Welcome from MSW Program Director

By Dr. Sheridan Quarless Kingsberry

This year has been full of changes and opportunities. The biggest change has been the sudden loss of our friend and colleague Michael T. Kriner who died in a car crash on February, 25th. As an alumnus and instructor, Michael was an exceptional social worker. In December Dean Lisa Barkley left to oversee the University’s Health and Wellness program and Dr. John Austin returned to serve as Interim Dean of the College of Health and Public Policy. In September, Mr. Barry Moore, who taught the psychopathology course as an adjunct for several semesters, joined the full-time faculty as a Visiting Professor; and in December Dr. Maria Carroll, who taught the mental health courses for many years, retired. We also had seven alumni join our part-time faculty as listed elsewhere in the newsletter. Currently, 94 students are enrolled in the program, 63 in Dover and 31 in Wilmington. Our Wilmington MSW Student Council has been active under the able leadership of Ms. Kate Stiner, President. And, the Wilmington Council has a student representative, Peter Coker, to the GSA. I am also pleased to share that seven students are actively engaged in various Departmental committees. At the May 23rd commencement, 35 MSW students will walk proudly on stage and accept their diplomas with grace and style. We'll all be cheering them on with great pride.

This fall, the Department of Social Work began gearing up for its spring 2012 Reaffirmation. The Reaffirmation Committee is in the process of preparing our reaffirmation documents. Very soon I'll be reaching out to our alumni to become engaged in the process and to help with our recruitment efforts for the fall 2010 class. Under the leadership of Dr. Saunders, the Program has modified its curriculum to bring it more in line with the complex needs of the clients we serve in this new and challenging century.

Throughout the year, our faculty has been very busy with various academic and professional endeavors from grant writing and publishing to community engagement, research and presentations. In addition, several are actively involved with their professional organizations (CSWE and NASW). More on our faculty can be found under the Faculty Highlights section in the newsletter.

Finally, our esteemed Chair, Dr. Elijah Mickel, who has taught at DSU for eighteen years, will retire in May. We will miss Dr. Mickel but send him off with lots of love. The MSW Program wishes him Godspeed.
FACULTY OF MSW PROGRAM

Dr. Elijah Mickel – Chairperson, Department of Social Work.

Dr. Marlene Saunders – teaches advanced year courses at both campuses and is engaged with the community. She is active with the Wilmington Hope Commission and is conducting a special educational program with correctional officers.

Dr. Suri – teaches foundation courses (Wilmington).

Dr. Bruce Hobler – teaches advanced year courses (Dover) and heads the MSW recruitment activities. He is writing a biography on his high school classmate who, despite cerebral palsy, has accomplished much in areas of education, athletics and the business world. The book, to be published later this year, is intended to provide inspirational experiences to readers.

Dr. Leela Thomas – teaches foundation year courses (Dover). See “Faculty Spotlight”.

Dr. Sheridan Quarless Kingsberry – teaches foundation and advanced year courses (Wilmington). She is actively involved with NASW-DE Chapter and in community projects. She was recently featured in Delaware Today in an article on Delaware’s prominent black leaders (Link) and was honored by YWCA DE at its Evening of Style (Link).

Barry Moore, LCSW, ABD – teaches Psychopathology (Wilmington) fall 2009 and Advanced Practice in Mental Health II spring 2010 at both campuses. Mr. Moore is currently pursuing his doctorate with expected completion in December 2010.

Chavon Dottin, MSW, M.Ed – is the new Director of Field Instruction. See “Spotlight on Field Instruction”.

Adjunct Faculty

Janet Urdahl, LCSW, CADC * – taught SW Change and Advocacy (Dover) fall 2009.

Michael Kriner, LCSW, CADC * – Farewell Human Behavior and Social Environment (HBSE) I & II (Wilmington). See Farewell.

Norwood Coleman, Jr., LCSW* - teaches Human Behavior and Social Environment (HBSE) II (Wilmington).


Leta Cooper, LCSW – teaches Generalist Practice I & II (Dover).


Phillip Thompson, LCSW* - teaches Advanced Social Work Practice with Families, Children and Youth I & II (Wilmington).

* DSU MSW Alumni

Spotlight on Field Instruction

Before joining the DSU as Director of Field Instruction, Ms. Chavon Dottin, MSW, M.Ed. worked as a social worker at the Dover High School Wellness Center and was the Coordinator of the Teen Hope Program. She has worked as a social worker in various settings: prison, hospital, private practice, school, group home and college. Ms. Dottin also worked in the DSU summer bridge program for incoming first year students as an Evening Coordinator for three summers.

