



School of Social Work

School of Social Work Hosts 7th Annual Conference

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Daniel Gray, Donald L. Hilton Jr., Mark D. Chamberlain

The 7th annual Social Work Conference held Friday, October 19, 2012 was titled *Pornography Addiction and Families*. Presenters Donald L. Hilton Jr., Daniel Gray, and Mark D. Chamberlain addressed approximately 450 attendees.

Dr. Donald Hilton was the morning's first keynote speaker. Dr. Hilton gave a dynamic presentation titled, *Pornography and the Neuroplastic Brain: The Ultimate Process Addiction*. His presentation was based on empirical evidence suggesting that natural addictions such as pornography, gambling, and overeating affect the reward and executive systems of the brain. Dr. Hilton is a clinical associate professor of neurosurgery at the University of Texas at San Antonio as well as a program coordinator for LDS Family Services.

Dr. Hilton was followed by Daniel Gray with a presentation titled *Therapeutic Strate-*

gies in the Treatment of Pornography and Sexual Addictions.

This presentation highlighted the clinical and therapeutic

implications of pornography addiction. He sought to help clinicians better understand the world of cybersex technology and improve client care. He emphasized the fact that recovery is a lifelong process. Daniel Gray also presented the idea that clinicians must live in recovery everyday so that they are not negatively affected by their clients' difficult situations.

Daniel Gray is an LCSW and Certified Sexual Addiction Therapist, maintains a private practice, lectures and provides consultation. He is also the co-founder and clinical director of the LifeSTAR Network.

Lunch was followed by two break-out sessions. One of the break-out sessions was presented by Mark D. Chamberlain. Dr. Chamberlain's presentation was titled *Closer than Ever: Facilitating Attachment in Recovering Couples*. Dr. Chamberlain's presentation explained that by using attachment theory, research, and therapy techniques, therapists can help couples

Below: First Year Students: Jen Castillo, Jessica Bodily, KJ Green, Storie Stinger, and JoAnn Rueckert



Above: Mark D. Chamberlain



where one partner is struggling with pornography addiction. He shared some ideas of how attachment can be an issue when a marriage is facing pornography problems and that by working with that attachment, better communication can be facilitated between the couple.

Pornography and the Biology of Masculinity was the title of the second presentation given by Dr. Hilton. He highlighted how pornography, as a powerful biologic force, affects perceptions of masculinity and femininity, as well as its negative affect on human pair bonding.

Daniel Gray's second presentation was *When Trust has been Betrayed: Therapeutic Considerations in Treating Spouses' Sexual Betrayal and Emotional Trauma*. This break-out session specifically focused on how pornography addiction affects the non-addicted spouse and how clinicians can better help them.

The day concluded with a panel discussion featuring all three presenters, who answered questions submitted by conference attendees.

Conference videos are available on our website: socialwork.byu.edu.



Dr. Gordon Limb

School of Social Work Mission Statement

The mission of the School of Social Work at Brigham Young University is to support the overall mission of BYU and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints by generating new knowledge and by educating and training students to use the appropriate knowledge, values and skills of the social work profession to serve children and families within their environment and the context of their specific cultures.

From the Director

By Dr. Gordon Limb

As many of you know, we have been preparing for two important events during the 2012-2013 academic year. First, back on August 1st our CSWE self-study for accreditation (known as reaffirmation) was due. Every seven years the School goes through this process in order to maintain accreditation... so this is a very important event for us. We have been working on the self-study for about a year, documenting what we do as a School and how we meet the 10 core competencies. It has been a labor intensive process and I appreciate all the hard work put forth by our faculty and staff. In late October, CSWE reviewed our self-study and did not find any issues and did not require us to answer any specific questions, which rarely happens. This is a tribute to the faculty and staff and their hard work and diligence. We had a site visitor on February 5, 2013. Second, we recently had our unit review audit by BYU where they brought in two external social work academics and three internal BYU professors to review the MSW program. Again, the initial report was very positive and we appreciate many of you for your support in meeting with our reviewers. This has been a good time to show off all our great students and alumni.

In an effort to strengthen the clinical training of our students, the faculty recently approved a change in our clinical course offerings. This change will be effective Fall 2013 and will include dropping Soc W 662 (Group Work Theory) from the required courses for non-BSW students and combining some of its content into Soc W 660 (Direct Practice Skills) and the rest of the content being included in Soc W 663 (Advanced Group Work). We currently offer two social work groups courses (Soc W 662 and Soc W 663) as part of our clinical training. While we feel group work content is important, in evaluating other social work programs, nearly all of them do not require two group work courses. Most only require one and include group work content in their first practice class (the equivalent of Soc W 660) where they cover individual, group, and community practice in one course. We feel that by adding a couple of weeks of additional group content to our Soc W 660 course, we can still introduce students sufficiently to group work and then in their second year, we can give them additional training as they take Soc W 663. This will allow us to teach an additional required advanced practice course (Soc W 669- Advanced Clinical Practice Skills) during students' second year in the program. This course will be taught by Dr. Kevin Marett, a skilled clinical professor. After consultation with many of our field agencies and supervisors, it was recommended that we add a class, that focuses on addiction and other specialized clinical topics, to our current required courses. We feel that by adding this advanced practice course during the second year, we will be responding to our community/agency needs and give students additional training in important areas of clinical practice. I will keep you posted on how this change is working.

Finally, I continue to be humbled by the wonderful people with whom I get to work. From our students and alumni to the faculty and staff, I am very blessed to work with competent and dedicated people. Thank you for your willingness to be great ambassadors for BYU, the Church and social work. Also, we will miss Lisa Willey and Wanda Spaid as they retired and wish them the best in their next endeavors. There's still a lot of work to be done but the good that you do makes such a difference and I appreciate the opportunity to rub shoulders with many of you. Keep up the good work.

From the Alumni President

By Sandra L. Wilkes

Another year has passed, as well as some stirring events. In October 2012, the School of Social Work held a conference on pornography and addiction. For those in attendance, this conference was enlightening from a treatment perspective from several excellent presenters and a medical perspective which was presented by Donald L. Hilton Jr., MD. Conference slides, notes, and power points are available for your use on the School of Social Work website. Coming up next fall another conference will be held on campus. I encourage you to attend. You will definitely enhance your scholarship and free CEUs are always welcomed.

Two more of our long-term faculty and staff members retired this year. Lisa Willey, graduate secretary, left after many years of remarkable service. Nanci Shumpert has filled her position and we welcome her! I'm not sure how future students will gain the arduous DSM knowledge required since Dr. Wanda Spaid decided to spend more time scuba diving. I'm sure the School will do its best, but she will definitely be missed.

While recruiting new students, one of the powerful draws to social work is the variety and challenging careers that are available. This year we have heard from several alumni who report experiences such as starting a "winners' group" for probationers, serving missions as mental health advisers in Africa, and retiring from one career and starting another as an individual and family therapist in an inpatient facility. Another alumnus has worked in child welfare and is now serving in a charter school as a Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker (LICSW). One alumnus has changed from being a school based educational social worker to a medical social worker. Such vast experience and variety gained boasts more intrigue than most careers can imagine. It is immensely gratifying to be part of such a professional and knowledgeable association.

As alumni president, I encourage you to consider monetarily sharing with BYU's School of Social Work. Each small contribution assists in future students' having opportunities to join this rewarding profession.

As the years move forward, it is often easy to lose track of those important relationships we developed while in school. Social media is certainly beneficial in maintaining contact. However, I would encourage you to keep contact with the School of Social Work as well as the BYU Alumni Association. I am always intrigued to learn what exciting opportunities are being enjoyed by our associates.

To facilitate our reestablishing and maintaining ties we are planning a picnic reunion before the 2013 Homecoming game with Georgia State.

I encourage you to share your experiences and invite you to email me with ideas you feel will enhance our alumni association. My email address is:
grandysw@yahoo.com.

I wish you a rewarding 2013.

Sincerely,

Sandra L. Wilkes

BYU School of Social Work
Alumni President.



Sandra L. Wilkes

Your donation helps provide an excellent educational experience for students. If each of our 4,000+ social work alumni gave just \$10 per year, that would fund a scholarship for a current social work student!

Yes, your donation matters!!

For donations to the School of Social Work contact:

*Jim Crawley
940 SWKT
Provo, UT 84602
jim_crawley@byu.edu
(801) 422-8028*

Help give more students an "exceptional educational experience."

