

# Office of Field Instruction Newsletter

Office of Field Instruction  
Fall 2007

Volume 2, Issue 1

## From the Field Director's Desk

by Elizabeth Voshel, MSW, LMSW, ACSW, Assistant Clinical Professor-Director of Field Instruction



Welcome to the second edition of the University of Michigan School Social Work Office of Field Instruction newsletter. I am pleased to share that this edition has been developed and edited by a current

MSW candidate, Sara Gold who is a 2<sup>nd</sup> year 20-month student and who has been working with me in a work-study position this year. She has been fortunate enough to have the assistance of Victoria Smith and Cerise Carrington who are the 2007-08 recipients of the Freud Fellowship. A BIG THANK YOU to all of these fine students for their incredible effort in putting this edition of our bi-annual newsletter together. Our goal remains to publish this once in the Fall and Winter terms and to distribute the newsletter electronically to current students, faculty, field instructors, and staff.

The most important thing that

needs to be accomplished this Fall is to name our newsletter. Therefore we are sponsoring a "Name The Newsletter" contest complete with cool prizes for the winner. Please submit all entries to Sara Gold at [gold-sara@umich.edu](mailto:gold-sara@umich.edu) by January 31, 2008. A winner will be selected in time for the Winter edition of the newsletter.

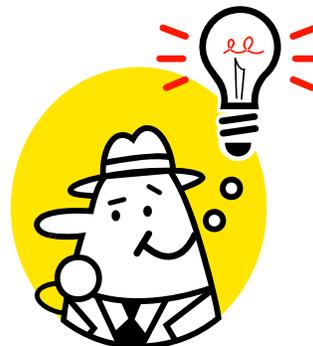
In this edition, we are highlighting OFI's new Administrative Coordinator, our Fall 2007 Foundation Field Seminar Peer Facilitators, a new field liaison, our Freud Fellowship students (who will share what the Freud Fellowship is about), the Office of Global Affairs, the School's recent effort with field-based Collaboratives, and a student generated article about an exciting field placement. We would be pleased to highlight your field placement/field instructor complete with pictures! In this newsletter we have also included an important "Announcements Box"

where you can find information about upcoming OFI and SSW events. Also, please note the information about the School's Board of Governors Award which targets those students planning on completing a national or international field placement during Spring-Summer term. We also have links to valuable sites of interest including the National Association of Social Workers and the State of MI Licensing Board.

Again, thank you for your support of this newsletter. Please help us by soliciting articles of interest for future newsletters. As always, contact me or Sara if you have ideas or want to be involved in the publication efforts.

## Name The Newsletter Contest!

Our newsletter needs a name that reflects the creativity, knowledge and pride that social workers exhibit in the field. "Office of Field Instruction Newsletter" just isn't going to cut it! Please submit ideas to Sara Gold at [gold-sara@umich.edu](mailto:gold-sara@umich.edu) no later than January 31, 2008. We have great School of Social Work prizes for the winner!



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## Meet The Freud Fellows

The Clarice Ullman Freud Fellowship was made possible by a gift from Professor Clarice Ullman Freud who was the Director of Field Instruction while on faculty at the SSW many years ago. The Freud Fellowship in Children and Families was developed to honor students who will take part in an extra project related to field instruction.

**Victoria Smith** Hello, my name is Victoria Smith. I recently graduated from the University of North Carolina at

Greensboro in May 2007 where I received my Bachelor of Arts in Psychology with a minor in Human Development and Family Studies. I am a current student at the University of Michigan where I am pursuing my Masters in Clinical Social Work. My concentration is Interpersonal Practice with Children, Youth, and Families. My future plans are to establish my own clinical private practice. I was honored to receive the Freud Fellowship and appreciate

of the impact that this fellowship has had on my decision to attend this School of Social Work.

**Cerise Carrington** Hello, my name is Cerise Carrington. I am a first year MSW student with a B.S. in Psychology. My concentration is Interpersonal Practice with a practice area in Children and Youth in Families and Society. I also have a minor in Management of Human Services.

