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News From the Field Director

Welcome to the fall semester! I had hoped to start this column with “I hope you are enjoying the cooler fall weather,” but we have not seen cooler weather yet. So I settled on “welcome to the fall semester.” Many of you receiving this newsletter are serving as agency field instructors for our students, and I want to thank you for your willingness to do so. Each year, I am more impressed with the dedication and commitment this requires of our agency field instructors in the face of shrinking agency resources. The willingness to serve in this critical gatekeeping role speaks to the deep respect that I believe each of you has for our profession. Thank you for your service.

We have a few new field liaisons this year and will be using our newsletter to introduce them. We want to welcome Maia Illa and Ken Crandall to the BSW field program and Judy Vang and Roxanna Coustette to the MSW field

program. Last year, the School of Social Work decided to limit our field practicum courses to a maximum of 10 students. We believe this will ensure that students have adequate time during the field seminar to process their field experiences and field liaisons to provide additional support to agencies if needed.

This year, we will be sending agency field instructors the practicum evaluations that were completed by students last year. If you supervised a student in the 2013—2014 academic year, please look for those summaries in your email. It has been a long-standing request from our field agencies to receive feedback about the practicum experience, and last year, we were able to institute an online evaluation that was completed by students at the end of the year. I want to appreciate Nicole Davis for her work on helping to set up the service, and we hope you will find this feedback helpful. We will once again this year be



working to provide training to both agency field instructors and students on secondary trauma. It is our goal to graduate students who recognize the prevalence of trauma in our society and have the ability to recognize the signs and symptoms of trauma exposure and its effects on clients, social workers, and organizations. We hope that you will consider attending the Trauma Informed Supervision fall field instructor training to learn strategies that can be used in supervision to address secondary trauma.

Again, thank you for your commitment to our students and our program.

Patty Hunter

Fall Field Instructor Training

The fall field instructor training will focus on Trauma Informed Supervision. Exposure to trauma is universal, and social workers are immersed in professional relationships that increase their risk for vicarious traumatization. The training will focus on helping participants realize the prevalence of trauma; recognize how it affects clients, social workers, and organizations; and respond effectively. Participants will have an opportunity to consider the impact of trauma exposure, recognize the signs and symptoms, and learn strategies to integrate into their preferred style of supervision.



Tuesday, Oct. 21, 1—4 p.m., Colusa Hall 100B

Donna Jensen, State Social Worker of the Year



This summer, Donna Jensen was named the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) California State Social Worker of the year! The Social Worker of the Year award honors a member of the NASW who “exemplifies the best of the profession’s values and achievements through specific accomplishments.” Donna will be honored at the NASW 2014 Annual Conference on Oct. 25 in Burbank, California. Please attend if you can!

The School of Social Work was sad to say goodbye to Donna as she accepted a faculty position at Sacramento State University this summer, but we are excited that she will continue to spread her wealth of knowledge in the North State. Congratulations, Donna!



Check out the online magazine *The New Social Worker*. It contains a number of articles of interest for social workers in the field, supervisors, and students. One that caught my eye was “An Introduction to the Use of Self in Field Placement.” The author, Heath B. Walters, does a nice job of breaking down the definition “professional use of self” to help students understand the concept and consider the aspects of self that may serve as useful tools for them in their practice. In the archives section of “Field Placement,” you will find “8 Tips for New Social Work Interns,” written by Sharon L. Young. This article reinforces the importance of taking a learning stance and developing a professional identity. It speaks to the anxiety often experienced by students and provides some commonsense tips. *The New Social Worker* can be found online at www.socialworker.com.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Field Advisory Board Meeting, Thursday, Oct. 16, 9—11 a.m., Butte Hall 509
- Field Instructor Training, Tuesday Oct. 21, 1—4 p.m., Colusa Hall 100B

Coming soon...