Global Awareness Society International Conference

The 21st annual Global Awareness Society International Conference was held in May of 2012 in New York City. Garrett Pace, a current 2nd year MSW student, and Dr. Seipel presented their research at the conference. Dr. Seipel gave a presentation on the regional dynamics of East Asia and Garrett presented a conceptual policy paper, "Street Children in Ukraine: Homelessness and Other Associated Risks." Garrett's paper was well received by the audience and a lively discussion followed at the conclusion of the paper session. Garrett wishes to thank Dr. Roby for her input in the preparation of the paper.

Garrett served a mission in Ukraine, which strongly influenced his decision to become a social worker. He explained, "I was exposed to many social problems I wanted to help alleviate, such as substance abuse and street children, but there was little I could do because I lacked professional skills. I engaged in many service projects, but I knew there needed to be something more to help children and families. Now I recognize these were largely policy and psychosocial treatment issues, and my paper outlines policy recommendations to advance the rights of this vulnerable population."

At the conference the keynote speaker, His Excellency Ken Kanda, Ambassador and permanent representative of Ghana to the United Nations, reminded the audience that the best way to secure world security is to promote human security. Dr. Seipel reports that the conference was intellectually stimulating and, through interactions with scholars from many parts of the world, new friendships were forged.



Above: Student Winners



Above: Plenary Presenters

With the help of Dr. Seipel, Garrett was able to receive grants through the School of Social Work, the Marjorie Pay Hinckley Endowed Chair, and the Global Awareness Society International which enabled him to travel to New York City to present his paper. Garrett was one of two students to receive the prestigious Leland Stanford McKeeman scholarship valued at \$600. Seven students won other various scholarships. He also won the student paper contest, which resulted in a \$100 cash award and the publication of his manuscript in the 2012 volume of the Journal of Global Awareness.



Above: Garrett Pace and other presenters, Dr. Seipel seated

Students are encouraged to submit papers for this year's conference in Rome, Italy (May 25-31, 2013). Students interested in participating should visit <http://orgs.bloomu.edu/gasi/> to find more information and instructions on how to submit papers.



STEP is a data collection effort from faculty in the School of Social Work and School of Family Life at BYU aimed at gathering meaningful data from individuals raised in stepfamilies.

Link to our survey and get more information at stepfamilydata.wordpress.com or step.byu.edu (coming soon).

BYU Hosts Dr. Sue Johnson



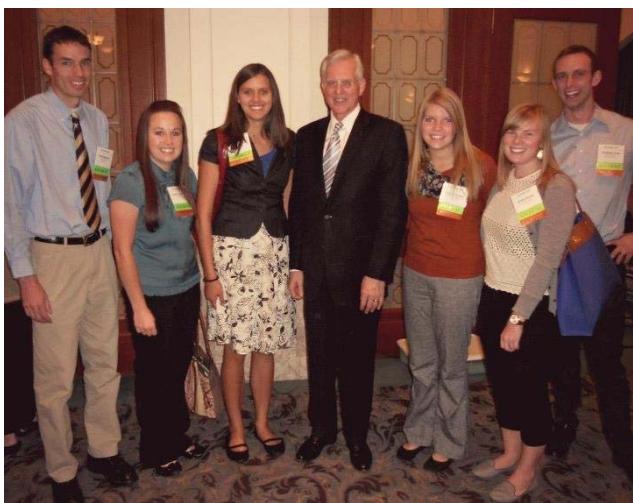
Dr. Sue Johnson, the main proponent of Emotionally Focused Couple's Therapy, was jointly hosted by the BYU School of Family Life and School of Social Work. During the October 17-18 visit, Dr. Johnson presented three student sessions and one main public student session and one main public address. The Thursday evening public presentation to more than 500 students and professional practitioners at the Hinckley Center was titled *The Relationship Revolution: A New Era for Couple Therapy*.

Brown-Bag Lecture



Once per semester, the MSWSA hosts a brown-bag lecture, usually a professional practicing in the field. Fall semester's speaker was Nathan Jensen, an LPC from Scenic View Academy. He discussed multiple aspects of biofeedback including stress management, anxiety, and depression. He also demonstrated the use of many of his devices which measure various changes in the body such as temperature, heart rate, blood pressure, electric current, and moisture. This was a great opportunity for the students to meet a professional and learn about an important practice in the field.

Students Volunteer at AMCAP



Several first year BYU MSW students volunteered at the AMCAP convention held October 4-5 in the Joseph Smith Memorial Building in Salt Lake City. The title of the conference this year was *The Psychology of Forgiveness: Implications for Mental Health Professionals*. Students were able to listen to a variety of presenters as well as meet and interact with various professionals in the field. The keynote speaker Thursday evening was Elder D. Todd Christofferson, who many of the students were able to meet afterward. One first year student, Danna Lindemann, was part of a break-out session presenting research she has worked on throughout her undergraduate degree.

Above: Trent Keppner, Kenzi Sorensen, Brianne Johnson, Elder Christofferson, Kristjana Green, Jessica Bodily, Jonathan Case. Not Pictured: Tess Collett, Kerianna Butler.

Joseph N. Symons Award



Jessica Woodbury

Jessica Woodbury was the 2012 recipient of the Joseph N. Symons Family award for *Social Worker of*

Promise. The Symons award winner is chosen by the members of their graduating class, as someone who has exhibited social work values throughout the program, including their field placement experiences.

When asked about her reaction at receiving this award, Jessica stated, "Receiving the Joseph N. Symons Family award meant a lot to me. It was very unexpected. I was pregnant during almost my entire second year, and struggled more with that year of school than I have struggled with almost anything else I have done. I was also blessed to be surrounded by so many passionate and capable individuals in my class, all who I felt offered so much promise to the field of social work! Because of this, I was especially surprised, humbled, and honored

that my classmates would choose me as the recipient of this award."

"My passion and conscience have always left me with the desire to help provide a voice for the unheard and to empower those who feel powerless. Receiving this award, however, has added an additional feeling of responsibility to do so and live up to all that the award stands for. It makes me hope that I will become the sort of person whose life as a whole lives up to the values of social work, even in the regular daily interactions I have with others. It leaves me with the hope that I can, even in a small way, leave the humble sphere of my existence a little better and brighter than it was before."

Winners of the 2012 Shumway Essay Contest

The 2012 Shumway Essay Contest winners were Breanna Plooster (1st place), Mindi Moses (2nd place), and Rosey Bassett (3rd place). One of the recipients, Mindi Moses, wrote of the experience:

"The experience of writing the paper was extremely enjoyable, memorable, and a wonderful opportunity for personal reflection. I had the chance to reflect upon my internship opportunities and all that I had learned thus far in the Social Work program at BYU. It was a sweet experience to remember the small interactions I had that inspired me to be a better social worker, as well as the larger more profound examples of those with whom I worked. During my undergraduate studies in psychology and work with non-profits agencies, I always tried to focus my attention on the idea of social justice and how to bring it about. Knowing that this was the general topic for the paper sparked my interest to want to gather my thoughts, experiences, and

ideas and compile them into a focused paper on this topic of social justice."

This publishable paper contest was designed in honor of E. Gene Shumway, one of the founding fathers of the Brigham Young University MSW program. Dr. Shumway was recruited to BYU's Social Work faculty team in 1975, specifically in anticipation of the contribution he would make to the development of the new Master's program. While working at BYU, he had a great influence on the evolving design and accreditation of the program. He maintained a personal vision and commitment to the

School of Social Work and in many ways contributed to making it the program we enjoy today.



Above: Rosey Bassett, E. Gene Shumway, Breanna Plooster

Ariel S. Ballif Award Winner

The 2012 Ariel S. Ballif Award for Academic and Professional Excellence was awarded to Laurel George. This award is given annually by the social work faculty to one student in the School of Social Work. Unlike other awards at BYU, this is not based on a “winning paper,” but instead on the votes of the school faculty members for the student they consider the most academically deserving, the graduating student who best understands the need to constantly broaden and deepen his or her knowledge base and accepts the responsibility of adding to the knowledge base of social work, through effective research.

When asked how she felt about receiving the award, Laurel replied, “I was stunned and honored to receive the Ariel S. Ballif award because I was surrounded by class-

mates who were wonderful examples of academic and professional excellence. It has been my privilege to work with Professor Jini Roby for over 2 1/2 years in an effort to increase, through research, the knowledge base in the area of child welfare. Professor Roby has been an example, as have other faculty in the BYU School of Social Work, of being open to change and improvement both professionally and personally. These men and women have inspired me and required the best I could give. Thus, I have come to understand social work research

and practice as a lifetime endeavor, requiring constant adaptation, growth, and collaboration if we are to fulfill our divine call to serve through this profession.”



