

Newsletter from Baylor University School of Social Work • Volume No. 21 • April 2008



Courtney Chapman (center) is interning this spring at Fredericksburg (VA) Baptist Church, which has a ministry to welcome and help resettle African refugees. Elassa Niyokwizigira (left) arrived on Feb. 14 with her husband and eight children. Neema Ndayambaje (right) arrived last August with her husband and six children.

Transforming communities near and far

By Vicki Marsh Kabat One way to calculate the impact of School of Social Work interns on the community is by doing the math. Over the course of their baccalaureate education, students are required to spend 480 hours in field instruction. Graduate students are required to spend a total of 490 hours.

By the time the school's current enrollment of 260 students in both programs graduates, they will have poured close to 260,000 hours into nonprofit agencies and congregations in Central Texas and at some distance-learning sites.

Impressive as that number is, it doesn't begin to tell the story. The story lies in the reciprocal impact of field education on the life of the student and in the lives of those with whom they interact.

"To me, field education is

the heart of the entire social work academic program," said Ester Flores, field education program director of baccalaureate studies. "Students' values, beliefs and preconceived notions are often challenged. And for many of our students, it is their opportunity to prepare to answer the call of the Lord on their lives."

It is also a wake-up call for many students as

suddenly theory and textbook applications take on a human face, often conveying deep pain and desperation.

"We're trusting these students to deal with real-life, immediate crisis situations," said David Davis, executive director of the Advocacy Center for Crime Victims and Children in Waco. "That's rewarding for them and it validates what they're learning *(continued on page 3)*

FROM THE DEAN Congregational social work interns helping define profession

By Diana R. Garland, Dean of Baylor School of Social Work

I have never liked the term "mentor," because it implies that an older or more experienced person is giving something in a unidirectional way to the newbie. Similarly, being the "instructor" in a seminar implies that a teacher "instructs" and the students learn. Whenever I have been in the role of mentor or instructor, I have always learned more than those who I was supposed to be teaching.

This semester is no exception. I am the "instructor" of seven students, all of whom are finishing their MSW studies with an intensive internship as social workers in a congregation, two in Virginia, one in Huntsville, TX, and four in Waco. The real student in the seminar is me, however, as I soak up what the students are doing and try to connect social work theory and research to the challenges they face. We are figuring it out together.

I have been figuring out this field called congregational social work for most of my 30-plus-year career, but I have been stunned with the realization this semester that having a social worker on a congregational staff is no longer a rarity. Neither do we have to persuade congregations that taking an intern might not only be helpful to the student but also a turning point in the development of the congregation's identity and sense of mission.

Congregations are now seeking us out, asking us to please send them one of our students to help them live their mission as a community of faith. Other universities are asking us to help them develop congregational placements for



These MSW students are currently in internships in congregations. From left, they are: Heather Deal, Mallory Homeyer, Courtney Drew, Kelly Baker, Louis Gomez and Beth Kilpatrick.

students. We are now getting calls from congregations who want to hire our graduates. We find ourselves on the growing edge of our profession.

Congregational social work is as broad in its definition as social work itself. Just in my one seminar, we have interns focused on clinical practice and on community development, on work with families in the larger community and within the congregation. Various ones are being asked about issues that include poverty in the community, parenting skills, abuse, prison inmates and their families, literacy and support services for Hispanic immigrants, and African refugee resettlement. They are engaging their congregations in community ministry and environmental justice. They are preparing and leading Bible-grounded courses on social justice, poverty and family relationships. They are working with 12-step recovery programs, parenting groups, persons who are homeless and family missions. Congregational social work is all this and more.

The students and I remember that

congregational social work should facilitate the work of the church, not professionalize it. We are to help the church *be* the church – not be the church *for* the church. The focus is on sustainable development of the church; volunteers are not ways to get social work done, but rather, social work is facilitating the ministry of the church that the church needs to do. For example, one intern wrote in her log:

I think a dilemma I am in right now is identifying the clear-cut goal or purpose of my time here. ...I want to be of help to the congregation and community. I have accepted that this is a "foundation building"

time, meaning that I cannot in three months get a lot started but I can help to identify strengths, assets and needs in the community ... which I think is like looking at life the way Jesus did.

- Mallory Homeyer They also are learning that there are challenges in congregational social work that are unlike other settings for practice because a congregation is not an agency, it is a community. Another student wrote:

This week I am learning that congregational social work often involves relationships that are personal and intimate, but they are still professional! Professional does not equal detached. But it does mean you can never step out of role.

- Jennifer Adams These students really are "inventing" congregational social work in these placements. They are not just new professionals; they are defining the profession itself. They are catalysts for change in the congregations in which they are serving.

Each day, I am keenly aware that



in classrooms. That's a mutual benefit. The academic world has to stretch to make contact with the real world and the real world needs the academic perspective."

The student enrollment growth in both BSW and MSW programs recently has challenged the school's field education program directors. This spring, the MSW program placed 93 students in field internships in 56 agencies throughout Texas. The BSW program has 37 students in service learning sites and 33 students in 20 agencies and congregations. These numbers represent a new record for the school.

And it's not only current students who are making a difference. Social work graduates are choosing to stay in the Central Texas area as case managers, administrators, counselors, grant writers and fundraisers, and advocates for underserved populations.

Meredith Jones, executive director of the Family Abuse Center, which serves a seven-county area in Central Texas, is a prime example. She joined the agency shortly after graduation at a time when it was in turmoil. When several staff members left suddenly, Jones turned to the School of Social Work, hiring eight graduates during the next two years. Each semester, she also works with seven to eight interns, many of whom offer evening programs for the women and children staying in the agency's Meyer Domestic Violence Center, a 60-bed facility.

"We were so lucky to have scooped these Baylor people up because they are so well trained and capable," said Jones, MDiv, MSW 2006. "Most of them are right out of school so they're energetic and motivated. The center has been completely transformed."

Transformation is what Diana Garland, dean of the school, expected when she came to Waco 10 years ago to start the MSW program. "If this community is not changed for the better

"Through the social work program, Baylor really has developed a strong community reach."

