

Connections



The Newsletter of the Social Work and Social Policy Programme, School of Health and Social Services Massey

Dr Mark Henrickson— Helping to influence the direction of HIV and STI prevention and management in the Pacific

Over the summer Dr Mark Henrickson carried out a commissioned research project for the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC)(based in Noumea). The project was to evaluate the training of HIV counsellors offered throughout the Pacific Islands Countries and Territories. The SPC is the fiduciary agent in the Pacific for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria [see <http://www.theglobalfund.org/en/>]. The research was also supported by the AIDS Response Fund whose major stakeholders include the WHO, UNAIDS [<http://www.unaids.org/en/>]. This fund also partners UNICEF, UNFPA, and a number of civil society donors; other stake-

holders in the project included SPC, Pacific Counselling & Social Services (Lautoka, Fiji) and the Fiji School of Medicine. While the incidence and prevalence of HIV in the PICTs is currently relatively low, STI infection rates of women attending antenatal clinics is as high as 25%, suggesting the risk of HIV is very high. From mid-November to mid-January (with a week off at Christmas). Mark conducted interviews with staff of ministries of health and HIV counsellor-trainees in Tonga, Vanuatu, Kiribati and Fiji and produced a final report and recommendations. This final report was delivered to stakeholders in mid-February in Suva, Fiji. Mark found the research to be an

extraordinary opportunity to help influence the direction of HIV and STI prevention and management in the Pacific. In the midst of this project, he also attended a November workshop in Tokyo on behalf of CSWEANZ/APASWE and a meeting of the board of the IASSW in Mumbai in January.



Dr Mark Henrickson

November Graduation

The social work programme celebrated the graduation of three Master of Social Work students and one Doctor of Philosophy (PhD). The three Masters graduates who all graduated with honours were: Raema Merchant, Hannah Mooney (nee Walsh) and Paule Ruwhiu.

The PhD graduate was Kieran O'Donoghue who completed the first PhD on social work supervision within Aotearoa New Zealand. Doctor O'Donoghue's thesis is available for download via <http://muir.massey.ac.nz/handle/10179/1535>



Dr Kieran O'Donoghue and Professor Robyn Munford, his Doctoral Supervisor

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- For information about our courses visit:
- http://www.massey.ac.nz/massey/learning/departments/school-health-social-services/social-work/en/social-work_home.cfm

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Practice Research and Professional Development Hub

Successful workshops:

Te Aroha Noa in partnership with Massey University have run two highly successful workshops in November 2010 and March 2011. In these workshops Te Aroha Noa presented its framework of practice which draws on strengths approaches and other collaborative practice perspectives.

For further information on future workshops please contact Sheryl Kirikiri, Administrator, Practice Research and Professional Development Hub – S.Kirikiri@massey.ac.nz

Research

The Pathways to Resilience and Transitions research based in the School and

led by Associate Professor Jackie Sanders and Professor Robyn Munford is progressing well. Regular updates can be found on the Youthline website: <http://www.youthline.co.nz/services/research-and-advocacy.html>

In November, 2010, Jackie Sanders, Robyn Munford and Youthline staff gave a well received presentation at the Youthline research symposium and outline progress on the two projects. Dr. Linda Liebenberg from the Canadian Resilience Research Centre visited our projects in October and was impressed with the quality and volume of work that the projects have completed.

We spent a lot of time working on the database and this has been helpful to us here in NZ and she also provided training in the coding of qualitative data and the process of retrieving data from young people's case files.



From left to right, Robyn Munford, Merv Hancock and Dr Linda Liebenberg

Staff Update

Farewells

Towards the end of 2010 we had two farewells for long-standing social work and social policy staff. The first farewell held on 30 November 2010 was for Associate Professor Mike O'Brien who retired from the University. Mike who was a foundation staff member on the Albany campus is widely acknowledged within the social work field for his work the area of poverty, social justice and welfare. Recently, Mike had a significant article entitled "Social justice: Alive and well (partly) in social work practice" published in the March 2011 issue of the International Social Work Journal.

On 6 December 2011, a farewell celebration was held for Wheturangi Walsh Tapiata. Wheturangi is an internationally recognised leader in Indigenous social work development. During 2010, she won a United Nations Indigenous Fellowship and spent three months at the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland. Wheturangi has taken up an appointment as the Chief Executive Officer of Te Korowai Aroha, an indigenous education and training agency.

New staff

Three new lecturing staff have joined the programme this year. They are Dr Michael Dale, Dr Shirley Julich and Nicola Stanley-Clarke.

Dr Michael Dale comes to us having most recently been the Director of Methodist Social Services in Palmerston North. He has an extensive social work background including experience within community and statutory social services. Michael is both an MSW and PhD graduate of the social work and social policy programme.