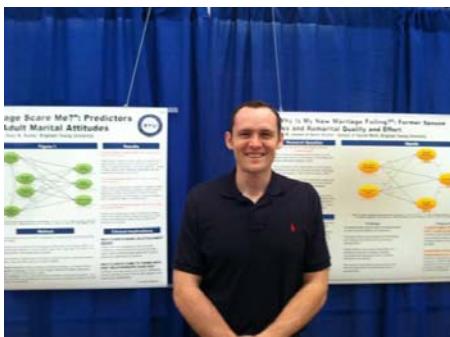
Above: Laurel George with Professor Jini Roby

Mary Lou Fulton Poster Contest

The 2012 Mary Lou Fulton Poster Contest winner was Todd M. Jensen, with Dr. Kevin Shafer as his mentor. His poster was titled “Why is My Marriage Failing?: Former Spouse Ties and Remarital Quality and Effort.” The 2nd place winner was Jonathan R. Padilla with Dr. Gordon Limb as his mentor. His poster was titled “Spirituality, Emotional Supportiveness, and Positive Co-Parenting Among Urban American Indian Families.”

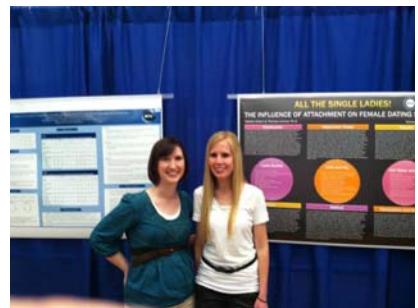
Writing of the experience, Todd reported, “My poster presentation dealt with how ties to former spouses influence remarital satisfaction, stability, and effort. I was fortunate enough to receive a first place award for my poster—something I was certainly not expecting. I find a lot of enjoyment and excitement in research, especially as it pertains to generating knowledge that can actually help children, adults, relationships, families, and society at large. So, the award I received was certainly icing on the cake for me.”

The Mary Lou Fulton Poster competition is an opportunity for students to present their research to the public. Students in all departments in the College of Family, Home, and Social Sciences are invited to participate by preparing a poster which illustrates the hypothesis, research process, and results of their research.



Above: Todd Jensen

Another social work student, Natalie Gilbert, presented a project she had been working on for a year titled, “All the Single Ladies: Influence of Attachment on Female Dating Styles.” Natalie’s poster described three dating styles women frequently fall into. The “Leaky Buckets,” as Natalie described them, are often flirtatious and enter into relationships easily. “I imagine they have a bucket that they’re constantly needing to fill with validation,” Natalie said. The second group, called the “Lock and Key,” is much more hesitant to enter into a relationship. “They’re looking for just the right fit,” Natalie explained. The third group she called “Add Water and Stir.” Gilbert explained, “They are very confident that they can form a relationship that will work out.”



Above: Jessie Crapo & Natalie Gilbert

CSWE Reaffirmation Cycle Nearly Completed

Every seven years the BYU School of Social Work goes through a reaffirmation process with their national accrediting body, the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) in Alexandria, VA.

Over the past two years, as a part of the reaffirmation process, social work faculty have worked to prepare a self-study, reporting on the core curriculum competencies. This document outlines specifics about how well faculty members are teaching and students are learning, and how the established competencies are being evaluated.

The work was divided into five sections and distributed between faculty members Gordon Limb, Jini Roby, Shirley Cox, Kevin Maret, and Wendy Sheffield, with consultation from other members of the faculty. Miraculously, this document, which filled two large binders, survived a campus-wide data

systems failure to meet the CSWE submission deadline of July 2012.

As part of the process, once the documents were received by CSWE, members of the Council on Accreditation looked through the documents and decided if they had any questions. Usually the council then sends a list of their questions back to the school. Surprisingly, the report that the school received in November included no specific questions beyond the typical questions asked. We are unaware of any other situation where CSWE has expressed no additional concerns.

The second part of the reaffirmation process included a site visitor who visited campus on February 5, 2013, when she met personally with faculty and students. Her findings have been submitted to the CSWE Committee on Accreditation, which will vote on our

accreditation at their June 2013 meeting. We will let you know of the outcome, but have no concern at this time.

Our social work programs have been accredited since 1975 (BSW) and 1983 (MSW) and have been acknowledged, throughout the country, for producing high quality professionals. Graduates report positive acknowledgment of their training, skills, and abilities by hiring and licensing agencies from Sydney, Australia to Long Island, New York.

Dr. Gordon Limb, the program director reported, "I appreciate all the hard work of the faculty to complete the self-study, we are pleased with the way the report came together, and I am happy for the good marks we have received thus far."

School Welcomes New Graduate Secretary

The School of Social Work welcomed Nanci Shumpert as the new graduate secretary in June 2012 following the retirement of Lisa Willey. Nanci enjoys working with students, faculty, and staff, and loves the unique and uplifting atmosphere of BYU. She grew up in Southern California and moved to Provo to attend BYU where she met her husband Lynn. They then went back to California to get married and raise a family. Fifteen years later, her husband was offered a job at BYU and she was then able to finish her bachelor's degree in English.

Nanci and Lynn have four grown children including twin boys, another

son, and a daughter. Two years ago, Nanci was able to see all of her children married within a nine month period. On New Year's Eve, they became first-time grandparents to a baby boy named Crew.

Nanci enjoys gardening, hiking, biking, cooking, reading, Sunday family dinners, serving in the LDS church, and her rescued dogs, Lucky and Lucy. She especially loves her work as the graduate secretary. In her words "I love it! Social Work is the best grad program on campus –wonderful faculty, staff, student secretaries, and students to work with. I love the BYU Campus."



Nanci Shumpert

Program Unit Review

In addition to the reaffirmation process, conducted by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), the School of Social Work also went through a university Program Unit Review this year. Because not all programs on campus have an accrediting body, like CSWE, the university conducts reviews of each of their programs every seven years.

The School of Social Work decided that having both of their reviews in the same year wasn't such a bad idea.

The faculty and staff followed the suggested Unit Review outline and completed the items assigned by the director. These comments were compiled and reviewed by other faculty members prior to submission of the final self study report to BYU administration.

The unit review team was then selected and the dates for the visit established.

The team consisted of three internal reviewers from BYU, (two from the English department and one from the School of Family Life), and two external reviewers, Edward Lawlar from Washington University, St. Louis, and Marlene Wong from the University of Southern California (USC), both Social Work faculty members at their respective universities.

During the 29th and 30th of November, 2012, the Unit Review team visited with the faculty and students of the School of Social Work, the advisory council, and field agency representatives.

The self study report used by the Unit Review team, while similar to the CSWE self study outline, differed substantially. The BYU internal review was focused on learning how well the school was using the given resources, utilizing the

assigned space, and how the students were being taught.

Marlene Wong, the review visitor from USC School of Social Work, was very impressed by the way the school was running the MSW program. She liked how the students were given an opportunity to meet with clients in the Comprehensive Clinic prior to their field experience. She wished that she could do something like that with her students.

In general, the review board seemed impressed with the school and their official report will be available for our review later this year.

Speaking of the process, Director Gordon Limb reported, "The unit review process gave us a good chance to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the program and show off the good work of our faculty and students."

BYU Welcomes New Field Liaison



Marilee Van Wagenen

Marilee VanWagenen was selected as the School of Social Work's Field Liaison in March of 2012 and in April began working with Wendy Sheffield, our Director of Field Education.

Marilee graduated from BYU with a BS in Psychology, while married and raising six children. When her youngest child began kindergarten, she began her Master's Degree in Social Work at the University of Utah.

Her prior employment included the University of Utah Counseling Center, Primary Children's Hospital, Youth Care Inc. (Residential Treatment), Arbinger Consulting, LDS Family Services, Utah County Department of Substance Abuse Treatment and Prevention, and private practice. She has also worked on the TV series "Promised Land" and "Touched by an Angel", and co-produced two documentary films.

In addition to her work, Marilee loves spending time with her children and 15 grandchildren, camping, hiking, going to plays and movies, and running races. She completed her first full-length marathon last summer.

Working as the Field Liaison for BYU is her dream job. Marilee reported, "The students are so enthusiastic, interesting, and intelligent; it feels good to be around them." She reports she is also impressed with the many fine agencies in the community which take the BYU interns. "The field supervisors are talented, dedicated clinicians with years of experience they are eager to share." She is looking forward to many years of service at the BYU School of Social Work.