- David Davis, executive director, Advocacy Center for Crime Victims and Children

in five years, then regardless of how wonderful our educational program is, we have failed."

This challenge is lived, taught, modeled and practiced at every level. Through field and internship student placements, continuing education workshops for practitioners, and community civic and emergency relief leadership, the school's presence in Central Texas is significant and ongoing.

"I think it's encouraging to know that through the social work program, Baylor really has developed a strong community reach, a prolonged interaction with the community, and they have a lot of respect from the community because of that," Davis said.

Davis, MDiv, MSW (Carver), has been active in the school's field program since the late 1990s. He taught adjunctively for two years and served as a field instructor from 1999 until 2005, when he became the center's executive director. The center has eight student interns this spring and has had as many as 12 in one semester.

"We don't have a waiting list," he said. "We are able to meet so many more needs because of the student interns."

The field placement component of the graduate program began with 22 students in 1999. At that time, Helen Harris served as field director for the BSW and MSW programs. As the numbers of placements and of students increased, the position was divided into two positions, and Harris remained as director of graduate field until spring 2007. In summer 2007, Flores and Erma Ballenger became field program directors respectively for BSW and MSW students.

"We offer our students in both programs a growing and rich array of internship and service learning opportunities," said Ballenger, who came to Baylor from the University of Missouri-Columbia. "We also approved 23 licensed social workers as new field instructors this year."

Walker Moore, MDiv/MSW 2007, is another example of a student who came to Waco and decided to stay. He *(continued on page 4)*

FROM THE DEAN

(continued from page 2)

our students and faculty are leading out in uncharted paths of church leadership, whether it is in congregations or working with religiously affiliated agencies, denominations or non-governmental organizations that are addressing global challenges such as human trafficking, hunger and poverty, and the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

We are not wise enough or big enough for the work before us; there are no mentors, only students here. And so we laugh, because although we are not equal to the task, the God we serve created the universe and guides our path.

Serving the Lord together, shoulder to shoulder (Zeph. 3:9)

On faith and practice:

I recognize that my personal valuing of God's qualities may act as either a help or a hindrance. If I share them out of personal motivation to correct another's theology, I am hindering my clients. But if, instead, I continue to develop the characteristics of God that I highly value – such as grace – in my work with clients, this would be helpful."

- Sarah Martin, MSW student

TRANSFORMING

(continued from page 3)

spent his concentration placement at Waco Community Development Corp., which advocates for housing, economic and community development in a North Waco neighborhood. His community organizing at a major apartment complex in the area during his internship was so important to the agency that he was hired full time when he graduated.

Moore, who has lived in the North Waco community almost four years, met often with the apartment's Residence Council, although it was discontinued recently. Together, they shut down a crack house, obtained better lighting and took "baby steps" toward parents and local schools developing better relationships, he said.

"A lot of people see only the negatives here in this community, but the school drilled 'strengths perspective' into me and taught me to look beyond what I think are negatives," Moore said. "I live here, I've invested my life in this community so it means everything to me that I can continue to work here to bring people together and revitalize this neighborhood."

Moore's mentoring of school children as part of his role at Waco CDC is lauded by Carol Kemp, LMSW and director of programs for Communities in Schools of the Heart of Texas, a program of Making Collaborations for Youth Count (MCYC).

"Walker Moore is doing an incredible

job of mentoring students at several schools, working with parents in the identified high-crime zone in Waco," Kemp said. "He developed his outreach model while in class at Baylor."

And, Tasha Moore, MDiv/MSW 2007, Walker's wife, works for CIS. "This is a strong indication of the positive influence that Baylor social work students have on one community as she is working in the same school zone as Walker," Kemp said.

CIS-MCYC is involved in two school districts and 23 schools in

Waco and Bellmead. Its mission is to connect community resources with schools to help young people

Carol Kemp, director of programs for Communities in Schools, Heart of Texas

"Without the School of Social Work.

CIS would not have a labor force to

draw from in this community."

successfully learn, stay in school and prepare for life. It is a natural – and much sought-after placement – for social work students.

The program has 14 BSW and MSW placements this spring, and regularly works with the largest number of interns from the school.

"Without the School of Social Work, CIS would not have a labor force to draw from in this community," said Kemp, who added that the organization has submitted a grant that would add 15 MSW-level positions to the CIS staff. "I am passionate about school social work ... where we have social workers during



the daytime hours and after school, we see a significant difference in the students' behavior."

Last fall, the School of Social Work received a grant from CIS-MCYC for seven of its graduate students to prepare special after-school programming for children and youth in the Waco Independent School District. "Their approach to evidenced-based curriculum is a fresh approach in the schools and is appreciated by the students and the staff working with them," Kemp said.

Breadth of impact

With the school's two academic concentrations of Family/Children and Mental/ Physical Health, the scope of

individuals whom students work with is all-inclusive. Agencies that work with the school or hire its graduates include the VA Medical Center, the Area Agency on Aging, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, congregations and religiously affiliated organizations, U.S. Rep. Chet Edwards' office and a residential substance abuse treatment facility, among others.

"Our students are prepared to work with so many different populations," Garland said. "Agencies who have worked with us know that, with minimal orientation and supervision, our students are ready to apply and expand their skills."

Recently, distant field placements have increased, and this spring the school has sites in Washington, DC, and Fredericksburg, VA. Eight of this spring's placements are in congregations that increasingly seek the professional standards of a social worker to help them with mission and community development programs.

"We are really seeing the emergence of congregational social work as a highdemand niche in our profession," said Gaynor Yancey, the school's Professor of Church and Community and co-director of its Strengthening Congregational Community Ministries grant. "Churches

Dana Nichole Earls, MSW 2006, was an intern with the CIS program at Brook Avenue Elementary. "I like to point out to the kids what they're doing right," she said, "because I think they hear too often what they're doing wrong." are now contacting us to ask how to obtain an intern or hire a graduate or to ask for training or resource materials. Five years ago, that rarely happened."