Changes and Plans for Field Instruction

Many positive changes have occurred in the field office since September. For example, the department now has an updated field manual and forms. Ms. Dottin is in the process of updating additional field materials and has plans for building strong, positive relationships in the community as well as developing more contracts with statewide agencies for field placements.

Faculty Spotlight: Dr. Leela Thomas

Leela Thomas received her B.S. and MSW degrees from Bombay University, India and Ph.D. in social work from Washington University in St. Louis, MI. She joined DSU in fall 2007. She worked with pregnant teenagers to prevent repeat pregnancy and patients with diabetes coping with psychosocial issues. She volunteers for Big Brother Big Sister and is involved with Delaware Division of Medicaid & Medical Assistance in delineating issues for grant writing for DSU. Recently, she published two papers on teaching statistics and presented at the national Annual Program Meetings of the Council on Social Work Education. She will be presenting at the Center for Teaching & Learning on March 10, 2010. Her research interests include access to health care services.

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MSW STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

MSW STUDENTS ON DEPARTMENT & COLLEGE COMMITTEES
2009- 2010 Academic Year

- Assessment Committee: Brittany John, Silja Walker, & Henry Coffield
- Reaffirmation: Tabatha Miller
- Field: Lakeya Wilson & Tempeast Boulware
- CH&PP Strategic Planning: Violetta Parker

LINDA E. SPOTTS: NASW SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

Linda E. Spotts, who will graduate from the MSW Program in May 2010, received the Consuelo W. Gosnell Memorial Scholarship from NASW National. The following is from the NASW website: “Her background as a therapist in Mexico has given her a valuable foundation on which to build her social work expertise in the U.S.”

MSW STUDENTS ON
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MSW students have been active by:

- Advocating for 2010 summer electives.
- Participating in DSU’s educational partnerships such as NASW DE Documentation Workshop and CH&PP’s Health Disparities Conference.
- Serving as Graduate Assistants to faculty members.
- Advocating for policy and legislative changes within organizations & in the community, and contacting elected representatives.
- Participating in student council meetings, fall colloquium & spring symposium.

MSW STUDENT COUNCIL: Wilmington

By Kate Stiner, MSW Student Council President

The MSW Student Council has been busy all year. In October 2009, a DSU MSW alumnus presented on how to identify strengths in clients. The following month, an Ameriprise financial advisor presented on financial planning for social workers. In January 2010, the Student Council hosted alumni Norwood Coleman, Jr., LCSW and Jessica Gillespie, LGSW who advised the students on the licensure process in Delaware and Maryland. In February 2010, the Student Council hosted Florienda Scott-Cobb, LCSW (Del.), LCSW-C (Md.), who advised the students about career paths in social work.

The Student Council has also been active in the community. On October 24, 2009, two students (Henri Coffield and Kate Stiner) staffed a DSU table at the Southbridge Community Day in the Elbert-Palmer Elementary School. They provided information for community members interested in furthering their education at DSU and encouraged the young people to complete high school and attend college.

In the wake of the Haiti earthquake, the MSW Student Council led by Kate Stiner and Serena Royal (Dover) coordinated a charity drive. Both campuses collected $500 to help the relief effort of the American Red Cross in Delaware.

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<tr>
<th>Wilmington MSW Student Council</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
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<td>Vice President*</td>
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<td>Secretary/Treasurer</td>
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<td>NASW MSW Student Representative</td>
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<td>Bulletin Board Coordinator</td>
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<td>E-Newsletter Coordinator</td>
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<td>GSA Student Representation</td>
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<td>Faculty Advisor</td>
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*Pedro Dupre served as VP during fall 2009 semester.

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**MSW ALUMNI NEWS**

**Involvement in the Community:**
Sarah Wyshock-Wolfe, MSW ('08)

“For me life is all about making a difference in another's life and within the community – no matter how small” ~ Ms. Wyshock-Wolfe

Ms. Wyshock-Wolfe has poured her energy into the community. Employed by YWCA Delaware, she is the Southern Delaware Program Coordinator for Community Services. In addition, she founded Delaware Families, Inc., from her passion and commitment to making changes in the lives of others. Delaware Families, Inc., assists those in need by raising community awareness of pertinent topics through educational presentations.

Ms. Wyshock-Wolfe has a vision to help the community and a commitment to ending domestic violence. She embodies social work tenets and applies them on a community level. For more information about Delaware Families, Inc., go to the website.

**Alumni Spotlight: Linda Mayer, MSW ('09)**

Linda Mayer is a Behavior Analyst working with adults diagnosed with developmental disabilities to achieve more independent lives both vocationally and residually. She has previous experience in social services working with homeless pregnant teens and young women, in aftercare with women and children, and in transitional residence for individuals with dual diagnoses of mental health and addiction. She is also actively involved with the NASW-DE Chapter PACE Committee.

