DEAN’S UPDATE

TSSW EARN REACCREDIFICATION

With the arrival of His Holiness the Dalai Lama just days away, I want to take the time to talk to you about another exciting development at the School.

I am delighted to report that the Tulane School of Social Work has, once again, received notice that it has been fully reaccredited for the maximum period of time — eight years, until 2021! This round of accreditation, like the last one eight years ago, comes with a complete endorsement of the School by the Council on Social Work Education.

This is truly another historic accomplishment for our school. Since the very inception of accreditation in 1927, the Tulane University School of Social Work has played a prominent role in establishing and defining the parameters of accreditation. Tulane was among the very first of these schools to be accredited and has maintained continuous, full accreditation from this beginning.

I thought I would take the rest of the column to talk a little about the history of our profession while Tulane continues to play a key role in its future.
After a disaster, much of the rebuilding conversation centers on immediate tasks — fixing homes, opening businesses, repairing roads. But relationships also need attention, a leading trauma expert recently told a group of therapists during a training session sponsored by the Porter-Cason Institute in the Tulane School of Social Work.

Couples and families bear a heavy burden during times of trouble, said George Faller, who led the four-day Outreach Externship in Emotionally Focused Therapy at the Beazley Alumni House on the Tulane uptown campus.

His knowledge is firsthand. As a lieutenant in the New York City Fire Department, Faller worked with traumatized families in the wake of 9/11 while witnessing his own marriage unravel. His expertise stems from his determination to keep that from happening. “I needed to find a way to let her in,” said Faller of his relationship with his wife.

The Tulane externship program taught 26 therapists, counselors and social workers how to use emotionally focused therapy (EFT) when clients’ relationships suffer. Since the 1980s, this approach has helped individuals, couples and families overcome depression, stress and alienation, in as little as a weekend.

But it’s not as easy as it seems. Parker Sternbergh, assistant director of the Porter-Cason Institute, said even trained professionals have trouble implementing EFT concepts.

“They want to be ‘human doings’ and fix it, but this is about being a human being and listening,” Sternbergh said.

Organizers hope Faller’s teachings will have a ripple effect across the region as practitioners embrace the power of emotional healing.

“Because the outreach extends into the community, it touches everybody,” said John Shalett, executive director of Trinity Counseling and Training Center, which cosponsored the event.

A new certification in family practice is scheduled to debut this fall in the School of Social Work. Funded by the late Dorothy Cason’s original endowment, the program will keep experts like Faller coming to campus.

This story originally appeared in the Tulane’s New Wave e-newsletter and was written by Erika Herran, a writer in the Office of Development.

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Conference, public talks mark Dalai Lama trip

Tibetan Buddhist culture. One of the highlights of the city-wide celebration is the creation of a sand mandala. This traditional painting with colored sand ranks as one of the world’s most unique and exquisite artistic traditions. Anyone can view the monks creating the sand mandala for free in Hall G of the Morial Convention Center. The schedule is Tuesday, May 14 from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Wednesday, May 15 from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Thursday, May 16 from 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. and Friday, May 17, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

A must see is the sand mandala closing ceremony at 4:30 p.m. on Friday, May 17. It consists of the ceremonial clearing of the sand and a procession to the Mississippi River, where the sand will be symbolically dispersed in the moving water. The public is invited to view the procession along Convention Center Blvd. and join in as it makes its way to the river.

The monks will also host a Tibetan Bazaar at the Morial Convention Center during the hours of the sand mandala where they will sell Tibetan crafts and goods.

The official visit, titled “Resilience: Strength through Compassion and Connection,” consists of a conference and two public talks. Tickets for the two public talks have sold out, but they will be streamed live online and shown at “viewing parties” at venues across the city.

Tibetan singer and multi-instrumentalist Techung is scheduled to perform at the opening concert for the Dalai Lama’s speech in New Orleans on Saturday, May 18.

Author Margaret Wheatley and psychology and psychiatry professor Richard J. Davidson also will participate in a panel discussion with the Dalai Lama at the academic conference.

