

DALAI LAMA DELIVERS MESSAGE OF RESILIENCE

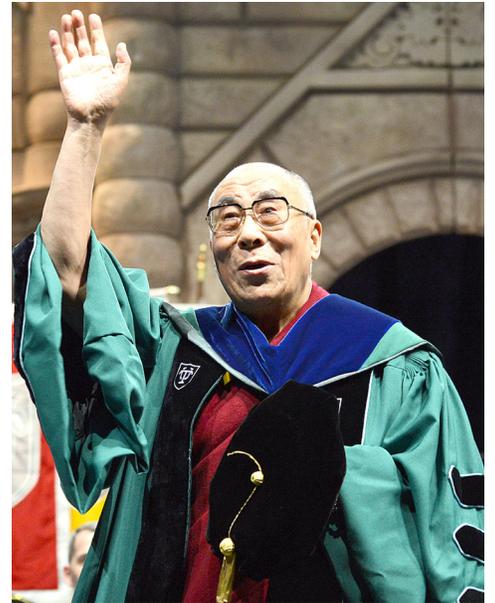
A group of nearly 600 mental health professionals engaged with His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama during a panel discussion that culminated a special conference about resilience organized by TSSW on Friday (May 17) during his visit to New Orleans.

World-renowned trauma expert Margaret Wheatley and research psychiatrist Richard Davidson flanked the spiritual leader of six million Tibetan Buddhists during the discussion that ranged from the meaning of life to global warming to how to gain peace of mind.

"Everyone wants a happy life," the Dalai Lama said. "We are social beings and trust is the basis of friendship. Without trust, how can you have true friendship?"

To gain that trust, he said education is

Story continues on page 2



His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama

DEAN'S UPDATE

VISIT CREATES MANY MEMORIES

I had the profound honor of greeting His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama upon his arrival at the New Orleans airport in May. This began an historic four-day visit by the Dalai Lama to our School and several city-wide public events which have left lasting ripple effects throughout our community.



I believe the most profound moment for me was sharing the stage with His Holiness and having the great honor of introducing him to our conference attendees. My heartfelt words of introduction on that morning allowed me to introduce a simple Buddhist monk.... someone who also happens to be His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama, the spiritual leader of six million Tibetans.

This began the School of Social Work's two-day professional conference with more than

500 people in attendance and several public events, including two sold-out public talks as well as His Holiness serving as commencement speaker for the unified University commencement in the Superdome. It was attended by more than 40,000 people, the largest commencement in the history of the University.

The Dalai Lama's visit was and is a reflection of our School's engagement on many fronts. My own involvement with the Dalai Lama began many years ago through my commitment to offering a class to our students which has the goals of enabling students to learn how we can develop social and health programs in resource poor parts of the world and see the connection between professional and personal growth. Moreover,

Story continues on page 2



Continued from Page 1....

DEAN'S MESSAGE: SCHOOL GAVE NEW ORLEANS A SPECIAL GIFT

it has been a visible commitment to the communities of Tibetan refugees in North India and shown our dedication to working on behalf of these communities.

Planning and preparing the events in May was yet another example of these deep connections and how, through these connections and commitments, we accomplish meaningful work, build stronger communities and healthier individuals. If you were able to attend the events, you heard His Holiness' message related to compassion. Through this we came to understand that if you truly understand this doctrine, there are no strangers. His universal message of peace permeated and blanketed New Orleans like the 10 miles of Tibetan prayer flags distributed throughout the city prior to his visit which continue as visible reminders of his visit.

In the months leading up to these events, an army of volunteers was instrumental in engaging with several communities throughout the city. These included an extraordinary series of rich dialogues on resilience led by Dr. Linda Usdin including "Building Compassionate and Resilient Communities for Our Youth" which addressed the current world views of many young people in our community which are formed through experiences of violence and lack of caring. Another of these dialogues focused on "Identity and Resilience: Holding on and Letting Go" and was based on Buddhist and living systems concepts, where the participants explored

the tensions between holding on and letting go in the face of disasters and their aftermath. Yet another examined "Culture as a Foundation of Resilience" in which the idea that culture is the glue that holds communities together. It explored how we build upon our cultural strength as a source of and tool for resilience.

