The main thing I hope that you can pass on to those students that are still there is just for them to be so thankful for the education they are receiving about the social work profession and the values of integrating one’s faith into practice. Having the opportunity to discuss social work and the relationship it has to our faith is something that is so wonderful and should be cherished! Thank you for giving me this opportunity at Baylor.*”

The “seasons” and “opportune times” in the lives of our students are brief. The BSW program is the starting point for at least 120 students this year. We are grateful for your interest and encouragement, prayer support and financial support in helping us provide a quality social work education for our students. “To everything there is a season, an opportune time to do things.”



Gaynor I. Yancey is associate dean, baccalaureate studies, and assistant professor in the School of Social Work.

EMPOWERING CALLS

Graduate Program Update *by Dennis R. Myers*

Degree offerings that feature combinations of the MSW with other professional and academic areas are proliferating in social work education. Grief, Hopkins and Miller (as cited in Robb, 2006) reviewed Council on Social Work Education MSW program Web sites and discovered that 58 schools offered at least one dual degree.

The top four dual programs offered were law (MSW-JD), public health (MSW-MPH), divinity (MSW-MDiv), and business (MSW-MBA). Other degree possibilities linked an MSW with advanced work in architecture, city planning, international affairs, criminology, gerontology, child development and women's studies. Seventy-five percent of dually enrolled students in the study reported that both degrees were beneficial to their careers, and most agreed the two degrees made them more marketable. After discovering that 95 percent of MSW students were not enrolled in dual-degree programs, Robb (2006) questioned why more students were not taking advantage of combined programs.

Since the inception of Baylor's graduate program in social work, at least 30 percent of all MSW students have participated in the Truett Seminary-School of Social Work MDiv-MSW dual-degree program each academic year. Baylor's dual-degree enrollment rate far exceeds the national average, a particularly surprising phenomenon in light of the program's stringent requirements: completion of 125 semester hours (the equivalent of a Baylor baccalaureate degree) usually covering

What motivates many to choose such a challenging path ... was a compelling sense that God had called them into ministry in response to human suffering and social injustice.

at least four years of full-time work. Taken separately, the two degrees require 156 hours, so the dual nature of the degree permits a "savings" of one academic year (31 hours). At advantage are students who already have earned the BSW degree, because they can complete the MDiv-MSW with 111 semester hours in three years.

To date, 42 Baylor students have completed the dual MDiv-MSW degree requirements. What motivates many to choose such a challenging path was not higher pay or greater prestige but a compelling sense that God had called them into ministry in response to human suffering and societal injustice. They trusted Truett Seminary and the School of Social Work to inform and empower their calls to ministry.

Embracing the expectations and trust of dual-degree students requires academic units and the administrative structures that support them to formulate an integrated education program that is adaptable to students' needs. Juggling two independently constituted graduate degree programs may discourage students who maintain citizenship in two worlds that sometimes speak different

educational and administrative languages.

While crossing the borders may cause occasional distress for Baylor MDiv-MSW dual-degree students, their passage is facilitated by a cadre of benefactors, faculty, administrators and staff on both sides who share the belief that God is at work in the lives of the students and who seek to respond to students with a supportive infrastructure of care. All of this joint effort is made possible by the vision and advocacy of the deans of Truett Seminary and the School of Social Work, Dr. David Garland and Dr. Diana Garland.

Dual degrees will be the trend in graduate social work education in the future, and students will enroll for a host of reasons, including increased compensation, enhanced marketability and improved job security. At Baylor, students will enroll in the MDiv-MSW dual-degree program for another important reason – to answer their calling to mercy and justice within a framework of faithful ministry and advanced social work practice.

Robb, M. (2006) Double vision: The synergy of dual degrees. Social Work Today, 6 (1), 20-24.



Dennis R. Myers is associate dean, graduate studies, and professor in the School of Social Work.