School Welcomes New Adjunct Faculty Catherine Johnson

Catherine Johnson graduated from the University of Utah Graduate School of Social Work in 1977 and has had the experience of being a protective services worker, foster care and day care provider trainer, and substance abuse prevention specialist and therapist in the professional social work field. She had the privilege of working for five years with the Navajo people in Monument Valley and Mexican Hat.

Reared in Salt Lake City, Catherine moved to San Juan County, Utah, in 1977, to work with the Ute and Navajo people. While there, she met her husband, Ray, who was born in the San Juan area, and they both now like to call that their original home.

Since moving to Provo in 1989, Catherine went to work for Wasatch Mental Health in the Youth Outpatient Clinic. She became the program manager for Youth Outpatient in 1996, the program manager for School Based Services in 1999, and the Division Director of Youth Services in 2007.

Overall, Catherine has been working in management at Wasatch Mental for 16 years. For the last 15 years, she immersed herself in early childhood mental health, babies with mental health issues, and autism.

She is excited to have the opportunity, as adjunct faculty, to teach Social Work 667, Assessment and Intervention with Children and Adolescents. In this class, her goal is that each of the students will come away with practical experience and skills, at a level where they feel confident in working with children and adolescents.

Catherine has also taken on the task of replacing Dr. Wanda Spaid as the instructor of Social Work 622, Psychopathology.

Catherine and Ray have four children and two grandchildren. Catherine states, "While raising children is very difficult, it has been the most rewarding experience of my life and still is!" She enjoys gardening, sewing, knitting, and running, along with traveling to see her children and grandchildren.

Catherine reported, "I feel it an honor to be asked to teach at BYU. The students in my class are exceptional and it is exciting to see their enthusiasm for learning! I will even admit here, but do not tell anyone, that I am becoming a BYU fan!" The school is happy to hear that because our Social Work Field Team has been a fan of hers for many years.



Catherine Johnson

Dr. Cox China Delegation



Dr. Shirley Cox (center) signing manuals

On Friday, October 19th, Dr. Shirley Cox met at the BYU School of Social Work with a foreign delegation, comprised of the Chief of Chinese Family Welfare Services

and twenty three Chinese Provincial Directors of Family Welfare and their aides, Dana Templeman the International Director and members of the legal staff of LDS Family Services, and Church Public Affairs Hosting representatives. The Chinese officials were visiting the US to learn from our nation's experiences with family strengthening programs and out-of-home care programs, policies, and outcome evaluations.

Dr. Cox presented a power-point "USA Best Practices in Foster Care Placement," with the assistance of Dana Templeman.

In addition, Dr. Cox discussed the Family Enrichment Manual and other related programs developed in conjunction with Wendy W. Sheffield, our current Director of Field Education. The enthusiasm of the group was indicated by their each wanting to be photographed with Dr. Cox as she autographed their copies of the Chinese FEP manual.

Lisa Willey Retires after 17 Years



In May 1995, School of Social Work Director, Lynn Pehrson, hired Lisa Willey as the school secretary. She worked full-time

for two years, and then switched to part time as the newly created graduate secretary position became available. Seventeen years later she retired from her “very favorite job” to spend more time with her retired husband and family.

Lisa stated, “The friendships I have made have been my greatest treasure working at BYU. I was privileged to work with such fine faculty members who were patient with me and taught me volumes about human behavior and more.”

However, Lisa recalls at least one frustration: six consecutive years of trying to teach the faculty a very simple musical number to perform for the annual social work student Christmas party. She felt like a frustrated Broadway producer and realized that “even though our offices at the time were in the Knight Mangum Building (where the Young Ambassadors practiced), we (social work faculty and staff) were not the Young Ambassadors, but it was still a lot of fun.”

In June 2012, when the school faculty and friends gave Lisa a surprise farewell party, she reports she was “shocked and tickled.” Lisa was given an honorary PhD (by virtue of the authority vested in them by “nobody in particular”) as a “Humanitarian, Graduator, Friend, Fixer, Confidante, and All Around Good Person, the degree of Doctor of Christian Service, honoris causa.”

“Now you see why I loved working there for 17 years!” she stated. “And now I’m off (in no particular order) to start reading books for pleasure, do some more traveling, have more family time, lunches with friends, more work-out time, give back to my community and church, be creative with my sewing machine, compile and publish some family history stories, and attempt to tame the paper monster in my own home.”

She hopes to visit Europe again, and China, too, but there’s also a lot of the USA that needs to be seen as well. Drawing from Agatha Christie’s autobiography, Lisa also hopes to enjoy more sunshine, apples, music, going to the sea, dreaming, lilies of the valley, the smell of rain, and going to the theater.

Since retiring in June, some of the new adventures Lisa has experienced are visiting relatives, reading several books simply for

pleasure, as well as being a tourist right here in Utah. She’s volunteering with her daughter at the Food and Care Coalition serving lunch to the patrons each week. She reports, “It feels good to have more time to give back to the community.” She’s spent some time at the family history center each week and now better understands why no one has done anything with those long lost German ancestor lines. And now, that there’s more hours in the day, there’s no excuse not to work out, power walk, lift weights, and weed the yard. “This retirement gig is exhausting,” she states.

Lisa said, “I truly loved working at the school and helping the grad students with their programs of study, planning events, and seeing them cross the stage at convocation. I enjoyed talking with many prospective students and guiding them down the path from application to admission.”

Lisa reports that she loves and misses all her daily contacts with social work friends, and would love to stay in touch in person or through social media.



Above: Katherine Kirkham, Bonnie Kirkham (student secretaries), Jini Roby, Charlene Clark, Michael Seipel, Ken Matheson, Lisa Willey, Wendy Sheffield, Wanda Spaid, Shirley Cox, Gordon Limb, Kevin Marett

March is Social Work Month Lecture Series on Autism

Thursday, March 7

Sponsored by Brigham Young University School of Social Work,
Master of Social Work Student Association

3380 WSC

9am



12pm

3 Free CEU's

Student Publications and Presentations



Todd Jensen

Todd has been fortunate enough to have two manuscripts accepted for publication, both of which were in collaboration with and co-authored by Dr. Kevin Shafer. The first is entitled "Stepfamily functioning and closeness: Children's views on second marriages and stepfather relationships." This study assessed what factors predict closeness between a stepchild and their stepfather, as perceived by the child. Todd explains, "Stepchild perspectives are something that I have spent a lot of time thinking about, and it seems that stepchildren currently lack a firm voice in the literature." This study identified a number of variables that clinicians can focus on when helping stepfamilies reach a functional and satisfying homeostasis. This manuscript will be printed in *Social Work*.

The other is entitled "Relationship effort, satisfaction, and stability across union types." This study examined how relationship effort influences relationship satisfaction and stability within four distinct relationship types: first-time cohabiting, first married, post-divorce cohabiting, and remarried couples. The results provide meaningful implications for clinicians as they work with various couple types. This manuscript will be printed in the *Journal of Marital and Family Therapy*.

Todd reported, "I thank Dr. Limb, Dr. Shafer, all other faculty, my fellow research-emphasis classmates, and my entire cohort for their support, friendship, and examples. Without these individuals, and our good Heavenly Father, my efforts would not have been able to produce the results that I have been blessed with."



Garrett Pace

Garrett currently has one published paper entitled "Street Children in Ukraine: Homelessness and Other Associated Risks." He was able to present this paper at the GASI conference in May 2012.

Garrett was also scheduled to give a presentation at CSWE in November 2012 entitled,

"Stepparenting Issues and Partner Relationship Outcomes: The Role of Clear Communication," but was unable to attend due to his baby being born. However, he was subsequently able to present this paper at the Society of Social Work Research (SSWR) Conference, in January 2013. Garrett also presented a poster entitled "Parenting and Depression: Differences Across Parental Roles" at the January SSWR conference.

He currently has three papers under review and several others in the preparation stages. These papers deal primarily with parenting and depression, as well as protective factors in step-family relationships. In addition Garrett is beginning to research autism spectrum disorders and will be conducting a quasi-experimental program evaluation on an adult social skills training program later this year.

He expressed his gratitude to Kevin Shafer, Gordon Limb, Jini Roby, and Michael Siepel for their mentoring in his research endeavors.



Jessie Crapo

Jessie completed a study with Dr. Susie Roper in the School of Family Life and faculty from the College of Education and Nursing, on sibling relationships where at least one child has a disability. Specifically, she was looking at what factors can help enhance these relationships.