Through more than 60 of these community events leading up to the May visit, the School established many new partners such as the one with John Ritchie, the producer and director of the newly released documentary "Shell Shocked" which sensitively and passionately addresses the issue of gun violence in our community. The School will continue to partner with John on this. The film is slated to be shown on campus in November and will be part of an ongoing project related to addressing violence in New Orleans.



Scenes from His Holiness the Dalai Lama's press conference (top) and the Resilience Conference (bottom). (Photos by Joseph Halm)

Ultimately, it is these new partnerships and the building and strengthening of existing ones that represent the School's deep reach into and commitment to the communities of which we are a part.

Ronald Tharke

Continued from Page 1....

CONFERENCE OPENED TWO DAYS OF PUBLIC EVENTS



His Holiness the Dalai Lama is greeted by fellow Tibetan monk Tsering during the Resilience and Compassion Conference. (Photo by Joseph Halm)

the key as well as being concerned about the well-being of others, a statement that drew hearty applause.

He also touched on the topic of the conference, "Resilience: Strength through Compassion and Connection." Calling on his 54 years as a Tibetan refugee, the Dalai Lama said if we look at our problems with a focus on the oneness of humanity, it will eliminate many of the man-made problems like war and wealth inequality.

"Too much greed, too much anger, too much frustration is very bad for your life," he said. "Just to repeat the words

forgiveness, tolerance doesn't make them happen. You have to act."

The Dalai Lama also talked extensively about global warming, sharing a story about when he and Mahatma Gandhi spoke many years ago and how Gandhi thought "motor cars" were a very serious problem. The key to solving that problem lies with scientists, he said.

"I'm an old-fashioned guru, but (scientists and researchers) are modern gurus," the Dalai Lama said. "I think in modern times these modern gurus are much more effective than the old-style gurus."

TSSW Notes What's Happening at Your School Today

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.

Current MSW candidate Elizabeth Shaw had a special opportunity in January to present along with Laura Tuley to the New Orleans Jung Society. The workshop examined the film "Sex, Jung and Videotape: Examining the Shadows

of 'A Dangerous Method.'"

David Cronenberg's film has provoked a wide range of reactions, many of them critical, within Jungian circles. The presentation used the film as a springboard to delve into such topics as sexual shadows within the Jungian community, the oft-denied dark side of Jung, and the unadulterated feminine. Shaw, who holds a master's in literature and theology, has been a member of the New Orleans Jungian Seminar for two years and hopes to train to become an analyst.

Shaw added that her choice to pursue an MSW over another degree was carefully thought out.

"Overall, people were very enthusiastic about the MSW," she said. "They thought it was a more practical degree especially because if you want to move, it is more friendly to transferring your licensure than some other degrees. Also within the field of social work there is a huge variety of things you can work on. I'm one of those people that likes to do different things so I liked the many opportunities that it presented."



DATE SET FOR HOMECOMING

The date is set -- Saturday, Oct. 5. There will be a free one-hour CEU offering prior to our traditional reception, which is from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the LBC. This year, we'll also hold a special tribute to the life and work of Professor Louis Martorell prior to the Homecoming Reception. All alumni and friends are encouraged to attend this joyful celebration of "I Remember Louis," along with all our other Homecoming festivities. (Photo by Ken Redler)

UK conference leaves mark on alumna

Recent graduate Chelsea Hampton (MSW '11) will always remember the first time she presented her research to her colleagues.

That memory came last summer in a unique setting -- at an international conference in the U.K. entitled "Breaking the Mould: Disaster Interventions, Climate Change, Community Resilience and Humanitarian Aid when Empowering Local Communities." The conference, which drew professionals from around the world to Durham, England, asked whether it is time for a paradigm shift in the manner in which aid is delivered and who can be legitimately involved in such work.

"The culmination of rich history and lush surroundings created an environment that is hauntingly beautiful," Hampton said. "It's as though you've stepped into another world, but we tackled serious issues that people deal with on a daily basis, which made it a very rewarding and unique experience."

Chelsea's research focused on IASC Guidelines and mental health response in Haiti and China and was conducted as a part of her professional project with fellow graduate Lindsay Williams (MSW '11).