*What have you learned since graduation?* School is over, but you never stop learning.

*What is a true social worker in your mind?* A person that views the world as a better place for all and works to achieve it.

*What is your favorite quote?* “In my dream, the angel shrugged and said, ‘If we fail this time, it will be a failure of imagination’ and then she placed the world gently in the palm of my hand.” Brian Andreas

**WHERE ARE OUR ALUMNI NOW?**

Many are in mental health, non-profit or community-based organizations, government entities, schools, and hospitals, to name but a few practice settings. Some are teaching: 1 is teaching social work courses at the University of Tennessee ('96), 7 are serving as adjuncts in our MSW program (see Faculty of MSW Program), and some are teaching at the community college level. Many are still involved with DSU. Some alumni have facilitated study circles, some are field instructors, and others are involved with faculty research projects.

Alumni Association for Delaware State University’s MSW Program:

An alumni association is an excellent way to network with colleagues, find out about continuing education courses, learn of career opportunities, advocate for change, get involved in the community, develop leadership skills, and mentor MSW students who are currently enrolled in the program. Upon graduation, Tabatha Miller ('10) will be reaching out to fellow alumni to seek their help in organizing an alumni association. Please be on the lookout for emails and to get involved.

**NASW PACE Committee Given New Life**

Chaired by DSU MSW Alumni

Frances Horzempa, MSW ('09) is in the process of reestablishing the Political Action for Candidate Election (PACE) Committee as part of Delaware’s NASW Chapter with fellow co-chair Linda Mayer. The PACE committee focuses on public policy and legislative issues.

**Goal: To increase the collective voice of social workers in Delaware to influence public policy that supports the mission and values of social work.**

The committee co-chairs are hoping to develop a strong and active group. More information about PACE can be found on NASW-DE website: Link.

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The MSW Program was dealt a devastating blow on February 25, 2010 when the life of one of its most esteemed alumnus, Michael T. Kriner, was suddenly taken away. Michael, or Mike as he was so fondly known, received his Master of Social Work on May 18, 1997. Over the last thirteen years, Mike had a significant impact on the lives of numerous clients helping them to draw on their strengths and become empowered to turn their lives around. He also had a tremendous impact on the lives of other social workers and counselors. Colleagues and students alike called him “an awesome social worker.” Students want to be “just like Mike.” Mike was a licensed clinical social worker, a licensed chemical dependency professional, a certified alcohol and drug counselor, and a certified trainer of motivational interviewing. He recently left the Gateway Foundation in Delaware City to join Connections Community Support, Inc. Like Delaware State University both organizations are feeling the loss of such an outstanding professional and good human being.

Mike was the consummate professional who used his talent and expertise in various ways. In September 2009, he joined the MSW faculty as an instructor of the Human Behavior and the Social Environment courses at the Wilmington Site. Every Wednesday evening, Mike’s infectious laughter could be heard in the hallways and pouring out of the classroom. Although office hours were not required, every week he could be found meeting with students, individually or in small groups, advising them, sharing his practice wisdom, or simply “holding court.” Last November, Mike facilitated a Documentation Workshop that was co-sponsored by the National Association of Social Workers, Delaware Chapter and the DSU Department of Social Work. Mike was also working with Dr. Marlene Saunders and other social workers on a service training project for the Department of Corrections. The Relations Training for Probation and Parole Officers project focused on relationship building, choice theory, reality therapy, cognitive behavioral techniques, and motivational interviewing (Mike’s expertise) as core techniques for achieving change in offenders.

While Mike was actively engaged in professional activities what he loved most was spending time with his family; his wife Carmen, whom he met in college, his three children Felicia, Liam and Daniel, and Sunny and Salem, the family’s pet cats. He also loved connecting with friends on Facebook, listening to music, tending his rose bushes, going to the beach and Disney World with his family, cheering on the Eagles, and working up a sweat with Tang Soo Do karate in which he had a second degree black belt.

The students, faculty and alumni of Delaware State University and the profession of social work have lost a giant in the field. We’ll miss you Mike but your infectious laughter will always be heard in the hallways and classroom and your warm spirit will live in our hearts forever.
### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### General Announcements

**Student recruitment:** The MSW program is gearing up to recruit the next class. Please assist in this effort by making your colleagues and peers aware of DSU’s MSW Program.

#### Job Opportunities

**Jobs through State of DE:**
- Milton Elementary School: Family Crisis Therapist – [link](#)
  - 3 similar positions on website
- Adult Protective Services: 2 FT Senior Social Worker/Case Manager (New Castle County)
  - [Position 1](#)
  - [Position 2](#)
- Community Mental Health: Psychiatric Social Worker III [link](#)

**More jobs are available through NASW website [link](#) or CareerBuilder [link](#).**

#### Advocacy Opportunities

**PACE** – Through NASW-DE to influence public policy to reflect mission and values of social work practice. [link](#)

Remember that social workers should be in regular contact with their representatives, at all levels of government, to advocate for clients and the social work profession. [Link](#) to find your representative.