In the past two years, two graduate students of the school actively worked to develop immigration support services in Waco. Tihara Vargas and Viviana Triana became interested in immigration issues after a class research assignment. They organized a community conference on immigration legislation in 2006 and continued to work with local entities through their field internships. The result is The Ruth Project: A Waco Immigrant Services Center – one of only two between Dallas and Austin.

"Jesus tells us to welcome the stranger, the alien, among us," said Vargas, who served a tour of duty with the U.S. Army in Iraq before beginning her MSW. "When we began to study immigration issues, we wanted to find a way to help people here with documentation preparation, legal case management and education about immigration laws."

The Ruth Project, recognized by the Board of Immigration Appeals, offers legal and social assistance four days a week and has three social work interns this spring.

"It is thrilling to see not only change in our community but transformation," Garland said. "We have been actively engaged in beginning immigration, housing, literacy and family support services here."

Waco a good fit

Vicki Northern, the school's director of recruitment and career services, said that many local agencies have created positions at the BSW and MSW levels for the school's graduates, and most graduates find a position within one to five months. More graduates are choosing to stay in Central Texas, she said.

"A lot of our students come to Baylor thinking they'll only be here for their education, but more and more are staying in Waco to begin their careers," she said.

Jones of the Family Abuse Center mentioned that trend, as well, citing the high concentration of innovative nonprofit organizations in Central Texas



Irine Thomas, MSW student, is one of nine students who received certification in dementia care this spring. She visits here with a resident of the Wesley Woods Alzheimer's Care Center in Waco.

such as Friends for Life, which serves the elderly.

"Many of these nonprofits are faithbased and that's a very good fit for Baylor social work graduates," she said. "They have been trained in an environment to work out what it means to do social work in both a Christian and secular environment, and they usually are driven by their faith to actively help the poor."

Leadership roles

In addition to field placements, the school has taken visible leadership roles in the community. Many of its faculty and administrators serve on boards for nonprofits, and many of those in leadership positions. Across the community, the school seeks collaborations that can lead to meaningful improvement.

In 2005, for example, thousands of refugees from hurricanes Katrina and Rita poured into Central Texas. The school quickly responded by convening community and congregational relief leaders to strategize and organize.

"Everyone was stunned by the enormity of the situation, but as social workers we know what to do. We get people together so we can all be more effective in delivering direct services," said Garland, who called that meeting.

Mary Landon Darden, whose church was one of the first to open its doors to the evacuees, is appreciative of the school's efforts. "Baylor's School of Social Work responded immediately and, supervised by social work faculty and administrators, dozens of students volunteered to work around the clock."

Educational opportunities

The school also provides continuing education workshops for local practitioners to earn their required ethic units. The MSW Colloquium, where graduate students present their research, is held each spring and draws between 70 and 100 participants.

The annual Dyer Ethics Workshop, now in its 10th year, also attracts a similar number. Last year, the workshop focused on legal aspects of social work practice and had 136 participants.

This spring, under the leadership of assistant professor of social work Kim Kotrla, the school is sponsoring a workshop titled "Key Issues of Our Time: Human Trafficking and Immigration."

The school also provides new resources and curriculum through its three centers, which focus on family and community ministries, literacy and gerontological studies.

"The issues that we prepare our students to address are universal," Garland said. "Every opportunity we have to inform, educate, sensitize and collaborate, you will find us beating through the underbrush to carve out the path." You are cordially invited to the School of Social Work's

Annual Family Dinner

Thursday, April 24 6 p.m. First Baptist Church Woodway

Featured Speaker: Dr. Daniel Vestal Executive Director Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

Sponsorships are available. To sponsor or make your reservation, please call Jeanie Fitzpatrick at 254-710-1199

NEW FACE AT SCHOOL

Tricia Herrmann joins the school as communications specialist for the Center for Family and



Community Ministries. She will be coordinating subscriptions and contributions for the *Family and Community Ministries Journal: Empowering Through Faith*, as well as maintaining the center's Web sites and writing for *Community Connections*. Tricia has a BA in electronic media and communications from Texas Tech and has worked as a production assistant for KXXV and as a marketing assistant for the Texas Tech University Student Recreation Center.

FOUR FOR EXCELLENCE

By Gaynor Yancey, Associate Dean for Baccalaureate Studies

Baylor's School of Social Work offers a baccalaureate (undergraduate) program, a graduate program and one day, we hope to add a doctoral program. In the BSW program, students may complete their coursework earlier or later, which means they can graduate in the August, December or May commencement services of the university. By the time all three services have taken place in an academic year, the BSW

program usually has an average of 35 to 40 students graduating.

"The profile of these four women as a group, however, is reflective of our larger graduating classes."

– Gaynor Yancey

all of her classes. One already has been involved in research and is a published author in a professional peer-reviewed journal. One is the first child in her family to attend college and complete an undergraduate degree. One is the last child in her family to complete a college degree. One has been asked to teach cultural diversity workshops with social work agencies in Waco. One has been

was known as the quietest student in

asked to translate life skills education into poetry, role plays, rap and other communication forms that address in different ways

The December 2007 graduating BSW class was

unusually small – four women. The profile of these four women as a group, however, is reflective of our larger graduating classes.

Here is that group's profile. They are all women. Their ages range from 21 to 22 (traditional age for undergraduates). They all came from Texas. One is Hispanic. One is African American. Two are Caucasian (White). On paper, they reflect our overall BSW statistics – the majority are Caucasian (with an average of 22 percent of other races/ethnicities), in this age range, excel academically and are female.

What was different about this quartet, though, is that they all graduated either *cum laude* or *summa cum laude*. What an accomplishment and tribute to their hard and consistent work.

The individual stories of these four are amazing. One comes from significant poverty. One comes from a single parent household. One graduated in three and half years – an entire semester early! One many of the population groups that social workers serve. One has international experiences through missions. This breadth of experience and life backgrounds are an integral part, too, of the majority of our BSW students.

These four women plan to pursue their graduate degrees in social work. They have been accepted to the premier social work schools in the nation – Baylor University, Columbia, Temple University, the University of Pennsylvania, the University of Texas, and the University of Houston. It is now their choice! Their academic achievements have given them the freedom to make these choices.

