

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

## CWEP NewsLine

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### CWEP Student Spotlight

**This month we are highlighting Philia Stewart. Thanks Philia!**

#### How did you come to social work?

I have always wanted to work with children. My undergraduate was in Sociology and Psychology, but that did not satisfy me. I wanted to work with children and families. However, I did not want to be a teacher, so I decided to enter the field of social work. I researched it one day and realized that being a social worker was what I really needed to be in order to fulfill my goal.

#### What has been your favorite class?

My favorite class ever at the GSSW was Oppression by Patti Aldredge for the simple fact that I had freedom of speech in her class and I learned so much about oppression. I did not realize that oppression was so evident. My favorite class this semester is Families in Transition with Dr. Taylor. She is an amazing professor and really cares about the course content and not simply on being a professor. She teaches us from experience, which is very effective.

#### What are your hobbies?

I enjoy playing sports of all kinds.

#### What year are you in the program? Do you work for CPS now?

I am a second year student full time. I hope to graduate on May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2005. Currently, I do not work for CPS.

#### Is there anything else you'd like to share with your fellow students about yourself?

Well, I really love dinosaurs. I collect anything that has a dinosaur on it.

#### What's Inside

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#### CWEP Staff Members:

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### Announcing Spring Courses

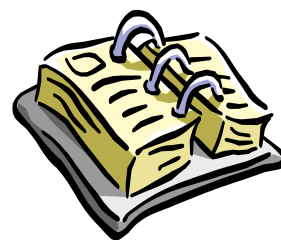
#### SELF COURSE TO BE OFFERED SPRING 2006

**SOCW 7397 Self Evaluation of Life Foundations (SELF) (Elective for CWEP students only)**, taught by Trish Taylor and individually arranged with students. You may take this course, **when offered**, at any point in your degree program as approved by your CWEP Student Advisor and Academic advisor. SELF is a self-discovery course, which helps students to integrate their personal and professional selves. "Integration" leads to improvement of relationship building skills, practice and cultural competencies and reduction of anxiety and burnout. The course focuses on self-care, personal bias, self-disclosure, self-awareness, and family of origin issues. The course is experiential in nature and includes small group and individual sessions with a licensed clinical social worker, videotaping, journaling, role-plays, and reading assignments. Trish researched this course for her dissertation. She has looked at a variety of aspects of SELF and discovered some significant findings. Due to her research, the good news is that the course will be offered in Spring 2006. **This course is currently full. Take note that the course will be offered again in Spring of 2007 if there is a demand.**

## CWEP FALL 2005 Calendar

November 3, Thursday  
November 10-11, Thursday/Friday  
November 24-27, Wednesday-Sunday  
December 3, Saturday

Last day to drop a course  
NASW Conference Galveston  
Thanksgiving Holiday  
Last Day of Classes and  
Last Day of Field Instruction



Mark your  
Calendars!

### Have Child Welfare Research Resources and Information sent to your E-mail Inbox!!!!

If you are interested in getting a monthly email of information and links on new books, reports, current news, and websites dealing with Child Welfare, subscribe to "My Child Welfare Librarian". Go to <http://nccanch.acf.hhs.gov/admin/subscribe.cfm>

*This service is sponsored by Department of Health and Human Services: Administration for Children Youth and Family*

### National Adoption Month

National Adoption Month has been observed throughout the United States for more than a decade. Its roots can be traced back more than 25 years. In 1976, the governor of Massachusetts first proclaimed Adoption Week and later that year, President Gerald Ford made it official nationally. It eventually became a tradition to celebrate Adoption Week in November. As awareness and participation grew, so did the number of states proclaiming the observance.

National Adoption Week became National Adoption Month in 1990. Today, National Adoption Month is celebrated during the month of November throughout the United States. Its purpose is to provide national awareness, celebrate children and families, and call the nation to action to ensure safety, permanency and well-being for all of our children.

