

**Center for International Social Work Studies
University of Connecticut School of Social Work
Annual Activities Report
September 2000-May 2001
Report Prepared by Maria Andrade**

International Visits

- The University of Connecticut School of Social Work hosted Peta-Anne Baker, a visiting Professor from the University of the West Indies. Baker is currently teaching three courses in the MSW program, and conducting independent research.
- Yoshinobu Miyamoto from the Doshisha Women's University was also hosted by the School of Social Work as Visiting Gradis Research Scholar from April of 2000, to March of 2001. Mr. Miyamoto conducted independent research and presented in one of CISWS' programs.
- The School of Social Work also hosted Dr. Nobuyuki Iwama, Assistant Professor from Osaka-City University in Japan, as the Visiting Gradis Research Scholar. Dr. Iwama is currently in his sabbatical doing research on American Social Work Teaching Techniques. He hopes to obtain an American perspective on teaching Group Work and Foundations of Social Work Practice. Dr. Iwama will be at the School of Social Work from April of 2001, to March of 2002.
- Dr. Jane Aldgate of the Open University in London, visited the School of Social Work in September of 2000. The Open University is working to expand its social work curriculum to include human services management. During her visit, she met with the Dean of the School, and the faculty from the Administration sequence, to discuss possible future collaboration efforts.

Annual International Day

The SSW 8th annual International Day was held on April 17, 2001. The theme this year was: Globalization: Impact for Social Work Practice.

Speakers:

Dr. Shymala Raman presented *Globalization and Women: An International Perspective*. Dr. Raman is the Director of International Studies Department, and an Associate Professor of Economics and International Studies at Saint Joseph's College.

Peta-Anne Baker presented *Globalization and Developing Countries*. Baker is the Visiting Professor at the School of Social Work from the University of the West Indies

Educational poster board displays were provided by various student organization.

Themes included:

- Nicaragua and Globalization
- Cultural and Globalization display of Cuba
- Globalization and Latin America display by the Latino Student Organization
- The effects of Globalization in Jamaica
- Cape Verde Cultural Display
- Ghana and the Asanteman Council Information
- The Armenian Link
- General Information Table for CISWS
- Ireland Project
- Progressive Action Committee Display on National and International Impact of Globalization.
- Women's Caucus Organization

Funding was provided by the Student Organization, and an international buffet was catered by the Apron Strings Restaurant.

Seminar Series

Date: September 12, 2000
Topic: Current Developments in Child Welfare in the United Kingdom.
Speaker: Dr. Jane Aldgate, Professor at the Open University in London, England.

The program was co-sponsored by the Family and Children's Services Substantive Area, and the University of Connecticut School of Social Work.

Date: October 31, 2000
Topic: Unite to End Gun Violence: A Showing of "America Up in Arms."
Speaker: Patti Ivry, Chair of the BSW program at Western Connecticut State University. Dr. Ivry presented on the Coalition United to Stop Gun Violence.

The Program was co-sponsored by the Institute for the Advancement of Political Social Work Studies.

Date: November 7, 2000
Topic: A Film by Kristin Asadourian, A Social Worker and Film Maker. The video documents the development of social work education in Armenia over the past ten years, and the role of the University of Connecticut School of Social Work in this process.
Speaker: Kristin Asadourian, a graduate from the School of Social Work.

Date: November 15, 2000
Topic: Elderly Social Services in Japan.
Speaker: A presentation by Professor Yoshinobu Myiamoto, from the Doshisha Women's University in Japan.

Date: November 29, 2000
Topic: AIDS: All Men Make a Difference. World AIDS Day Observance
Speaker: Highlighting African Men in Recovery (AMIR) Project and the Multi-Ethnic Community Awareness Center.

Co-sponsored by the Health Substantive Area, Organization of Black Social Work Students, and Organization of Latino Students.

Date: April 5, 2001
Topic: New Immigration Policy: Impact for Social Work Practice.
Speakers: John Weiss former Director of the International Institute, Sister Dorothy Strelchun Acting Director of Catholic Charities Migration and Refugee Services, Vichhyka Shelto Director of Asian Family Services, and Professor Diana Drachman from the School of Social Work.

Co-sponsored by Democracy Works and the American Place/Hartford Public Library

Date: April 17, 2001
Topic: Globalization: Impact for Social Work Practice.
Speakers: Peta-Anne Baker, Visiting Professor from UWI.
Dr. Shyamala Raman, Professor from Saint Joseph's College.

Co-Sponsored by the Urban Issues Substantive Area, Progressive Action Committee, and the Latino Student Organization.

Date: April 24, 2001
Topic: Cuba: different aspects of Social Work and current situation of the country.
Speakers: MSW students Lidia Agramonte and Tracy Terry presented on their trips to Cuba.

Co-Sponsored by the Latino Student Organization.

Date: May 1, 2001
Topic: International Adoption: Professional and Personal Perspectives.
Speakers: Liz Kendrick, MSW: Adoption Specialist from Family & Children's Agency
Karen Cummings, MSW: Department Mental Health and Addiction Services and adoptive parent of children from Bolivia.
Bethany Thompson, MSW: International adoptee and adoption practitioner.

Co-Sponsored by the Families and Children's Services Substantive Area.

Linkage Projects

- **Armenia:**

In October of 2000, the project released “Beginning Where the Soviets End: A Study of Social Work in Armenia,” a documentary video on the beginnings of the profession in Armenia. The film was produced by Kristin Asadourian, MSW 2000, who traveled to Armenia as part of this project.

