Grant Awards Increase

Centro de Evaluacion: U.S./Mexico Border Health Evaluation and Technical Assistance Center - David Barney, principal investigator, University of Oklahoma, receives $2.4 million grant from DHHS. The DHHS-Health Resources and Services Administration, HIV/AIDS Bureau, Special Projects of National Significance (SPNS), has awarded a grant to David Barney, assistant professor at the School of Social Work, University of Oklahoma, to establish a centralized evaluation center responsible for coordinating a comprehensive multi-site evaluation of five demonstration service projects along the U.S./Mexico border. The Centro de Evaluación will examine the "cross-cutting" issues which all of the projects must address to enable successful delivery of HIV/AIDS care services along the border. These issues may include concerns about limited English proficiency, the influences of poverty, a trans-border population that often receives much of their medical care in Mexico, and a population that is composed approximately of 40% migrant workers who travel frequently throughout the United States. The co-investigators on this project are Herman Curiel at the University of Oklahoma and Kurt Organista and Michael Tarter at the University of California at Berkeley.

Additionally, HRSA SPNS has made awards to a total of five demonstration service projects along the U.S./Mexico border from San Diego to Brownsville, Texas. The objectives of the service awards are to implement unique models of HIV/AIDS care for high-risk populations living on the U.S./Mexico border. These models are developed to be responsive to regional issues that are relevant to the local area where the demonstration project is located. Each regional demonstration service project has been required to subcontract with a local university to conduct a local evaluation that identifies the effectiveness of the local model. Additionally, each demonstration project is (Grants - continued on page 3)

Wayne Chess Retires

When Wayne Chess came to the University of Oklahoma in 1969, he planned to stay for only three or four years. He retired from the School of Social Work in May 2000. He and his wife, Nancy, had left Ohio where they had grown up and where he had a most successful career in mental health services. Chess was part of a small group of national experts in comprehensive mental health and mental retardation planning that helped to build state comprehensive mental health systems. He reported directly to the Ohio governor and was on a "fast track" for Washington, D.C. But he was surprised at how he enjoyed teaching and how much he liked Oklahoma, where there was still ready access to power and power brokers. At some point, he forgot about Washington.

During the next 31 years he became a highly productive scholar with a strong portfolio of externally funded research. (Chess - continued on page 5)
Practicum Academy Certification Workshop
at the Westin Hotel on December 8, 2000

The next practicum academy certification workshop will be held at the Westin Hotel in Oklahoma City on Dec. 8. Workshop registration will begin at 8 a.m. The Westin Hotel is located in downtown Oklahoma City across from the Myriad Convention Center and the new Renaissance Hotel.

The workshop is designed to give practicum instructors specific tools to use as they guide students through their field experience. Workshop general sessions and breakout meetings will cover topics including legal issues in the field, ethical dilemmas in the practicum, professionalizing child welfare services, integrating the curriculum into the practicum, and the practicum in gerontological settings. In addition, there will be a panel presentation regarding tools for supervision.

Presenters from the School of Social Work will include Eunice McDowell, Stephen Anderson, Virginia Olds, Kenneth Wedel, Sandra Edge-Boyd, Jeanette Davidson and students. Agency presenters include Cyd Roberts, Traci Bartley, Terry Masters, Judy Crane, Jennifer Jobe, Kristen Hoggard, Amber Kelly, Shanna Hayes, and Roslyn Jones. The featured presenter on legal issues will be Nancy Prigmore, who serves on the faculty of Northwestern Oklahoma State University and holds both MSW and JD degrees.

Participation in the workshop is free and people are asked to register in advance. Please contact Diane Freeman at the School of Social Work for a registration form. Freeman can be contacted by telephone at 405-325-2821 or by e-mail at dffreeman@ou.edu. Participants are asked to register no later than Dec. 1.

Application for six clock hours has been made to the Oklahoma State Board of Licensed Social Workers. Former practicum coordinator Stephen Anderson will be in charge of the practicum program pending the hiring of a new practicum coordinator. If you have practicum concerns, contact him at (405) 325-1405 or sanderson@ou.edu.

"The importance of the practicum in social work education cannot be overstated. Under the tutelage of experienced social workers, students learn how to integrate classroom knowledge and theory with a practice experience."