#### Attention DSU Students!

**Scholarships**
- NASW scholarship deadline is March 26, 2010. See details at [NASW foundation website](#).
- DSU scholarship deadline is April 15, 2010. Graduate students are eligible for a select number of scholarships through DSU. [Link](#)

**Advanced Standing**
- Please let your BSW friends know that DSU offers an advanced standing program; a one year track to an MSW degree! The application deadline is April 30, 2010 for the 2010-2011 academic year. This [link](#) provides more information.

**Summer Electives**
- Dover: *Family Therapy*: Session I
- Wilmington: *Social Work with Children*: Session II
  - Note: Register for the classes as soon as possible so that there will be no reason to cancel them for insufficient registrants. The dates and times will be determined after registration.

**GRE Requirement**
- If you are a foundation year student, you must take the GRE and submit your scores to the MSW Program Director by April 30, 2010.

**Field Bulletin Board**
- Ms. Dottin is developing a field bulletin board to reflect your internship experience. Please submit a picture of yourself at your field placement or a caption or handout of something special you are doing in field. Email her with questions.

#### Our hearts go out to those in Haiti. Let’s find ways to help.

- Donate to the American Red Cross. [Link to donate now!](#)
- Understand the disaster. NASW has a great toolkit to help us understand the social work response to disaster. [Link](#) The Florida Chapter of NASW also has a great toolkit for social workers who want to help. [Link](#)
- Train to be prepared for disasters. [Link](#)

$30,000 was donated to the Haiti Relief Fund established by the DE Black Caucus by the Family Foundation of James and Louise Gilliam, two African American social workers. The Gilliams received the Lifetime Service Award from NASW-DE in 2008.

NOTE: If you wish to change your email address on file, please contact Tabatha Miller at tabathama@yahoo.com.

Thanks!
# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## DSU MSW PROGRAM EVENTS

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MSW PROGRAM OPEN HOUSE</strong></td>
<td>DSU (Dover) 1200 N. DuPont Hwy Dover, DE 19901 Price Building Room: Auditorium (First Floor)</td>
<td>Thursday, April 15th beginning at 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Dr. Bruce Hobler 302-857-6783</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To highlight the offerings of DSU MSW Program at the Dover Campus.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MSW PROGRAM OPEN HOUSE</strong></td>
<td>DSU (Wilmington) 621 N. Market St Wilmington, DE 19801</td>
<td>Thursday, April 15th beginning at 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Ms. Serena Parker 302-254-5334</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To highlight the offerings of DSU MSW Program at the Wilmington Campus.</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:sfranklin@desu.edu">sfranklin@desu.edu</a></td>
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<td><strong>PARTNERS IN JUSTICE: BRIDGING THE GAP</strong></td>
<td>DSU (Dover) 1200 N DuPont Hwy Dover, DE 19901 MLK Student Center Room: Banquet Hall</td>
<td>Tuesday, April 13th – 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Email Cindi Wood at Developmental Disabilities Council: <a href="mailto:cindi.wood@state.de.us">cindi.wood@state.de.us</a></td>
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<td>A conference for those who serve citizens of Delaware with disabilities who have been victims of crime.</td>
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## OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

- **March 23rd** – Field Instructors’ Seminar, 10 a.m-12 p.m.; Dover campus; Bank of America Bldg, Rm 309
- **March 30th** – Janet Urdahl, LCSW, CADC, will be the MSW Program’s Social Work Month speaker on the topic *Holistic Approaches to Treatment for Families in the Military*. Reception-4:30-5:00 p.m.; Program-5:00-6:00 p.m. Alumni and Field Instructors will receive 1 CEU (mental health and family). The symposium is free but registration is required. Location: MLK Student Center, 2nd floor. To register email Aisha Robinson.
- **March 25th** – Field Instructors’ Seminar 10 a.m-12 p.m.; Wilmington Campus, Room 112
- **April 30th** – MSW Advanced Standing Application Due Date
- **May 7th** – Social Work Graduation Dinner, 6 p.m., MLK Student Center
- **May 15th** – MSW Degree conferred for those graduating
- **May 23rd** – Commencement - Dover campus – 10 a.m.
- **June 15th** – MSW Graduate Application Due Date

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

- **March 23, 2010 – 6:00 to 8:30 p.m.** NASW-DE, Social Worker of the Year Awards Ceremony The Outlook at the Duncan Center, 500 West Lockerman St. Dover, DE. For more information, see NASW website.