We are blessed to have the privilege of teaching and learning with all of our students. These four women are representative of the overall strength and experiences that our students bring into the BSW program. Each student is a potential world-changer in his or her part of the worldsond eare grateful to come alongside.

FOR MORE SSW NEWS, VISIT WWW.BAYLOR.EDU/SOCIAL_WORK



By Dennis Myers, Associate Dean for Graduate Studies, and Erma Ballenger, Director of Graduate Field Education

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It is essential to experience all of the things and moods of one good place. - Thomas Merton

A lot happens in fields – plants grow, battles rage, players win and lose, dreams appear and horizons expand. For new social workers, going to the field means an opportunity to engage human life in places of growth, conflict, loss, dreams and imagination.

The field setting, whether it is an agency, congregation or community, is a sacred place with energy to carry students from classroom role-plays and concept papers into real-world contexts where suffering is palatable, texts are everyday human stories and answers are not so easily found. When an effective match is made between the calling and gifts of the student and the mission of the field organization, the potential for learning is unparalleled in social work education. For this reason, we place the field experience at the center of the curriculum and at the heart of learning the craft of social work.

Making these matches is one of the most rewarding yet challenging tasks faced by social work educators. It requires the art and skill of attending to the nuances of student interest and aptitude. It requires an in-depth understanding of the heartbeat of the field organization and its strengths and boundaries. It requires prayerful consideration of the possibilities.

Our leader in this vital enterprise is Erma Ballenger, director of graduate field education. She teams with Ester Flores, director of baccalaureate field education and both are assisted by Krista Barrett, program manager for field education. Together, they create a diverse inventory of field learning sites and a thorough process for making sustainable studentorganization matches for all enrolled in field education.

This spring we made 93 matches for MSW students in field placements, a 30 percent increase over any other year in



Six MSW students are serving in internships this spring in the Washington, DC, area. Students and their placements are, from left: Joel Harder, Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty: Sarah Bush and Courtney Chapman, Fredericksburg (VA) Baptist Church; Lance Summey, Bread for the World; and Jennifer Smyer, National Office of the Salvation Army (Human Trafficking Division). Not shown is Catherine Sykes, Virginia Commonwealth University Medical Center.

our history. It became obvious that the available field placement sites in Waco and surrounding communities could not meet the demand. Agreements were made with agencies, churches and/or religiously affiliated organizations in Austin, Dallas/Fort Worth, Texarkana and Amarillo.

Student interests and our commitment to finding organizations that could respond to these interests stimulated the placement of three students in Virginia, two in Fredericksburg and one in Richmond, and three in Washington, DC.

In an important way, the placement of six students in these distant locations stimulated educational innovations and new strategic relationships. In order to conduct weekly field seminars, Helen Harris, senior lecturer, introduced us to Elluminate Live, a real-time online interactive communication technology. Relationships with social workers, agencies and churches forged in the matching process created new friends and constituents for the school. For example, these social work colleagues provided the field instruction for the students: Michael Wolf-Branigin at George Mason University; Ronald Foreman at Salvation Army; Beverly Jeffries at Salvation Army; and Diane Kane at Virginia Commonwealth University Medical Center (VCUMC).

Each placement provided outstanding advanced practice and concentrationspecific learning experiences. Summey, Harder and Smyer had the opportunity to conference with elected officials and other national leaders interested in ending world hunger, protecting and defending religious liberty or ending human trafficking. At Fredericksburg Baptist Church, Bush and Chapman advocated for and assisted refugees with resettlement, and Sykes at VCUMC worked



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NEW FIELDS

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with patients who have undergone kidney and liver transplants.

These students report that their internship experiences have been professionally and personally life-enriching and life-changing. For example, Jennifer Smyer observed:

My internship has been nothing less than an eye-opening experience. I have been privileged to be exposed to national task forces that are collaborating with their strengths and services to combat sex trafficking. I have been able to meet those who have been "mothers and fathers" in the movement of abolishing sex trafficking, both domestically and internationally. My internship has opened doors to make contacts with these mentors who have been fighting in the trenches and who are delighted to assist the next generation of abolitionists who are following them in the fight. I believe that I will draw on these mentors and their expertise for years to come.

An unforeseen benefit of these new placements was the bonds of collegial caring and friendship that developed. As Catherine Sykes reflected on her DCarea cohort and distance learning, she wrote:

While we are each engaged in faraway learning experiences, our common mission of serving others with Christ-like humility brings us together on a weekly basis, despite the geographic distance. So while we are far away from the familiarity and comfort of Baylor's School of Social Work, we are not modest about carrying the school's mission wherever we go.

We celebrate the near and distant fields of learning that are so welcoming of our students. We are thankful for the affirmation of vocation and for the professional preparation so freely offered. We look forward with expectation for the opportunity to make the powerful matches that make leaders out of students and organizations into incubators of justice and compassion.

SSW ALUMNI

Amy (Muskrat) Bihl (BASW 2004) is an LMSW at the Providence Sub-Acute Care Unit in Waco, TX. amybihl@gmail. com.

Connie E. Evers (MSW 2007) received her social work licensure in August 2007 and is a social worker at Meals on Wheels and More in Austin. eversrock@yahoo. com.

Allison (Wiatrek) Henley (BASW

2002/MSW 2003) works in College Station, TX, and Katy, TX, at DaVita, a dialysis clinic. She and husband, Matt, will move in December to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio. allison_henley@ hotmail.com.

Sandy Jones (MSW/ MDiv 2003) and husband, Robert, are the proud parents of Grace Elizabeth Jones, born Sept. 26, 2007, at 7 pounds 6 ounces and 19 inches.



Mona Orosco-Barrientos (BASW 2002) is an LMSW and works as the new parent support program coordinator with the Department of the Army in San Antonio, TX. mona.orosco@us.army.mil.

Esther Reyes (BSW 2007) is working as outreach coordinator at Manos de Cristo, a faith-based nonprofit organization in Austin. She will attend graduate school this fall.

CARVER ALUMNI

Emily Martin (MSW 1991, Carver) is working as a psychiatric social worker at Moccasin Bend Mental Health Institute. She recently was honored as the Employee of the Year for the hospital. Emily. Martin@state.tn.us.