Jessie reported on her research at the annual National Council on Family Relations (NCFR) November 1-3, 2012, in Phoenix, Arizona. Jessie stated, "My presentation was given with three other student presentations about children with disabilities. Each of us presented for 15 minutes and then had a panel Q&A where the audience could ask questions." She reported that the most important part of her presentation efforts, were the parents, who were in the audience and how grateful they were for the research she was doing. It was also interesting to meet students from other universities and learn more about their programs. Dr. Roper knew quite a few of the students, in attendance at the conference, because she had mentored them at BYU before they went on to get their PhDs. Jessie stated "It was cool to meet all of them and see where their own research and careers have taken them."

Faculty Updates



Dr. Kevin Shafer

Dr. Shafer is currently working on research in three areas. First, studies looking at various aspects of remarital equality after divorce and widowhood and what produces high quality family life after remarriage. Second, he is working on a project with Dr. Limb examining the demography of American Indians and its implication for child welfare. And, third, he is beginning to collect data on how life growing up in a stepfamily affects adult mental health, interpersonal relationships, and attitudes.

Dr. Shafer teaches the methods and statistics courses in the Social Work program and received two grants this past year, Mentoring Environment Grant from BYU (\$17,000) and a Family Studies Center Grant from BYU Family Studies Center (\$6,120). Dr. Shafer reports that his most memorable experiences of 2012 were the birth and accompanying blessing of his third child, Nathan Hugh Shafer. He also enjoyed seeing several students publish, make professional presentations, and produce high quality research.



Wendy Sheffield

Wendy is currently working on finalizing her new field evaluation rubric on which she received 100% satisfaction from the field agency pilot group on the new field evaluation rubric. The new rubric will be used for all field evaluations beginning winter semester 2013. She has also revised the syllabi for Integrative Field Seminars making them uniform across sections

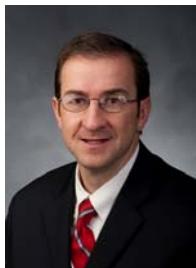
and adding consecutive assignments and activities which are congruent with our CSWE core competencies. Wendy reports her most memorable experience of 2012: "In December I was able to spend quality time with my father prior to his death on Christmas Eve. We had a beautiful time together, and he truly was 'Home for the Holidays!'"



Professor Jini Roby

Professor Roby is currently working on a project with the family group conferencing (FGC) method in Guatemala, sponsored by the Family Studies Center at BYU. In July 2012 she and a number of colleagues conducted a pilot training of key stakeholders on the FGC method, in collaboration with UNICEF and the Ministry of Social Welfare. She is also currently working with three students to publish three separate manuscripts based on data she has collected over the last few years on youth aging out of foster

care and their sense of identity and readiness for adulthood. In addition, she is also working on manuscripts on child trafficking vs sale of children in intercountry adoption practices, memory books as therapeutic tools, and children's rights of inheritance when their parents die without leaving a will (especially in the sub-Saharan context). Professor Roby reports her most memorable experience of 2012 being her daughter, Micia, getting married and giving them a son-in-law, Seth. She stated, "They are both wonderful human beings and 4th year medical students. We are thrilled that they found each other!" Professor Roby was sitting at Victoria Falls (Zambia) with her husband, C.Y., while writing this, and she feels "that this will be among the most memorable times of our life." In addition to her BYU work, she continues to do consultancies around the world. In 2012 she assisted in the development of a child protection system in Nepal and helped to create social work training modules in Ethiopia. She reports, "I feel so blessed to have opportunities to use my social work and legal training for the benefit of children around the world."



Dr. Gordon Limb

Dr. Limb has once again had a busy year as director. He has worked diligently along with other faculty members to get the School of Social Work reaccredited. He reports that receiving notice from CSWE that the self-study was reviewed and they did not find any major issues or have any specific questions was his most memorable experience in 2012. He states, "That was a very good day." A recent publication of his titled "American Indian tribal/state Title IV-E intergovernmental agreements: An update on the challenges and opportunities for accessing foster care and adoption assistance" was published in the *Journal of Public Child Welfare*.



Dr. Shirley Cox

Dr. Cox is busy working with four 1st year MSW students on research papers relative to the attitudes and desires of European mothers, which she hopes will result in student presentations at the European Union (EU) and United Nations (UN) twenty year celebration of the 1994 World Year of the Family. Also, she is pleased that the article written with Drew Mallory (BSW Class of 2008) regarding the "Impact of BSW Interns on Agencies" has been published in the *Journal of Teaching in Social Work*.

Students Serve Community Agency

First and Second year MSW students took the opportunity to give back to the community. On Saturday, November 17, 2012, students from both cohorts met at the Family Support and Treatment Center and spent the afternoon cleaning and disinfecting toys and play rooms. Students had fun working together for a good cause and enjoyed spending time helping out an important agency in our community.



Above: Paul Shelton, Zach Duvall, Jessica Endres & Sarah Wilcox

Left: Back Row: Rachel Woodruff, Jessica Bodily, Jen Castillo, Sarah Wilcox, Zach Duvall, Mike Bartlett,
Front Row: Paul Shelton, Natalie Gilbert, Jessica Endres

Mistletoe YouTube Video goes Viral

In December, a YouTube video went viral that featured many BYU students and some former faculty and friends of the Social Work program. The video titled Mistletoe Kissing Prank received nearly 19 million views. This was a prank conducted in the Wilkinson Student Center by BYU students. At the conclusion of a fake survey about Christmas, a mistletoe dropped down from the ceiling. Dr. Gene Gibbons, founding Director of the School of Social Work, and his wife Evelyn can be seen kissing under the mistletoe; Lisa Willey, previous Secretary of the School, and her husband were also caught under the mistletoe; and Lucile Christiansen, spouse of retired faculty John Christiansen, and her guest can be seen giving the surveyor a kiss on the cheek.

Neil and Lisa Willey



Dr. Gene Gibbons and wife Evelyn



Guest, Lucile Christiansen



MSW Student Turkey Bowl

The 4th annual MSW Turkey Bowl was held November 10, 2012 at a very snowy Rock Canyon Park. First and Second years students and spouses bundled up to carry on the flag football tradition in 12 inches of snow. Both teams fought hard until the end. A last minute touchdown by the first years ended the game in a tie. It was fun for everyone and a great opportunity to bring the cohorts together.



First and Second year students



First Year Students Celebrate Halloween

First year MSW students celebrated Halloween with a potluck lunch between classes. Several students dressed up in costumes which included the Hulk, Katniss, Chronicles of Narnia, and others; however, the crowd favorite was Angel Moroni. McKay Deveraux arrived in style looking like the bronze statue of Angel Moroni. Let's just say he left enough of an impression that we are still finding traces of him around campus (bronze smudges).



Left: Zack Bullock, Allie Harrison

Right: Andrew Davis, McKay Deveraux, Andrew Layne



Marriages and Newborns



Noa Lomani Max Pomale

Melissa Pomale, a first year student, along with her husband, Sione, welcomed their first child just prior to Melissa starting the program. Noa Lomani Max Pomale was born on July 25, 2012 at a whopping 9 lbs 10 oz. Noa was born with an inch and a half of hair, and, at only 4 months, weighs 19 pounds. He is adorable and loves spending time with his mommy and daddy. He is a very curious baby and loves to learn about the world around him. Noa was blessed on October 14, 2012 by his father Sione Ika'e'e Pomale. Melissa states, "We love little Noa more than anything and are so blessed he is part of our lives!"



Jackson Nathan Smith

First year student Nathan Smith and his wife Jessica are the proud new parents of little Jackson Nathan Smith. He was born one week early on October 13th

at 10:23am, weighing 7 lbs 2 oz and 21 inches long. They are grateful to have a newborn in their home and look forward to the day when they can catch up on their sleep!



Otto Shelton

Second year student Paul Shelton and his wife welcomed a new addition to their family on November 26, 2012, four days after his birth mom told them that she would like them to adopt him. They were not planning on adopting a baby, but were presented with this opportunity and could not

pass it up. When Otto was born they had not started any paperwork, which they spent Thanksgiving break scrambling to com-

plete. Otto was born 8 weeks early and spent 45 days in the NICU. Paul reports, "Although he was born early, he did well in the NICU and had no real set backs. We are grateful to have Otto in our lives and know that Heavenly Father has a plan for us that sometimes we cannot foresee. We are grateful for Otto's birth mom and the gift she gave us."



