



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

CWEP NewsLine



CWEP Website

<http://www.sw.uh.edu/communityoutreach/cwep.php>

Volume 11 Issue 3

February 2010



Director's Comments

“January, it seems, is a time for thinking about achievements and making personal resolutions to give and do more. This is the time that we begin our spring semester and promise to be better prepared for our classes and finish our papers ahead of the due dates. Sometimes outside events humble and move us to action, as with this January’s earthquake in Haiti. We take time to honor a civil rights hero, Martin Luther King, Jr., and his indelible movement for change and progress. In it all, the common thread is the belief that we can join with others to make our world a better place. This is also the time that we begin our planning for our annual survey on the CWEP program and it is very important that you respond to the survey as soon as you receive it so you can help make the CWEP program as strong a resource as possible in meeting the needs of children and families in Child Protective Services. The survey should begin in March and I ask you to join with your fellow CWEP members and provide us your feedback to make our program a better place for you and for those who will follow you. The survey provides us with invaluable information about the CWEP project and whether or not we are meeting your needs and the future needs of children and families. So please take a moment and respond and provide us with information about your experiences thus far and your hopes for a better program. Thank you and please take a moment to let me know what is on your mind and what information you would like to see me respond to in future columns.” **Joe Papick**

What's inside

Director's Comments	1
Staff Spotlight	2
Announcements	3-4
CWEP Calendar	5

CWEP Staff

Dr. Monit Cheung
 Principal Investigator
 (Rm 424, 713-743-8107)
mcheung@uh.edu

Joe Papick
 Director
 (Rm 432, 713-743-1394)
jpapick@uh.edu

Kathy Clark
 Field Coordinator
 (Rm 434, 713-743-8157)
klclark@uh.edu

Patrick Leung
 Project Evaluator
 (Rm 412, 713-743-8111)
pleung@uh.edu

Ann McFarland
 Stipend Coordinator
 (Rm 444, 713-743-8145)
amcfarland@uh.edu

Dr. Patricia Taylor
 Curriculum Coordinator
 (Rm 438, 713-743-8081)
ptaylor2@uh.edu

Brunessia Wilson
 Student Affairs Coordinator
 (Rm 436, 713-743-8147)
bwilson3@uh.edu

Corrine Walijarvi
 NewsLine Editor, Graduate Associate
 LEO Mentor
 (Rm 430, 713-743-8338)
cmwalija@mail.uh.edu



1. What is the role that you perform as Evaluator for CWEP? What are some of your experiences that led to your role in CWEP?

My role is to ensure that the data collection, analysis, and evaluation of the interviews done with the students is done in a way to provide objective and meaningful results that can be useful for the CWEP program. Our goal is to always improve the effectiveness of the CWEP program.

I have done many evaluations of programs, both in child welfare and in other programs, such as social service organizations. I have been working with the CWEP program since its inception in 1999.

2. What work have you done in the field of child welfare that is not specifically related to CWEP?

I worked on several federal research projects related to child welfare in Iowa and I was a project director for a training program for Child Protection workers in Denver.

3. What impact has your work had on children and families?

I conducted a study on the impact of Title IV-E training on case outcomes for children and families and found that for 3 out of the 6 federal measures used, Title IV-E training had a very positive impact. So, we can feel confident that through our CWEP program, we will have a positive impact on children and families.

4. What have been some of the findings coming out of the CWEP evaluations?

We have seen very positive outcomes from the CWEP program. Students and staff both have indicated that CWEP students become more knowledgeable, confident, capable professionals. As Co-Chair of the Texas Title IV-E Evaluation Committee, I have found that Title IV-E programs have been effective consistently, not only our CWEP program, but across the state.

3. What has been latest challenge you have faced in your current position?

The reductions in the state budget for training have resulted in significant challenges for us because there is a lack of funds for current students, and no money for non-CPS employees. The lack of funding limits our program.

4. What do you feel is your greatest reward?

It is rewarding to work on the most current issues in child welfare. The work I do in child welfare enhances my research and also my teaching. I also value the feedback from CWEP students and graduates. It is rewarding to identify problems, such as the salary issues for CWEP graduates, and help communicate the problems to CWEP staff.

5. How do you balance your many roles within GCSW?

It is challenging, but it helps that there is interconnectedness among my projects. I balance hard work by swimming and going fishing.

