Child Welfare Education Project

CWEP NewsLine

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CWEP Website: http://www.sw.uh.edu/community/cwep/current-students/index.php

What's Inside:
Director’s Corner  2-3
Advisor Tip       4
Spotlights       5-6
CWEP Constitution 7
Announcements   8-14
CWEP Timeline   15

CWEP Staff

Dr. Monit Cheung
Principal Investigator
Room 424 – 713.743.8107
mcheung@uh.edu

Dr. Patrick Leung
Project Evaluator
Room 412 – 713.743.8111
pleung@uh.edu

Brunessia Wilson
Student Affairs Coordinator
Room 436 – 713.743.8147
bwilson3@uh.edu

Arnitia Walker
Director
Room 432 – 713.743.1394
amitchell3@uh.edu

Ann McFarland
Stipend Coordinator
Room 444 – 713.743.8145
amcfarland@uh.edu

Jackie Duron
LEO Mentor
Doctoral Associate
Room 339
jfduron@mail.uh.edu

Kathy Clark
Field Coordinator
Room 434 – 713.743.8157
klclark@uh.edu

Dr. Patricia Taylor
Curriculum Coordinator
Room 438 – 713.743.8081
ptaylor2@uh.edu

Masie Cheng
NewsLine Editor
Room 445
masie.cheng@yahoo.com
Director’s Corner

As the Fall 2012 semester comes to a close, I am sure that all things are falling into place for our students. Everyone is working hard to make Field Instruction an enjoyable experience. Even though some students have social work skills and some don’t, this is sure to be exciting, challenging and rewarding.

Field Instruction is an important part of the GCSW program and it is designed to prepare students for a successful career as a social work professional. It allows students to expand their understanding of human behavior and to develop or enhance their social work expertise. Students must attend classes to learn the principles, values, ethical behaviors, knowledge and the scientific basis for practice. While in their field placements the student will apply what they have been learning in the classroom to real life situations.

Students are expected to become active participants in the entire field instruction process while under the guidance and instruction of a qualified field instructor. Upon graduation, students will be able to perform the full range of entry-level social work services. It is our goal that students will master identified professional competencies as they complete their learning objectives and prepare for a career as a social worker.

Students will learn how to carry out various roles such as advocate, broker, educator, group leader, mediator, clinician, community planner/organizer as well as administrator. Field instruction allows students to work with individuals, families, groups, organizations and
communities. They will learn how to assess client needs and problems and how to plan and intervene appropriately. They will learn how to make decisions that can and will make a difference in someone’s life.

We want this to be a pleasant experience for all, however, students will need to have a take charge attitude. They will need to handle situations as they arise. Concerns and problems should be addressed early on for failure to do so could affect successful completion of the placement. Participants should strive to be exceptional “employees” and adhere to the work rules at the field placement. This could very well become a “real job” for students one day.

Make sure to have an agenda during all supervision meetings. It’s okay to make mistakes and not understand everything about the assigned agency. Ask questions!!! Remember, there are no “dumb” questions. Take notes!!! Review notes!!! Become a part of the entire process in order to transform into the professional social worker that each student strives to become.

Good Luck!!!

Arnitia Walker
CWEP Director
TOPIC: Registration

A few days prior to registration, select the courses you want and place them in the shopping cart. Always make sure you have several back-up options in the shopping cart too! If you follow this tip it will save you time and keep you one step ahead, because while others are searching for courses, you only need to push a button!

Brunessia Wilson
CWEP Student Affairs Coordinator
What is your current position with CWEP or CPS? How long have you been working in this position? What prior experience(s) did you bring with you to this position?

I am a Research Assistant (RA) for CWEP. I started my position as an RA in Spring 2011 when I was an exchange student at UH-GCSW. When I first came to GCSW, I was a registered social worker in Hong Kong. I studied social work for my undergraduate and did my field placement at YMCA through providing services for children. I also worked part-time in different elementary and middle schools, conducting developmental groups for students. My experience in the field developed my interest to accept my current position with CWEP.

What have been the greatest rewards working in the CWEP or CPS family?
As part of the CWEP family, I received valuable experience in working with different faculty, staff, and student workers. It allowed me to build relationship with them and learned from their previous experience. My position as an RA has provided me opportunities to develop a strong foundation in research and analyze social issues in child welfare field. I specifically gained insights on child sexual abuse and sex education research in different countries.

What advice do you have for our CWEP students?
CWEP is a community with passion and obligations towards child welfare issues. Do not underestimate the contributions that CWEP made in the social work field. I strongly recommend CWEP students to maintain high level of involvement in the program and activities. There are also many useful resources on the CWEP website that students can utilize. Also, all CWEP faculty, staff, and student workers are helpful and willing to discuss any child welfare issues with you. Don’t hesitate to ask if you have any concerns. I am sure you will have a fruitful experience in CWEP family.
I am currently a first year MSW student at GCSW. I received my Bachelors in Psychology at the University of Houston. Now I am a CWEP Research Assistant and NewsLine Editor in hopes of learning more about child welfare and the research that revolves around it. So far it has been an excellent experience meeting the staff and learning about the CWEP program.