GAMES AND MYSTERY

Field Connections *by Helen E.W. Harris*

I am always intrigued by the Winter Olympics, perhaps only a faint memory by the time you read this column. Athletes spend years preparing for a few moments in time – moments that can forever become “page keepers” in their lives. They are winners or losers, medalists or only Olympic athletes based on one performance in time.

The profiles of athletes that the network provides give the viewers more insight into an individual – a glimpse into character, years of sacrifice and practice, and connections to family and friends. I want to embrace the “losers” and remind them that they are still “all that,” and that it is really about the willingness to try and the drive for excellence. I want to embrace the “winners” also and say the same thing, because too soon this moment will be past instead of present, and once the endorsements are expended, they will have to find new ways to contribute significance.

I have some of the same thoughts about our students as they are doing their field internships. They have been preparing for years, and it is time to perform. For some, there will be

those moments when it all comes together in a glorious confluence of connection, purpose and magic. They will experience the thrill of client response, getting a grant, research results with good enough “p” values, affirmation from supervisors. Those golden moments will be followed by job offers and actually getting paid to do this thing called social work. For many, perhaps most, the internship will include weeks and months of hard work, making mistakes and correcting them, and finding that service is sometimes thankless. Bruised hearts and skinned knees may be the trophies some students take home.

So, what does a gold, silver or bronze performance look like in a social work internship? I get to see them all the time:

- An intern connected with a suicidal teenager and heard the silent

cry for help in time.

- Our student wrote the grant that secured funding for a social work position in the agency.

- Another intern developed a recruitment and training manual that will secure volunteers to serve clients and relieve staff.
- One intern found medicines for a client with no money.

- Another helped a person with Alzheimer’s disease smile for the first time in months.

Our interns inspire tired staff to keep trying, communicate to broken-hearted clients that they will heal, create Shulman T-shirts that make the faculty “grin out loud.” They write papers and poems and portfolios. They work for justice and living wages. They are winners.

There is another group of “med-alsists” that come to mind. Coaches. Sometimes the camera cuts away to the face of a coach to show tears mingled with smiles. They experience the satisfaction of seeing their students achieve. Thank you, field supervisors, for coaching our students, for making them dig in and do the hard work, for cheering them on and for sharing their moments. Let the games continue.

*Bruised hearts and
skinned knees may be
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FOND FAREWELL

Linda Hardwick's last day at the School of Social Work was March 10. She is retiring to pursue personal interests. She began her career at Baylor in 1983 in the Vietnam Visitors Center. After many years there, she joined the School of Social Work in 1999 and has served as business manager for the MSW program and more recently as communications manager for the School and program manager for the Institute for Gerontological Studies. We will miss Linda and wish her the very best in her future plans.



*Helen E.W. Harris is
director of graduate
field education and
senior lecturer in the
School of Social Work.*

FACULTY UPDATE

Presentations, publications, conferences, awards

Jim Ellor presented “Assessing Capacity,” a keynote address at the fall meeting of the Texas Guardianship Association Sept. 23; with **Dennis Myers**, a workshop Sept. 29-30 in Houston at the Tallowood Baptist Church on “Ministry with Baby Boomers” on behalf of the BGCT Older Adult Ministry Program; with Howard Gruetzner, a series for Baylor faculty and staff on aged caregiving, including “Family Coping Strategies” Oct. 5, “Decision Making for the Loved One” Oct. 19 and “Recognizing Grief” Nov. 14; “Short-term Counseling Methods: Existential Intervention for Grief and Loss” and with **Helen Harris** and Inez Russell a paper titled “Texas Guardianship: A Method for Macro Change” presented Nov. 9-10 in Galveston at the annual meeting of the Texas Chapter of the NASW. Ellor also chaired a symposium Nov. 20 in Orlando, FL, on “Religion, Spirituality and Aging” at the annual scientific meeting of the Gerontological Society of America. He presented “When the Wolf is at the Door: Strategies for Defending Gerontology Programs” at the annual meeting of the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education Feb. 9-12 in Indianapolis, IN. Also, his article, “Spiritual and Religious Growth,” was published in *Perspectives on Productive Aging: Social Work with the New Aged*.