6. What advice do you have for our CWEP students?

My advice is that students start to prepare early in the semester for their course requirements. Also, talk to your professors – they are human beings who love to communicate with students. Know that school is part of your life; balancing work, school, and families can be stressful, but it is part of the life process.



Announcements

Deaths in Texas Resulting from Child Abuse and Neglect

Texas has been identified by the Center for Public Priorities as a state with a higher rate than average of deaths from child abuse and neglect. Although the exact reasons for this are not fully understood, there seem to be two factors that are impacting the reported child death rate in Texas. One factor is that reporting of child deaths due to abuse and neglect may be more accurate in Texas, compared to other states which may be undercounting their death rates. The second factor is that Texas has high rates of teen births and high rates of child poverty. These socioeconomic factors, combined with a lack of programs to prevent child abuse and neglect, likely contribute to the higher death rate per capita that has been observed in Texas.

Opportunities to Study and Travel Abroad!!!

Students interested in traveling and earning credit should consider the following in **SUMMER 2010**:

3 SCH Study Abroad in Hong Kong/China (June 8 to 24)
Contact Dr. Leung by March 1, 2010 for scholarship application and airline reservation

3 SCH Field Elective III
240 Clock Hours of Field Work
(Supervised by faculty in the Department of Applied Studies at City University of Hong Kong)

Contacts: Virginia Robbins, Director of Field Education at

vrobbs@uh.edu

Dr. Patrick Leung, Director of Office for

International SW Education pleung@uh.edu



**SCHOLARSHIPS
AVAILABLE!**

CWEP SYMPOSIUM



SPRING 2010

On Friday, March 12, 2010, CWEP will hold its Annual Symposium. All CWEP students, GCSW faculty and students, field instructors, and CPS employees are invited to attend. Arnitia Mitchel, MSW, LBSW and Diana Sutton, LCSW will present “The Balancing Act: Professional and Student.” Both presenters are Child Safety Specialists with the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, and will be able to provide many helpful insights regarding balancing professional responsibilities with student life.

When: Friday, March 12, 2010 1:00 to 4:00 pm

Where: Child Protective Services

2525 Murworth, Conference Room D36B

Note: CEUs are free!

Attendance can be counted towards CPS Certification for current CPS employees!

CWEP students are required to attend.

Excusable absences should be sent to: Brunessia Wilson, CWEP Student

Affairs Coordinator; Office telephone: 713-743-8147; Email: bwilson3@uh.edu

CWEP Students may consider the following elective classes:

Summer 2010:

Child Abuse and Neglect – Taught by Brunessia Wilson

Fall 2010 (Tentative):

Child Abuse and Neglect – Taught by Brunessia Wilson

SELF (Self-Examination of Life Foundations) – Taught by Dr. Trish Taylor

Crisis Intervention – Taught by Sandra Lopez

Drugs in Society -- Internet Course Taught by Dr. Susan Robbins

School Social Work/Bullying – Co-taught by Dr. Sheara Williams and Jan Leger

Clinical Practice with Latinos – Taught by Dr. Luis Torres

Group Therapy – Taught by Travis Courville

Also, please check class schedules for course updates at

<http://www.sw.uh.edu/courseschedule/courseschedule.php>

Check Out Information on the CWEP WEBSITE!

Go to:

http://www.sw.uh.edu/communityoutreach/cwep_students.php

Check out scholarship opportunities for CWEP students!

Access the APA Citation Format, 6th Edition – Prepared by Dr. Cheung – A very useful format summary for all your class papers!

If you need help with your papers or presentations, please contact your LEO mentor, Ms. Corrine Waljarvi NewsLine Editor and CWEP Doctoral Associate, Rm 430 (with office hours posted outside her door), call for your individual appointments at 713-743-8338 or email her your questions at cmwalija@mail.uh.edu

CWEP Calendar for Spring 2010



March

- 12 CWEP Symposium
- 15-20 Spring Break
- 22-26 Student Advising for Summer/Fall 2010
- 26 Field Agency Marketplace

April

- 2 Field Applications Due for Summer/Fall 2010
- 7 Brown Bag Session 1 (must attend one session)
- 14 Brown Bag Session 2 (must attend one session)
- 28 Clinical Leadership Society Meeting from 12:00 to 1:00
Topic: CPS and Child Welfare

May

- 3 Field Evaluations Due/Last Day of Classes
- 12 Preference Forms Due for Concentration Year
Summer/Fall Placements
- 15 Graduation