As a welcoming gesture to His Holiness, locals will raise Tibetan prayer flags outside their homes and businesses beginning April 20th through the May events. The raising of flags both celebrates and embraces the message of peace that the Dalai Lama brings to New Orleans and the Gulf Coast.

For a calendar of Dalai Lama events and more information about his time in New Orleans, visit www.dalailamanola.com.
Although our alumni are no longer roaming our halls in search of knowledge, our students are just as hungry as those more experienced hands who are reading this. Here are just a few projects going on in the community, in the classroom and in our faculty’s research arenas at the School.

When Jane Parker, director of the Institute for Psychosocial Health at the Tulane School of Social Work, thought of the concept of a boot camp, the words “rough” and “difficult” came to mind. She wanted a much more soothing title for her self-care workshop for social workers.

So she dubbed it “Slipper Camp” and invited participants to ditch their heels in favor of warm, snuggly and even silly-looking bedroom slippers.

“If we’re not taking care of ourselves,” Parker said, “we’re more likely to make poor judgments and burn out.”

It was with those words that Parker coordinated her first Slipper Camp on Jan. 25 at the Lavin-Bernick Center on the uptown campus. About 40 New Orleans area social workers attended, with most taking Parker up on her invitation to wear slippers.

The workshop featured talks and activities designed to help mental health professionals develop strategies for taking care of themselves.

Speakers included Ron McClain, executive director of Family Service of Greater New Orleans, who spoke on the wisdom and ethics of self-care; Vaughn Randolph Fauria, executive director of NewCorp, who spoke on financial health; and Emelina Edwards, author of “Fit and Fabulous at 70 and Beyond,” who shared exercise, nutrition and relaxation tips.

Harpreet Samra, senior program coordinator for the Institute for Psychosocial Health, addressed the issue of maintaining boundaries with colleagues and friends, and Parker offered strategies for reaching career potential.

“Social work is such a demanding profession,” Parker said, “and I wanted to address the whole person — spiritually, financially, physically, occupationally, socially and psychologically.”

At the end of the workshop, prizes were awarded for the cutest slippers, the weirdest slippers and the slippers most in need of replacement. Participants who filled out a survey lauded the experience.

“The evaluations were off the charts, with requests to do something similar each year,” Parker said.

Israel is nearly 7,000 miles from Tulane University, but Ron Marks, dean of the School of Social Work, could think of no better place to study trauma than a land that lives with traumatic events, or at least the threat of them, 24 hours a day.

So Marks and Charles Figley, director of the Tulane Traumatology Institute, traveled to Tel Aviv in February to launch an exhaustive study on how Israelis cope with traumatic stress.

Working with professional videographers, they interviewed seven of Israel’s foremost trauma and resilience experts. Based on their findings, they plan to hold a summit on trauma in New Orleans and Israel, produce a special issue of the Journal of Traumatology and make a documentary.

“It provided us with an opportunity for total immersion into this world of experts,” Marks says. “With the constant threat of terrorism and chronic warfare, we wanted to find out what they have discovered in terms of trauma and resilience.”

One such discovery was the need for high-quality and easily accessible mental health services.

“The trauma and stress was so widespread (in the 1990s) that national policy needed to be changed so that community centers could be established to deal with this,” Marks says.

Among the experts they interviewed was Zahava Solomon, a social work professor at the University of Tel Aviv who has studied war-induced stress since the Lebanon War in 1982. They also met with Dr. Avi Bleich, an expert in military psychology.

“My sense of the motivation to talk with us was high because they knew we got it, and they know that the world can benefit from their knowledge,” Figley says.

Marks agrees: “There are lessons to be learned about Israel and the nature of this place, and these people that enable them to survive and prosper.”

