



University of Houston
Graduate School of Social Work
Child Welfare Education Project

CWEP NewsLine

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News From the Corpus Christi Cohort

By Clara Trainer

The Corpus Christi students are enjoying the Social Work Practice with Families class taught by our advisor, Dr. Monit Cheung. We are learning about different therapeutic theories, and she is providing interesting activities to improve our skills during the marathon weekend class sessions. Here is some more Corpus Christi news:

- Congratulations to **Tara O'Connell**, who was recently awarded the statewide CASA Award for "Outstanding CPS Employee of the Year" at the 14th Annual Texas CASA State Conference.
- We are all proud of **Alma Gomez**, who has recently been promoted to Safety Program Specialist. Ms. Gomez will be writing new policies regarding CPS investigations.
- As part of her field placement, **Tena Lovell** has organized the *Week Without Violence* through the YWCA. It will be held from October 19-25. **Debra Arismendez** will be speaking about anger management at the conference.

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Symposium News

Sheryl Becker, TDPRS CPS Risk Director presented the Fall Symposium entitled Dealing with Difficult Clients. This required symposium was held on October 3, 2003. Sheryl presented on a very important topic and offered key information such as guidelines for engaging involuntary clients. Attendees had very positive feedback about the training and especially liked the helpful handouts given to them.

If you did not attend this mandatory symposium please remember (if you have not done so already) **you are required to view the video of the symposium and write a summary to satisfy the attendance required.** Please contact LeAnna McCowan to make arrangements to view the video (713) 743-8147.

MARK YOUR CALENDERS!

The next symposium will be held Friday, February 20, 2004 at CPS/Murworth.

HONG KONG/CHINA STUDY ABROAD UPDATE

THE HONG KONG/CHINA STUDY ABROAD HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED! THE TRIP IS PLANNED FOR NOVEMBER 29, 2003 THROUGH DECEMBER 14, 2003. UH STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ARE DUE NOVEMBER 1. PLEASE CONTACT DR. MONIT CHEUNG IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND OR FOR FURTHER INFORMATION (713) 743-8107 OR MCHEUNG@UH.EDU

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CWEP 2003 Fall Calendar

October 23-25, 2003 NASW/Texas 27th State Conference Arlington Convention Center, Arlington, TX The Meeting of the Profession "Social Workers: People Helping People, That's What We Do!"



Saturday, November 2, 2003 Houston Field Applications Due for Spring, 2004

Friday, November 7, 2003 Corpus Christi CWEP Symposium at CPS Greenwood

Wednesday, November 26, 2003 through Saturday, November 29, 2003 Thanksgiving Holiday

Saturday, December 6, 2003 Last day of classes

Monday, December 8, 2003 Final exam period begins

Wednesday, December 17, 2003 Official closing of the Fall semester.

Friday, February 20, 2004 Houston CWEP Symposium at CPS Murworth 1-4 pm

In the Community

- ❖ The Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services is holding the 3rd Annual Partners in Prevention Training Conference. The conference will be held November 19-21, 2003 at the Doubletree Hotel in Austin, Texas. The conference website has been updated and contains important information regarding workshops as well as details about the **free registration**. For more information, go to:

www.tdprs.state.tx.us/Prevention_and_Early_Intervention/Partners_In_PreventionConference

- ❖ The Houston mayoral election is November 4th! Don't forget to register and vote! The League of Women Voters <http://www.lwvhouston.org/> will give information on the candidates, send out speakers, and even certify you to be a voter registration deputy. Be involved in your government, and encourage those you serve to do the same!



Online Resources

CHILDREN'S BUREAU EXPRESS

<http://cbexpress.acf.hhs.gov/>

Children's Bureau Express is designed for professionals concerned with child abuse and neglect, child welfare, and adoption. Children's Bureau Express is supported by the Children's Bureau, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and published by the National Clearinghouse on Child Abuse and Neglect and the National Adoption Information Clearinghouse.

EVERY DOOR CLOSED: BARRIERS FACING PARENTS WITH CRIMINAL RECORDS

http://www.clasp.org/DMS/Documents/1064841311.02/EDC_fact_sheets.pdf

The Center for Law and Social Policy has written an excellent, in-depth article exploring the difficulties faced by the approximately 400,000 mothers and fathers who finish prison sentences every year. The article details the challenges faced by these parents as they try to rebuild their families. Policy solutions and interventions are also examined.

CWEP Updates

Do You Know L.E.O.?

Learning Enhancement Opportunity

A mentorship project providing help for CWEP students in the area of academic support

Under the supervision of Dr. Monit Cheung, Mahasin Saleh (CWEP associate & doctoral student) serves as a mentor to the CWEP students to help in such diverse areas as computer research skills, APA formatting, paper organization, preparation of presentation materials, etc.*

*(*We don't provide editing services, but we offer suggestion to improve paper structure and organizational style)*

If you need academic mentorship, you may contact Mahasin at 713-743-8338 or email her at mfsaleh@mail.uh.edu

NewsLine is accepting submissions from CWEP students. Would you like to contribute a short article, poem or editorial relating to child welfare? Please send submissions for consideration to mfsaleh@mail.uh.edu

CWEP's Web Page has been updated! Check it out at <http://www.uh.edu/ocp/cwep.htm> You will find helpful links and contact information, including recommended courses, CWEP Advising Guide, syllabus links, the Child Welfare Resource List, the CWEP Library Catalog, APA Style Link and Learning Enhancement Opportunity (LEO) information.

