

Indiana University School of Social Work Report

2010-2011 Academic Year

<http://socialwork.iu.edu>

Teaching and Learning

- Seven social work students traveled to Croatia in June to participate in a service learning course entitled “Social Work Practice in Post-War Communities.” There, they worked with MSW students from the University of Zagreb and social service agencies to better understand issues related to community building in communities torn apart by war. The trip was led by Dr. Carmen Luca Sugawara, a native of Romania who has done extensive research in Croatia.
- The Indiana University School of Social Work is planning an online MSW program. MSW Direct will be for qualified students who cannot come to campus. The program will provide a concentration in Advanced Generalist practice. It will be completely online except for two-week long face to face sessions that will meet on campus for a week. Distance education is a growing trend in social work, and our school intends to be a national leader.
- For the second year in a row, School of Social Work students returned to China in June as part of an international study abroad class. The trip included 19 students and three instructors and represented several disciplines including social work, nursing, public health, biology and anthropology. Susan Larimer, a faculty member of the School of Social Work and Jieru Bai, a social work Ph.D. student were joined by Dr. Mary Beth Riner, a nursing professor. The class focused on common health care issues for both countries. For more information go to:
http://socialwork.iu.edu/iussw_news/Press_release_example45.html
- School of Social Work faculty received two Curriculum Enhancement Grants. One grant was awarded to Dr. Stephanie Boys of the School of Social Work and Carrie Hagan, a Clinical Associate Professor of Law to enhance a joint JD/MSW program through the development of a new course via an interdisciplinary partnership between the Schools of Law and Social Work. The second grant to help faculty develop a plan for an online MSW program. For more information go to:
- http://socialwork.iu.edu/iussw_news/Press_release_example25.html

- The School of Social Work helped organize the 12th annual Legislative Education and Advocacy Day at the Indiana State House in March. Hundreds of social work students from around Indiana participated at the State House where they learned about the importance of influencing state policy by participating in the electoral process and advocating for statewide action. For more information go to: http://socialwork.iu.edu/iussw_news/Press_release_example22.html
- Robert Weiler, Senior Field Coordinator for the School's MSW Program and Principal Investigator for the Hartford Partnership Program for Aging Education (HPPAE) was invited by the New York Academy of Medicine's Social Work Leadership Institute to serve as a mentor for two graduate social work programs planning to implement their own aging programs.

Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity

- Dr. James Daley, a retired Air Force social Worker and editor of a book on military social work, was part of a team of social work experts brought together by the Council on Social Work Education to create education guidelines for schools interested in developing military social work courses. The guidelines were developed to help bridge the gap between the number of prepared practitioners and the demand for social services among military personnel and their families.
- Heather McCabe, an Assistant Professor of Social Work and a lawyer, is co-founder of an annual conference that focuses on health, disability and the law. In June, the 9th annual conference focused on Youth with Disabilities in the Juvenile Justice System. For more information go to: http://socialwork.iu.edu/iussw_news/Press_release_example44.html
- William Mellow, an Assistant Professor of Labor Studies, documented New York and East Coast waterfront labor relations following World War II. During this era, dockworkers fought an ongoing battle against shipping companies, local police, federal and state political authorities and their own corrupt union leadership in his book, "New York Longshoremen: Class and Power on the Docks."
- Dr. Margaret Adamek received a Fulbright Award for a teaching project in Ethiopia where she has been involved with the Addis Ababa University School of Social Work and Social Development since 2008. Much of the teaching work involved in Dr. Adamek's project involves one-on-one consulting session with Ph.D. students in social Work at AAU. The project also called for Dr. Adamek to be available to facilitate small group seminars around practical topics such as "Assembling the Research Portfolio", "Selecting a Feasible Dissertation Topic," and "Preparation for the Final Defense."

- Dr. Gerald Powers, the first director of the Ph.D program at the Indiana University School of Social Work gave an overview of the work and the struggles the School faced as it tried to win support for its doctoral program at the School's 15th annual Ph.D Symposium.
- Indiana University School of Social Work Faculty Members Erika Galyean, MSW, and James Daley, Ph.D., completed a comprehensive study of 24 Indiana Community Mental Health Center executives regarding disaster preparedness. The review showed positive improvement in 138 of 186 key aspects of the disaster preparedness plans from the agencies from 2003 to 2010. The review was undertaken at the request of the Indiana Department of Mental Health and Addictions and the Office of Emergency Preparedness and Response.