She said her presentation was an eye-opening experience.

"A point of emphasis that stood out for me was the importance in not just talking about one's work, but engaging in deep, meaningful discussion and asking questions," she said. "During the Q&A time following my presentation, there were a couple of questions which challenged some of the assertions of our work."

Chelsea's research encouraged evaluation of the status quo, including current guidelines in place, and sought to critically evaluate important issues in global mental health and psychosocial support.

"I feel that dialogue, especially dialogue that involves challenging questions and

critique, is a vital part of research and is far better to have following a presentation than no discussion at all," she said. "In addition, I had ample encouragement and interest from other presenters and attendees, and a lot of important discussion ensued after the presentations were over."

Along with the conference, Chelsea had the good fortune of visiting the U.K. during the 2012 Summer Olympics. She said those experiences coupled together provided her with countless memories and a drive to continue her academic work including her desire to pursue a Ph.D.

"It is hard to pinpoint any one particular aspect that stood out, because the entire experience was truly amazing," she said. "I learned so much throughout my entire trip, and I am so grateful that I was able to have this opportunity. My time at TSSW and experience in the Global Certificate Program definitely prepared me well for both my research and this conference."

TSSW remembers role in desegregation

When Tulane University integrated in 1963, some of the first African American students to matriculate did so through the Tulane School of Social Work, a distinction celebrated recently during the school's annual field instructor workshop.

"We are proud that social work students had a hand in integrating the school and they went on to have great careers," said Dr. Heather Gillis, clinical assistant professor and director of field education at the school.

As part of the curriculum in the Master of Social Work Program, Stephanie Baus, clinical assistant professor, said that students are required to work with an agency "in the field" three days per week. The workshop allowed field instructors, or those who oversee the students at the agencies, to receive additional training and continuing education units.

This year, the workshop focused on diversity with the title "Honoring Our History: Building on Our Legacy."

With 2013 marking 50 years since the university's integration, the workshop featured a panel of the first black students to enroll in social work. They were Gloria Bryant Banks (a 1964 graduate), retired secretary for the Louisiana State Department of Social Services; Pearlle Hardin Elloie (a 1965 graduate), director of the Office of Children, Youth and Families at Total Community Action, Inc.; and Marilyn



From left, Gloria Bryant Banks (MSW '64), Pearlle Hardin Elloie (MSW '65), and Marilyn Piper Riley (MSW '64) were the first black students to graduate from the Tulane School of Social Work. (Photo by Cheryl Gerber)

Piper Riley (a 1964 graduate), retired head of child protection for the state of Louisiana and former adjunct professor at TSSW.

Elloie, one of two plaintiffs in the lawsuit seeking to desegregate the university in the early 1960s, responded to the audience's interest in how she became involved in the landmark case.

"People think we won the lawsuit, but we actually lost," Elloie explained. "After the suit, the Board of Tulane decided it was time to integrate, and it did."

Banks, Elloie and Riley are part of a documentary film about the university's desegregation that is currently in production. Workshop participants also viewed an excerpt of the film, which can be seen at <http://cooperproject.org/doctulane50preview/>.

This story originally appeared in the Tulane's New Wave e-newsletter and was written by Alicia Duplessis Jasmin, a writer and editor for Tulane University Publications.

DONATIONS UP 13 PERCENT FOR 2013 AT TSSW

By Eva Marie Dyba, Development

I have had the pleasure of being a part of the School of Social Work's family for almost six months now, and in that time, I have learned a great deal about the school by meeting with talented and dedicated faculty and visiting with wonderful alumni. It has truly been inspiring to hear the many ways in which social workers touch the lives of countless individuals on a daily basis.

I am excited to report that at the end of June, the School of Social Work experienced a 13 percent increase in donors to the annual fund. What a wonderful achievement! Gifts of any amount can help make the difference between a school that simply meets its needs and one that exceeds the

expectations of its students, faculty and community. The generosity of alumni and friends is also a major reason why the Tulane School of Social Work is ranked 44 out of more than 220 graduate social work programs in *U.S. News and World Report*.