We'd love to hear from you! Send your news and updates to Krista_Barrett@baylor.edu

CALLED BY DUTY

MSW student Daphne Paul selected for U.S. Air Force residency

With a brother in the Army, Daphne Paul's awareness of the needs of military servicemen and women has increased. Now, as she prepares to graduate in May with her MSW, Paul will apply her social work skills in direct ways to address some of those needs.

She learned in March that she was one of 14 nationwide selected to serve a residency at Eglin Air Force Base in Florida starting in June. The 10-month residency is preparation for a career in Air Force social work.

"What an awesome opportunity to serve others and my country," said Paul. "Life is such an adventure. I never pictured myself here but God is so good and faithful to lead."

The residency focuses on a broad spectrum of social work issues from child and spouse abuse to marital and family counseling, substance abuse counseling, reintegration of AF service members who have been in combat into their families and "regular life," medical social work, outpatient clinical social work and psychiatric social work.

Paul is completing her internship this semester at the Waco VA Medical Center, where she handles discharge planning for veterans, as well as individual counseling and therapy.

"All of the patients have some sort of serious mental illness, and are learning how to cope and handle their illness in a society where it is often stigmatized," she said. "Many of the patients have little or no family support due to repercussions of poor illness management or general misunderstanding or miseducation about serious mental illness. This section of the hospital provides a place for rehabilitation as the veterans become stabilized and prepare for discharge into other programs that the VA maintains in the community."

On the Air Force Base, Paul will be working with active duty Airmen and women rather than veterans, so the treatment will be different.

"Social workers look not only at the individual, but also look at the

bigger picture, seeing all the systems involved in the client's life, working to empower the individual as well as end systems of oppression and injustice. This is holistic work on a micro, mezzo and macro level," she said.

Paul graduated from Columbia International University with a double major in Bible and Intercultural Studies in 2002. During her time there she took advantage of several study abroad opportunities, including one program in Mexico that she fell in love with and then worked for after graduation.

As a team leader for the EduVenture program in Mexico, Paul led outdoor adventure activities such as hiking and horseback riding to help teach spiritual principles to her students. In that remote location, she had no electricity and was thankful

"Life is such an adventure. I never pictured myself here but God is so good and faithful to lead." Daphne Paul, MSW student



In January 2007, MSW student Daphne Paul volunteered with the city's Homeless Count Coalition, interviewing individuals who were homeless in an effort to assess needs.

just to have running water. "The experience pushed our students physically, mentally and spiritually," she said.

Paul returned to the United States in December 2005 to find that a war had begun while she was away.

"I didn't know what God wanted me to do," she said. "I felt a major burden for the military, so I started looking into how I could help."

The search began with health care and eventually led her to social work and Baylor University. "Baylor had a great integra-

tion of faith and practice. It provided this balance of professionalism and Christian ethics I was searching for," she said.

Helen Harris, lecturer in social work, has mentored Paul during her graduate education. "She is an extraordinary person and student. She is excellent in

every way, absolutely committed to the Lord and does the highest level graduate work I have seen," Harris said.

Paul has had opportunity to work on research projects with the faculty and said that she was most impressed by how much the professors at the school care about the success of their students.

"These professors just are so inspiring and so positive about what they do, you can't help but be excited about this work," she said. – *By Tricia Herrmann, Communications Specialist*

SSW NEWS BRIEFS

SCHOOL DONATES TO TORNADO-HIT SCHOOL

Faculty and staff donated \$540 for the disaster relief fund established to help the social work program at Union University in Tennessee after the campus was hit by a tornado in early February.

There were no deaths, but damage to the facility was extensive. Dormitories were destroyed and many students were left without living arrangements.

3 STUDENTS SELECTED FOR WHO'S WHO ISSUE

One BSW and two MSW students were named to the 2007-08 *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.* Seventy-two Baylor students were identified through campuswide nominations based on criteria of scholastic excellence and campus leadership. Social work students selected are Lance Summey, MSW; Tihara Vargas, MSW; and Natalie O'Connor, BSW.

SEVERAL RECEIVE SERVICE AWARDS

Baylor University honored faculty and staff members for their years of service in February. Those from the School of Social Work honored include:

5 years: Kelly Atkinson, Krista Barrett and Marilyn Gusukuma

10 years: Kay Boatman, Diana Garland, Helen Harris and Vicki Northern Congratulations to all of you!



FOR MORE SSW NEWS, VISIT WWW.BAYLOR.EDU/ SOCIAL_WORK



GERON STUDENTS RECOGNIZED

Nine students in Social Work gerontology received certification in dementia care this spring. The presentations were made by Kent Herring (back, far left), then administrator of the Wesley Woods Alzheimer's Care Center, and by Jim Ellor (back, far right), director of the Baylor Center for Gerontological Studies. Students are (front, from left): Irine Thomas, Crystal Leatch, Flor Avellanda (BSW intern), Rebecca Fredricks and Tiffani Horowitz. (Back row, from left) Herring, Melissa Ishio, Yolanda Robbins, Meka Horton Linsey Helm and Ellor.

WORKSHOP APRIL 11 EXPLORES HUMAN TRAFFICKING, IMMIGRATION

A workshop on "Key Issues of Our Time: Human Trafficking and Immigration" will be held beginning at 8:15 a.m. April 11 in Room 127 of the Baylor Law School.

Social workers and licensed professional counselors can earn three continuing education hours.

Presenters will include Kate Rocke, chair of the Austin Human Trafficking Coalition; Shannon MacCleery, staff attorney with Catholic Charities of Central Texas; and Richard Munoz, director of the Immigrant Service and Aid Center (ISAAC) in Waco.

The workshop is sponsored by the School of Social Work and is held in partnership with the U.S. Health and Human Services: Administration for Children and Families and Rescue & Restore for Victims of Human Trafficking.

Kim Kotrla, assistant professor of social work, is coordinating the event.

To register or for more information, go to www.baylor.edu/social_work and click on Events.