## Welcome, Lisa Kelley!!

By Cerise Carrington, MSW Candidate



OFI would like to welcome **Lisa Kelley**, who functions as the Administrative Coordinator for the office. Kelley, who joined the team in June 2007, serves as a support staff for the Office of Field

Instruction. As a graduate of the University of Colorado, Boulder, she brings 20 years of experience in the area of student support services working with undergraduates and high school students

Upon receiving a B.A. in Psychology she began a career in mental health

providing direct patient care and later working with adolescents in an inpatient psychiatric hospital. She then taught health and recreation classes for the Child Bearing Years Program through the Ann Arbor Public Schools Community Recreation and Education program. She later joined the Community High School as Director of the Student Enrichment and Advising Center.

Kelley joined the University of Michigan in 2000 where she has provided student support services within the Student Union Recreation Department, the College of Engineering, the Ross

School of Business, and the Health Sciences Scholars Program.

Lisa's background also includes work in the non-profit human/social service sector. She worked at Helpsource facilitating supervised parenting visits and volunteered in their Teen Parent Mentoring Program.

Lisa comes to SSW with a passion for being a part of a team and wanting to create an open and welcoming environment for students.

Please stop by and welcome Lisa!

## Office of Field Instruction Work Study-Students

By Cerise Carrington and Victoria Smith, MSW Candidates

Wondering who those friendly faces behind the OFI desk are? OFI is lucky to have three undergraduate work study students on staff.

**Reno Rovito** Reno is majoring in Economics with an Italian minor. His work experience at the OFI office has been a positive opportunity. He enjoys the friendly people there, the relaxing atmosphere, and has fun doing his job.

His future plan after graduation is to become a financial analyst at a major business corporation.

**Andrew Campbell** Andrew is majoring in Business. His work experience at the OFI office has been an enjoyable one. Prior to working at the OFI office, Andrew had little knowledge about social work. He says, "It is interesting to see the different field placements

that social workers take." His future plan is to attend graduate school in pursuit of a Masters in Accounting.

**Hannah Briolat** Hannah is a senior with a major in Biology. She plans to participate in the Peace Corps or Americorps before attending medical school.

Thanks to all the work-study students for their hard work!

## U of M Football Players Partner With Christ Child House Kids

By Jacinta Sitto, MSW Candidate



A wonderful program has been implemented at a long standing SSW field placement. Christ Child House is a residential foster care program for boys.

Jacinta Sitto is very excited about the new relationship being forged between the University of Michigan Football Team

and Athletic Department and Christ's Child House. Recently, we coordinated with one of the Assistant Athletic Directors at Michigan, Mrs. Shari Acho, to organize what will become an annual event with our boys. Seventeen of our boys were invited up to the campus for the day to receive the star treatment because of Mrs. Acho and her players' passion and generosity. They were paired with football players and given tours of the campus and athletic facilities. They also had the rare opportunity to speak to Michigan Football players about their own childhood obstacles and losses, and how to succeed in the face of hard times. They discussed the importance of education, a positive attitude, and working with others. The boys enjoyed a pizza lunch with the players, and then were able to play in the privately reserved Michigan Stadium-

an experience they will never forget! It was an incredible day and the boys were truly influenced by their experience, which made it all the more amazing and overwhelming. We are currently working with the athletic department to start 'Monthly Skills Camps' with other University of Michigan teams and our boys, where the boys would have the opportunity to share in learning and building skills in various sports with the players. The department has also expressed an interest in hosting an event for our boys this holiday season. We look forward to continuing to build on this exciting relationship!

Jacinta Sitto is an MSW student placed at Christ Child House, Ann Arbor, MI.



## Thank You, Fall '07 Peer Facilitators!

By Hannah Jensen, MSW Candidate

The Office of Field Instruction continued the Peer Facilitator model this semester with one MSW student pairing with an OFI staff member for each seminar section. Both peers and OFI staff members agree that this model works and students have given positive feedback. Thanks for all your hard work, everyone! This semester's Peers included: **Diane Cavicchioli:** Diane served on the OFI team in the role of Peer Facilitator Coordinator. She and Betsy Voshel were partners in Seminar this term. Her specialties are in Management of Human Services with Children and Youth with a minor in Community Organizing. She is graduating in December 2007 and is engaged to be married. **Sara Gold:** Sara is a