Did you know that you can make your gift to the School of Social Work online by visiting <http://tulane.edu/giving/>? If your employer has a matching gift program, you can easily double the amount of your contribution at no additional cost to you. Find out today if your company offers this program.

In addition to my fundraising responsibilities, learning more about what inspires and motivates our graduates to "do work that matters"

is an important priority for me this upcoming year. In the fall, I will make visits in the New Orleans and Baton Rouge areas, in Birmingham, Houston, Knoxville and other regions where we continue to build stronger connections with alumni and friends. I hope if you hear from me requesting a meeting, you will allow me an opportunity to visit with you and share some of the priorities of the school.



Eva Marie Dyba

Eva Marie is the school's development officer. She may be reach directly at (504) 314-7641 or edyba@tulane.edu.

FORMER HOMICIDE DETECTIVE EARNS MSW, TAKES UNIQUE APPROACH TO HELPING NEW ORLEANS STUDENTS

Harold Clay, Jr. didn't take the traditional path to become a social worker or the assistant principal at Edna Karr High School in New Orleans, but he said the journey has been enriched by his Tulane degree.

"I almost didn't come to Tulane because of some of the stereotypes that are out there, but when I got to Tulane, I had some phenomenal professors who left a lifelong impression on me," he said. "I had a passion for children and for the kids that no one really wanted to deal with. That's the one thing I was drawn to because I was that kid."

Clay (MSW '04) worked as a homicide investigator for the New Orleans District Attorney's Office while earning his degree as a member of the School's first part-time class. After Hurricane Katrina, he worked in Atlanta as a Major Case Investigator before returning to New Orleans to work at Andrew H. Wilson Charter School as an administrator, and now he is in his fourth year as an Assistant Principal and Operations Manager at Karr.

"I talk about my experience at Tulane in everything that I do," he said. "I talk about why you shouldn't close a door before it opens. I was in class with some phenomenal people. Those people helped me understand that there's more to the degree than becoming a traditional social worker."

The former "bad kid" (the label given by most of his primary and secondary teachers) is doing a lot of good these days, but what led a homicide investigator to switch careers? Clay said it was the crime statistics that spurred his second career. The age of criminals started to drop from people in their forties and fifties to twenty-somethings, then to teenagers. He said the constant theme he heard during criminal interviews was either a parent on drugs, a low level of education, and/or no father in the household. This combination in most cases was the recipe that led them down the path to murder. The trend was alarming and led Clay to look for answers.

He came to classes directly after working his full-time (80-plus hours per week) job



Harold Clay, Jr. (MSW '04) took a unique route to earn his degree, but he's gained national attention for his work with high school students. (Photo submitted)

at the District Attorney's Office to hone his skills to address those problems. "The sacrifice was worth it to gain the flexibility to help others," he said.

"I really think that social workers possess a skill set that most professionals don't have," he said. "I can stop any day if I get tired of education and go back to cops and robbers (he laughs). If I get tired of that, I can always go back to a field that is in need of great male social workers. I'm not boxed in. Social workers have many different options when it comes to careers. Tulane's School of Social Work truly prepared me for anything."

Clay used his real-world experience to help make Karr one of the most successful charter schools in the city. He said the success is due to mixing social work with education and needed services. Karr has a full-time nurse and two full-time social workers, where many schools might have one part-time position. He said, "How can you begin addressing full-time problems with children and their families with a part-time social worker and a part-time nurse? That's like putting a band aid on a bazooka wound. It just doesn't make sense."

Also, he's made sure to embed himself in the community – his office is a classroom. "All of my stakeholders are in the building, the pulse of the school is in the building and I need to keep my hand on the pulse," he said. "I've turned my classroom into a working and comfortable environment where people can come and talk about their problems and find solutions. It's a place where they can come and not feel threatened or talked down to. I'm tearing down the barriers before they happen."

Despite his full-time responsibilities at Karr, Clay also has been an integral part of several award-winning community documentaries.

"Close Ties: Tying on a New Tradition" is a 33-minute documentary that has won several film festivals awards and provides an intimate look at a rites of passage ceremony that connects teenage boys with male role models via the tradition of learning to tie a necktie.