Self-Care Slipper Camp

Instead of a boot camp, the Institute for Psychosocial Health offered a “Slipper Camp” to help mental health professionals develop self-care strategies in late January. The camp was the brain child of Dr. Jane Parker, Director of the Institute for Psychosocial Health. A full story about the camp is above in “TSSW Notes”. (Photo by Paula Burch-Celantano)
The historical antecedents of the profession of social work are many and richly textured. As one studies this elaborate history we learn that the many facets of today’s social work are grounded in sometimes ancient social forces and activity. For example, in the 1300’s the bubonic plague killed nearly 1/3 of the European population. Labor shortages forced the state to intervene. Laws were passed to compel all able-bodied men to accept employment. Alms to able-bodied beggars were forbidden.

The 1500's saw further developments: For example, Henry VIII in England broke from the Roman church. The State confiscated the Church’s wealth; leaving it without means to carry out charity expectations. At the same time in neighboring Spain, the first State organized registration of the poor was introduced.

I suspect most of you remember studying the Elizabethan Poor Laws, established in 1601. These were built on the experiments of the earlier Henrician Poor Law (1536) and the Parish Poor Rate (1572). This legislation became the major codification for dealing with the poor and disadvantaged for more than 200 years. It also became the basis for dealing with the relief for the poor at the colonial level through taxing people in each parish to pay for their own poor, establishing apprentice programs for poor children, developing workhouses for dependent people, and dealing harshly and punitively with able-bodied poor people.

This rich history continued throughout the 18th and 19th centuries in Europe. In the early 1800’s, reforms to Elizabethan Poor Laws continued, denigrating principles of “less eligibility” and the “perception of need” imbedded in society’s attitudes toward the poor and less able bodied. Reform activists worked for the abolition of illiteracy, preventable diseases, sweated labor, slums and overcrowding, unemployment and poverty. During this time, Charity Organization Societies (COS) formed in England with an emphasis on detailed investigations.

Jumping ahead to 1917 and landing in the United States, Mary Richmond published “Social Diagnosis” which became the primary text for the training of social workers. That year, the first organization for social workers was established. The national Social Workers Exchange was established with its primary objective to process applicants for social work jobs.

Two years later, in 1919, the 17 schools of social work that existed in the United States and Canada formed the Association of Training Schools for Professional Social Work to develop uniform standards of training and professional education. This group was later renamed the American Association of Schools of Social Work (AASSW) and eventually became the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) in 1952. Founded in 1952, CSWE represents a partnership of educational and professional institutions, social welfare agencies, and private citizens and is recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation as the sole accrediting agency for social work education in this country. Accreditation, much like the historical events noted above, represents a significant development in the social work profession; enabling the profession to develop its theoretical basis, standardize its methods and advance as a profession.

From this early time of the development of social work in the United States, and since the very inception of accreditation, the Tulane University School of Social Work has played a prominent role in establishing and defining the parameters of accreditation. Tulane was among the very first of these schools to be accredited and has maintained continuous, full accreditation from this beginning.

And with our great faculty and staff as well as alumni like each of you, Tulane will continue to play a key role in social work innovation for years to come.

By Lou Franchina, Development

Over the past few years, I’ve used this space to highlight various ways that you may give back to your alma mater and to report on some of the ways that you have. Now, I’d like to report on a new development.

In order to better serve the school and to help us achieve our financial and programmatic goals, my responsibilities have shifted so that from now on I will focus exclusively on securing grants from corporations and foundations.

I am pleased to report that Eva Marie Dyba has been hired to continue our alumni outreach and individual fundraising efforts. Eva Marie comes to us with a great deal of previous experience in the development field. Among her many experiences she coordinated development and alumni affairs for Auburn University’s Harrison School of Pharmacy and coordinated donor relations for Auburn University.

At Duke University, Eva Marie coordinated the stewardship office as well as other roles. More recently, since moving to New Orleans, she worked in De La Salle High School’s Office of Institutional Advancement.

I have enjoyed meeting and getting to know the school’s alumni as I have travelled across the country. Your affection for the school is contagious, and Eva Marie has already been infected. She’ll be reaching out to many of you in the weeks and months to come, but you do not have to wait. Please feel free to contact her directly at (504) 314-7641 or edyba@tulane.edu.
Twenty-five years ago Dianne Boazman (MSW ’88) earned her master’s degree from Tulane, and now, the co-owner and director of Home Care Solutions can’t believe what a fun yet challenging ride it has been.