Dr Shirley Julich was a Senior Lecturer at Auckland University of Technology prior to "returning home" to the Albany Campus where she was a foundation student and completed her BA(Hons) and PhD in Social Policy. Shirley has had a number of papers and book chapters published within the field of restorative justice.

Nicola Stanley-Clarke has been tutoring for the social work and social policy programme over the past few years in Palmerston North. She is a graduate of the BSW and MSW programmes and is currently enrolled in a PhD. Nicky's

PhD topic explores decision making at service level within mental health settings and how decision contribute to service development. Nicky has worked as a social worker for Child, Youth and Family and within the DHB setting.

Three other academic staff, namely, Dr Polly Yeung, Lareen Cooper, and Awhina English at the Palmerston North Campus recently celebrated the milestone of their one year anniversary at Massey. Dr Polly Yeung was profiled in the Sept 2010 newsletter.

Lareen Cooper, returned to Massey at the beginning of 2010 after 16 years in senior management within the DHB setting. We are fortunate to have someone with Lareen's experience and expertise teaching management in our courses.

Awhina English (nee Hollis) recently submitted her PhD thesis for examination at Otago University. Her thesis focused on the experiences of Maori social workers with social service organisations. Awhina's expertise is in Maori social work and social policy and she teaches across the BSW in both the policy and practice streams.

Herman-Barretta Trust contributes to MUSU Student Assistance Programme

The Herman-Barretta Trust was established in 1989 to support students studying for their first professional degree in social work at Massey in recognition of the escalating costs of tertiary education and of the need to assist students pursuing their education in the spirit of access and social justice. The Trust was established by W. Randolph Herman and Angie Barretta-Herman. Randolph was a Senior Lecturer and taught clinical practice, coordination fieldwork placements, and researched rural issues. Angie lectured on professional, organisational and management issues in social work. Her PhD research on the restructuring of the Department of Social Welfare bridged the policy/practice gap from a practitioner's perspective. Both Angie and Randy came from social work practice positions in the United States to teach in the Massey University programme for ten years. The establishment of this Trust reflects their continuing commitment to social work

education in New Zealand. From 1989 to 2010, 36 grants were awarded, a total of \$8,269.10. Several fundraising events were held over the years, and a number of staff and graduates donated teaching fees and made special donations, but income remained low and administrative costs were high. At a meeting on 5 November, 2010 the Trustees resolved to dissolve the Trust and contribute the remaining funds to the MUSA Student Assistance Programme to be reserved for BSW and MSW (Applied) applicants who meet the criteria of the Assistance Programme. The MUSA Students Assistance Programme (SAP) is well established and funded by Massey University from fines and a contribution from the Vice-Chancellor's office to create a minimum fund of \$40,000 per annum. SAP is hardship based and administered by the MUSA Vice-President Welfare or Advocacy Co-ordinator. SAP applications made through EMXSS are administered by the EXMSS SAP Committee Chair-

person (Advocate).

The Trustees are confident that the MUSA (SAP) programme will continue to provide a service to social work students in the spirit in which the Trust was established.

The Programme would like to thank the Trustees, Angeline Barretta-Herman, Randolph Herman, Mary Ann Baskerville, Jane Brook, and Robyn Munford and Merv Hancock as Patron of the Trust for their ongoing support over the past 20 years. Special thanks go to Mary Ann for her administration of the Trust over this period.



From left to right: Robyn Munford, Kieran O'Donoghue, Mary Ann Baskerville and Helen Simmons on 5 Nov

Field Education

Thank you to all field educators and other social service staff who have been involved in supporting and supervising our placement students in 2010. We continue to place our students in a wide range of fields of practice throughout New Zealand, and occasionally overseas, where they generally benefit from excellent learning opportunities. In 2011 we have 107 BSW students and 96 MappSW students from the Albany and Palmerston North campuses as

well as from our distance learning programmes enrolled in our placement papers.

The dedication and commitment of social workers and other organisational staff is invaluable for our students and we are very appreciative of the considerable time and energy that is expended on supporting our students to have successful placements. Placements are often the most memorable experiences of a student's time training to become a profes-

sional social worker and we are committed to continuing to construct positive and strong relationships with agencies and staff to ensure students are given the best learning experiences possible. We look forward to hearing from agencies with placement offers and to renewing our connections with our Field Educators.

Kathryn Hay
Director of Fieldwork

Merv Hancock and Ephra Garrett Awards for Outstanding BSW students

The Merv Hancock and Ephra Garrett awards were established in 2002 to acknowledge outstanding BSW students and to honour the BSW course founders Merv Hancock and Ephra Garrett. The Merv Hancock award is for outstanding Tauwiwi student while the Ephra Garrett award is for the outstanding Maori student.

In 2010 the Merv Hancock award was presented to Leon Tufga and the Ephra Garrett award was present to Petra Crosswell. Present at the awards were Merv Hancock and members of Garrett whanau, who have attended since Ephra passed away in 2008.



Petra Crosswell and Leon Tufga