Nathan Hugh Shafer

Faculty member, Dr. Kevin Shafer, and his wife Melissa welcomed their third child September 30, 2012. Nathan Hugh Shafer was born at 1:24 am weighing in at 7 lbs. 2 oz. and 19.5 inches long.



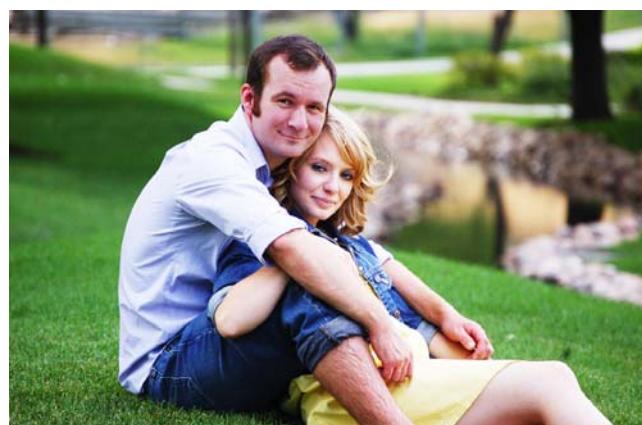
Evan Pace

Second Year student Garrett Pace and his wife had their first child, Evan Pace on Wednesday, November 21. He was born at 8 lbs 8 oz and 22 inches. Garrett thinks he'll probably play in the NBA someday since he's so tall. He is a handsome little guy and has brought so much joy to Garrett and his family.



Banner Zakrey Bullock

First year student Zachery Bullock and his wife welcomed a new baby boy on January 4, 2013. He weighed 6 lb 13 oz and was named after the Incredible Hulk. His big brother, Addison Thor, celebrated his first birthday on January 18, which is also Zach's birthday.



The Success Story

Tom and Felicia Bibber

Tom Bibber and Felicia Bainbridge were both first year MSW students when they met in the fall of 2011. They became best friends and not too long after that started dating. Everyone in their cohort and the professors saw it coming before they did...or at least before Felicia did. Tom and Felicia were married over the summer on August 15, 2012 in the Nauvoo Illinois Temple just in time to start their second year in the program.

Dr. Seipel likes to refer to Tom and Felicia as "the success story."

MSW Student Association

MSWSA 2011-2012

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Michael Seipel
President: Mike Bartlett

Graduate Student Society
Representatives:
1st Year– Storie Stinger Johnson
2nd Year-Kimberly Perry

Advisory Council Representatives:
1st Year-Jessica Bodily
2nd Year– Zachary Duvall

Faculty Liaisons:
1st Year– Tess Collett
2nd Year– Sarah Wilcox

Mentor Coordinator:
2nd Year– Todd Jensen

Activities:
1st Year– Kenzi Sorensen
2nd Years– Makensie Baker & Jessie
Crapo

NASW Representatives:
1st Year– Kami Huff
2nd Year– Felicia Bibber

Faculty Appreciation:
2nd Year: Thomas Bibber

Secretary:
2nd Year: Ricci Howell



Above: Front row: Thomas Bibber, Felicia Bibber, Jessie Crapo, Sarah Wilcox, Jessica Bodily, Ricci Howell, Kimberly Perry, Zack Duvall, Dr. Seipel.

Back Row: Makensie Baker, Mike Bartlett, Todd Jensen.

Not pictured: Storie Johnson, Tess Collett, Kenzi Sorensen, Kami Huff.

Facebook Connects Cohorts

Facebook is helping our MSW cohorts connect. The Class of 2014, at the suggestion of the Class of 2013, is utilizing a class facebook page in order to better communicate, organize, and advertise study groups and social events and activities for both 1st and 2nd year MSW students. One first year states, “Without facebook, our cohort wouldn’t be nearly as close as we are.” The page gives classmates a chance to ask questions and receive answers concerning class assignments, suggest other resources and information concerning class discussions, and foster better communication between classmates.

Following the lead of the cohort pages, the MSWSA officers have also created a facebook page. This allows them to schedule and plan meetings and help one another on individual officer duties.

The School of Social Work also has a facebook page. Find it under “BYU School of Social Work.” Click “like” to join and receive updates and news.



New Student Cohort—Class of 2014

The class of 2014 comes from a variety of backgrounds and experiences. The men are a bit more outnumbered this year than in the past; twelve men and thirty women make up the cohort. Incoming students received undergraduate degrees from BYU, UVU, Weber State, University of Utah, BYU-Idaho, and BYU-Hawaii. Nine students have BSW's and the remaining received degrees in Behavioral Science, Psychology,

Sociology, Family Life, Human Development, Marriage and Family Studies, Clinical Psychology, and one student even has an undergraduate degree in Applied Physics. Approximately 45% of the cohort is married and collectively the group has 27 children, and 13 grandchildren. In the group, you will find at least one person who speaks: Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, Creole, and Japanese.

Following are some interesting facts about members of the cohorts and their past social work experience:

MSW Class of 2014



Susan Pace

Susan was born and raised in Buenos Aires, Argentina. She met her husband in Argentina when they were children. His parents were also Americans living and working in Argentina. All five of their children were raised in Hong Kong and the Philippines and they now have 13 grandchildren. Susan received her BA in Psychology from BYU and is fluent in Spanish. She is excited to be getting her MSW at BYU and says that they have a good life.



Tess Collett

Tess was born in Salt Lake City and completed her undergraduate degree in psychology at the University of Utah.

She has worked with adolescents in a wilderness program and done some equestrian therapy with mentally disabled kids. She is interested in working with the LGBT population. She loves to observe nature and climb or hike to places where she can see amazing things. She loves sports, hiking, backpacking, rowing, and rock climbing, anything having to do with the outdoors and especially if there is an adrenaline factor involved! An interesting fact about Tess is that she took her first steps on film. She was cast as Courtney Cox's baby in a movie, but her identical twin sister had to fill in when they needed because Tess wouldn't cry.

tion, etc...) He listens to anything from NPR to Katie Perry. He hopes to travel the world. He doesn't like sushi, football, or the 1pm church time.



Nathan Smith

Nathan received his undergraduate degree from UVU in Behavioral Science with an emphasis in Psychology and a minor in Foreign Language and speaks Portuguese and Spanish. Nathan and his wife had their first baby on October 13, 2012.

They are excited and "scared out of their minds about this new adventure." He met his wife after she got home from her mission in Japan. When she spoke in sacrament meeting in their singles ward he knew he needed to ask her out. They dated for a year and have been married for "2.5 wonderful years." They look forward to raising a family and to a meaningful career in the social work field.



Kristjana Green

Kristjana (KJ) was born in Bozeman, Montana, and received her undergraduate degree in Clinical Psychology at BYU. She currently works at Maple Lake

Academy with teenage girls with nonverbal learning disorders. She has had many adventures abroad (including backpacking in Europe, working on organic farms, and humanitarian work in Mexico.) Her hobbies include skiing, photography, clothing with wildlife graphics, and intramural sports, specifically inner-tube water polo to which she reported being, "ridiculously obsessed." She is very excited to be in the MSW program and hopes to someday work with troubled teens.



McKay Devereaux

McKay is married and has two little girls (4 and 6 years old). He was born and raised in Orem, Utah, and received his undergraduate degree from UVU in Behavioral Science. He served a mission in the Knoxville Tennessee Mission. McKay is a beekeeper, a combat veteran, and a program director for a wilderness youth program. He is a 'has been' rock and ice climber. He really enjoys using primitive skills (bow and arrows, fire by fric-



Jacob Moss

Jake received his undergraduate degree from the University of Utah in Human Development and Human Studies. He was born in Lewiston, Idaho, served in the Italy Rome Mission, and speaks Italian. He is married and has a little boy, and a girl on

the way. He enjoys playing racquetball, tennis, basketball, and singing.



Drew Davis

Drew received his BSW from Weber State University. He was born in Zanesville, Ohio. He served his mission in Kentucky, Louisville. He and his wife have been married for five years and he claims he is "too young to have children." His wife just graduated with her MSW and passed the clinical exam. Last March they traveled to Swaziland, South Africa, to help orphaned children and teach lessons at different schools; they taught children to use computers and plant gardens. Drew interned at Telos last year and was able to run groups and work with adolescent boys. He has played the piano for the last 25 years, and also plays the guitar and sings. He loves to collect coins and go to Club 33 in Disneyland. He does impressions and his most famous are Mickey Mouse and Elmo. Drew is kind of famous; there was an "I Shouldn't be Alive" episode made about an event in his life. The episode is titled "A walk into Hell." It is based on a camping and hiking trip Andrew took with his scout troop into the Grand Canyon.