20-month student and will stay on staff with the OFI, as a Project Manager and a Peer Facilitator until April when she will graduate with specialties in Social Policy and Evaluation in Community and Social Systems. For the OFI seminar she works with Warren Clark. **Hannah Jensen:** Hannah is graduating in December 2007 with a degree in Social Policy and Evaluation for Children and Youth in Families and Society, and a minor in Community Organizing. In Seminar she worked with Leigh Robertson. **David Klingman:** David is graduating in December 2007, with his MSW in Interpersonal Practice with Children and Youth. He and Stacey Peterson were partners in Seminar this term. **Sarah Leventhall:** Sarah

worked with Bill Vanderwill this term. She graduates in December 2007 with a specialty in Management of Human Services for Children and Youth in Families and Society. **Jennifer Marshall:** Jennifer is graduating in December 2007 with specialties in Interpersonal Practice with Children and Youth in Families & Society. She and Olivia Kuester were partners this term for field seminar.

The OFI team gratefully acknowledges the incredible contributions that our student peer facilitators have made this past term and wish them great success in their next adventure.

## Our Newest Field Liaison: Beth Sherman

By Cerise Carrington, MSW Candidate



OFI welcomes Beth Sherman, who serves as a field liaison for approximately 25 advanced standing students.

Sherman, Clinical Assistant Professor of Social Work, joined the office in fall 2007. With an MSW degree from the University of Michigan in 1989, she brings experience in the practice with children and youth. She also brings 8

years of experience as a school social worker which she applies to her work in OFI.

She has served as a clinical supervisor, prevention program developer, outpatient therapist, and school social worker. Through these positions she has provided services in various mental health, educational, and child welfare arenas. She has also developed programs for parents of children with mental illnesses as well as children at risk of being expelled from preschool.

As an instructor, she focuses on teaching relevant, best practice, knowledge-based theory and techniques. She currently teaches Social Work in Educational Settings. She is also the faculty coordinator for the School Social Worker Certification Program.

Sherman has noted that her experience as a field liaison has been rewarding. She states that going into the field as a liaison helps her to stay current and more aware of what students are experiencing.

## Field Opportunities with the Office of Global Activities (OGA)

By Victoria Smith, MSW Candidate

Dean Paula-Allen Meares approved a proposal submitted by the International Task Force, chaired by faculty members Mieko Yoshihama and then Edie Lewis, which officially established the Office of Global Activities (OGA) at the School of Social Work in January 2007. Dr. Siri Jayaratne, the Associate Dean of Faculty and Academic Affairs, explains that the International Task Force was created "to signal an institutional commitment to explore how the school can become more of a global entity." The purpose of this office is to "promote the University of Michigan School of Social Work's leadership role, increase student's competencies in global social work practice, and to foster an environment conducive to global social work education and research."

OGA works closely with the Office of Field Instruction to develop international field placements. Students who want to be eligible for an international field placement must:

- Enroll as an Advanced Standing or Out-of-Sequence 16-month student
- Meet one-on-one with OGA

- Select a pre-approved international field placement site
- Complete curriculum and financial aid counseling
- Submit a strong proposal by the determined deadline
- Maintain good standing with their domestic field placement

International field placements are available in the Spring/Summer Term. Students are sent information about the placement process during June before their admit year. Students are notified in early December whether they are approved for an international field placement. Students meet the considerable costs of these field placements by seeking out fellowships, scholarships, and individual fundraising opportunities. The School of Social Work provides funds through the Alumni Board of Governor's Practicum Award.

OGA consulted with about 20 students on field placement and Special Studies prospects in areas such as Ecuador, Ghana, South Korea, and Hong Kong. OGA also held two information sessions during Fall Term, which ex-

plained the process and introduced student speakers who had successfully completed field experiences abroad. OGA expects seven students to complete an international field placement. Six students will go to Costa Rica with SSW faculty member Bob Miller, and one student will go to the University of Melbourne. OGA also expects a few students to pursue Special Studies credits abroad. Frank Zinn, director of OGA, states, "We are taking the first steps in our efforts to formalize and integrate global experiences into the curriculum. It is exciting to see the enthusiasm of students and faculty as we move ahead."