Civic Engagement

- Dr. Gentle-Genitty is serving on the Marion County Commission on Youth Board of Directors. The organization's mission is to champion the positive development of youth through leadership on key issues and support of the youth worker community.
- Stephan Viehweg, MSW, is the president of the Family Voices Indiana, a non-profit organization and the official national Family Voices State Organization Affiliate. The organization is working to create a more comprehensive and effective vehicle for families to be heard and to participate in all levels of public policy decisions that impact families.
- Jacqueline Bell, Child Welfare Scholars Field Coordinator serves as a facilitator for an adult grief support group at Brooke's Place, a nonprofit organization providing support and services to grieving children and families.
- Dr. Lisa McGuire served as the coordinator of silent auction volunteers for Art for Beds. She has also served as co-chair of the organization that brings together artists and businesses working to raise funds in support of the health care services provided by Gennesaret Free Clinics.
- School of Social Work Dean Michael Patchner is serving his second year as chairman of the Commission on Childhood Poverty in Indiana. The commission was created by the Indiana General Assembly and charged with identifying and analyzing the occurrence of poverty in Indiana, analyzing the long-term effects of poverty on a child, and analyzing the costs of child poverty to local and state governments. The commission is working on a plan to reduce childhood poverty by 50 percent in Indiana by 2020.
- Three Bachelor of Social Work students received the 2011 William Plater Civic Engagement Medallion Award. The students, Megan Blaising, Margaret Gleason and Jennifer McGann, were recognized for their work with youth, homeless students and research in an eastside Indianapolis neighborhood which focused on community building.

Diversity

- Dr. Jeffrey Thigpen continues his research that has shown that African American children, who are already overrepresented in child welfare and juvenile justice systems, are particularly vulnerable to being mislabeled. His work has recently focused on the assessment of sexual behavior problems in children and has sought funding from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development to develop and validate an instrument that distinguishes specific types of sexual behavior problems in children using data collected from a culturally diverse sample of children and their caregivers.
- The School of Social Work took the initiative to help organize a much needed public conference on civil discourse on faith at a time of growing intolerance and angry rhetoric. The School joined with the Center for Interfaith Cooperation to host the conference, "Interfaith Peace Building: Global and Local Perspectives," which was held at the Indiana Interchurch Center in Indianapolis. Speakers included Eboo Patel, a member of the White House Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships.
- The Indiana University School of Social Work continues to expand its international partnerships. The School has worked with Peking University, which is interested in working with the School as it looks to expand its social work program in China. In addition, the School is collaborating with the University of Zagreb in Croatia. The Dean of the Department of Social Work at the University of Zagreb came to the School of Social Work to get a first-hand look at the School's programs to better understand how the two schools can bring their resources and assets together to strengthen their collaborative efforts.

Best Practices

- Gov. Mitch Daniels says the Indiana University School of Social Work and the Indiana Department of Child Services have created an extraordinary partnership with incalculable benefits in the life and death mission of protecting the state's most vulnerable children. "It is the single best example I know of, of close collaboration between people in public service and the great university assets we have in this state." For more information go to:
http://socialwork.iu.edu/iussw_news/Press_release_example31.html
- Recent work that appeared in *Advances in Social Work*, an online journal published by the Indiana University of Social Work, included a special issue on Social Work and Service Learning in the Age of Competency-based Education. *Advances in Social Work* is committed to enhancing the link between social work practice, research, and education. The Journal addresses current issues, challenges, and responses facing social work practice and education. For more information, go to:
<http://journals.iupui.edu/index.php/advancesinsocialwork>

External Awards and Appointments

- Dr. Lisa McGuire, an Associate Professor and Interim Director of the Bachelor of Social Work Program at IUPUI, has been appointed to the Council on social Work Education Council on Practice and Specialization. The Practice Methods and Specialization council is a council of the Commission on Education Policy. The council recommends strategies and cultivates relationships with professional agencies and identifies and addresses issues relevant to the preparation of students for social work practice.
- Dr. Carmen Luca Sugawara was named the Outstanding IUPUI woman Leader in the “newcomer” faculty category for the 2011 Women’s faculty category for the 2011 Women’s History Leadership Awards. Dr. Luca Sugawara joined the School in 2007 and has helped the School expand its international curriculum. “Her efforts in raising awareness of international issues and perspectives are reflected in her research agenda, in her teaching, and in her professional service to the School of Social Work, to the profession of Social Work, and to the IUPUI community,” Dr. Margaret Adamek wrote in a letter supporting Dr. Luca Sugawara’s nomination.
- The MSW Student Association received a \$1,200 grant from the Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance of Indiana raise awareness among college students about mental illness, available treatment and the key role friends can play in the recovery process. As part of the project, the MSW Student Association created a poster entitled, “Friends are Key to Recovery,” which was put distributed around the IUPUI Campus.
- Rebecca Rodriguez, a Bachelor of Social Work student, has received the 2011 Latina Leader Award from LaPlaza as well as receiving the Student Inspirational woman award as part of the 2011 Women’s History Leadership Award. She is considered a model scholar with the Norman Brown Diversity and Leadership Program, has been an active volunteer at Fiesta Indianapolis and has served as an officer for the Latino Student Association.