Chelsea Parsons

Chelsea received her undergraduate degree from BYU in psychology, with a minor in business management. She was born in Montgomery, Alabama, and, as expected, is an Alabama football fan. Chelsea has volunteered at Wasatch Mental Health Adult Outpatient and the Children's Justice Center. She enjoys reading, movies, video games, playing ninja, and "doing other random stuff with friends." She is looking forward to Alabama winning another national football championship. Roll Tide!

Isabel Gomes

Isabel received her undergraduate degree from UVU in Behavioral Science with a psychology emphasis. She was born in Cape Verde Island, West Africa, is married and has 3 children, and speaks Creole (from Cape Verde), Portuguese, and Spanish. She likes to have fun, especially with her children.



Heather Ransom

Heather received her undergraduate degree from BYU in Marriage and Family Studies with a minor in Gerontology. She was born in Overland Park, Kansas. Her husband is also a graduate student at BYU and should be finishing this summer and will work toward his PhD. They look forward to taking a trip to Thailand and Italy once they are both graduated. Heather served her undergraduate internship at the Center for Women and Children in Crisis. Because of her minor in gerontology, Heather has worked at senior care agencies. Random facts: Heather was on her high school golf team, doesn't really like pickles but she craves them all the time, and loves wearing crochet slippers. She also cries in pretty much every movie.

Dallas Bean

Dallas received his undergraduate degree in Psychology from BYU. He was born in Redmond, Washington, and served a mission in Milan, Italy, and speaks Italian. For the past four years, Dallas has been working as a mentor for "at risk youth" at Wasatch Mental Health in their New Vista program. Dallas is the fifth of seven children. He enjoys going to "any cinema," watching a favorite TV series, playing any sport, weekend get-a-ways, and road trips. He was voted most artistic in his senior class in high school. Dallas also had the opportunity to throw the first pitch in a Seattle Mariners game when he was 10 years old.



Brittany Rigby

Brittany received her BSW, with an emphasis in Mental Health and a minor in Dance Performance at Weber State University. She graduated in August 2012 and started graduate school three weeks later. She was born in San Dimas, California, but was raised in Spokane, Washington. Brittany will be leaving for the Denmark Copenhagen mission on April 10, 2013 and will complete the program when she returns. Brittany has danced since she was three and absolutely loves it. She did not own a pair of white socks until two weeks before her 20th birthday. She LOVES fruity pebbles and absolutely despises math, but she is pretty sure that math hates her as well. She grew up on top of a mountain in Spokane. Her backyard was a forest and there were many days that she could not go to school because there were moose behind their cars.

Courtney Baker

Courtney received her degree from BYU in psychology. She was born in Redding, California. She is currently a caretaker for an elderly couple of 90 and 91 years old in their private home in Orem and has been working with them for a year. She enjoys traveling and usually takes a short trip each month to places like Las Vegas, California, Yellowstone, New York, Colorado, etc. She loves playing softball, soccer, volleyball, but loves basketball the most. She comes from a blended family of six kids: three boys, three girls all within eight years of each other, which made growing up very fun.

Michelle Minert

Michelle graduated from the University of Utah with a BSW and a BS in Gender Studies. She was born in West Jordan, Utah. She served a mission in the Nebraska Omaha Mission. She has traveled

Class of 2014 – continued

MSW Class of 2014

to Canada, Germany, the Midwest, and all over Utah, Idaho, California, and Colorado. She has done various humanitarian work, her most recent and favorite was sandbagging in the Missouri River flood in the summer of 2011. She also volunteered for Hearts for Hospice company for four years. One of Michelle's special talents is texting at astronomical speeds.

Storie Stinger Johnson

Storie obtained a BSW from Weber State University. She was born in Ogden, Utah, and served a mission in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. She was married on August 2, 2012, after knowing him for only three months and meeting each other online. Prior to her marriage this past summer, she spent two weeks in Ethiopia doing humanitarian aid, as well as working as an EFY counselor in Logan. She worked for 2.5 years in the adult psychiatric unit at McKay Dee Hospital. She also had an internship working with adolescent sex offenders. She loves to mountain bike, longboard, hike, mountain board and dirtbike. Some of Storie's future life goals include: graduate grad school, quilt a quilt, own a house (where she has a room that is specifically a dance club room), buy Amish rocking chairs to put on her front patio, start a foundation, own a hot tub, live in Alaska for at least six months, become a motivational speaker, and write a book.



Melissa Pomale

Melissa earned her undergraduate degree in psychology from BYU-Hawaii. She was married February 18, 2010, in Nuku'alofa Tonga in the Tongan Temple. She had an adorable baby boy named Noa Lomoni Max Pomale on July 25,

2012 (one month before starting the program).

For her undergraduate internship, Melissa spent five months in Tonga working at Liahona (the English speaking high school) where she was a school counselor helping students make plans for their future. While completing her internship in Tonga, she met her husband Sione Ika'e'e Pomale. It was while working as a Social Service Aide in a rehabilitation center that she realized her heart was really in social work rather than psychology.

Lauren Checketts

Lauren received her undergraduate degree in psychology. She loves traveling "more than anything in the world." She has been to several places including France, Germany, England, Ireland, Switzerland, Italy, Poland, Austria, Mexico, and pretty much all of the U.S. and would love to visit Jerusalem and Africa in the future. She would like for her career to help her explore new cultures and meet new and great people. She loves to ski, hike, read (good books), decorate, and make crafts. She also loves photography. When a person uses dry humor, and especially when she is tired, she finds puns and really dumb jokes hilarious.



Jonathan Case

Jonathan and his wife are expecting their first baby in March 2013. He served a mission in Tokyo, Japan, and speaks Japanese.

He loves the great outdoors: hiking, biking, camping, and swimming, especially in lakes. He loves sushi and bagpipe music. He has worked with children and teens; his favorite work so far has been in wilderness therapy—"it's an awesome blend of everything (he) loves most." His

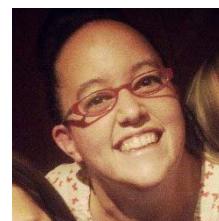
favorite animal is the lion (mostly because of Aslan) and he has a different lion shirt for every day of the week.



Andrew Layne

Andrew received his BSW degree from Weber State University, and currently lives in Bountiful. He commutes from

Bountiful to Provo along with Drew Davis. His wife is a nurse manager and has a career in Davis County and, therefore, they decided it was best not to move. He is interested in medical social work and did his undergraduate internship at McKay-Dee Hospital in Ogden. He has also been a hospice volunteer for about three years. Andrew has been married for five years and served a mission in the Ft Worth Texas mission.



Kerianna Butler

Kerianna defines herself as the 'outcast' having received her undergraduate degree in Applied Physics.

She volunteered for seven months at LDS Family Services in Provo last year and that is one of the biggest reasons that she decided to come to BYU's MSW program. She is a licensed EMT and worked as a health counselor for EFY. She had the opportunity to work as a Page for the US House of Representatives when she was a junior in high school. She worked on the House floor, went to school in the Library of Congress, lived two blocks south of the Capitol, and walked to school uphill in the snow, both ways.



Jen Castillo

Jen received her undergraduate degree from UVU in Behavioral Science- Sociology Emphasis. She was born in Provo, Utah, and speaks Spanish. She loves traveling, BYU sports, sushi, and spoiling her niece and nephew.



Kristin Byers

Kristin received her undergraduate degree in psychology, with a minor in astrophysics, from BYU. She served a mission in Malaga, Spain, and speaks Spanish. She was born on Mountain Home Air Force Base in Idaho. She did her undergraduate internship with the Scottish Parliament. She has the strange ability to do the human pretzel. She is proud of her non-Utah driver's license and license plate, even though she has lived in Utah longer than any other state. She loves the snow, but hates driving in it.

Trent Keppner

Trent received his undergraduate degree in Marriage Family Human Development from BYU. He served a mission in the Brazil Manaus Mission and speaks Portuguese. He and his wife Emmaly have three children: Xavier, Brighton, and Ella ("they are amazingly awesome"). He worked for four years as a psycho-social rehabilitation worker in elementary and middle schools to help students to function in general education classes or to help them progress toward returning to general classrooms. He enjoys reading youth fantasy books such as Fablehaven, Chronicles of Narnia, Harry Potter, and many other series.

