Message from the Chair

Hello, and welcome back to the 2014-15 school year. We hope you had a good summer, and are ready for the challenges of the term.

Change is in the air in the Social Work Department

Welcome to our new faculty, Dr. Jennifer Hughes. Dr. Hughes comes to us from Bluffton University. Read Dr Hughes’ faculty profile on page 5 of the newsletter.

Congratulations to the WSU-MU Joint MASW Program. We received CSWE accreditation in June 2014. For more information about the MASW program, see page 2 of the newsletter.

Thank you to Dr. Brun who has served as the Chair of the Social Work Department since 2002. Under his guidance, the department has grown to include the MASW program. Dr. Brun continues in the department as a faculty member and Director of the MASW. To learn more about Dr. Brun, see page 5 of the newsletter.

Dr. Twill is stepping in as the new Chair of the Department of Social Work. Find out 5 fun facts about Dr. Twill below.

5 Fun Facts about Dr. Twill

1) Dr Twill joined the WSU faculty in the Fall of 2005. She completed her graduate work at The University of Georgia. Go Dawgs!

2) Dr. Twill hates winter. She was born and raised in southern California. At the first sight of a snowflake, she panics about driving and road conditions. Dr. Brun likes to tease her about this.

3) Dr. Twill dislikes being called Dr. Twill. She dislikes being called Mrs. Twill even more. You can call her Sarah if you are respectful.

4) Sarah loves to travel. This summer she visited the National Parks – Mt Rushmore, Yellowstone, and the Grand Tetons. The picture above was taken at the Morning Glory Hot Spring in Yellowstone.

5) Sarah spent last year on sabbatical and worked as an education case worker with Montgomery County Children's Services. She worked with youth in foster care to make sure they passed the 3rd Grade Reading Guarantee.
BSW Student Highlight: Diamond Williams

I have volunteered for
Wood Glen Alzheimer’s Community
St. Vincent De Paul Homeless Shelter
Montgomery County Juvenile Probation

Why I chose social work as a major
I chose to be a part of the social work profession because they empower, advocate and promote social justice. I not only wanted to help others, I also wanted to uplift and build a better future for my community. I felt as if I had the strive, ambition and voice to impact the world.

Favorite T.V. Show
My favorite T.V show s are Scandal and Pretty Little Liars and when those are not on my television does not leave from HGTV.

We are accredited. Those three words sum up a reality that has been a Dayton community need for over 40 years. Of course, those words pertain to the CSWE (Council on Social Work Education) accreditation of the MSW program now available at Wright State. The official name of the program is the Greater Miami Valley Joint MASW and the program is truly a collaboration between Miami University and WSU. This is the third year of the program. The first graduating class of 16 students celebrated their commencement in Spring, 2014. There are currently over 70 students in the program: 28 scheduled to graduate Spring 2015, 31 new students who started Fall 2014, and the remaining are part-time students. All classes are currently taught in the evening (after 4:00) at Miami University’s Middletown campus. The deadline to apply for Advanced Standing (one must graduate with a 3.25 GPA or higher from a CSWE accredited program in the last 5 years) is Jan. 15, 2015. The application deadline to begin Fall, 2015 is Feb. 15, 2015. Go to this link to learn more liberal-arts.wright.edu/social-work/advising/admission#tab=graduate or contact carl.brun@wright.edu.
Welcome back! Fall semester is a great time to refresh and remind ourselves that effective study skills are important for academic success. Effective studying is about being aware of our own habits and using our time wisely. For example, think about what time of day you are at your best and take advantage of it! If you are an “early bird,” tackle challenging subjects or tasks in the morning. It’s also essential to take care of ourselves—getting plenty of sleep, eating well, and exercising can help you stay healthy and alert. Below are some more helpful study tips:

- Remember to take breaks. For every 50 minutes of studying, take a 10 minute break.
- To deal with procrastination, get started on the simple aspect of a project or the part you find most interesting.
- Study with a friend. Quiz each other and compare notes.

Keeping these things in mind throughout the term can help you to have a great semester!

Meet Mandy Shannon
WSU librarian to Social Work students and faculty. Find Mandy at guides.libraries.wright.edu/social_work. She looks forward to assisting you with the many resources the WSU libraries have to offer.

To get all the latest social work department news and events....

Like us on Facebook @wright.state.socialwork
Follow us on twitter @wsu_swu_dept
Dear Jane:

I’m a psych major, but heard social work is better. What do I need to do to switch majors?

- Miserable Studying Freud

Dear Miserable,

Any student interested in the social work major should make an advising appointment ASAP by calling (937)775-2751. Students should take SW 2700, SW 2710, and SW 2720, as well as other CORE curriculum prerequisites, during their first and second year. Students are admitted to the social work major once a year. Applications are due on February 1st (liberal-arts.wright.edu/social-work/advising/admission). One important difference between social work and other helping professions is that people with a social work degree are eligible to get an Ohio license to practice social work. Other disciplines are not license eligible. Certain jobs require a social work license, and pay is often higher for those holding a social work license. Welcome to the cause.

~ Jane

Dear Jane:

My professor told me I’m not very good at writing. What should I do?

- Grammar Impaired

Dear Impaired,

Social workers spend a lot of time writing. Unclear documentation may result in poor outcomes for clients, and impact your professional reputation. We get better at writing by practicing writing. You should always get your work done 24 hours before the deadline so that you have a chance to proofread it. Also, the writing center is available to help you improve your skills; visit their website, www.wright.edu/university-college/academic-help/writing-center or call (937-775-4186) for an appointment.