The Director's Corner

Greetings from the director's office. I am proud to take this opportunity to summarize the recent accomplishments, changes and developments at the School. Accomplishments have been many, as you will see reported throughout this issue of Interaction. Faculty, students and recent graduates have secured competitive national, state and University research and training grants. The School's web site has been upgraded with a very professional look. An improved environment surrounding Rhyme Hall includes landscaping, a historical marker recognizing J.J. Rhyme, and a beautiful sign at Jenkins Avenue identifying the School. Significant personnel changes can be noted as well. After 31 years as a faculty member at the School and 15 years as director, Julia Norlin will retire in May. Wayne Chess retired in May 2000. Alberta Dooley accepted a faculty position in Chico, Ca. and Louanna Law has relocated to southern California. They will be missed.

Needless to say, current developments include faculty recruitment for a director and tenure-line faculty for the Norman campus and Tulsa program site. Beginning next fall, a cohort of approximately 20 advanced standing graduate students will be added to the Tulsa program site. Another development is the formation of a Board of Visitors for the School. The Board will assist in identifying opportunities for future development. These are exciting times. I welcome your thoughts and suggestions.

Wedel Named Interim Director

Julia Norlin, long serving faculty member and director of the School for the last 15 years, announced in June that she will step down from the director's position effective Aug. 1, 2000, and retire from the University in May 2001. After making her announcement, Paul Bell, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, announced the appointment of former director of the School, Kenneth Wedel, as the interim director. The dean's office will coordinate the undertaking of a national search to fill the position. The vacancy announcement can be viewed on the School's Web site: www.ou.edu/socialwork.

In Memoriam
Jane Baxter (MSW 41)
Eloise Reynolds
Staff Emeritus
Ruth Dropkin, ACSW
Geri Swindell (MSW 87)
Title IV-E Update

The Public Child Welfare Academic and Professional Enhancement Program is entering its seventh year. Due to the positive working agreement between the Department of Human Services and the University of Oklahoma, child welfare trainees received their first check on August 31, as opposed to December 31, during our first year of operation. More than 260 students have participated in the program, with 44 DHS employees completing their MSW degrees and returning to employment. Survey data collected by Elaine Waters indicate that more than 75% of the Title IV-E students entering employment as child welfare specialists have maintained employment with the Department of Human Services to date.

All participating schools continue to be actively recruiting for the program. The numbers of trainees accepted for the 2000-2001 school year are as follows:
- East Central-14
- Northeastern State-10
- Oral Roberts-15
- OU
  - 18 non-DHS
  - 18 DHS (two full scholarships)
- Current statewide total number of trainees-65
- Pending applications-10 (non-DHS)

The program expects to have an excellent year with Title IV-E and continues to grow statewide. This type of agency/University partnership has strong support at both the regional and national level.

Title IV-E New Staff

The School is pleased to welcome senior program development specialist, Kevin Carter, MSW, LSW, as Title IV-E Program staff. Carter is a 1993 graduate of Howard University and is a licensed social worker with a clinical specialty. His practice experience encompasses work with children and families. Prior to moving to Oklahoma last April, Carter was children's program coordinator at Big Bend Hospice of Tallahassee, Fla. While there, he developed and managed programs that provided counseling, education and support services for more than 5,000 children, teens and adults. He also has experience as a youth counselor, family support counselor, youth shelter supervisor and substance abuse counselor.

Through his private practice in Florida, Carter provided training and program development expertise for community agencies, primarily in the areas of grief and loss and cultural diversity. His prior academic experience includes teaching at Florida State University's, School of Social Work, where he taught classes in social networking and case management to both BSW and MSW students, and an adjunct faculty at Florida A&M University, where his courses included children and the law and social work practice.

Carter is currently serving as practicum instructor for Title IV-E students in Cleveland county. Additional duties include serving as liaison for several child welfare practicum sites, assisting with program development, and teach child welfare elective classes.

Grants, continued from page 1

required to participate in the comprehensive multi-site evaluation coordinated by the Centro de Evaluación.

Approximately 300 clients will be recruited annually through service activities at the demonstration service projects. Generally, there are two major foci of the demonstration projects. The first is to improve access to HIV/AIDS care through the use of local, culturally relevant models that use indigenous workers to conduct outreach activities. These activities are designed to reduce barriers for access to HIV/AIDS care. The second focus is on using innovative and culturally relevant models of case management to support the effectiveness of primary medical care for HIV-infected individuals.

This Centro de Evaluación has adopted a matrix design for the multi-site evaluation that requires each of the demonstration service projects to provide client-level data on certain components of its intervention. Instruments will be developed by the demonstration projects to measure the components of their service delivery models.