SCHOOL & COUNTY SIGN AGREEMENT

B aylor School of Social Work entered into an educational service agreement with McLennan County to provide BSW and MSW social work students internship learning experiences at the Highway 6 Jail in Waco, with placements beginning in the spring 2008 semester.

The county has authorized student stipends of \$8,000 a year, plus \$4,000 to pay for licensed master's social work supervisors of the students.

The school previously has placed two MSW students in the County Jail, but the new arrangement will provide financial assistance.

Student internship experiences may include case management; group, individual or family problem-solving interventions; personal, vocational and social skills development; and case consultation.



On hand March 18 to acknowledge the new agreement between the School of Social Work and McLennan County were (from left): Diana Garland, dean; Erma Ballenger, director for MSW field education; Mary Zane Morton, BSW field intern; Seth Miller, MSW 2006, first SSW intern at the jail; Chief Deputy Randy Plemmons; Sheriff Larry Lynch; and Dennis Myers, associate dean for graduate studies.

MSW Practice Colloquium May 7 8 A.M. TO 5 P.M. Cashion Academic Center

MSW Concentration students will present their capstone presentation on topics from family counseling services to ethics and mental health.

UP TO 6 CEU CREDIT HOURS Cost is \$10 for certificate

Awards Luncheon 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Blume Banguet Room/Cashion

Honorees:

BSW Field Intern MSW Field Intern Field Supervisor of Year Outstanding Grant Writer Outstanding Researcher

Lunch RSVP by April 21

Call 254-710-6400 Krista_Barrett@baylor.edu



ENDOWMENT - VOLUME 1

During a recent visit to campus, Bob and Glenella Scarborough of Keller, TX, presented to Dennis Myers, associate dean for graduate studies, a copy of the first volume purchased with earnings from an endowment fund established by the couple to help the School of Social Work purchase library materials. Bob, a 1952 Baylor alumnus, is a veteran social worker and ordained Baptist minister who retired in 1997 as a marriage and family therapist. He served as director of social services for several hospitals before going into private practice. Glenella served for many years as an executive with Girl Scouts of the USA. The book is the new edition of Christianity and Social Work, which was co-edited by Laine Scales and includes chapters by several School of Social Work faculty members.

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

- Ellor, J. W., & Oberle, J. (2008). Doorway thoughts: Cross-cultural health care for older adults. In M. D. Reva N. Adler, MPH & C. Hosam K. Kamel, CCD (Eds.), Doorway thoughts (Vol. 2). Sudbury: Ethnogeriatrics Committee of the American Geriatrics Society, Jones and Bartlett Publishers.
- Garland, D. E., and Garland, D. R. (2007). Flawed families of the Bible: How God's grace works through imperfect relationships. Grand Rapids: Brazos Press
- B. Hugen, & T. L. Scales, Eds. Christianity and social work: Readings on the integration of Christian faith and social work practice, 3rd ed., Botsford, CT, North American Christians in Social Work.

PUBLICATIONS

- Brennan Homiak, K. & Singletary, J. E. (2007). Family violence in congregations: An exploratory study of clergy's needs. *Social Work and Christianity*, 34 (1), 18-46.
- Ellor, J. W. (2008) Gerontology in Seminary Training: History and Current Status. *Aging & Spirituality*, the newsletter of the Forum on Religion, Spirituality and Aging of the American Society on Aging. Vol. 20(1).
- Ellor, J. W. (2008). The role of "faithbased" programs in addressing late life spirituality and meaning. *Generations*, 32.
- Ellor, J. W. (in press, 2008). Spiritual assessment for geriatric care managers. *Journal of Geriatric Care Management*.
- Ellor, J. W., & Myers, D. R. (2008). Logotherapy and depression: Implications for intervention with religious older adults. *Journal of Counseling and Spirituality*, 1(1).
- Garland, D. R., Myers, D. R., & Wolfer, T. A. (in press, 2009). Protestant Christian volunteers in community social service programs: What motivates, challenges, and sustains them. *Administration in Social Work*.
- Garland, D. R., Wolfer, T. A., & Myers D. R. (in press, 2008). How 35 con-

gregations launched and sustained community ministries. *Social Work & Christianity*.

- Garland, D. E., & Garland, D. R. Surviving abuse and loss. *Family and Community Ministries: Empowering Through Faith*, 21(3), 22-33.
- Garland, D. R. (in press). Christian social services. *Encyclopedia of Social Work*. Washington, D.C.: National Association of Social Workers.
- Garland, D. R., & Edmonds, J. A. (2007). Family life of Baptists. Family and Community Ministries: Empowering Through Faith, 21(1), 6-21.
- Garland, D. R. (2007). Foreword. In C. Baker, Welcoming the children: History and programs of Arizona Baptist Children's Services. 1960-2002.
- Garland, D. R., Myers, D. M., & Wolfer, T.A. (in press, 2009). Protestant Christian volunteers in community social service programs: What motivates, challenges, and sustains them. *Administration in Social Work*.
- Garland, D. R., Myers, D. M., and Wolfer, T. A. (in press). Social work with religious volunteers: Activating and sustaining community involvement. *Social Work*.
- Garland, D. R., Singletary, J.E., & Sherr, M. E. (in press). How we care for children: Congregation-based and other private and public child care programs. *Family and Community Ministries: Empowering Through Faith.*
- Kotrla, K. & Dyer, P. (in press). Using marriage education to strengthen military families: Evaluation of the Active Military Life Skills Program. Social Work & Christianity.
- Kotrla, K. & Martin, S. (in press). Fetal alcohol spectrum disorders: A social worker's guide for prevention and intervention. *Social Work and Mental Health.*
- Kotrla, K. (in press). Predicting alcohol use during pregnancy: Analysis of national survey data and implications for practice and the church. *Social Work & Christianity*.
- Martinez, R., Rogers, Ř., Yancey, G., & Singletary, J. (in press). Spiritual capital in modern organizations.

Journal of Management, Spirituality and Religion.