In April, two students from the School of Social Work traveled to Armenia to continue the enhancement of the link between the School of Social Work and Yerevan State University in Armenia.

- **South Africa:**

The University of Connecticut has launched a project with the University of Fort Hare in South Africa. This project is partly supported by the United Negro College Fund, in recognition of the status of Fort Hare as a historically black college in South Africa. In April of 2001, representatives of CISWS’ Advisory Committee met with the Executive Dean of Management, Commerce, and Development of the University of Fort Hare, Nhlanganiso Dladla. The purpose of the meeting was to begin planning for the involvement of the School of Social Work.

- **Jamaica:**

The School of Social Work continues to enhance its link with the University of the West Indies. At the end of the spring semester, Karlene Boyce-Reid, Fieldwork Coordinator at UWI, and two field instructors made a 12-day visit to UConn for a study programs in the education of field instructors. Julianne Wane, Director of Field Education, conducted a Seminar in Field Instruction for the visitors to demonstrate our approach to training field educators. Joint work is underway on publication of a book on issue in West Indian Social Work and Social Policy; this project is also co-edited by Peta-Anne Baker (UWI and Association of Caribbean Social Work Educators), Leita Allen (UWI), and Catherine Havens (UConn). Lynne Healy has joined the core editorial committee to launch a new journal, The Journal of Caribbean Social Work; The Journal will be published in Jamaica, with the first issue expected in December 2001. Barris Malcolm has been named to the board of reviewers for the journal. Peta-Anne Baker of the UWI faculty is currently a visiting professor at UConn. Lynne Healy represented UConn at a retirement celebration for John Maxwell (UWI) held in Jamaica in March of 2001. During 2000-2001, we continued to benefit from Claudette Crawford-Brown and Peta-Anne Baker’s presence in Connecticut. Crawford-Brown continued to participate actively in the CISWS’ Advisory Committee

- **Puerto Rico:**
During 2000-2001, Dr. Julio Morales worked on establishing a link with the University of Puerto Rico. In January of 2001, the School of Social Work sponsored a travel and study trip to San Juan and Vieques, Puerto Rico, under the supervision of faculty members Dr. Julio Morales and Dr. Negroni-Rodriguez. Twenty (20) students and alumni from the School of Social Work attended this trip. Students attended lectures on history of social work in Puerto Rico, Social work education in Puerto Rico, Social Work in Schools, agency visits to HIV/AIDS agencies, and visited mental health centers. Students were also visited the Department of Families and Children, and participated in activities with the National Association of Social Workers Puerto Rico Chapter, and Puerto Rico's Professional Social Work Organization. Students also traveled to Vieques, where they met with the Vieques Women's Alliance at Casa Alinza, and with the leaders in the Vieques Peace Movement.
- **Mauritius:**
Contact with the University of Mauritius has been renewed this spring. Satinder Ragobur, the Head of the Department of Social Studies and Humanities and Had of the Social Work Program at the University of Mauritius, visited the School of Social Work in April of 2001, as part of a State Department sponsored visit.

CISWS Publicity and Publications

- During the fall semester, MSW intern Maria Andrade was responsible for the creation and expansion of the International Korner, a weekly two-page International Issue addition of the School's Newsletter. The purpose of the Korner is to inform and educate students at the School of Social Work on different international topics, and their impact on social work practice.
- Two brochures were graphically enhanced for the Substantive Area in International Issues Substantive Area and CISWS' general brochure. These brochures will be adopted for advertisement purposes throughout 2001-2002, and will be used to increase the visibility of CISWS and the School of Social Work.
- Resources were categorized to enhance use of CISWS as a resource Center.
- During 2000-2001, CISWS' web site underwent major changes, and it is maintained on a constant basis. The page includes research areas such as general information about CISWS, Recent CISWS Activities, Upcoming Events and International Conferences, and Joint Project with Armenia.
- Two display boards were prepared by Maria Andrade to increase the visibility of CISWS and educate students on different issues, and for use in recruitment and open house events.

Other Activities

- **Field Placement:** CISWS served as a field placement for Maria Andrade, a Policy and Planning and Community Organization student during 2000-2001.
- **Work Study:** CISWS served as a work-study placement for Michelle Magazzi, a Community Organization and Policy and Planning student. Michelle helped organized the Immigration Forum in April of 2001, and a was a leading force in organizing CISWS link with the Hartford Public Library Immigration and Refugee efforts.

Center for International Social Work Studies Advisory Committee 2000-2001

Lidia Agramonte, MSW Student
Maria Andrade, CISWS MSW Intern and Student
Claudette Crawford-Brown, Ph.D., UWI Faculty
Barbara Dicks, Ph.D., Faculty
Diane Drachman, Ph.D., Faculty
Catherine Havens, JD, Associate Dean
Lynne Healy, Director, Ph.D., CISWS, Faculty
Kasumi Hirayama, Ph.D., Faculty
Cheryl Jackson-Morris, MSW, Assistant Director, Field Education
Michelle Magazzi, MSW Student
Barris Malcolm, MSW, Faculty
Lirio Negroni-Rodriguez, Ph.D., Faculty
Reesa Olins, MSW, Director, STEP Program
Barbara Pine, Ph.D., Faculty
Louise Simmons, Ph.D., Faculty