Diana Garland presented “When Wolves Wear Shepherds’ Clothing: Helping Women Survive Clergy Sexual Abuse” at the North American Association of Christians in Social Work conference Oct. 27 in Rochester, NY; a paper titled “The Changing Roles of Religiously Affiliated Child and Family Serving Agencies” at the Religious Research Association annual meeting Nov. 6; a paper titled “Outcomes of service in the lives of faith-motivated volunteers: Why community leaders need to care about the effects of volunteering on those serving as well as those served” at the Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action Nov. 17 and served as chair of a session on volunteering at that conference.

Diana Garland and **Jon Singletary** convened a summit in August in Colorado with family ministry experts from around the country. Building on findings of research conducted by Garland, Singletary, **Rob Rogers** and **Gaynor Yancey** relevant to congregations and faith-based

organizations, the Family Ministry Summit contributed to the development of a strategic plan for the Center. Leaders from the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, BGCT, and Buckner Child and Family Services are partners with CFCM.

Dennis Myers received the 2006 Distinguished Teacher Award of the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education at its annual meeting and educational leadership conference Feb. 9-12 in Indianapolis, IN. Myers presented “Mutuality and Conflict in the Parent and Adult Child Relationship” at the AGHE conference.

Jon Singletary served as a delegate with Bread for the World and the ONE Campaign to the G-8 Summit in Edinburgh, Scotland, in July. The delegation learned about the affects of poverty and AIDS from international representatives in the Global Call to Action Against Poverty and met with advisers to President George W. Bush to discuss the United States’ role in debt relief and development aid to fight AIDS in Africa.

Laine Scales represented the School of Social Work at the Women’s Department meeting and the Congress of Baptist World Alliance, July 23-30, in Birmingham, England. Also, Scales was one of two faculty members selected by President John M. Lilley to represent Baylor at the Women in Higher Education Leadership conference sponsored by the American Council on Education April 26-28 in Boston.

David Sherwood chaired a reaffirmation of accreditation site visit Jan. 22-24 for the social work program at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford, OK, for the Council on Social Work Education. He conducted a preconference seminar March 25 in Toronto, Canada, titled “Ethical Integration of Faith and Social Work Practice” for the Salvation Army National Social Services Conference and a workshop March 31 in Pittsburgh, PA, on “Ethical Integration of Spirituality and Religion in Social Work Practice” for the Holy Family Institute’s conference on “Faith-based Social Services: Organized to Serve Others.”

Gaynor Yancey had an article titled “Recovery: An alternative to sterilization of chemically dependent women” published in the *Journal of African American Studies*, 9(1), pp. 43-56.

CFCM, CFL & IGS

CENTER FOR FAMILY AND COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

The Center began a new program, the Family Ministry Academy, with its first course, Family Ministry 101, designed for congregational leaders (lay and clergy) to serve as an introduction to the changing dynamics of family. FM101 was offered in December in Atlanta and February in Dallas. Family Ministry 201 will address the theme of missional families. FM101 and 201 will be offered in Atlanta June 21 as auxiliary events at the General Assembly of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

In addition to the congregation early childhood education study (see story, page 3), we have begun several program evaluation projects for local organizations. Preston Dyer, Kim Kotrla and foundation dual-degree student Tihara Vargas are working with

CFCM to conduct outcome studies of marriage education programs for the Alliance for North Texas Healthy Effective Marriages and the Active Relationships Center in Dallas. An ongoing CFCM partner, Stand in the Gap of Tulsa, OK, has received funding for an initial outcome study of a key program that emphasizes transformational development in the lives of congregations and individuals.

Strengthening families and building communities is at the heart of our work, and we are excited about these opportunities that help us in our efforts.