The primary evaluation research question for this study will be the HRSA Ryan White evaluation question number 3: "To what extent are RWCA programs providing services that remove barriers to primary care access so as to ensure that clients enter into and remain in care?" To address this question, a preliminary model, based upon the theoretical work of Andersen and Newman, has been constructed for testing. The evaluation center will utilize quantitative variables in the matrix to examine (via structural equation models) what influences individuals to enter into HIV/AIDS primary care, and, also, what influences individuals to stay in primary care. Additional information may be obtained by visiting the Web site at www.ou.edu/ border.

Child Welfare Supervisors

Training Program for American Indian Tribal Agencies in the Southern United States - David Barney, principal investigator, University of Oklahoma. The U.S. DHHS-Administration on Children and Families has awarded a three-year $600,000 grant to the University of Oklahoma to assess the training needs of Indian child welfare supervisors, develop a curriculum that addresses the intricacies involved in working with state and tribal courts in the management of Indian child welfare cases, and conduct training seminars for ICWA supervisors. The pro-
Notes from the Chair of Direct Practice — Jeanette Davidson

This is the time to celebrate our May 2000 graduates. This is a group of professionals committed to ongoing support of the School, as exemplified by those who have agreed to co-present a workshop with the concentration chair, Jeanette Davidson. This workshop will be held as part of the Practicum Academy Certification Workshop to be held Dec. 8 at the Westin Hotel. Graduate’s participating in the workshop include: Judy Crain, Shanna Hayes, Kristen Hoggard, Roslyn Jones, Ampile Kelly, and Jennifer Kelly. It is also time to celebrate our current students who are pursuing their degrees and opportunities to contribute to our profession.

The recent losses of Alberta Dooley and Louanna Law highlight that we are in a time of rebuilding in the School as a whole and in particular the direct practice concentration. We are excited about hiring new direct practice faculty for next year, in both Tulsa and Norman, and welcome the fresh energy and contributions that they will bring. We look forward to bringing in accomplished, positive, new faculty who are inspired to work together with those of us who are already here in order to make our program the best it can be. We invite all of you to keep in touch and to let us know your thoughts about ways you would like to see the direct practice concentration develop.

"Five second-year MSW students have been recognized as Social Work Aging Program Scholars and will be receiving $5,000 scholarships for the 2000-2001 academic year."

Social Work Aging Program

The Social Work Aging Program is preparing social workers to provide essential services for older persons in Oklahoma. SWAP obtained funding for continuing gerontology education for its second year at the School from the University Hospital Trust (UHT) in conjunction with the Donald W. Reynolds Department of Geriatric Medicine.

The course “Critical Issues in Aging” has been added to the School’s fall schedule. Sandra Edge-Boyd, SWAP director, and Jane Carney, director of Gerontology at Oklahoma City Community College, are teaching the course. Fifteen students are participating.

Five second-year MSW students have been recognized as Social Work Aging Program scholars and will be receiving $5,000 scholarships for the 2000-2001 academic year. The scholars are: Sheila Carpenter, Juli Compton, Amanda Estes, Christine Fogle, and Kimber Gipson. They will engage in research on aging issues relating to social work practice in Oklahoma and will participate in practicums in direct and administrative/community practice related to older persons. They will also be involved in other educational opportunities and courses to prepare them for their careers.

Grant Awards Increase, continued from page 3

The project will work with tribal ICWA programs throughout the Southwest (Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and Southern California). Tribal agencies that have signed letters of collaboration include the All Indian Pueblo Council, Zuni Pueblo and Santa Clara Pueblo in New Mexico, Chickasaw Nation, Muscogee Creek Nation and Cherokee Nation in Oklahoma, Navajo Nation and Hopi Tribe in Arizona and Native American Family Services in Kansas. As the program is developed, other tribal communities will be invited to participate. Co-investigators for this project are Patti Flanagan and Stephen Anderson. The curriculum will be evaluated for its effectiveness and modified to improve its quality and relevance to the ICWA supervisors needs and experiences. The final curriculum will be disseminated to ICWA programs nationwide. Additional information may be obtained by visiting the Web site at http://faculty-staff.ou.edu/B/ David.D.Barney-1/ICWA.htm.

Partner Violence Prevention Program for Latinos - David Barney, Evaluator, University of Oklahoma. The DHHS Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has awarded a three-year grant to the Latino Community Development Center of Oklahoma City to develop and implement a domestic violence prevention program for the Latino community. This is the only grant awarded nationally to a Hispanic agency under this CDC initiative. The LCDA has partnered with OU’s David Barney to conduct the evaluation activities related to the program. The evaluation is funded at $150,000 for the duration of the project. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the Web site at http://faculty-staff.ou.edu/B/David.D.Barney-1/.
Chess Retires, continued from page 1

During the 1980s, he began a writing partnership with Siri Jayaratne that resulted in 15 years of job satisfaction research and produced twenty-three articles and two book chapters. This research on job stress and strain earned national and international attention and respect. The University was honored when he was invited by Italy’s Laboratory for Social Policy Studies to discuss his research on burnout for the Worldnet Video Conference. The program was broadcast live to 45 European and 12 African cities. He further distinguished himself and the University when he was invited to lunch with President Jimmy Carter to discuss his research in the area of social welfare.

