

# BSW NEWS

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**“Knowledge is power. Empower yourself to empower others”**

## **GREETINGS FROM THE COORDINATOR!**

Welcome to all new students! I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome all of you and say a few words about a magazine available to you all: "Off to college". What an interesting magazine it is! Please get a copy, read it and use it to your advantage.

In the magazine, there are tips for everyone and most importantly, tips that certainly will make your college life easier. On page 4, for example: there is information about help available; the reason for requiring general education; the need for frequent visits with your academic advisor, and the importance of choosing your major early. In this issue, I'll focus on one of those elements, help is available to you through different means: in the University, in your college, and in your school or program. Please use it when needed. Again, welcome.

Dr. Mejia, BSW Program Coordinator.

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Where is help available? Depending on your need, Dr. Brunner at 590-7876; or Mr. Jeff Jinian, 590-7760, is the CPS advisor. Learn who is your individual advisor in the BSW program and visit him/her.

## **APPLESEEDS CORNER**

“A student who tries something and fails is better than a student who does nothing and succeeds.”

## **“CPS HAS A NEW DEAN!”**

Dr. Ken Millar has joined FGCU as Dean of the CPS on August 1, 2006. Dr. Millar brings vast experience in administration of similar structures as CPS. We welcome Dr. Millar, the new Dean and wish him the best in his endeavor.

He is a social worker by training and is active in the academic community. Dr. Millar has published several books and articles and is a well respected member of the social work scholar community.

## **NEWS FROM OUR BSW GRADUATES**

Congratulations to our graduates from the HUS and BSW programs! A good group of our graduates have been accepted into the MSW program, at FGCU. They could not have made a better choice, and the MSW program could not have accepted a better group of candidates. Kudos to these students: Suzanne Grafals; Rosemary Rosado; Cheyenne Sims; Lori Carroll; Mandy Mullen; Barbara Tuma; Heather Whitehead and Kelly Dodge. Work hard and empower yourselves to empower others.

## **SCHEDULE CHANGES!**

After listening to students, faculty met and decided that beginning spring 2007, the schedule for the undergraduates will be similar to that of the MSW program: Classes will be given on one day from 12:30 to 9:15 p.m. Juniors will attend on Tuesdays, and Seniors on Thursdays. We do listen to you!

It is not possible to accommodate everyone but we sure try. Let's see how it works.

## NEWS FROM THE FIELD

Field Placement: Congratulations to Mr. Harvey Heckes for having all the BSW students placed on time in their field placements. That only happens when the students and the Field coordinator work closely together listening to one another, a good example of a coordinated effort. Good for you!

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BSW Orientation: On August 19th, there was a BSW Orientation session. Apart from the refreshments, coffee, and sandwiches (Thank you Dr. Salahu-Din), the topics were quite good. The group was small which made it more interesting because everybody had an opportunity to ask questions. The topics covered were: Using ANGEL successfully in the online courses. Ms. Benscoter made an excellent presentation in the best way to manage ANGEL.

Library : MaryKay Hartung enlightened students about effective use of library resources and also gave useful handouts.

Dr. Salahu-Din, in a nutshell, presented an introduction to Generalist social work practice. Dr. Perez discussed the importance of using the APA Manual in all papers, and emphasized the need to own the manual. Mr. Heckes discussed his role as Field coordinator and invited students to make use of the Code of Ethics as well as of the Student's Guidebook (2005-06 CD) which were provided to the students.

The cream of the pie was that Dr. Charles McKinney took from his busy schedule to come to orientation. He gave a moving lecture about Diversity and the Office of the Ombudsman. Dr. MCKinney also provided handouts.

Lastly, but not least, thank you to the seven Board members for attending orientation. You are really appreciated! We know how busy you are, yet, came to be with us. Thanks.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are very pleased to announce that our website has been updated. Please surf and let us know how you like it and if you encounter problems or have suggestions. We want to serve you the best way we can.

New faculty. We are happy to announce that Ms. Patricia Coccoma, who was an adjunct professor, is now a "Visiting Instructor." Let's wish her the best in working among and with us. Ms. Coccoma is presenting her dissertation to obtain her PhD

BPD Conference. The conference for the Baccalaureate Program Directors in social work programs is scheduled in Los Angeles, California for Oct.25-29, 2006. A group of faculty plan to attend and will come back to you with news from the BSW programs, latest publications, and some anecdotes.

Accreditation. It is good for you to learn that we continue working hard on the accreditation process. It will take about four years to be fully accredited. But, the first steps have been given. We are now expecting the second visit anytime between September and October, 2006. Did you do your Supplemental Application packet yet?

### From the Field

The BSW program has a total of 29 agencies available for student internships!

As our student population grows, so are our field sites. We are increasing the number of agencies to offer field education to Port Charlotte, Sarasota, and Immokalee. Jewish Federation of Ft. Myers & Port Charlotte; Cypress Community Care Center in Ft. Myers; Big brothers/Big sisters of Pt. Charlotte; Charlotte Harbor Health Care Center; and Protective Services of Sarasota. We are in the process of formalizing additional sites with Immokalee Friendship house, and Charlotte Regional Medical Center.