Jon Singletary, CFCM Director
(254) 710-4819

CENTER FOR LITERACY

In December, the School of Social Work became the home of the Center for Literacy (CFL). For nearly 50 years, Baylor has supported the literacy ministries of congregations. We are happy to now house the CFL and continue its partnership with the School of Education and the BGCT, representatives of which serve as associate directors for the CFL's two program areas – University/Community Partnerships and Church-Sponsored Initiatives, respectively. The mission of the CFL is to support research, development and evaluation of programs and models that help people become proficient in reading, writing and speaking English. The CFL building is at 1514 S. 5th St., adjacent to the SSW.

One of CFL's research and development projects is building a model of family literacy. The pilot program is Learning English Among Friends (LEAF), an English-as-a-Second-Language program for adults. LEAF began in 2003 at a middle school in a

predominately Hispanic community in south Waco. LEAF since has received state and national recognition as a "best practice" program. It has been included as a core component of two 21st Century Community Learning Center proposals to the Texas Education Agency. If funded, LEAF would be replicated in six additional schools, including elementary, middle and high schools.

The CFL also is partnering with the Texas Conference of Churches to conduct a survey of all church-based literacy programs in the state. The goals of this project include documenting the contribution of the faith community to addressing the challenge of low literacy levels in Texas and promoting networking among local literacy programs.

Rob Rogers, CFL Director
(254) 710-4321

INSTITUTE FOR GERONTOLOGICAL STUDIES

On Feb. 24, 18 members of the Institute's committee of the Board of Advocates, along with some others, met to talk about the Institute's future in three areas: scholarship, teaching and service. Our staff and faculty are looking forward to putting the various ideas that came from that meeting to work on behalf of older adults.

The Institute has been equally engaged in scholarship. Dennis Myers was honored at the most recent annual meeting of the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education with a Distinguished Teacher Award. At that same meeting, I coordinated a symposium on the development of gerontology programs

in higher education titled "When the Wolf is at the Door: Strategies for Defending Gerontology Programs."

The Institute will be offering a new specialization in gerontological social work for advanced-standing MSW students, available in fall 2006. It will allow students to take courses in gerontology along with a specially developed internship to build their skills on behalf of services with older adults.

Jim Ellor, IGS Director
(254) 710-4439

CARVER CORNER

William Beaver (1994) is minister of education and family ministries at Haddock Baptist Church in Haddock, GA. His areas of interest are the Boy Scouts, family, art and golf. wbeaver@hotmail.com.

Joan Collins: "I spent one year at Carver School in the missions part of it. It was an invaluable experience for me as I was on my way to the mission field and feel that that year was a great part of my educational preparation. From 1960-64, I was in Mbeya, Tanzania, as a missionary nurse at the tuberculosis hospital. In my early years in GAs and YWAs, I looked forward to attending the WMU Training School and seeing House Beautiful! It was Carver School of Missions and Social Work by the time I got there in 1957, and I studied Church History under Dr. W. O. Carver. I enjoyed my year and one summer there and have kept in touch with several people who also went there around that time."

Beryl Corey is the director of special ministries with the Brentwood Baptist Deaf Church. Her work includes teaching parenting classes, working with families, counseling couples and overseeing an eight-week camp for deaf children during the summer. She and her husband, Scott, live in Nashville, TN. bcorey@brentwoodbaptist.com.

Beth (Bell) Hedges, Carver MSW 1986, is now director of Choices Inc., which provides transitional housing for homeless women and families in Louisville, KY. Choices began in 1991 and has grown into Norma's House, for single homeless women with special needs; the Marijane Toney House, for homeless mothers at risk of being separated from their children; and Martie's House, which will open soon to serve disabled single-parent families. ehedges01@insightbb.com.