School of Social Work Alumni Survey and Raffle

Please be on the lookout in your email inboxes for our forthcoming Alumni Survey. As we work to continuously improve our programs and curriculum, we are conducting a survey of our BSW and MSW alumni. There is no better way to find out how we are preparing social work practitioners than to ask you all for your feedback, input, and ideas. We will need your help to get the survey out far and wide—so be on the lookout in the next few weeks. We are pleased to offer a raffle incentive for \$50 gift cards. Questions and feedback welcome at swrksurvey@csuchico.edu.

Welcome Our New Field Liaisons

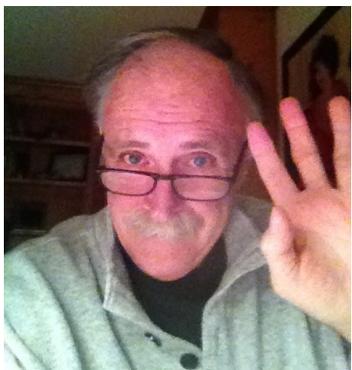
Roxanna Coustette, Judy Vang, Ken Crandall, Maia Illa



Roxanna Coustette has worked as a medical social worker/discharge planner at St. Elizabeth Community Hospital in Red Bluff for the past 12 years. She received her BSW and MSW degrees from the School of Social Work here at CSU, Chico, graduating in 2002 and 2003. Roxanna is a licensed clinical social worker whose interest and focus has been geriatric healthcare, assisting this population in navigating the aging process and accessing services and support. Roxanna sees herself as a generalist practice social worker, working with all ages across the lifespan in the acute hospital setting. She has supervised several social work student interns at the hospital over the years and is very excited to be working with students in a broader role as a field liaison. Roxanna and her husband live in Red Bluff and have three grown children and one granddaughter. Roxanna is a field liaison for the MSW Distributed Learning Program.



TangJudy (Judy) Vang is an alumna of the CSU, Chico School of Social Work (BSW and MSW) and graduated with her PhD in social work and social research from Portland State University. Judy has worked in the child welfare and mental health systems for the past 13 years. Aside from teaching, Judy is a program manager at UC Davis Medical Center AIDS Education and Training Center and is an on-call clinician at Sacramento County Mental Health Treatment Center. Her specialty areas consist of mental health, research methodology, and multicultural social work in rural and urban communities. Judy joins Roxanna as a field liaison for the MSW Distributed Learning Program.



Ken Crandall holds an MSW degree from California State University, Sacramento and has a wide range of experience working within both the criminal justice system and mental health system. He is the former mental health director of the Lassen County Mental Health Department and has also served as Superior Region chair for the California Mental Health Director's Association. More recently, Ken has served as the northern region liaison for the California Mental Health Services Authority, working to bring mental health prevention and early intervention initiatives to the Superior Region of California. Currently Ken serves in three capacities. He works with the California Institute for Behavioral Health Solutions as core faculty for the Care Coordination Learning Collaborative. Additionally, he is the coordinator for the Superior Region Mental Health Workforce Education and Training Partnership and serves as faculty for the School of Social Work, which he reports is his favorite activity. Ken is a field liaison for the BSW Program.



Maia Illa graduated from the CSU, Chico School of Social Work MSW Program in 2010. In addition, she received her Pupil Personnel Services Credential from CSU, Sacramento in 2012. She currently works as a clinician in the school-based program at Victor Community Support Services (VCSS), serving Oroville High School. Maia's professional focus is mental health, and she is studying for her LCSW licensure exam, hoping to test by the end of the year. When she is not working, she is volunteering at 1078 Gallery as a board member and treasurer. Maia enjoys connecting to the community through this organization, and by maintaining the finances, she has found an unorthodox way to unwind. She enjoys painting, reading, and spending time with her partner, Adam, and their two dogs, Hudson and Sloane. Maia is a field liaison for the BSW Program.

Faculty Feature: *Digital Storytelling*



Based out of Berkeley, California, the Center for Digital Storytelling is busy bringing the unique stories of individuals to life through their expertise in the field of story and technology. The center works with organizations around the world to develop programs to help participants produce short, first-person narratives to be shared in a variety of settings.