“I don’t think either one of us knew what we were getting into when we started the company, but it’s been a very rewarding experience,” she said about the company’s founding in 1991 with Betty Landreaux.

Boazman and Landreaux’s uniquely strong and long-lasting partnership earned them the honor of “Top Female Achievers” in the July 2012 issue of New Orleans Magazine.

After 22 years in business, Boazman said her success in geriatric care management is a credit to her partner and their ability to adapt with the times, and those times are still changing. Boazman said with the aging Baby Boomer generation, elder care services are garnering more mainstream media attention and will become a national issue during the next 10 years.

That's a far cry from the company's founding when Boazman and Landreaux became the only geriatric care managers in the state of Louisiana.

“When we told all of our social work friends that we were going into geriatric care management 22 years ago, we thought that everyone would follow suit,” she said.

Boazman had worked for years at Touro Hospital with her BMSW before she decided to earn her MSW from Tulane. After graduating with her MSW, Boazman became certified in geriatric care management and fulfilled her dream of “doing what I wanted to do when I grew up.”

From 1991 to 2001, Home Care Solutions focused strictly on geriatric care management, but the business has expanded over the years despite some hurdles.

“Still today, there are so many misconceptions about what a social worker is,” she said. “I still get questions today about if I work for the state, and many people think that we’re just there to talk about putting them in a nursing home. We provide so many different and very needed services for seniors.

“One of the most difficult things when we started was having a fee and telling people that we charge for what we do. I just felt like it went against the grain of what we had done in our years prior working with hospitals, but 22 years later, we’re kind of over that. I think after 10 years of just doing the care management, we kind of needed a shot in the arm to do something different.”

That something different came in 2001 when the company decided to merge the geriatric care practice with hiring caregivers. Families now have the option of hiring in-house caregivers, and the company grew to its current level of more than 100 employees, most of whom are caregivers.

“The thing that makes us unique from other home care companies is that we are driven and directed by social workers,” Boazman said. “We approach every client from a total health perspective due to our social work background. If somebody needs some help at home, they usually need other things too.”

Boazman said the company’s biggest challenge came after Hurricane Katrina when it lost its target population for about six months as the storm displaced the New Orleans areas’ elderly population.

“It was during those dark days after the storm, that we were really wondering about the future,” she said. “We wondered if we really had it in us to start it over again, and we did. We had a couple of years where we had to rebuild it, and now, we’re certainly a lot larger than we were even before Katrina.”

In recent years, the company has added a bill paying service and done some guardianship work, but Boazman said her success is thanks to a solid learning experience at Tulane.

“I always felt like it was such a benefit for me personally to have some years of experience before I went to grad school,” she said. “To me, graduate school was just an amazing adventure in learning and learning the things that I didn’t even know that I didn’t know. As a seasoned social worker, I thought I kind of had it together, but I think I grew in ways I didn’t even I know I would be growing at Tulane.”
HIS HOLINESS THE 14TH DALAI LAMA
Resilience
Strength through Compassion and Connection
MAY 16 – 18, 2013 NEW ORLEANS

www.DalaiLamaNOLA.com
HIS HOLINESS THE DALAI LAMA IS VISITING NEW ORLEANS
There are many ways to be part of this historic event!
Leading up to His Holiness’ visit, everyone is encouraged to raise up Tibetan Prayer Flags outside their homes and businesses as symbols of peace and compassion. Venues across the city are hosting events ranging from a Tibetan Bazaar and Sand Mandala demonstration to film series and lectures. Visit our website to learn more!

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Anita McGinnis Campbell (MSW ’64) and Doyle Edward Campbell (MSW ’70) currently live in Kings Mountain, N.C., where they are active in church and community affairs. Anita retired from Kings Mountain District Schools in 2000, and Doyle retired from Gaston Hospice in 2006. Anita is a member of the local Daughters of the America Revolution, and Doyle is a member of the Sons of the American Revolution. They enjoy participating in reenactments at the site of a Revolutionary War Battleground. Their two daughters are now grown, and they have two granddaughters and two grandsons.