As NewsLine Editor, I encourage all staff, faculty and students to contribute as much as possible to this newsletter. NewsLine is a great way to communicate with everyone and is also a fantastic portal to learn about new events and changes related to our program. Since we also upload these onto our websites, other schools can also see what we are doing as well.

It is an honor for me to be the editor of this newsletter, and also my hope that it will be both informative and entertaining for everyone else as much as it has been for me.
The Establishment of CWEP Constitution

Were you aware that we have a CWEP Constitution? This document is a very formal constitution. It is required in order to get approved by the Center for Student Involvement as a registered organization. Here are some important things you may find in the constitution:

- CWEP Mission
- Membership Information
- Leadership requirements and expectations
- Member requirements and expectations
- Staff and Field Liaisons duties
- General meeting information

The CWEP Student Organization is still recruiting students, especially those who are in first year. This is a great way to network with students who share the same interest related to child welfare, and to work with staff and faculty who are knowledgeable in this field. Don’t pass up on this wonderful opportunity!

If you have any questions or are interested in joining, please contact

Christina Veillon (cmv1001@yahoo.com)

President: Christina Veillon cmv101@yahoo.com
VP (Bus Mgmt): Jamelle Gibbs jamellegibbs@aol.com
VP (Comm & Outreach): Amber Riaz Ajaved2@gmail.com
Secretary: Dalen Dilieto dalend@hotmail.com
Your student representative on the CWEP Curriculum Committee is Christina Veillon. We would like to recruit a first year student to join this committee in the Spring.

2. The first “Celebrating CWEP” was successfully implemented. Dr. Cheung designed a short survey and obtained very positive feedback from current students about training and the Celebrating CWEP event. 16 students responded with a 72% response rate.

3. Brunessia Wilson has recruited 3 CWEP students to join the Celebrating CWEP independent study project with Dr. Cheung in Spring 2013. These students are: Nicole Robinson, Yolanda Westbrooks, and Roicia Banks.

Reported by Monit Cheung, PI of CWEP, Chair of CWEP Curriculum Committee
100 Years of US Children’s Bureau
Professionalizing & Improving Child Welfare

Special Issue from Journal of Public Welfare
Co-Editors: Alberta J. Ellett and Norma Harris
Volume 6, Issue 4, 2012

In celebration of the U.S. Children’s Bureau Centennial, the Journal of Public Child Welfare presents this special issue. Volume 6, Issue 4, 2012 examines the U.S. Children’s Bureau’s role in the professionalization of the child welfare workforce to improve services and outcomes for children and families and the Children’s Bureau vision for leading child welfare into the next century.

Table of Contents:
http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/spissue/wpcw-si.asp
CWEP's New Look!

CWEP’s website has been updated! Check it out and see all the new updates that are included. Below is a quick overview of each page:

**CWEP Front Page**

CLICK here to start your CWEP website browsing:
http://www.sw.uh.edu/community/cwep/
National Title IV-E Page

Prospective Students Page

CLICK here: http://www.sw.uh.edu/community/cweptitle-iv-e/index.php
Current Student Page

Staff Contacts

CLCIK here:
http://www.sw.uh.edu/community/cwep/current-students/index.php
Calendar of Events

CLICK here:
http://www.sw.uh.edu/community/cwep/events/index.php
Child-Focused Services in the Community
Each issue will now begin featuring services in the community that focuses in providing assistance to children, adolescents and their families.

Bo’s Place Presents:
The Impact of Loss on a Child’s Journey to Self

Presented by Jennifer Gardner
Date and Time: November 8, 2012 9 AM- 12:15 PM
Where: Bo’s Place
(10050 Buffalo Speedway, Houston, TX 77054)

This dynamic and interactive workshop will provide relevant information on various types of loss that affect childhood development and behavior. Jennifer Gardner will share current research and evidenced-based techniques toward building resiliency and coping capacities in children who have experienced significant loss. Anyone working with children will gain insight from the information in this workshop!

Participants will be able to:

- Identify the different types of losses and their implications that a child may experience
- Describe how loss impacts developmental milestones throughout childhood using concrete examples
- Distinguish ways to understand common behaviors and play in order to meet them where they are in their journey
- Refer to evidence-based intervention methods to enhance children’s resiliency, self-awareness and communication skills

Cost: $30 participation fee
CEUs available for additional $15
Preregistration required

Contact Valencia Buggs for more information at 713-942-8339 or valencia@bosplace.org