

interaction

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Message from the Director

The 1985-86 academic year has begun with significant administrative changes for the University of Oklahoma and the School of Social Work.

Dr. Frank Horton has been inaugurated as eleventh president of the university. Also, search efforts are under way for the position of provost and dean of arts and sciences (the unit in which the School of Social Work is located). Beginning spring semester I will resign from the school's directorship, and a national search will be undertaken to fill the position. Dr. Julia Norlin will serve as interim director while the search for a permanent director is taking place.

Student enrollment for the 1985-86 academic year is as follows: We have 90 undergraduate majors, 22 first-year full-time graduate students, 75 second-year graduate students and more than 130 part-time

graduate students. A new curriculum for the undergraduate program is being implemented this fall that offers expanded course offerings in several areas, particularly for social work practice courses. The new curriculum will also feature a move to the concurrent practicum design for the undergraduate program.

A particularly significant development is the news that graduate programming in the Tulsa area will be expanded to include the second graduate year through the University Center at Tulsa (UCT) Program. Additional faculty positions have been allocated to the school for this program, and plans call for second-year courses to be in place in Tulsa beginning in the fall 1986. Only the interpersonal services concentration of the curriculum will initially be available to students through the UCT program, but projections are to eventually add the administration/planning concentration course offerings as well.

Faculty recruiting efforts this past year were successful, and the school now employs 16 university-funded

faculty. Research and scholarly activities by our faculty have increased steadily, and our faculty has been well represented in recent national and regional professional meetings. Members of our faculty have also been quite active in service to social work associations, boards and service organizations. Last but not least, quality teaching remains the top priority for our faculty as evidenced by continued improvements in our curriculum and individual efforts in course preparation and presentation.

I have enjoyed the opportunity to work with you as the school's director. Please accept my sincere thanks to all of you for your support and assistance throughout these past six years. It has indeed been a memorable experience. Following a sabbatical leave to Australia, I will rejoin the faculty to assume teaching duties next fall and look forward to continued associations with you in my new professorial role at the school.

Kenneth R. Wedel

Dr. Richek to Retire

Dr. Herbert G. Richek will retire at the end of the spring semester 1986. He will conclude an active association with the OU School of Social Work that began in 1964. Over the years hundreds of students have come to know, love and respect Dr. Richek. All of you are being asked to participate in activities designed to recognize and honor him.

Dr. Francis J. Peirce has agreed to coordinate the testimonial for Dr. Richek. Tentative plans include a daylong symposium in honor of Dr. Richek. The content of the program will consist of papers by former stu-

dents and colleagues focused on the topic, "What I Learned from Herb, and How It Is Expressed in Practice." Former students are invited to submit short papers on this subject. These will be presented throughout the day with a response by Dr. Richek at the conclusion. A testimonial "roast" is planned for lunch.

Dr. Peirce is soliciting help with planning and welcomes paper proposals. This event is tentatively scheduled for March or April. Planned activities include fund raising and developing a book of papers and testimonial letters.

For further information, contact Dr. Peirce at the school (405) 325-1407 or (405) 275-6543 at his office in Shawnee.

School Activities

The second annual Social Work Day in September featured Dr. Carlton Munson, who has published extensively on various social work subjects. He is one of the leading authorities on supervision in social work.

The afternoon featured a panel discussion on issues of confidentiality in social work practice. The panel members included Dr. Munson, Judge Alan Couch, attorneys David Rambo, Stephen Jones, Dan Gibbons and moderator Peg Doty.

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Message from the Director

Since we last talked, much has happened at the School. The three most significant happenings were: reaffirmation of accreditation, building renovation, and hiring a new faculty person. We received the full seven year accreditation cycle but were asked to do an interim report (focused mostly on resources). Prior to the funding crises for higher education, we had been targeted by the College to receive additional resources, i.e., four or five new faculty positions over the next five years, a new secretary, and increased maintenance and operations budget. With current funding levels, we are unsure what will happen. We remain optimistic and Dean Rufus Fears of the College of Arts and Sciences is very supportive of the School.

Rhyme Hall has been renovated and an elevator has been added. This summer, some classrooms and faculty offices are scheduled to be added to the University's central heat and air system. This is a major addition since window air conditioning units are noisy and the noise is difficult to teach over. Also in the winter, rooms with window units are difficult to heat. The building really looks good—new paint, refinished walls and baseboards, and the basement leak may be fixed. We encourage you to come by and visit. We are most pleased.

In the past four years we have added six new faculty: Don Baker, Martha Wilson, Steve Wells, Jay Memmott, Gloria Aguilar, and this fall we will add June Allen Pegues. The additions were the result of filling open positions and we are now up to full complement. This means that we can begin to settle into long-term teaching assignments (longer than one year) and new leadership arrangements and assignments. Faculty have anticipated this situation for a long time and the coming year should be relaxed, routine and a time when we can focus on research and teaching. We will have two faculty members on sabbatical leave in the spring, Dr. Ho and Dr. Tolliver, and Dr. Anderson has taken a year's leave of absence to complete some responsibilities in Botswana. The spring semester will leave us a little short handed. Elsewhere, we will introduce you to June Allen Pegues.