Mary Alice Evrard-Grothe (MSW ’68) currently resides in Long Beach, N.Y., and is a retired school social worker from Kingsley School in Brooklyn. Previously, she served as the Director of the Big Brother/Big Sister Program in Lee County, Fla.

Dr. Philip Hemphill (MSW ’92, PhD ’09) has been an adjunct professor at TSSW for 14 years and recently coauthored a book with William “Marty” Martin entitled “Taming Disruptive Behavior.” The 126-page work published by the American College of Physician Executives, Inc., focuses on the effect that disruptive behavior can have in health care organizations. The book aims to arm professionals with ways to not only recognize disruptive behavior, but also practical ways to deal with it. The book is available via ACPE, Amazon and Barnes & Noble.

Christopher Kruebbe (MSW ’06) currently resides in Salem, Ore., and is a Psychiatric Social Worker for the Oregon State Hospital where the film “One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest” based on the Ken Kesey novel was filmed. Christopher also cochairs the restore to competency program funded through an Addictions in Mental Health program in Oregon. He recently passed the ASWB national social work examination and will be licensed in Oregon and Louisiana. Finally, Kruebbe is excited to visit New Orleans in May 2013 to see His Holiness the Dalai Lama speak at the Resilience Conference.

Sharon Sterling (MSW ’97), formerly Sharon Jane Hickey, currently lives in Marana, Ariz., and is writing psychological thriller novels. Her mystery novel, “The Well,” was published in January 2013. Formerly a licensed clinical social worker with a mental health agency, Sharon has since retired, changed her name and began writing novels.

Dr. Charles Figley is a world-renown trauma expert, but this spring marked an important milestone in his research and professional career – he published the comprehensive “Encyclopedia of Trauma” that can be used by everyone from academia to Main Street.

Saying that it was five years in the making, Figley added that the 904-page book has a uniquely Tulane favor with many Tulane faculty members on the editorial board.

“It’s the first of its kind,” he said. “It’s called an interdisciplinary guide because all the other books looking at trauma mostly focused on PTSD or trauma in terms of medical or psychological trauma. This is the first one that has a broad strokes approach in terms of incorporating history and economics and engineering and medicine and neurology. It covers so many different areas.”

Figley said people who are traumatized have various interests, and most of the current books are written for researchers or other scholars rather than something approach.

“The people who are picking it up are struggling with trauma and are trying to figure it out themselves,” he said. “If they can recognize that Beethoven was traumatized and yet he created great works of music, that’s important. It’s really written for the consumer.”

Although Figley is named as the book’s editor, he credits its creation to his wife, Kathy Figley, who helped coordinate the various writers and topics that cover a wide range of issues.

As for his inspiration for the encyclopedia, Figley said he felt that other books just missed the mark in truly examining the issues of trauma in a way that the everyday person could understand.

“As a practitioner as well as scholar, I remember having average people come up to me and ask if I could sort of boil it down and explain it so that they could understand it. I think this book can be used by anyone trying to understand trauma.”
WHERE ARE YOU NOW?

Please share your thoughts, ideas, and information to be used in Postscripts. You may also visit our web site at http://tulane.edu/socialwork and click on the alumni tab to complete this form or for additional alumni updates.

Name:________________________ Year of graduation:___________________
Address:________________________ City:________________________ State:____ Zip code:___________
E-mail address:________________________ Phone number:________________________

Degrees/certificates earned:_________________________________________________________

1) What are you currently doing professionally?

2) Have you received any special awards or honors, or have you been published? Please specify.

3) Have you been involved with Tulane School of Social Work since graduation? If not, what events or special services would draw you to become involved?

4) Do you have special news that you would like to share with other alumni (marriage, children, relocation, hobbies, new projects)?

5) Is there anything you would like to start seeing in Postscripts? Is there anything you think should be omitted from the newsletter?

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