PLEASE NOTE: NEWS FROM DR. CHEUNG

It is required that if students change their degree plan, even with advisors approval **you must** inform LeAnna McCowan 713.743.8147 or lmccowan@uh.edu

**The CWEP Required Curriculum Guide has changed!
It is now the CWEP Advising Guide.**

Please read page 5 for the latest updates!



Students can volunteer and attend the **Society for Social Work and Research Conference** for free! The Conference "Using Diverse Methods to Build Knowledge" will be held January 15-18, 2004 in New Orleans, LA. Visit www.sswr.org the deadline for student volunteer registration is December 15, 2003.

News from the Corpus Christi Cohort



● **Sue Reyna and Clara Trainer** are helping to organize a Child Protection Summit, which will be held January 23, 2003, in Corpus Christi. This summit will involve several community agencies discussing the best practices for serving children at risk.

● The second Corpus Christi-CWEP baby has been born! **Clara Trainer** gave birth to Cameron Scott Trainer on July 21, 2003. He was welcomed home by his proud father and sister, Clarissa, age 4.

● **Maryanne Vogt** is working with Texas State Strategy, a collaboration between TDPRS and Casey Foundation Programs. Region 11 has been selected for a new child welfare pilot program that will provide a wide variety of support services to the relatives who care for children after they are removed from their parent's home. Ms. Vogt has a dual role as both a practicum student with Casey Foundation, and the CPS Program Director. She will supervise Kinship Care development workers at four sites in ten regions.

● **Linda Eichenberger** is working on implementing a new program called Family Group Conferencing. This program will bring family members together after CPS has removed a child. The family members are charged with the responsibility of developing a plan for both the parents and the child. CPS maintains a case management role while the family members are accountable for providing for the child's safety.

● **Linda Eichenberger** will also be hosting a mid-practicum class party at her home on October 25th. We are looking forward to unwinding and having some fun.

● **Sue Reyna, Libby Bryars, Belle Huitt, and Jennifer Trybom** will be attending the NASW conference and will be presenting the class Macro project from spring 2003 semester.



KINSHIP CARE: Let's hear about an innovative program!

Massachusetts. GrandFamilies House in Boston is the nation's first housing program specifically for grandparent-headed families. GrandFamilies House is comprised of 26 two, three and four bedroom apartments with extensive communal program space. The House has an on-site resident services coordinator and house manager who provide educational programs and referrals to outside services. In addition, Generations Learning Together, a YWCA-sponsored program, offers an on-site preschool and after-school care program. The after-school program provides residents with access to a computer learning center, homework assistance, and senior fitness activities.

Source: Welfare Information Network
<http://www.financeprojectinfo.org/Publications/kinshipcareresource.htm>

students are advised to declare Children & Families (C&F) as their Concentration Curriculum. In order to diversify learning opportunities for all students, however, some students may choose their concentration in Mental Health, Gerontology, Health Care, or Political Social Work.

As a general principle, only those students who have had extensive child welfare experiences, in consultation with the CWEP student advisor and the faculty advisor, may choose a concentration other than Children & Families with a goal to expand their service perspectives. **CWEP students who are not current Children's Protective Services (CPS) employees are required to take Advanced Field Practica I & II prior to their Concentration Year. In addition, all non-CPS students and most CPS students in this program are assigned to a CPS placement for their Concentration Year Practicum.**

C&F (Children & Families) Concentration Required Courses:

SOCW 7343	Social Work Practice with Families
SOCW 7348	Critical Issues Affecting Children and Families
SOCW 7349	Social Welfare Policy and Services for Children and Families
SOCW 7384	Field Practicum III in Children and Families
SOCW 7385	Field Practicum IV in Children and Families

Non-C&F students are strongly urged to consider SOCW 7343, 7348, or 7349 as electives. They are also encouraged to discuss their individual learning needs with their advisors in order to choose courses that will enhance their learning objectives for practice with children and families.

The following courses listed by curricular areas are recommended:

As Practice Electives:

SOCW 7321	Multicultural Practice
SOCW 7322	Feminist Practice
SOCW 7340	Social Work Practice with Children and Adolescents
SOCW 7343	Social Work Practice with Families
SOCW 7344	Family Violence
SOCW 7346	Families in Transition
SOCW 7347	School Social Work Practice
SOCW 7365	Crisis Intervention
SOCW 7366	Grief and Bereavement Therapy
SOCW 7374	Mediation for Social Workers

As Human Behavior and Social Environment (HBSE) Electives:

SOCW 7301	Psychodynamic Theories and Psychopathology
SOCW 7348	Critical Issues Affecting Children and Families
SOCW 7377	Drugs in Society

As Policy Electives:

SOCW 6304	Women's Issues
SOCW 7307	Social Work and the Law
SOCW 7349	Social Welfare Policy and Services for Children and Families