Gerry Hutchinson, who graduated from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1979, writes: "I am a chaplain in the U.S. Navy. I was mobilized for active duty in fall 2004. I served as chaplain for four Marine helicopter squadrons in Afghanistan. While in the country, I organized our Marines to carry out several humanitarian aid projects. We collected and delivered clothing, food and hygiene items to more than 1,900 Afghans near Bagram. We did this in partnership with the Egyptian Army, which operated a field hospital

for the Afghans. They allowed us to give out items to the locals who came to their outpatient clinics. We also gathered school supplies and gave them to a school district in the Konar province. The interaction I had with the locals was a wonderful part of my time spent there. Many of my Marines said that the memories of helping the people through the humanitarian aid projects was their favorite aspect of being deployed. I was released from active duty May 30, 2005, and returned to work at Druid Hills Baptist Church in Atlanta, GA." gerry.hutchinson@dhbc.org.

Gertrude A. Tharpe (1957) is executive director at Alabama Grief Support Foundation. Her areas of interest are family, loss and grief. Gertrude can be contacted at work, 3 Office Park Circle, Suite 104-A, Birmingham, AL 35223, or at home, 2350 Montevallo Road, Apt. 1309, Birmingham, AL 35223.

Martha Beck Thompson (1941) received the Baptist Heritage Award from the North Carolina Woman's Missionary Union in 2004. At 86 years young, she teaches a ladies Sunday school class at Fellowship Baptist Church in Hudson, NC, serves as Women on Mission group leader in the church and helps with delivering tapes of the church services to shut-ins.

Karen Hamm and **Cindy Willis** have welcomed Billy, 8, into their home. They live in Asheville, NC, and the three of them love hiking in the Blue Ridge Mountains.

Alumni, save these dates!

June 23

An alumni and friends dinner as part of the CBF annual meeting in Atlanta, GA.

Tentative time is 5 to 6:30 p.m.

Sept. 30

The School will offer CEU-approved workshops as part of the WMU National Gathering in Ridgecrest, NC.

STOLEN HEARTS

SSW team looks at social work education in Moldova *by Preston Dyer*

We have a saying here in Moldova, ‘When people shake our hands, we steal their hearts.’ With those words of greeting, the five-member team from the School of Social Work was introduced to the warmth and hospitality of a country and the leaders of its nascent social work education program.

Mihai Malancea, academic dean of the College of Theology and Education, shared this saying as we met with him and Serghei Namesnic, president of CTE. Both seemed extremely excited about our visit, and as it progressed, we began to understand how right they were about their country’s expression.

Five of us from the School of Social Work spent the week of Sept. 11-16 in the Republic of Moldova. The team consisted of three faculty members – Genie Dyer, Preston

Dyer and Scott Taylor; Vicki Northern, director of recruitment and career services; and Julia Howard, a second-year MSW student. Julia, who speaks fluent Russian, served in dual roles as student representative and translator. Oleg Turlac, dean of extension at the CTE, was the Moldovan coordinator for the trip, and he and his wife, Natasha, and brother, Vitali, served as our hosts.

Trip sponsors

The trip was co-sponsored by the School and the national and Texas Baptist Woman’s Missionary Unions.



Those traveling to Moldova in September were, from left: Genie Dyer, Vicki Northern, Scott Taylor, MSW student Julia Howard and Preston Dyer.

The purpose of the trip was to gather data to evaluate the potential of an education partnership between the social work education program at CTE in Chisinau, Moldova, and Baylor’s SSW.

We spent five days working with the CTE and met with its president and academic dean to discuss their perspective of a possible partnership. We taught three three-hour classes, spoke and sang in Chapel, and visited four social service programs operated by faculty or graduates of the social work program.

We were positively impressed by the CTE administration, faculty and students – currently about 50 studying in the social work program. We found social work practice to be in its infancy and that social work curriculum is barely separated from psychology.

We also found the Moldovans to be proud, joyful, hospitable and



Genie Dyer, right, distributes aid such as toothbrushes and school supplies provided by many friends and businesses associated with the School. Moldova is considered the poorest country in Europe.

compassionate, but burdened by many systemic problems that produce a struggling economy and result in a high level of poverty; Moldova is considered the poorest country in Europe.