Chess continued to engage in research and to publish. He co-authored one of the most widely used textbooks in his field. His pioneer work in social systems and its applications to the field of social work did much to establish the School of Social Work as a forerunner in this area. Further, the “social systems perspective” shaped the professional work of many agencies and social workers in the state.

Integral to Chess’s approach to practice was his commitment to social change—particularly his commitment to the exercise of individual rights. He organized and chaired Oklahoma’s Abortion Action Committee that led to a change in Oklahoma’s abortion laws. He served on the Oklahoma coordination committees that led to legalization of para-mutual betting and liquor by the drink. In Norman he organized and chaired Citizens for Responsible Growth, a group concerned with growth on the east side of Norman that threatened Lake Thunderbird as a water and recreational resource. The effects of that group’s efforts are still being felt in Norman and the surrounding communities.

A staunch and hard-working member of the faculty, he provided leadership to the “Societal Services Concentration” which later became the “Administrative and Community Practice Concentration.” Many of the state’s agency directors and managers graduated from this concentration and are now shaping service delivery to the state’s most vulnerable citizens. For more than 15 years, he served as coordinator of Social Work advanced programs and as graduate coordinator. During these years, he helped to write four successful re-accreditation self studies. For his many contributions to the profession, he was honored by the NASW-OK as Social Worker of the Year in 1973.

Above all, students and colleagues will long remember him as a gifted and dedicated teacher, an exceptional scholar and a distinguished leader in his profession whose work enhanced the School, the University and the entire profession of social work. An endowed scholarship has been established in his honor to support future generations of students.

Social Work Aging, continued from page 4

for practice in aging, including a presentation at the academy for practicum instructors to be held in December.

Funding for these scholarships comes from the grant from UHT and from a $20,000 grant from the John A. Hartford Foundation. Grant funds will also provide for other competitive awards and scholarships for undergraduate and first-year MSW students who specialize in aging. These will be awarded during the spring semester.

A new mentoring program is another new initiative of SWAP’s second year. Social workers and other professionals in the community who have expertise in gerontology are being matched with students who are interested in a career in aging. Mentors will provide another source of education experience for students and offer professional consultation and career guidance.

The School recognizes that Oklahoma needs many more social workers with special abilities in assisting older persons. The Social Work Aging Program is reviewing curriculum materials and will be making recommendations for additions to the foundation courses to ensure that all students earning the degree of Masters of Social Work have met essential educational objectives relating to older persons. Edge-Boyd is grateful to School alumni and community members of the SWAP consortium for their efforts on behalf of student education.
Alumni News

- Liz Wiinamki (MSW 94) received her Ph.D. from the University of Tennessee in 1997. She is now on the faculty of Juniata College and can be reached via her Web site http://faculty.juniata.edu/wiinamaki/

- Anne Kozlowsk (MSW 94) graduated from OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine with a doctor of osteopathy last May. She is planning on specializing in radiology.

- Scott Draughon (MSW 92) was elected to serve on the Oklahoma Human Rights Commission. He also passed the alternative certification examination for Oklahoma educators as a school counselor and social studies teacher.

- Debbie (Gulick) McElroy (MSW 85) is currently in medical social work in Tampa, Fla. She is a co-author of "Team effort targets avoidable hospital days" published in the November 1999 Bulletin of the American College of Surgeons.

- Regina Green (MSW 96) won the "New Worker of the Year" award from the National Kidney Foundation. She is in nephrology social worker and lives in Wisconsin.

- Marla Martin Hanley (BSW 76; MSW 77) completed her Ph.D. in 1992 and is currently associate professor and director of Field Education at the College of St. Catherine & University of St. Thomas School of Social Work in St. Paul, Minnesota.

- Joe Horton (MSW 95) is engaged in a private practice involved with the NFL's program on substance abuse and works as a hospital based social worker in St. Louis, Mo.

- Amy Wells (MSW 98) is resource coordinator for Sooner Start, a program

- Daryl Bozine (MSW 00) was selected as a winner of the 2000 Graduate Student Research Session in the area of Science and Engineering.

- As part of this newsletter, we would like to highlight the work of our graduates. Please send newsletter material to the editor and include the year you graduated.