He also was featured in the web-documentary "The Angle," which has also won several awards. He talked about school choice in New Orleans, the charter movement and disconnected youth.

Clay was also featured in *Epitome Magazine*, one of the nation's largest Gospel magazines, as part of its community uplift series. The article has gained national attention, and Clay is up for a national award for his work.

As for the future, the product of the lower 9th Ward and low-income housing said he'll put his faith in God to enable him to keep helping others.

"My plan is to be an assistant principal and move up to be a principal, but I'm also interested in being the CEO or chief operating officer of a charter organization," he said. "But whatever, I do, I allow God to guide me, and so far, it's been an amazing ride."

Harold lives in Slidell with his wife of 12 years, Dr. LaTasha K. Clay and two daughters, 19-year-old Jasmine D. Clay and nine-year-old Kaysi M. Clay.

Vigil remembers fallen social worker's spirit, passion to help others

Friends, family and colleagues of Ashley Qualls (MSW '11) gathered on the neutral ground at the corner of Esplanade Ave. and N. Roman St. on Wednesday, July 10 for a somber vigil for a fallen friend and social worker.

Just a day before in the early morning hours, Ashley, who was walking home from work, was shot and killed at the very same intersection. Witnesses told New Orleans police they overheard a woman arguing with three men on bicycles just moments before gunfire rang out. The police have no suspects and have made no arrests in the case.

The vigil, organized by members of the Class of 2011, focused on remembering a friend, classmate and social worker, who was known for her high heels and sharp mind. More than 100 people came to pay their respects at the vigil, and below are some words about Ashley from those who knew her best.



Ashley Qualls

was never anything but earnest and passionate. I mistakenly never conveyed to her how much I admired her. -- Estilla Lightfoot, TSSW Class of 2011

"I want to tell you that I love you, and that you had a heart bigger than the state of South Carolina. It was simply contagious. You sure knew how to spark a healthy debate, and you challenged me to look at things differently. You were great. We're all lighting candles for you but none shine brighter than the one you brought to this earth and to the Tulane School of Social Work. You are gone, but I think you can see that you'll never be forgotten." -- Mychal Grubbs, TSSW Class of 2011

"She was the coolest person I ever met, and she was also the easiest one to like. At graduation, I remember how everyone cheered for Ashley as she walked across the stage, and I know that she felt so much love in that moment from all the friends that she made in graduate school." -- Rachel Roberts, TSSW Class of 2011

"It's not possible to make sense of something so senseless. There are two things that I remember about Ashley – one is her hiking around the school in those high heel stiletto shoes, but what I really remember is her commitment to make the world a better place." -- TSSW Dean Ronald Marks

"There are very few times in my life when I've been rendered speechless. Ashley would attest to that. She had my back, and I had her's. Ashley was the younger sister that I always wanted. Ashley changed me. I am better for having known her." -- Tresha Eaglin, TSSW Class of 2011

"Ashley brought a certain spark to every room she entered that physically electrified everyone around her. Ashley

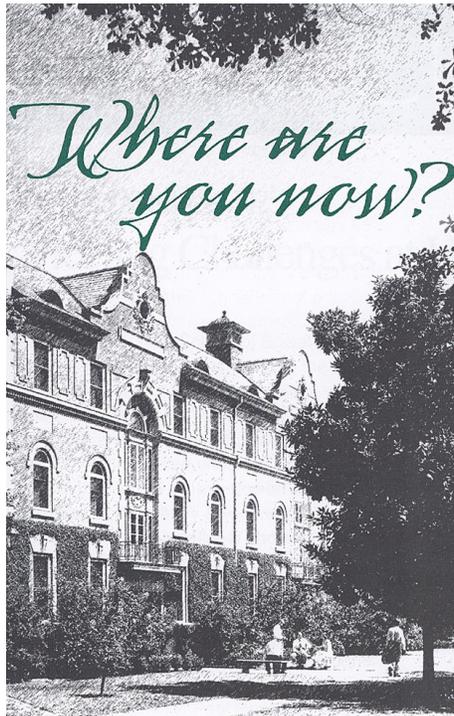


(Top right) A simple wooden cross marks a memorial for Ashley Qualls. (Middle right) Laura Berlinger places candles on the memorial. (Bottom right) Lauren Brogan listens as Adam Dietz plays guitars to open the vigil for Ashley. (Bottom left) Neysa Fanwick lights a candle while holding a photo of Ashley from her graduation. (Photos by Joseph Halm)