Source: [http://naic.acf.hhs.gov/general/adoptmonth/about\\_adopt\\_month.cfm](http://naic.acf.hhs.gov/general/adoptmonth/about_adopt_month.cfm)



Check Out this New Publication on the Web:

*Case Study of Child Welfare Interventions with Refugee Families in Texas*, by Ilze Earner, PhD, Hunter College School of Social Work, New York, and commissioned by BRYCS, takes an “on the ground” look in Houston, Dallas-Ft. Worth, and Austin, Texas, regarding the interaction of refugee and immigrant populations with public child welfare services in these three high-impact areas. Go to: <http://www.brycs.org/documents/TexasCaseStudyMarch2005.pdf>

Source: Bridging Refugee Youth and Children's Services

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## TIPS FOR ENGAGING INVOLUNTARY CLIENTS

### DO

- Stay Calm
- Be clear about expectations and consequences
- Find the positive and strengths
- Encourage problem solving and the effort it takes
- Listen to the client's viewpoint
- Find something to praise
- Be prepared for anxiety, anger and attacks
- Set realistic goals
- Enlist the client to help you understand
- Clarify the negotiable from the non-negotiable



### DON'T

- Take challenges personally
- Embarrass the client
- Be defensive
- Ask for every change to be all at once
- Be general or vague
- Argue with the client
- Point out everything you disagree about
- Provide only one way to attain the change
- Negotiate the non-negotiable
- Emphasize only what has been lost
- Minimize small change
- Prescribe every action to be taken
- Ignore attempted solutions
- Insist on motivation for your own reasons

Source: Sheryl Becker, DFPS Risk Director, Presentation at the Fall 2003 CWEP Symposium

## Upcoming Presentations at National Conferences by the CWEP Faculty and Team

- Belanger, K., & Cheung, M. (2006). *The impact of religiosity, religious support and worker support on special needs adoption outcomes*. To be presented at the Annual conference of the Society for Social Work and Research, San Antonio, 1/12-15.
- Cheung, M. (2006). *Interviewing the nondisclosure child of alleged sexual abuse*. To be presented at the 52nd Annual Program Meeting, Council on Social Work Education, Chicago, 2/16-19.
- Cheung, M., & Leung, P. (2006). *Male victims of partner abuse in six Asian-American ethnic groups*. To be presented at the 52nd Annual Program Meeting, Council on Social Work Education, Chicago, 2/16-19.
- Nguyen, P. (2006). *East meets west: Parenting styles and mental health outcomes of Vietnamese adolescents*. . To be presented at the 52nd Annual Program Meeting, Council on Social Work Education, Chicago, 2/16-19. (Peter Nguyen is a former CWEP team member).
- Saleh, M. F, Buzi, R. S., Epstein, M. W, & Smith, P. B. (2006). *Dimensions of Paternal Involvement: Young African American Fathers and Their Children*. To be presented at the 52nd Annual Program Meeting, Council on Social Work Education, Chicago.
- Saleh, M. F, Buzi, R. S., Weinman, M., & Smith, P. B. (2006). *Young African American Fathers and Their Children: Dimensions of Paternal Involvement*. To be presented at Society for Social Work and Research, San Antonio, TX.
- Taylor, P. (2006). *Graduate Student Self Growth Through Interpersonal Process Video Recall*. To be presented at the 52nd Annual Program Meeting, Council on Social Work Education, Chicago, 2/16-19. Electronic Poster Session.

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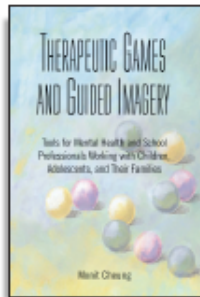
## KIDS COUNT!

The Center for Public Policy Priorities has just released ***The State of Texas Children 2005***, its annual **KIDS COUNT** data book on the well-being of children across the state. Learn the latest on how children are faring in such areas as health care, education, and poverty.

Log on to [http://www.cppp.org/factbook05/data\\_book.php](http://www.cppp.org/factbook05/data_book.php) to learn more about Texas KIDS COUNT, examine the state of kids in your county, or buy a book.



Dr. Monit Cheung has published a new book, *Therapeutic Games and Guided Imagery*. It will be on the bookshelf at the University of Houston Bookstore in January 2006. It is a practical manual to be used with children, adolescents and families.



**Therapeutic Games and Guided Imagery:**  
**Tools for Mental Health and School Professionals**  
**Working with Children, Adolescents, and Families**  
Monit Cheung  
0-925065-94-3 Paper

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**"Perfect for anyone  
working with children!"**

— Carol Massat,  
*University of Illinois, Chicago*

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