A good deal of faculty research is being proposed and is being done at the School. Our next edition of *Interaction* will describe faculty's research and scholarship efforts.

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Introduction of New Faculty

Since the last publication of *Interaction*, two members have joined the OU School of Social Work faculty, Dr. Gloria Aguilar and Dr. Jay Memmott.

In the short time that Dr. Aguilar has been here, she has managed to make significant contributions. For example, Dr. Aguilar is an assistant professor with teaching responsibilities for the undergraduate students in: Integrative Field Seminar, Social Welfare Policies, Women and Violence, and Cultural Diversity. In addition to the teaching load, Dr. Aguilar is also the Undergraduate Program Coordinator, pre-advising all new and prospective majors.



Dr. Gloria Aguilar

Dr. Aguilar was most recently Assistant Professor and Director of the Social Work Program at East Texas State University where she managed all aspects of the Social Work Program in addition to teaching both undergraduate and graduate level courses. Prior to the Director's post, Dr. Aguilar served as the Field Coordinator which required her to select and evaluate social service agencies for potential field placements and act as liaison between the agencies and the school.

Dr. Aguilar's academic experience includes: a BA in Sociology from the University of Texas, Austin, a BS in Psychology from the University of Houston, a MSSW from the University of Texas, and her DSW from the University of California, Berkeley. Throughout her academic career, Dr. Aguilar has participated in research and publishing in areas concerning, but not limited to: developmental disabilities, child welfare, case management and teaching in the social work curriculum. Dr. Aguilar's article, "Jane—A Victim of Prader Willi Syndrome and the System" in the May '90 issue of *Social Work* is an example of her latest work.

Dr. Aguilar is a popular speaker and presenter at conferences and workshops where she relates material on a variety of topics

to audiences. Within the last few years, Dr. Aguilar has participated in no fewer than six refereed presentations and numerous workshops. Her topics for last year alone included: "Writing Across the Curriculum: Its Application to Social Work Education", "Family Violence" and "Family Assessment". Dr. Aguilar's community service is not limited to conferences and symposia; in addition, she serves on the Board of Directors for three organizations—The Association of Baccalaureate Program Directors, the Oklahoma Committee for Prevention of Child Abuse and OK PACE. Dr. Aguilar's interest in training students for the child welfare field prompted her to write a grant which resulted in stipends for two undergraduate and three graduate students with interests in that population.

Dr. Aguilar and her husband, Obert Fittji, a psychologist at the Goddard Health Center, have one son, six year old Benjamin. Dr. Aguilar spends time each week at Benjamin's school, Truman Elementary, tutoring first and second graders in math and reading. After school, Dr. Aguilar serves as a Cub Scout Coach for Benjamin's troop, the Tigers. Weekends will find the family at the movies if there are no ballet performances scheduled around town.

At the moment, Dr. Aguilar has turned her considerable energies toward a short-term goal of bringing the concept of political action into the classroom through her contacts with OK PACE. What does she have planned for the future?... Dr. Gloria Aguilar, Dean, As-Yet-To-Be-Named School of Social Work.



Dr. Jay Memmott

Dr. Jay Memmott serves two primary functions at the University: teaching Social Group Work, Human Behavior in the Social Environment and Psychosocial Aspects of Alcohol and Drug Abuse to both undergraduates and graduate level students; and secondly, as Acting Coordinator of the Practicum Program. Dr. Memmott is responsible for placing each student in a setting advantageous for both the student and the agency. The Practicum Coordinator is also responsible for selecting and evaluating each practicum agency, acting as a liaison between the agency and the school, and providing training for practicum instructors. As a part of Dr. Memmott's professional obligations, he maintains a consultant position (Director of Professional Services) to Integrated HealthCare Services, Inc. of St. Louis, Missouri, and a small private practice at The Family Center, Norman where he also supervises practicum students.

Dr. Memmott came to OU from the University of Kansas where he was an instructor in the area of Human Behavior

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Indian Child Welfare Project Activities

Project staff have been busy completing activities associated with one Department of Health and Human Services grant and getting a new grant under way. The first grant was a research collaboration with Three Feathers Associates of Norman, which focused on the administration of Indian child welfare programs and the development of curricula focused in this area. Two national surveys were conducted during the course of the grant. One survey sought a variety of information about ICW programs and personnel, while the second survey solicited information from accredited schools of social work about specialized recruitment and retention activities targeting Native American students. Findings from these surveys were presented at the 1990 Annual Program Meeting of the Council on Social Work Education [Dr. Ken Wedel and Antonio Dobrec (Three Feathers Associates)], and the 1989 National Association of Social Workers annual conference [Dr. Wedel, Dr. Gary Davis (Indian Health Service), and Dale Wares]. An additional presentation was given at the 1991 C.S.W.E. Annual Program Meeting [Dr. Wedel, Antonio Dobrec (TFA), Terri Metscher, and Greg Gomez (D.H.H.S.)].