~ Jane

Dear Jane:

I just want to help people, but the Social Work Department makes me take a policy class. Why?

- Confused about the Curriculum

Dear Confused,

Much of our social work practice is dictated by federal and state policy. Understanding how policy is created, how it influences the way we can (and cannot) practice, and how to be an effective advocate, all directly link to helping people. It is not enough to help someone get food from a food pantry; social workers need to address reasons for the economic inequality that forces people to use pantries.

~ Jane
Welcome to WSU Dr. Jennifer Hughes
Assistant Professor of Social Work

Why did you pick social work as a career?
I’m not sure I picked social work as much as it picked me. My husband says I have social worker invisibly tattooed on my forehead. I generally believe that people are good and sometimes they just need a little assistance.

I’ll be teaching....
Research Methods and Community Practice in both the BSW and MSW programs.

In my free time....
I am a lake girl. I love boating, tubing, water, and the lake life. I spend as much time on Indian Lake as I can.

My guilty pleasure is....
Candy. Sugary treats like giant Sweet Tarts and giant Laffy Taffy and of course yummy chocolate covered gummy bears. I even prefer my fruit dipped in chocolate.

30 SECONDS WITH DR. BRUN

1. If I have a free 60 minutes, I’d likely spend it......running, biking, or hiking, preferably with my wife, Karla.
2. If I have a free day off, I plan on.....taking an all day bike ride with Karla.
3. If I took a week’s vacation, I’d want to.....go to an exotic island where I have never been.

“Besides the exercise and saving on gas, riding my bike 25 miles round-trip to WSU gives me some surprising glimpses into nature. During one ride recently, I saw three deer, one white heron, and a beautiful red fox. Ride safely and ALWAYS wear a helmet..”

Dr. Carl Brun,
MASW Program Director
277 Millett Hall
937-775-2754
Carole’s Recipe of the Day

**LEGENDARY TACO SOUP**

**Ingredients:**
- 1/2 cup salsa
- 1 pound chopped meat, browned
- 2 cans tomato paste
- 3 cans refried beans
- 4 cups water

**Instructions:**
Combine all ingredients and cook on low. Stir frequently and cook slowly as the beans will stick to the pot if you rush this! A crock pot on low works well too.
Top with chips, cheese, & sour cream.

---

BSW students Laura Tran and Breann Smith representing the social work club on the Quad at Fall Fest 2014

Congratulations to Dr. Shreya Bhandari Recipient of the WSU President’s Award for Excellence and the College of Liberal Arts Early Achievement Award for 2014

Support our Efforts

Please consider the many opportunities to give to the WSU Social Work Department through the SW Program Fund, SW Student Scholarships, and SW Alumni Society Scholarships. Check these out and give at [http://www.wright.edu/giving-alumni/your-gifts-at-work](http://www.wright.edu/giving-alumni/your-gifts-at-work)
September 17, Wednesday – The 6th Annual Social Work Alumni Society Beer and Wine Tasting and Silent Auction at the Fifth Street Brewpub. 5:30-7:30 pm. Tickets are $20 and can be purchased online community.wrightstatealumni.com/s/1606/index.aspx?sid=1606&pgid=744&gid=1&cid=1553&ecid=1553&post_id=0

September 29, Monday - Social Work Alumni Society Book Club, 6:00 pm, reading *Wings of Invention* by Sue Monk Kidd, contact Libby Nicolson, NicholsonL@childrensdayton.org for more information.

September 30, Tuesday - Seniors ‘Donuts with the Chair’, 270 Millett, 10:00-11:00. BSW seniors stop by the dept for open chat time with Dr. Twill.

September 30, Tuesday - Social Work Club Bake Sale, Outside the Hangar in Allyn Hall, 11:00-3:00. contact Laura Tran for more information at tran.39@wright.edu.

October 3 & 4, Friday and Saturday - Wright State University HOMECOMING WEEKEND. For a list of events, visit http://www.wright.edu/homecoming

October 4, Saturday - NAMI Strides For Mental Health, Wegerzyn Metro Parks, 1301 E Siebenthaler Ave, Dayton Registration starts at 8am, walk starts 930am, For details, visit: http://www.nami-mc.org/strides2014.html, Register Online at: http://www.nami-mc.org/strides.html, Please note the Team Name: WSU-MU Social Work Department, Team Captain: Sarah Twill

October 7, Tuesday - Social Work Club meeting, 3:15-4:15, 162 Millett, contact Laura Tran for more information at tran.39@wright.edu.

October 9, Thursday - Social Work Club meeting, 11:30-12:00, 162 Millett, contact Laura Tran for more information at tran.39@wright.edu.

October 21, Tuesday - Pre SW students have ‘Donuts with the Chair’, 270 Millett, 10:00-11:00. pre majors stop by the dept for open chat time with Dr. Twill.

October 25, Saturday - Ohio Makes a Difference Day

November 11, Tuesday - University Closed for Veteran’s Day Holiday

November 16-22, Sunday-Saturday - WSU Hunger & Homelessness Week

December 2, Tuesday - Presidential Lecture Series, Laverne Cox, critically acclaimed actress who currently appears in the Netflix original series Orange is the New Black, Wright State University Nutter Center. Watch for details.

December 8, Monday - Social Work Alumni Society Holiday Gathering, 6pm, Rockafield House, Wright State University. Contact Jennifer McDermott for information, ottoj18@gmail.com.

December 13, Saturday - Commencement, Wright State University Nutter Center.

December 24-31, 2014 - University Closed for Holiday and Winter Break.