



# Social Work Field News

Volume 9 Issue 7  
Spring 2013

## Upcoming Dates:

- Final Field Evaluations are due: Seniors, April 12 Juniors, April 25
- Last day Seniors are in Field: April 12, 2013
- Senior Research Presentations: April 15, 2013 from 12:00—4:30 in HMSU 9th Floor
- Commencement is May 4, 2013!

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## Changes in the Department: New Faces and New Roles

There are several new faculty in the Department this year, and more are coming; there are also some changing roles in the Department.

Paul-Rene Tamburro joins the Department as the new Chair and Associate Professor who will be teaching in the MSW program. He may be contacted at 812-237-3428, or by email at paul-rene.tamburro@indstate.edu.

Winnifred Whittaker joins the Department as a multi-year contract faculty who is teaching in the BSW program. She may be contacted at 812-237-8948 or at winnifred.whittaker@indstate.edu.

Jennifer Todd, prior instructor in the Department has taken other full-time employment and now serves the Department as an adjunct instructor teaching in the BSW program.

Melissa Ketner has also joined

the Department as an adjunct instructor teaching in the BSW program.

Robyn Lugar, Associate Professor, has been named the BSW Program Director. She may be contacted at 812-237-7650 or by email at robyn.lugar@indstate.edu.

Peggy Weber, Associate Professor, has been named MSW Program Director. She may be contacted at 812-237-8786 or by email at peggy.weber@indstate.edu.

Rhonda Impink, Associate Professor, continues with the Department as BSW faculty. She can be reached at 812-237-3003 or via email at rhonda.impink@indstate.edu.

We are fortunate that Dawn Smith, Administrative Assistant, continues with the Department. She can be reached at 812-237-3611 or

via email at dawn.smith@indstate.edu.

I, Dianna Cooper-Bolinsky, join the Department as the new Field Coordinator and Assistant Professor. I will also be teaching in the MSW program. I may be contacted at 812-237-2322 or at dianna.cooper@indstate.edu.

The Department is in the process of filling two additional faculty lines that will begin in Fall 2013 and will add an additional line in Fall 2014.

Obviously, the Department is growing significantly and we embrace the changes that offer the growth.

Please feel free to contact any one of us, as you wish, or just stop by the 4th Floor of the Nursing Building, 749 Chestnut St., Terre Haute, IN.

## MSW Program Approved by CSWE and Now In Candidacy

Fruition! After years of talking, planning, researching and writing...it's finally a reality! In November 2012, a Commissioner visited from the Council on Social Work Education. In February 2013, the official word came that the ISU Department of Social Work was granted Candidacy for the Master of Social Work Program.

The application for the first cohort is available on the Department website.

[www.indstate.edu/socwork/](http://www.indstate.edu/socwork/)

**MSW Applications are due by April 1, 2013.**

The application will likely take some time to complete, so

please spread the word so that interested persons can contact Dr. Weber with any questions.

While the Program is NOT accredited at this time, it is designed (but not guaranteed) to achieve accreditation by commencement of the first cohort in 2015.

Advanced Standing begins in 2014.

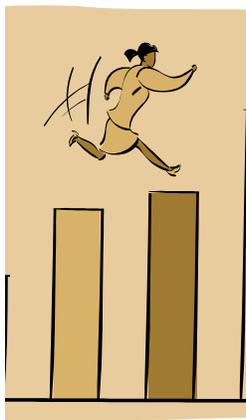


Council on Social Work Education

### Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards

(EPAS, 2008)

**Contact**  
**Cooper-Bolinskey**  
**to discuss ways**  
**that your Agency**  
**can utilize social**  
**work students in**  
**Field Placement.**



**How might promotion of the profession increase growth in the BSW Program?**

### Core Competency 1: Identify as a Professional Social Worker and Conduct Oneself Accordingly

Most social workers have, at this point, heard of the Council on Social Work Education's Educational Policies and Accreditation Standards (EPAS). Social Work education, as of 2008, is evaluated based on competency instead of curriculum content. In other words, social work programs are held accountable to teaching students to be competent in ten areas. This publication features Core Competency 1.

Students must demonstrate, through multiple means, the ability to advocate for clients to be able to receive social work services. Students must also demonstrate the ability to practice professional reflection and to engage in continual professional development. Additionally, students must know the role of a professional social worker and maintain appropriate boundaries. Students must demonstrate professional demeanor in how they act, dress, speak and listen. They must also

understand and engage in life-long learning and use supervision and consultation appropriately.

While the Department 'measures' competence in multiple ways, one of the measures comes from your final field evaluation. We ask that you expect and discuss these qualities of the students. Further, we ask that if you have compliments, concerns, or questions regarding this standard, please let us know.

### Recruiting New Field Sites and Field Instructors

This semester we have 13 seniors and 30 juniors in the field. That means that next year we'll have significantly more seniors than this year, plus we will be placing juniors again in Spring 2014, and MSW students in Summer 2014.

With the significant growth that is expected in the BSW program, combined with the placement needs for the MSW students, we need additional placement sites, and Field

Instructors.

