

LAURIER

Faculty of Social Work



Welcome to the Faculty of Social Work

I would like to welcome the Faculty of Social Work students, staff, and faculty to the beginning of another academic year. And what an exciting year this is going to be! From October 2010 to October 2011, Wilfrid Laurier University will be celebrating 100 years of academic excellence. Throughout the year the Laurier community will be invited to participate in a wide range of events that will celebrate the university's past, present and future. I encourage you to take part in these



events and share in this exciting milestone.

The Faculty of Social Work has been a part of the Laurier history for the past 45 years. This year's cohort is going to add to the great and ongoing story of FSW. For 2010-2011 we welcome:

- 6 PhD students
- 27 advanced standing full-time students
- 91 two-year full-time students
- 30 advanced standing part-time students
- 11 Aboriginal Field of Study full-time students
- 17 Aboriginal Field of Study part-time students

I wish each of you all the best in your studies and practicum experiences this year.

Susan Cadell
Acting Dean

People on the Move

Please welcome Funke Oba who has accepted the position of FSW Practicum Coordinator. She begins her duties Monday October, 4. Funke is replacing Joan Leeson. Joan is now working part-time as Associate Practicum Coordinator.

Karen Frensch, Research Project Manager, Partnerships for Children and Families Project is on maternity leave. Dr. Trudy SmitQuosai, Supervisor, Research Projects is replacing Karen.

Lynne Jordan, Coordinator: Professional Development and Alumni Relations is on maternity leave. Roberta Ellington will be replacing Lynne.

Cheryl-Anne Cait has taken on the position of Associate Dean MSW Program.

Marina Morgenshtern and Diana Norgaard have been appointed lecturers. Nick Coady, Professor, is on sabbatical. Nick will return in January 2011.

FSW launches Professional Development calendar

Due to the hard work of Lynne Jordan, the Coordinator of Professional Development and Alumni Relations and the Professional Development Advisory committee, the Faculty of Social Work has produced its first Professional Development Calendar. Lynne has been collecting suggestions and feedback from faculty, alumni, community agencies and past program participants to better understand the continuing education and learning needs of those in the helping professions – social work, social services, healthcare, education, pastoral care and music therapy – to name a few.

Some of the courses have been offered in the past, such as Core Counselling Skills, Redeveloping Secure Adult Attachment and An

Introduction to Single Session Counselling but the majority of courses are new. We are offering courses about violence in the workplace, loss, grief and bereavement, Mindfulness-based Cognitive Therapy, play therapy, Equine Facilitated Experiential Learning and music therapy. This is just a sampling of the courses on offer for 2010/2011. The full calendar is available through the Faculty of Social Work website at https://www.wlu.ca/homepage.php?grp_id=1690.

All our courses are facilitated by highly qualified, knowledgeable instructors with considerable experience in their area of expertise.

We look forward to seeing you in our Professional Development program this year.

If you have an event you would like to have included in the newsletter email Roberta Ellington at rellington@wlu.ca or call her at (519) 884-0710 ext. 5265.

AFS Conference

The MSW Aboriginal Field of Study is pleased to host its 4th Annual Conference. The Wholistic Healing Practice Student Conference takes place November 16th and 17th from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Faculty of Social Work.

Each day begins with a keynote speech with workshops and presentations throughout the day. More information will be available in the October newsletter. If you have any questions please contact Kathy Absolon at kabsolon@wlu.ca.

PhD Student attends Summer Institute on gender and health

In July Bharati Sethi, a doctoral candidate at the Faculty of Social Work, attended the Institute of Gender and Health Summer Institute which was sponsored by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. Participants in the Summer Institute had the opportunity to increase their understanding of methods for health, sex and gender research as well as network with other researchers and mentors from across the country. Forty of the top gender, sex and health graduate students and post-doctoral fellows from across Canada joined seven mentors, all experts in their field, for a week-long training session that culminated in a poster session where trainees presented their research proposal to the group.

Participants attended lectures and participated in multidisciplinary group activities that addressed a variety of health issues. Bharati's research used an intersectional research paradigm that recognizes multiple and intersecting issues that impact the health and well-being of

racialized women such as race, class, migration, culture and a woman's status in the family to explore how South Asian women's employment experiences impact their health and well being.

Dr. Olena Hankivsky, one of the mentors at the Summer institute, has expressed interest in Bharati's work and in involving her in future research efforts.

When asked what prompted her to apply to the Summer Institute Bharati said "Reflecting upon my MSW journey, I realized that like other scholars in Canada I was grappling to integrate the various faces of diversity in my research. The training at CIHR helped provide me with specific tools to implement a rigorous and effective doctoral research design that integrates these multiple sites of oppression and/or privilege."

Fall Orientation

On Friday September 10 students, faculty and staff gathered at the Lyle S. Hallman Faculty of Social Work for orientation day. The Acting Dean, Susan Cadell, and the faculty introduced themselves and welcomed the new students. Guest speakers from different university departments, the Ontario Association of Social Workers and the Greater Kitchener Waterloo Chamber of Commerce talked about the many services and programs available to Laurier students. The participants also met with their respective program representatives and toured the building. A delicious barbecue lunch was provided by Brainfood Corporate Catering.



Students mingle during the barbecue.

Inside Out information session

On Wednesday, September 15 Lori Pompa, the founder and director of the Inside Out Prison Exchange Program Course, and Professor Simone Davis presented an information session at the Faculty of Social Work.

Inside Out university courses take place in prisons and classes bring together incarcerated students and students from outside

the prison walls.

This session was held to inform faculty, from any discipline, who might be interested in teaching an Inside Out course about the program and the week-long intensive Teacher Training Institute. More information can be found on the Inside Out Centre website at <http://www.insideoutcenter.org/>

Who's new in the library

Please welcome Christina Kerr, Access Services/Reference Associate, to the FSW library. She is replacing Roberta Ellington who has taken on a temporary assignment in Professional Development and Alumni Relations.

Christina recently completed the Library and Information Technician Program at Mohawk College. As a library assistant at the Kitchener Public Library, Christina worked in circulation and reference and delivered children and family programs. Previous to her work at KPL Christina had the opportunity to provide library services at many schools around the region and at the Waterloo Public Library.

Christina begins her duties in the library on September 9th. She can be reached by email at ckerr@wlu.ca or by telephone at ext. 5256.

Vera Fesnak will continue as head of the Social Work Library. She can be reached by email at vfesnak@wlu.ca or at ext. 3413. Gina Matesic is the Social Work Liaison Librarian. She can be reached at gmatesic@wlu.ca or at ext. 3951.

A small renovation is underway in the library to make quiet study space available for students. The



Christina can't wait to begin helping students.

alcove is being modified to create a quieter work area. Let us know if this is an improvement.

A new web interface for course reserves will be announced soon. It is called Ares. Contact Vera Fesnak if you need help with Ares.

Library hours have not yet been finalized for the fall term. From September 13 to October 4 we will be open Monday to Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Laurier Celebrates 100th Anniversary

On October 18 Laurier's 100th anniversary begins. The university will be holding events throughout 2010/2011. How can you keep informed? All you need to know can be found on our anniversary website at <http://www.laurier100.ca>. This site goes "live" on October 18.