- Martinez, R., Rogers, R., Yancey, G., & Singletary, J. E.(in press). The role of spiritual capital in Amish community and enterprises. *Journal* of Management, Spirituality and Religion.
- Myers, D. R., Myers, S. & Sykes, C. (in press, 2008). Effective learner-centered strategies for teaching adults: Using visual media to engage the adult learner. *Gerontology and Geriatrics Education*.
- Myers, D. R., Wolfer, T. A., & Garland, D. R. (in press, 2008). Congregational service-learning characteristics and volunteer faith development. *Religious Education*.
- Myers, D. R., Wolfer, T. A., and Garland, D. R. (in press). Congregational service–learning characteristics and volunteer faith development. *Religious Education*.
- Netting, F. E., O'Connor, M. K., Singletary, J. E. (2007). Finding homes for their dreams: Strategies founders and program initiators use to position faith-based programs. *Families in Society*, 88 (1), 19-29.
- Polson, L. & Rogers, R. (2007). Counseling and mental health referral practices of church staff. *Social Work* & *Christianity* 34(1), 72-87.
- Rogers, R. (2007). Family literacy ministry: An emerging model. Family & Community Ministries: Empowering Through Faith, 22(2) 6-17.
- Rogers, F., & Garland, D. R. (2007). What church families want. Family and Community Ministries: Empowering Through Faith, 21(1), 22-23.
- Scales, T. L., Harris, H. W. (2008).
 The helping process and Christian beliefs: Insights from Alan Keith-Lucas, In B. Hugen, & T. L. Scales, Eds. Christianity and social work: Readings on the integration of Christian faith and social work practice, 3rd ed., Botsford, CT, North American Christians in Social Work.
- Sherr, M. E., & Jones, J. (2007). Considering family and significant others in the faculty recruit-



ment process: A study of social work recruiting practices. *Advances in Social Work*, 8(2), 197-210.

- Sherr, M. E., Garland, D. R., & Wolfer, T. A. (2007). The role of community service in the faith development of adolescents. *Journal of Youth Ministry*, 6(1), 43-54.
- Sherr, M. E., Huff, G., & Curran, M. (2007). Student perceptions of salient IFL indicators: The Christian Vocation Model. *Journal of Research on Christian Education*, 16(1), 15-33.
- Sherr, M. E., Singletary, J, Rogers, R. K., Dennison, A., & Paul, D. (2007). *Stand in the Gap: Final Report.*
- Sherr, M. E., Stamey, J., and Garland, D. R. (submitted 2007) Empowering faith practices: A validation study of the Christian Faith Practices Scale. *Family and Community Ministries: Empowering Through Faith.*
- Singletary, J. E. (2007). Community and Family Models of Care for Orphans and Vulnerable Children. *Social Work* & *Christianity*, 34 (3), 298-316.
- VanGorder, C., & Ellor, J. W. (2008). Ethnogeriatrics and comparative religions methods for gerontological research into topics of religion and spirituality. *Journal of Religion, Spirituality and Aging*, 21(3).

PRESENTATIONS

- Ballenger, E. (2007, November). Celebrating unity in diversity. Keynote address at Baylor University's Social Connections Meeting, Waco, TX.
- Dyer, P. & Dyer, G. (2007, June). Invited workshop: Couple Dialogue. ACME State Conference, Dallas, TX.
- Dyer, P. & Dyer, G. (2007, July). Invited Workshop: Listening for Understanding. International Marriage Enrichment Conference, Orlando, FL.
- Dyer, P. & Dyer, G. (2007, July). Invited Workshop: Love, Anger and Couple Conflict. International Marriage Enrichment Conference, Orlando, FL.
- Dyer, P. and Dyer, G. (2007). Lecture: Is the Lecture Ever Effective? Training program for graduate assistants, Office of the Associate Dean Graduate School.

Ellor, J. W. (2007, September). Spiritual assessment. Paper presented at the Spiritual Care Basics, San Diego, CA.

- Ellor, J. W. (2007, February). The state of the rural Communities – Older Adult Ministries. A presentation at the Rural Church Summit, Waco, TX.
- Ellor, J. W. (2007, November). Cultural and sectarian dispositions of religiousness and spirituality measures: A theologian's perspective. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, San Francisco, CA.
- Ellor, J. W. (2007, March). Eco spirituality and the practice of hope. Paper presented at the annual combined meeting of the American Society on Aging and the National Council on the Aging, Chicago, IL.
- Ellor, J. W. (2007, June). Cry and dementia. Paper presented at the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, Washington DC.
- Ellor, J. W. (2007, February). History and state of the art in seminary education: The current state of older adult ministry training. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education, Portland, OR.
- Ellor, J. W. (2007, October). Personcentered administration. Paper presented at the Texas Guardianship Association, Waco, TX.
- Ellor, J. W. (2007, May). Positive aging. Paper presented at the Positive Aging, Muncie, IN.
- Ellor, J. W. (2007, March). Role of the seminary in older adult ministries. Paper presented at the Princeton Seminary Consultation in Older Adult Ministries, Princeton, NJ.
- Ellor, J. W. (2007, December). Spiritual care and the psychology of aging. Paper presented at the Spiritual Care Basics, Lafayette, LA.
- Garland, D. R., Singletary, J. E., & Sherr, M. E. (2007, November). Early Childhood Education in Congregations: Findings from a National Study. The 36th annual convention ARNOVA, Atlanta, GA.
- Garland, D. R. (2007, February). "The faith of families," Chapel Lecture,

Southeastern University, Lakeland FL.