As Field Coordinator, it is my goal to work with all of our sites to place the type of students and the number of students that fits best with the agency. The Department recognizes that sites host students from other majors and that workloads are intensive. While hosting students can be beneficial and rewarding, it is also additional work.

We are seeking to expand the agencies that we work with, but we also will have more to offer with the addition of the MSW students.

With the focus on Rural Social Work in the MSW Program, we will also be recruiting sites that are further from campus.

Please share ideas that you have regarding additional agencies for any of our students.

### BSW Growing by Leaps and Bounds!

In 2011-2012 we had ten BSW graduates and this year we'll have thirteen.

At this point, there are 30 junior students in field practicum.

There are currently 35 sophomores.

Additionally, this year we offered three sections of the freshman level Introductory Social Work course, more than we've offered before.

So, an unofficial count of current social work majors is approximately 160. Wahoo!

Faculty of the Department of Social work are very excited about this indication of growth in our profession.

The BSW Program is one of the majors on campus offering a 120 hour major with a four year guarantee. (See terms and conditions on the University website.)

[www.indstate.edu/express/guarantee.htm](http://www.indstate.edu/express/guarantee.htm)

This growth is occurring without advertising or recruitment. The Department is considering options for promotion of the profession. If you have ideas or suggestions, please share them with a faculty member.

## Safety in the Field....we all need to be aware.

It's one of those nearly invisible issues, until something goes wrong.

Please take the time to address safety issues with students. In general, discuss such things as approaching a building and observing the surroundings, dangers, people, and potential risks. For settings that are visited multiple times, notice changes or unusual items that may be out of place.

In an office or work setting, be organized and keep

potential weapons cleared from the desk such as scissors, letter openers, or heavy paper weights. Consider the risk factors of items that may be used as decorations. Also, be aware of seating arrangements in the office: be sure that you are seated closest to the door and that you are not seated with your back to anyone in the room.

When making home visits, estimate the length of time that you will be gone, and let your office know an emergency

phone number and the address of where you will be. Check in with the office frequently, and carry a cell phone in a readily available location.

Consider taking a personal defense class that teaches strategies for getting away from an attacker, ways to draw attention or get help, and how to avoid being 'backed into a corner'.

Agencies may have specific or unique safety issues; please take the time to discuss ones that apply in your setting.



Safety ...In All Settings!



## Using the Dual Perspective by Robyn Crumpacker, Senior

Dual Perspective is based upon the assumption that all people live in two environments: Nurturing and Sustaining.

The nurturing environment is made up of individuals and places and settings that are supportive and familiar. The sustaining environment is any setting that a person must be involved with that is not within one's comfort zone, or a supportive setting.

This perspective is used to explore the quality of each environment and also how a person interacts within each environment. For example, when someone is trying to navigate in an environment that is unfamiliar or struggling within either environment, Dual Perspective is used to describe the interaction and explore the struggle.

A practice example of the Dual Perspective may involve

a person who has just moved to a new location and is struggling to navigate social settings because she does not know the area and has not created a support system in her new location. A social worker would use this perspective to help identify her current nurturing and sustaining environments and try to help her expand her nurturing environment into her new location based upon existing interests.

**“Dual Perspective is used to describe the interaction and explore the struggle between two environments.”**

## Field: Orientation, Training, and Manuals

New Field Instructor / Task Supervisor Orientation will be coming soon.

Hopefully a short online module will provide a wealth of information, address frequently asked questions, and help create confidence for new Field Instructors and Task Supervisors.

Field Instructor / Task Supervisor training usually occurs three times per year as

a luncheon meeting during conferences. Topics are related to field; we address changes or evolving issues in field, as well as using the time to answer questions and stay in touch with fellow Field Instructors and Task Supervisors.

Social Work Category II Continuing Education Credits are available for social work Field Instructor trainings.

There will be separate Field Manuals for the BSW Program and the MSW Program. If all goes as planned, both will be available online in Fall 2013.



Online Field Orientation and Manuals are coming soon.

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DEPARTMENT OF  
SOCIAL WORK

FIELD NEWSLETTER

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March is Social Work Month

## A Student's Perspective by Jenna Meier, Senior

Field placement has meant watching my textbooks come to life. I have gained an understanding of limitations and boundaries, as well as understanding of policy and ethics. In classes, I learned theories inside and out. While in placement, I got to see theory come to life as well as understanding how using theory guides practice.

While working with clients, I have developed my own framework resulting in identifying limitations of self and professional boundaries. While practicing professional boundaries and limitations, I've learned how to adapt them to different settings. For example, someone working with children will have different professional boundaries than someone working with offenders in a prison.



Jenna Meier, Senior.

Social work ethics guide social worker behavior. It is imperative to carry the NASW Code of Ethics to practicum; I have constantly referred to it. I also carried my Code of Ethics to supervision so I could ask my supervisor about issues.

In addition, I also believe that advocacy, social action, and empowerment of populations-at-risk are very important. In the beginning, I thought this would be easy. While at my practicum, I found out that it is very tough, but very important to do on behalf of clients. Overall, my field practicum meant becoming more knowledgeable about the profession at large.