It was in January 2011 when two of our faculty, Celeste Jones and Seema Sehrawat, attended a weeklong training on digital storytelling and created their own digital stories. After also attending a facilitators training workshop, they began an intergenerational storytelling research project. The Intergenerational Storytelling Project (ISP) provided four college students the opportunity to be paired with an older adult. After a semester of planning and fund-raising, they began with a whole day of helping the students create their digital stories. Then, the students were paired with four older adult volunteers from the community to help them create their digital stories. They were blown away with the final products! Seema states that “helping students and older adults reflect on a moment in their life and put it in a digital format was an amazing journey.” The process allowed Celeste and Seema to become an “insider” and experience the moments with those students and older adults.

As social workers, Celeste and Seema found the digital storytelling process to be transformational. Through the process of telling their stories out loud, the participants were able to create something tangible. The process made each story become real in a very empowering way because it was their story, told in their voice, their way, with their pictures.

During the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights Movement, the Center for Digital Storytelling began a project called All Together Now, which focused on individuals attending a one-day workshop and creating a digital story of their own human- or civil-rights story. The Interdisciplinary Center on Aging (ICOA) sponsored the Center for Digital Storytelling coming to Chico to do a one-day workshop on human and civil rights. Five digital stories were created as a part of this workshop. To view the stories, visit this link and watch the stories uploaded on June 25: <http://cowbird.com/topic/all-together-now/stories/most-recent/>.

Celeste and Seema plan to continue the Intergenerational Storytelling Project and facilitate this transformational experience for many more students and older adults in our community. They also hope to do specialized workshops for various groups who are interested in using the digital storytelling framework to capture unique stories.

Agency Field Instructor *Words of Wisdom*

Sue Matthiessen received her BA from Villanova University and her MSW from the University of California, Berkeley. She is the clinical program manager for Northern Valley Catholic Social Service and has been a LCSW for 18 years.

Featuring Sue Matthiessen, LCSW

How do you approach developing a positive supervisory relationship as you begin supervising a student?

I believe the development of a positive supervisory relationship is a process that is parallel to developing a strong clinical relationship with a client. There has to be an emphasis on openness, trust, and a willingness to get critical feedback about what is working and what isn't between us. I always ask the student, what is the skill set they want to walk away with when our time together is complete? This helps me set goals and have an overall direction for our time together. It also helps to know what they have found to be useful in supervision in the past, and what was not helpful for them. This opens up the conversations and lets me know what kind of a learner they are, so I can tailor my time with them to be the most effective.



Stay Plugged In...



MSW Student Association

Welcome back students! We are looking forward to another great year with the MSWSA. The MSWSA strives to encourage student involvement in community events, raise funds to support community programs, provide social work students with informational speakers and trainings, and encourage student involvement in Legislative Lobby Days. This year, the club hopes to focus on facilitating a connection between all MSW cohorts, as well as collaborate with the BSW Student Association in order to create a greater impact. The club is also interested in bringing meaningful speakers and trainings to campus to enhance learning in the classroom and in the field. The MSWSA meets at 5:30 p.m. on alternating Thursdays at Woodstock's Pizza. We are also hosting a coin drive. All proceeds will be donated by our MSWSA team to Chico's Out of the Darkness Walk, a suicide-prevention event on Sept. 27. Coins can be brought to the club meeting or given to any MSWSA officer. We will graciously accept anything you can provide. Please feel free to contact any MSW Student Association officers with any questions you may have. For more information, please contact

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 alevy7@mail.csuchico.edu
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BSW Student Association

The mission of the Student Association of Social Workers (SASW) is to be activists for positive social change within CSU, Chico, the City of Chico, our surrounding communities, and ultimately, the rest of the world. We are advocates for student educational concerns and issues and are group facilitators for many varied projects, volunteer opportunities, and related educational experiences. We seek to promote an identity as a professional social worker and work to foster a sense of community within the School of Social Work which includes both students and the faculty. The SASW is a great way to stay connected with your fellow social work students and support each other through our Chico State experience. SASW meetings are open to all students and occur every second Tuesday of the month. For more information on current happenings, please visit one of the SASW online homes:

<https://www.facebook.com/sasw.csuc>
<https://orgsync.com/73030/chapter>



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