First Year students not featured: Danna Lindemann, Kevin Walker, Wendy Beres, Kami Huff, Heli White, Alice Neilsen, Stephanie Christensen, Kevin Harmon, Lisa DeGraffenreid, Brant Watters, Valerie Payne, Brianne Johnson, and Zack Bullock.

JoAnn Nybo Rueckert

JoAnn received her undergraduate degree from UVU in Behavioral Science, with a social work emphasis. She was also on the track team while there. She served in the Kentucky Louisville Mission. She was married on July 20, 2012, just before entering the program.



Allie Harrison

Allie graduated in 2010 from BYU-Idaho, with a Bachelor's in Psychology. She served a Spanish speaking mission in St. George, Utah. She has worked at a group home for foster teenage girls. She loves "reading a good book" and being "out on the lake during the summer."



Vanessa Storey

Vanessa received her undergraduate degree from BYU in Family Life: Human Development. She was born and raised in northern Minnesota.

She loves being outside: playing sports, running, being out on the lake, fishing, and camping. She often volunteers at the Family Support and Treatment Center in Orem and loves it. She isn't sure "what area of social work I want to end up working in," but she thinks that she would love working in a high school or doing therapy with families, couples, and individuals.



Taylor Thomas

Taylor was born in San Luis Obispo, California, and graduated from BYU-Idaho in sociology and marriage and family studies.

She met her husband when she was nine in primary and they became best friends. They started dating in high school and then got married when she was 21. She loves soccer, swimming, and, most of all, going to the beach. She loves diet Coke, strawberries, and pineapples. She

has been to Africa twice, visiting Uganda, Ethiopia, and Rwanda, and "loves the African people."



Jessica Bodily

Jessica obtained her undergraduate degree from BYU in psychology, with a minor in history. She was born in Seattle, Washington,

but was raised in Springville, Utah. Jessica worked in the children's program at the House of Hope for two years. She reports, "I loved it and it converted me to the field of social work." She then interned for the National Council for Adoption in D.C. Jessica spent a semester abroad in Jerusalem and fell in love with traveling. Now she is constantly trying to convince someone to road trip with her. Every week she reads one book and she usually re-reads Harry Potter every summer and re-watches the "Lord of the Rings" every December. All of her extra time is spent hanging out with friends and family, especially her niece Squishy.



Kenzi Sorensen

Kenzi obtained her undergraduate degree from UVU in Behavioral Science, Social Work emphasis. She was born and raised in a small town named Talmage, Utah. She was able to do her undergraduate practicum at Community Action Services and Food Bank and loved everything about it. Kenzi grew up on a cattle ranch in Talmage and experienced all the fun that goes along with that. While she loves social work, she has a secret love for the forest. She has been able to work for the Forest Service for the past four years and though enjoyed that opportunity, her love for social work won out and she is excited to be in the MSW program.

Alumni Updates

The following information can be used for networking or just catching up. If you have a Facebook account, please 'like' the new BYU Social Work page to receive updates, connect with old classmates, and network. You can find the page by searching BYU School of Social Work.

Harold K. Tso

BSW Class of 1974

Harold has retired from San Juan College (Farmington, NM) in August 2012 after 22 years. He is currently employed with the Navajo Regional Behavioral Health Center in Shiprock, New Mexico as a Clinical Family Therapist providing individual and family therapy for alcohol and drug issues and co-occurring disorder.

Johnny Cobert

BSW Class of 1976

Johnny recently retired from a 25 year career as a Felony Probation Officer in Jefferson County, Texas. During his years there, he organized a group for probationers called the "Winner's Group." The purpose of this group was to instill self esteem and a better self image in people placed in the criminal justice system; to let them know they were not "a cipher" and that they were a valuable and important human being. He said, "It was heart-warming to see grown men weep when handed a simple \$4 trophy for graduation that had 'Winner for Life' on it." Johnny expresses his gratitude to Gene Gibbons and Dale Pearson and his other teachers who helped him get where he is.

Jed Lyman

BSW Class of 1978

Upon graduating from BYU, Jed went to Arizona State University where he received his MSW. He worked for the State of Utah Department of Human Services, San Juan Mental Health, and San Juan High School, all in Blanding, Utah. He is currently the Executive Director of San Juan Counseling Center, also in Blanding.

Eliana Martinez Sanchez

BSW Class of 1990

Eliana works for Los Angeles Unified School District as a Psychiatric Social Worker. Through her work she gained the strength to deal with extreme bullying and harassment after reporting child abuse. She also has learned about what it's really like to be "the only person with an ounce of integrity" and the risk and liability it takes to perform her duties.

Jill Jeppson Johnson

MSW Class of 1993

Jill is currently working as a crisis intervention specialist for Kaiser Permanente in an ED setting. She has been employed with Kaiser for the past 11 years. She enjoys working with a multi-disciplinary team (MDs, nurses, etc.) assessing children, adults, and older adults. Jill has lived in Portland, Oregon since graduating and she loves the Northwest.



"Journey to South Africa." After working as a case-carrying foster care social worker at CFSA, she

transitioned to an Independent Living Specialist where she has facilitated and trained social workers on how to conduct comprehensive transition planning meetings. She has also become a certified trainer of the Ansell Casey Life Skills Assessment. Michele stated, "I love working with inner city youth and hope to continue enhancing my social work career!"

Sherri Lowery

MSW Class of 2001

Sherri uses her social work skills everyday as a mother, wife, and Relief Society President and plans to make many contributions to the social work field in the future.



Myken Briem

MSW Class of 2001

Myken has worked at several places including Wasatch Mental Health- school based programs, The Gathering Place, and Second Nature Wilderness. She is currently working part time in American Fork as a crisis worker/medical social worker.

Michele Mickelsen

BSW Class of 2005

Michele currently lives in Arlington, Virginia and works in the District of Columbia as a Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker (LICSW) in a public charter school. Upon completing her undergrad at BYU, she went on to obtain her Master's degree from Columbia University in New York, New York. After graduating from Columbia she moved to the DC area and began working for Child & Family Services Agency (CDSA), specifically working with older youth in foster care. While working there she had the opportunity to take eight foster youth on a culturally enriching trip to South Africa with an organization known as Extra-Ordinary Life. The trip was a cultural, educational, and service oriented adventure to South Africa during the historic FIFA 2010 World Cup—a journey that BET chronicled in a documentary, entitled "Extra-Ordinary Life: A

Edward van Gass

MSW Class of 2006

Edward and his wife Nancy have been called to serve a mission to Africa. Ed will be serving as the Mental Health Adviser in the Africa South East Area, as well as in other areas of Africa. They leave November 2012. "We certainly will need all your prayers," Elder van Gass stated.

Marc Gilchrist

MSW Class of 2009

After three years with Wood's Homes in Calgary, Alberta, Canada, Marc has accepted a new position with Alberta Health Services working on a Psychiatric Outreach Team which works in the hospital and community. He is excited about this position, but misses being part of a fascinating counseling service at The Eastside Family Centre with Wood's Homes. Eastside was the first Single Session Walk-In Clinic in North America and Marc has traveled all over North America and Australia to train agencies to implement this form of therapy. Several of his co-workers contributed to a new book: *When One Hour Is All You Have: Effective Therapy for Walk-In Clients*, Arnie Slive, PhD. Marc says he misses BYU and his classmates but is doing well in the Great White North.

Rebecca Bishop*MSW class of 2012*

Rebecca teaches an Intro to Social Work class at UVU, and also works full-time at Mountainland HeadStart. Rebecca says that thanks to all the mentoring while at BYU her MSW research project is getting published in 2013 in the *Journal of Immigrant and Refugee Studies*.

KayLee Dunn*MSW class of 2012*

KayLee is currently working as the Out-Reach Director for the S.A. Lifeline Foundation, a non-profit organization housed in Mapleton, UT. Their mission is to provide hope, education, and resources related to pornography and sexual addiction recovery. They are also in the process of developing a sister, for-profit, organization

called S.A. Marriage and Family Recovery that will provide educational retreats for couples. Once S.A. Marriage and Family Recovery is on its feet, KayLee will direct the organization and provide clinical services as well. KayLee says she feels very blessed to work with such amazing people who are dedicated to sharing truth, hope, and healing.

WHERE ARE YOU???

We Need your Information on Your
Current Professional & Family
Activities!

Send Information to: socialwork@byu.edu
Please include your degree and year (i.e. MSW 2012)



The National Association of Social Workers wants YOU!

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visit the Utah Chapter of NASW's website
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