The dominant religion is Eastern Orthodox; however, since religious freedom has been granted, Protestant churches have increased in activities. These include Baptist (Baptist Union of Moldova), Seventh Day Adventists, Church of the Latter Day Saints and the Salvation Army. There is also a small Catholic influence.

The Baptist Christians we encountered are passionate about their faith, care deeply for the social needs of Moldova, and give of their time and money to support faith-based social services and church ministry.

The College

The college was formed in 1995 when two small church-sponsored theology schools merged. The college supports approximately 150 full-time students and 100 part-time students. Students come to CTE from Eastern Europe and Central Asia. In 1998, the school's leadership decided to train women in social work, although there are two men in the program currently.

The college offers three bachelor degrees (theology, missions and social work), a one-year associate degree in social work and a master's in theology. The college, including all of its programs, has been accredited by Eurasian Accreditation for four years. They are up for reaffirmation next year.

Social Work in Moldova

Today there is very little in the way of social welfare and social services and what is being done happens mostly under private auspices by faith-based groups. This is not unlike the development of social work

in the United States.

In Moldova there are few if any social work jobs. Bachelor-level psychologists seem to function to some degree like social workers, and there is a blending of theology, psychology and social work. The projects we saw are social service programs and somewhat reflect social work values and knowledge. Without exception, they are seen as ministries. We found few people who were paid for what they did either in social services or church-related ministries. Yulia Ubeyvolk, one of the social work teachers, said, "If we trained our students only in social work, there would be no jobs for them."

Partnering

The CTE president and academic dean have a clear vision of what they

want from a partnership: faculty development, in which faculty from Baylor come to CTE to teach short courses to faculty and graduates of their program; and curriculum development, in which Baylor helps design social work curriculum integrating faith and practice for both baccalaureate and master levels. The faculty added that books and other teaching materials would be helpful.

Our Baylor team made a full report of the trip and possible partnership considerations to the dean and faculty of the School of Social Work and to the members of its Board of Advocates.

For more information, contact Preston Dyer at (254) 710-6230.



Students in the College's social work program come from Eastern Europe and Central Asia. It was not uncommon for classroom discussion to be translated in three languages to accommodate the diversity in the College.

SSW ALUMNI UPDATE

Linsie Abney (BASW 2004, MSW 2005) is working for Fresenius Medical Care-Dallas Central as its only social worker. She enjoys the wide range of ages of her clients (no one younger than 27) and the compassion she has for a new population. Linsie was expecting a job with children or adolescents, but she feels a strong calling to this medical facility. *linsabs@hotmail.com*

Amy (Muskra) Bihl (BASW 2004) married Danny Ray Bihl, II, on Nov. 5 in Waco. Danny is from Crawford, TX, and is a firefighter/paramedic with the Harker Heights Fire Department. Since October 2004, Amy has been working in Fort Worth as an RSVP program coordinator with Senior Citizen Services of Greater Tarrant County. She started graduate studies at University of Texas-Arlington School of Social Work in August. The couple will remain in Fort Worth until Amy finishes graduate school. *amymuskra@yahoo.com*

Erin Brackney (BASW 2003) is the program director for the One Star Foundation in Austin. One Star is a nonprofit corporation that works on behalf of Texas to strengthen the capacity of local communities to address their most pressing needs. *ebrackney@gmail.com*

Vantrese (Blow) Camiso (BASW 1998) is staff clinician III at DePelchin Children's Center in Houston. She can be reached at work, 4950 Memorial, Houston, TX 77007, or at *vantresebc@yahoo.com*.

Angela Doscocil (MSW 2003) has been a social worker for Community Hospice of Texas since November 2004. She will continue to work fulltime and attend Texas Wesleyan School of Law at night. She hopes to become a public interest lawyer or specialize in elder law.