If a student is interested in gaining a global perspective to social work, there are other opportunities available such as volunteering, Special Studies, events, and course work. For further information contact Ziehyun Huh, OGA Program Manager, at

[ssw.oga@umich.edu](mailto:ssw.oga@umich.edu), (734)936-1964

or visit <http://www.ssw.umich.edu/>

[public/OGA/](http://www.ssw.umich.edu/public/OGA/). The Office of Global Activities is located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor in the School of Social Work Building, Room 3751.



## The ARP Collaboratives and Portfolio-Based Learning

By Associate Dean, Mary Ruffolo



Pictured Above: The Gero-Collaborative

Many students, faculty and field instructors are participating in an innovation that focuses on exploring social justice issues by linking learning from the classroom with fieldwork experiences. Four pilot field of practice collaboratives have been working together. Each collaborative involves students, field instructors, and faculty learning together about ways to promote socially just practices. Students are taking on leadership roles in helping us implement the collaboratives. In addition, many students are participat-

ing in integrative/portfolio-based learning seminars. Some students are serving as peer mentors to assist students in developing integrative learning artifacts, especially around social justice themes. This effort is part of our reaffirmation process for the Council on Social Work Education. We would like to thank the students who are participating in these seminars and collaboratives. If you would like to learn more about the ARP Initiative, please contact Mary Ruffolo at [mruffolo@umich.edu](mailto:mruffolo@umich.edu).

## The Board of Governors Practicum Award

The School of Social Work Alumni Board of Governors Practicum Award was established in 2006 to help meet the growing needs of U-M MSW students who pursue out-of-state and international field placements. The Board strongly believes that as our world continues to change, it is becoming increasingly important for social work students to gain a local, national, and international perspective in order to address the

challenges that face our global community.

Multiple Awards of \$500, \$1000 and \$1500 are available.

The BOG Practicum Award will assist students with the following: travel to and from the location of the placement site, room and board, transportation while on site, and professional attire.

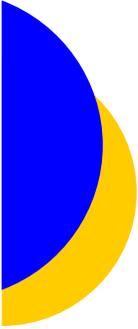
If you have been approved for an out-of-state or international field placement, applications for this award are available now in the OFI and OGA offices.

The application deadline is January 31, 2008.

## Announcements

- **DON'T FORGET!** Pre-Field Training for 16-month students is January 3, 2008 from 8:30am to 4:30pm in the Michigan League. Students will receive field credit for this training and begin their field placements on January 4, 2008.
- **CONGRATULATIONS** to Sallie Foley MSW and LEO Lecturer for receiving the University of Michigan Health Systems (UMHS) "Teacher of the Year Award" Sallie was nominated by the December 2007 graduating MSW class placed at UMHS.
- **REMINDER:** Field Instructor Training for first time field instructors will take place on January 9, 2008. Please RSVP if you will be attending. Fax: 734-763-4885 or Email: [ssw.ofi@umich.edu](mailto:ssw.ofi@umich.edu)
- **CONGRATULATIONS** to all of our international students for a job well done on Social Work International Night. It was a wonderful event!
- **SAVE THE DATE:** Our Spring Agency Fair will be held on March 27, 2008.
- **THE SPRING/SUMMER 2008 FINANCIAL AID** application is available on the Office of Student Services Website: <http://www.ssw.umich.edu/finaid/msw/>
- **CONGRATULATIONS DECEMBER 2007 GRADUATES!!! GOOD LUCK!!!**

*The Office of Field Instruction wishes the Social Work Community a Joyful Holiday Season and A Healthy and Peaceful New Year!!*



## Helpful Links

- University of Michigan School of Social Work [www.ssw.umich.edu](http://www.ssw.umich.edu)
- University of Michigan Office of Field Instruction [www.ssw.umich.edu/ofi](http://www.ssw.umich.edu/ofi)
- National Association of Social Workers (NASW) [www.socialworkers.org](http://www.socialworkers.org)
- Information about Social Work Licensing in Michigan [Michigan Department of Community Health](#)

*“Reach Out, Raise Hope, Change Society”*



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**Sara Gold, MSW Candidate**

**Office of Field Instruction ~ Newsletter Editor**

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