Activities associated with this grant culminated in a National Institute organized by the project staff, "Developing Linkages for the Future: Indian Child Welfare and Schools of Social Work" met October 13-14 in Oklahoma City. Approximately 60 people attended including faculty of schools of social work, ICW administrators, and social work

students. Proceedings from this institute are currently being edited for publication.

Another publication soon to be completed by project staff is a guide to social work education for Native American students. The schools most active in serving Native American students will be profiled in this booklet. Information about each school of interest to prospective students such as application deadlines, availability of financial aid, support services, etc. is included.

The second grant is a child welfare in-service training grant that will develop and deliver training jointly targeted to both Indian child welfare and state child welfare practitioners. The focus will be on joint case management at the interface between the two systems in cases where the Indian Child Welfare Act is applicable.

Work on this grant got under way in October, and picked up steam in January when the school hosted representatives from schools of social work in the five target states. In attendance were representatives of Arizona State University, New Mexico State University, University of California-Berkeley, University of Washington, and East Central University. Current efforts are under way to establish advisory committees at the collaborating schools of social work. Project staff will develop a needs assessment instrument and conduct a telephone needs assessment of state and ICW programs in the target states. Data obtained will be utilized to develop in-service training curricula, which will then be delivered in the target states.

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such as Adult Life Cycles, Human Behavior in the Social Environment, and Helping with Alcohol and Drug Abuse Problems. Dr. Memmott's involvement in the academic area was augmented by field work ranging from Directorship of Hospice Care, Lawrence, Kansas to the Acting Managing Editor of *Journal of Social Welfare*, the University of Kansas' social work newsletter. His work as a research assistant on several projects, primarily related to the mental health field, constituted further valuable experience that Dr. Memmott brings with him to our school and area.

Dr. Memmott received his M.S.W., with honors, from the School of Social Welfare, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas before completing the requirements for his Ph.D. in Social Work (with honors) from the same institution. Dr. Memmott's research, publications and service during his academic career have included such areas as: Professional Standards for NASW members, Hospice Advisory Committee, work as a member of the Social Work Advisory Committee to the Kansas Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board, and improvement of service delivery to the chronically and persistently mentally ill.

Since making his home in Norman, Dr. Memmott has contributed to the community in several ways: membership on several committees within the School of Social Work, work on the University Prevention Council (a body concerned with the development and implementation of substance abuse policies for the University), work on the Mayor's Task Force Against Drugs, and input to the Governor's Academic Subcommittee, Child and Family Coalition, an entity which identifies issues of social welfare in order to provide information to the legislative, public and academic populations of Oklahoma. During the past year alone, Dr. Memmott has been honored by the University with a Summer Faculty Instructional Award, co-authored an article on Natural Helping in Rural Areas for Spring/Summer publication in *Social Work Research & Abstracts*, was featured speaker at the First Annual Oklahoma Association on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse, and presented at no fewer than six workshops and seminars.

Dr. Memmott and his wife, Noell, a part-time substitute teacher and officer in the New Sooners organization, have an eleven year old daughter, Jenny. The Memmott home is definitely musically inclined: Dr. Memmott plays guitar after a college career in the pep band, orchestra and marching band playing the tuba, Mrs. Memmott is an accomplished pianist and Jenny has already taken state-wide honors for her talents at the piano keys.

Since any self-respecting social worker functions best with goals, Dr. Memmott's future plans include: tenure!

Welcome! To Dr. June Pegues... Newest Member of the Faculty

Dr. June Pegues (Pah *geese*) has just accepted an appointment to the OU School of Social Work as an Associate Professor for the Fall '91 semester. Dr. Pegues, most recently the Director of the Social Work Program at Delta State University, Cleveland, Mississippi, will primarily teach direct practice courses.

Dr. Pegues' extensive teaching experience and varied practice experience will compliment the current faculty's expertise. For example, Dr. Pegues has worked as an Adoption worker, a County Supervisor, and as a Child Welfare Worker for the Mississippi Department of Public Welfare.

Dr. Pegues is expected to arrive in Norman around August 1 with her husband, James C. (Jim), and her two children, James Allen (11 years old), and Susan Scott (14 years old).

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Africans are Africans. And then, Dr. Anderson provides a discourse on the British contribution to civilization—the tea break. As we understand it, the electric tea kettle is a prized possession. Dr. Anderson has suggested we copy the University of Botswana's policy of a tea between the hours of 10:00 am and 11:00 am wherein all the faculty would congregate for tea, scones, biscuits and polite discussions. Stories of departmental meetings convening on Friday afternoons at 2:30 with a twenty-minute break at 3:30 for tea with toasted, grated cheese sandwiches are a little hard to believe in the first place. When we are given to understand that those meetings politely and productively continue until 5:00 pm, we feel compelled to at least do a feasibility study. What a wonderful experience for Dr. Anderson!

THE BAD NEWS (for us) IS: He gets to do all this and more for a second year! That's right, Dr. Anderson's Fulbright Fellowship has been extended for a year and the University of Oklahoma's (temporary) loss is the University of Botswana's gain. Best of luck, Dr. Anderson. We miss him, of course, but we're all happy he has this once in-a-lifetime opportunity.