Katy (Smith) Hewson (BASW 2001) is a social worker at Memorial Hermann Healthcare System in Houston. She married Keith Hewson in April 2005. Katy's areas of interest in her profession include palliative and hospice care, end-of-life issues, women's health, marriage and family. She is preparing to take the LCSW exam and apply for PhD programs. *katy.hewson@hotmail.com*

Kim Holley (MSW 2002) and her husband, Todd, announce the birth of their first child, Morgan Claire



Holley. She was born April 4, 2005, and weighed 2 lbs., 11 oz. and was 15.6 inches long. Morgan spent almost six weeks in the hospital but is doing great.

Sandy Jones (MSW 2003) is a clinical social worker with HACS, a private agency that works with persons with HIV in Houston. She is working toward her LCSW.

Christine Lee (BASW 2003, MSW 2004) is the clinical research coordinator with the University of Texas Medical Branch clinic in Clear Lake, TX. She is working on an NIH-funded project called Child Mania, which involves interviewing bipolar children and their parents to see which medications are most effective.

Carrie (Clem) Martin (BASW 1990) is a health coach for Resources for Living in Austin. After 12 years of medical social work, Carrie is now in health and wellness coaching. She is married with a 7-year-old daughter. *martinc@rfl.com*

Kelly (Schmidt) Pool (MSW 2004) married Jim Pool, who is a border patrol agent, on Sept. 3, near Corpus Christi. The couple's home is in Del Rio, TX. *Kelsjane@hotmail.com*



Micah (MSW, MDiv 2003) and **Elizabeth Pritchett** (MDiv 2005) have accepted the call to co-pastor Englewood Baptist Church of Kansas City, MO. With the recent purchase of a house, they now call the Midwest home and can be reached at 2015 NE 55th St., Kansas City, MO 64118; 816-454-5945; *micahbama@yahoo.com* or *Elizabeth_Ashley@baylor.edu*.

NEWS

Staff members join School



Vicki Marsh Kabat joined the School in December as associate director of the Center for Family and Community Ministries. Vicki was founding editor of the University's award-

winning *Baylor Magazine*, and has been at Baylor for eight years. Previously, she served on her church staff as director of Christian education. She has a bachelor's of journalism degree from the University of Missouri-Columbia and did graduate work at Truett Seminary and certification studies in Christian education at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary.



Kay Boatman joined the staff in January as financial manager for the SSW and George W. Truett Theological Seminary. She has been at Baylor since 1997, working in the Controller's Office, most recently as director of Grants Accounting and General

Ledger. She has a BBA from Baylor, is a CPA and earned professional certification from the College Business Management Institute.



Carol Gene Graves joined the staff in February as assistant director of the Center for Literacy. She has worked in University Development for the past 10 years, most recently as assistant director of Academic and Foundation Development. Carol Gene

is a graduate of Stephen F. Austin State University and did graduate work at Marywood College in Pennsylvania. Her daughter, Pam, received both her BASW and MSW from Baylor.



Pam Edwards joined the staff in March as part-time administrative assistant for the Center for Literacy. Previously, she worked at the Baylor Cashier's Office as a part-time teller. Pam is a graduate of The University of Houston – Clear Lake, where she received

her degree in business management in 1993.



RECRUITING & CAREER

Announcing Social Work Career Services

"I have a job interview in just a few days, and I'm nervous because this is just the job I have been looking for," said the recent MSW graduate. "Can you help me get ready for it?" We talked about some strategies for the interview, and she left confident that

she could pull some ideas together and be ready.

Such is my new role as director of recruitment and career services at the School of Social Work, a needed addition to our program. It has been requested by students both verbally and in exit surveys. Baylor has a wonderful university career services program, and our program will reinforce and augment it.

This past fall, Rob Rogers in the school revamped the Social Policies II class to become Social Work Administration. By collaborating with Baylor's Career Counseling Center, we offer Myers-Briggs personality testing to these students – a great benefit for them. In the BSW Capstone class, we also discuss job interviews, search strategies, types of resumes and cover letters. We also are utilizing our e-mail listserve and updating our Web pages.