- Garland, D. R. (2007, November). "Congregations who care for children." Workshop at the Association for Research on Nonprofit and Voluntary Associations, Atlanta, GA.
- Garland, D. R. "Congregations who care for children." Workshop at the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting, Tampa FL, November 3, 2007.
- Garland, D. R. (2007, March). "Early childhood education in congregations: Preliminary findings from a national study and implications for practice." Workshop at the North American Association of Christians in Social Work Convention, Dallas, TX.
- Garland, D. R.(2007, November). "Evangelism's role in motivating volunteers." Workshop at the Association for Research on Nonprofit and Voluntary Associations, Atlanta, GA.
- Garland, D. R. (2007, November). "How 35 congregations launched and sustained community ministries." Workshop at the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting, Tampa FL.
- Garland, D. R. (2007, March). "How congregational volunteers understand evangelism and community ministry." Workshop at the North American Association of Christians in Social Work Convention, Dallas, TX.
- Garland, D. R. (2007, October). Motivated volunteers." Workshop at the the Woman's Missionary Union National Convention, Little Rock, AR.
- Garland, D. R. (2007, December). "More than words can say: Faith narratives of older adults." Keynote address for the Heart of Texas Gerontological Society. Waco, TX.
- Garland, D. R. (2007, October). "Responding to clergy sexual abuse." Workshop at the the Woman's Missionary Union National Convention, Little Rock, AR.
- Garland, D. R. (2007, Feb. 16 and Sept. 5). "The ethical integration of faith

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FACULTY

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and professional practice." Continuing education workshop provided by Baylor School of Social Work to the professional community in Tyler, TX, and Tulsa, OK).

- Garland, D. R. (2007, September). "Tuna fish and bandaids." Address at the Congregations and Poverty Summit, Center for Family and Community Ministries, Baylor School of Social Work, Waco, TX.
- Garland, D. R. (2007, March). "What's a social worker doing writing a book on biblical families? Congregation as context for social work practice." Workshop at the North American Association of Christians in Social Work Convention, Dallas, TX.
- Kotrla, K. (2007, January). "Alcohol use during pregnancy: A tri-ethnic comparison." Invited oral presentation at the Society for Social Work Research annual conference. San Francisco, CA.
- Kotrla, K. (2007, March). "Using Marriage Education to Strengthen Military Families." Invited oral presentation at the North American Association of Christians in Social Work annual conference. Dallas, TX. Co-presenters P. Dyer, and T. Vargas, BSW student.
- Kotrla, K. (2007, March). "Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders: Screening, Intervention, and Prevention." Invited oral presentation at the North American Association of Christians in Social Work annual conference. Dallas, TX. Co-presenter S. Martin, BA.

Meriwether, L. & Rogers, R. (2007, June).

Recognizing literacy programs (ministries) of excellence. Conference on Internationals and Literacy Ministries. Baylor University, Waco, TX.

- Rogers, R., & Meriwether, L. (2007, March). Engaging the church in literacy – a Social Work Perspective. North American Association of Christians in Social Work annual conference. Dallas, TX.
- Sherr, M. E., Singletary, J. E., Garland, D. R., & Dennison, A. (2007, March). Early childhood education in congregations: Preliminary findings from a national study and implications for practice. The North American Association of Christians in Social Work annual conference, Dallas, TX.
- Sherr, M. E., & Ellor, J. E. (2007, March). Re-thinking the caretaking relationship in preventing elder mistreatment: Potential roles for helping professionals and congregations. Paper presented at the North American Association of Christians in Social Work annual conference, Dallas, TX.
- Singletary, J. E. (2007, April). SUSTAIN: A Process for Strengthening Congregational Community Ministries. Presentation at the Alliance of Baptists Annual Conference.
- Singletary, J. E. (2007, June). Walking Alongside: Strengthening Congregational Community Ministries. Presentation at the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship General Assembly, Atlanta, GA.
- Singletary, J. E. (2007, March). Walking Alongside: Strengthening Congre-

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

APR	11	Preston Dyer Retirement Dinner	
	24	SSW Family Dinner	
	25	Board of Advocates Meeting	
MAY	7	MSW Practice Colloquium	
	16	Spring Convocation	
	17	Spring Commencement	
AUG	15	Summer Convocation	
	16	Summer Commencement	

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gational Community Ministries. Presentation at the 57th North American Association for Christians in Social Work Convention and Training Conference.

- Singletary, J. E, (2007, November). Congregational Early Childhood Education. Presentation at the 36th Annual Conference of the Association for Research in Nonprofit and Voluntary Action.
- Singletary, J. E. (2007, November). Factors Strengthening Social Services among Religious Partnerships: Promising Administrative Practices. Paper presented at the 36th Annual Conference of the Association for Research in Nonprofit and Voluntary Action.
- Wolfer. T. W., Garland, D. R., & Myers, D. R. (2007, November). How congregational volunteers understand evangelism and community ministry. Paper presented at the ARNOVA annual meeting, Atlanta, GA.
- Wolfer. T. W., Garland, D. R., & Myers, D.R. (2007, March). How congregational volunteers understand evangelism and community ministry. Paper presented at the NACSW annual meeting. Dallas, TX.

Job search resource

If you're considering a career change and want the latest postings in social work or related fields, social service or ministry settings, check out the School of Social Work's Web site at:

www.baylor.edu/social_work/ index.php?id=43584

Call Vicki Northern, Director of Student Recruitment and Career Services, for more information or to post a job opening:

254-710-4479







Calling All Alumni Let us bear from you!

Please complete the information below and provide a photo, if possible. (Photos cannot be returned.) Mail to: Krista Barrett, managing editor, School of Social Work, Baylor University, One Bear Place #97320, Waco, TX 76798-7320.

Or send via e-mail to Krista_Barrett@baylor.edu or fax this form to (254) 710-6455.

Name (at graduation and now)			
Year of Graduation/Degree			
Are you a Baylor or Carver School graduate?			
Are you a Daylor of Carver School graduate?			
Mailing address			
Phone ()			
E-mail			
Employer			

Title or Position/Updates (career, family, etc.): ____

GOOD TIMES AT NACSW

The school was well-represented at this year's annual meeting of the North American Association of Christian Social Workers in Orlando, FL, Feb. 7-9. Several faculty, students and alumni of the school and alumni of Carver presented workshops, poster sessions or were involved in panel discussions. The group gathered one evening for dinner at an Ethiopian restaurant (top left). MSW students Viviana Triana and Tihara Vargas (top right) sample an exotic dish. Vicki Northern, director of recruitment and career services, and MSW student Carmen Branscum (left) enjoy the evening. Dean Diana Garland (below) visits with Casondra Brown, MSW alumna (left), and David Monticalvo, a prospective graduate student from Southeastern University.







CAPSTONE COUNTDOWN

MSW students prepare for the presentations they will give at the MSW Practice Colloquium May 7.

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