Suzy Elliott Lewis Both (MSW '66) currently lives in Hot Springs, Ark., and retired from the Lakeside School District and private practice work in 2006. She earned a second master's degree in psychology. Suzy's first husband, psychiatrist Robert Lewis passed away in 2000, and she re-married in 2004. She has one son, who is an attorney in Rogers, Ark., and three granddaughters.

Sarah Goodman (MSW '11) currently resides in Metairie, La., where she works as a social worker/bereavement and volunteer coordinator for Hospice Associates. She is also a Hospice Associates Foundation Board Member. Sarah recently published an article about hospice care in *Living Well Magazine* and also presented about grief and loss at 2013 NASW Conference in Baton Rouge. She was also happily in attendance during the Dalai Lama's speech at the UNO Lakefront Arena.

Connie Hayden-McPeak (MSW '76) currently lives in Tampa, Fla. After 38 years in the social work field (35 with the Hillsborough County School District, the eighth largest school district in the country), she has recently retired. Most of those 35 years were spent as Coordinator of the Child Find program, where she was responsible for the



identification, screening, assessment and placement of preschool special needs children. She currently volunteers with several social and faith-based agencies and committees. Connie has received several certifications and awards over the years. In 1997, she earned a certification in Educational

Leadership from the University of South Florida. In May of 2012, she received the Dr. Jack R. Lamb Distinguished Leadership Award for "Commitment to Excellence in the Education of Students with Disabilities," and in Jan. 2013, she was recognized by the Early Childhood Council of Hillsborough County for more than 30 years of leadership with the Developmental Screening Program.

Barbara S. Mitchell (PhD '91, MSW '68) currently resides in Covington, La., and works in private practice as well as volunteers at Christwood Retirement Community. She has been a field instructor for TSSW continuously since 1974 and provides supervision of social work, counseling of marriage and family interns and practitioners.

Jeff Yungman (MSW '79) currently lives in Mount Pleasant, S.C., and heads the Crisis Ministries Homeless Justice Project, South Carolina's largest provider of homeless services. A former New Orleans police officer, Jeff relocated to his wife's native South Carolina and became the Crisis Ministries' clinic director in 1999. After passing the bar in 2008, he became the director of the justice project and is believed to be the only full-time attorney working at a homeless shelter in the country.

Graduation a special moment for alumna

When His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama gave Tulane's commencement speech on May 18, it marked a full-circle journey for master of social work alumna Katie Templet.

Templet was one of seven MSW part-time students, who took part in the unified commencement ceremonies.

In September 2012, the Pierre Part, La., native was part of the school's month-long India course that examines the cultural and contextual issues of Tibetan refugees in North India. Students learn about the best social work practices and grow personally through their interaction with the wisdom of the Tibetan people and integrate this into what they have been learning at Tulane.

"I would consider India my first 'hands-on' experience in cultural sensitivity," Templet said. "You learn the term and all about it,

but most people never get to practice their skills by being completely immersed in another culture."

Templet said while other India classes have met His Holiness her class did not, which made commencement that much more special especially considering how much of an affect the India trip had on her current practice as a case manager at Healthy Start – New Orleans.

"My clients come from all types of cultures, and I even have a few who English is their second language," she said. "My experience in India prepared me for working with that population and finding ways to communicate despite a language barrier. On top of that, I actually like what I do because I get to play with kids all day."

Templet earned her bachelor's degree from LSU and moved to New Orleans while she applied for the Peace Corps.



Katie Templet was one of seven part-time students to graduate on May 18. The class also included four Ph.D. students. (Photo by Joseph Halm)

When that didn't work out, she decided to pursue her MSW at Tulane.

"I figured out that I wanted to do child protection, and then figured out it was social work," she said.

**Homecoming 2013 -- Oct. 5 -- 5 to 9 p.m.
Tulane's Lavin-Bernick Student Center**



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