Our recruiting team

We have a great recruitment team that includes two BSW students, Ev'marie Blair and Catherine Meadows, and two MSW students, Jessika Doolittle and Jennifer Gunter, and our administrative assistant, Brenda Lenamon. We are at Baylor Premieres, Homecoming Open House, Academic Success Fair, social work national conferences, BSW Major Mixers, and MSW Preview Days. We provide packets of information for our faculty and students who volunteer to recruit as they travel or return home. We make it as easy as possible for them; we even provide a fall-back "script" if they're not sure what to say. Some alumni also have offered to recruit. We can set it up – please let us know if you would like to help get the word out by e-mailing Vicki_Northern@baylor.edu or Brenda_Lenamon@baylor.edu. However you can help, we thank you for spreading the word about the social work profession!

Vicki Northern,

Director of Recruitment/Career Services

Mark Your Calendar

- April** 20 Phi Alpha Induction
 21 Inauguration of John Lilley as Baylor's 13th president
 27 Family Dinner
 28 Board of Advocates Dinner
- May** 3 MSW Colloquium
 12 Spring Convocation
 13 Spring Graduation
- June** 11-17 Tx. Literacy Missions Leadership Workshop
 21 FM102 & 201 in Atlanta, auxiliary to CBF meeting
- Aug.** 4 Field Supervisor Training/Orientation
 11 Summer Convocation
 12 Summer Graduation
- Sept.** 15 Board of Advocates Meeting
- Oct.** 26-28 NASW/TX Annual Meeting
 Arlington, TX

CALLING ALL ALUMNI *Let us hear from you!*

Please complete the information below and provide a photo, if possible. (Sorry, photos cannot be returned.) Send information to: Krista Barrett, managing editor, School of Social Work, Baylor University, One Bear Place #97320, Waco, TX 76798-7320. Or, fax this form to (254) 710-6455 or send via e-mail to Krista_Barrett@Baylor.edu.

Name _____ Year of graduation _____

Name at graduation, if different _____

Home Address _____

Home Telephone (____) _____ Business Telephone (____) _____

Employer _____

Title or Position _____

Business Address _____

E-mail Address _____

Areas of interest (family, special projects, etc.) _____

Degree _____

Are you a Carver School or Baylor graduate? _____

Insider Information

For general information about the School of Social Work, please call (254) 710-6400, fax (254) 710-6455 or visit www.Baylor.edu/Social_Work/.

To e-mail any member of the faculty or staff, use first name, underscore and last name followed by @baylor.edu; e.g. Krista_Barrett@baylor.edu.

For direct telephone access to staff, dial (254) 710 and the four-digit extension listed in parentheses next to the staff member's name.

Faculty

Diana Garland, Dean
 Dennis Myers, Assoc. Dean, Graduate Studies
 Gaynor Yancey, Assoc. Dean, Baccalaureate Studies
 Pete Campbell, Director, Bacc. Field Education
 James Ellor, Director, Institute for Gerontological Studies
 Helen Harris, Director, Graduate Field Education
 Rob Rogers, Director, Baylor Center for Literacy
 Jon Singletary, Director, Center for Family & Community Ministries
 Preston Dyer
 Laine Scales, Assoc. Dean, Graduate School
 David Sherwood
 Scott Taylor

Staff

Krista Barrett, General Information/
 Field Education (6400)
 Kay Boatman, Financial Director (1408)
 Pam Edwards, Admin. Asst./Literacy (3854)
 Angela Fields, Baccalaureate Program (7389)
 Jeanie Fitzpatrick, Assistant to the Dean (1199)
 Carol Gene Graves, Asst. Dir./Literacy (3884)
 Marilyn Gusukuma, Graduate Program (3701)
 Vicki M. Kabat, Assoc. Dir./CFCM (4417)
 Brenda Lenamon, Recruitment (7853)
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COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Volume No. 14

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