

**SPECIAL POINTS
OF INTEREST:
COMING EVENTS**

**Field Instructor
Training:
Skills and Roles of the
BSW Student**
Watch for more
information-coming in
November.

**Field Instructor
Webinar Training-
Final Grading and the
Use of Ipt**
(preregistration
required, space for ten
computers per
webinar)
November 30, 2010
December 1, 2010

Contact:
Brett Judd at
juddbret@isu.edu

**Research Volunteers
Needed:**
Have tinnitus?
Interested in
volunteering for an
evaluation?

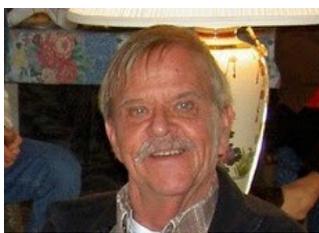
Contact:
Dr. Hooper at
282-2987 or
hooprch@isu.edu

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Dr. Pierson Retires

Don Pierson, Ph.D. retired in July 2010. We wish him well as he enjoys family, life and friends in Texas. Dr. Pierson has been the face of the Social Work Program at Idaho State University for 25 years. During Dr. Pierson's tenure at ISU, he consistently modeled the value of professional service in many capacities within the Pocatello



Don Pierson, Ph.D.

community and the University including Board Member at Aid for Friends,

Departmental Chair, and Program Director. Dr. Pierson's depth and breadth of knowledge about the social work field and life in general continually astounded both students and faculty. His humor, wisdom, humility, and uncanny ability to capture the picture of human nature in a simple word or phrase will be greatly missed.

Spring 2011 Scholarship Awards

Don Pierson's Retirement Scholarship

In honor of his retirement, Dr. Pierson has requested that a scholarship gift be awarded to a Social Work student. A recipient will be selected who exemplifies Don's passion and commitment to the field of Social Work, particularly in macro practice interests.

Shanda Hart Resiliency Scholarship

The Social Work Program is pleased to offer social work students the opportunity to apply for The Shanda Hart Resiliency Scholarship, a \$250.00 award. Scholarship funds are provided in memory of Shanda Hart who passed away in December 2009.

Although not a social worker, Shanda provided an example of strength in overcoming

obstacles as well as being a model of compassion by reaching out to those in need.

The scholarship will be awarded to an applicant who demonstrates:

- 1) resiliency in meeting life's challenges
- 2) promise in utilizing a strengths-based resiliency approach in the field of social work

Applicants must be a Junior or Senior level student within the Social Work Program.

Spring 2011 award recipients will be announced soon.

www.isu.edu/sociolog/socialwork.shtml

10 Core Competencies:

1. Identify as a professional social worker and conduct oneself accordingly
2. Apply social work ethical principles to guide professional practice
3. Apply critical thinking to inform and communicate professional judgments
4. Engage diversity and difference in practice
5. Advance human rights and social and economic justice
6. Engage in research-informed practice and practice-informed research
7. Apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment
8. Engage in policy practice to advance social and economic well-being and to deliver effective social work services
9. Respond to contexts that shape practice
10. Engage, assess, intervene, and evaluate with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities

Program Assessment and Progress

The ISU Social Work Program strives to prepare students to demonstrate basic knowledge, professional values, skills and methods for entry-level generalist social work practice. Upon completion of the program, students are expected to have achieved ten core competencies (see left) per accreditation standards (Council on Social Work Education, EPAS 2008). The criteria by which these outcomes are evaluated follow:

1. Acceptable performance on a comprehensive exam.
2. Acceptable completion of a portfolio-capstone project.
3. Acceptable performance on the Final Practicum Evaluation.

We are pleased to announce that 100% of Spring 2009 students demonstrated acceptable performance on these three measurements. In addition per ASWB reports, the pass rate of first-time examinees for BSW state licensure in 2009 was 90% as compared to 79% nationally.

Congratulations to our 2009 graduates!
The ISU Social Work Program is currently engaged in the CSWE Accreditation Reaffirmation Process. We welcome your feedback and input as we evaluate our program in order to continue strengthening the program, providing excellence in education to our students and meeting community needs. Please feel free to contact Staci Jensen-Hart at hartstac@isu.edu or 282-3369 with questions, feedback or input.

Faculty News

We welcome **D.J. Williams, Ph.D.** back to the Social Work Program. D.J. is serving as Visiting Professor this year and filling Don's teaching position. In addition to teaching, D.J. brings a wealth of research and publication experience to the Department.

Staci Jensen-Hart, M.S.W., L.C.S.W. has been appointed to the position of Program Director. Staci has served as

Practicum Coordinator for the past four years. In addition to administrative duties, Staci is currently teaching the Group Work and Grieving courses.

Brett Judd, L.M.S.W. has been appointed as Field Practicum Coordinator. Brett's experience in teaching and practice within the Pocatello community will be an asset to the Field Program.

Richard Hooper, Ph.D. continues teaching a variety of courses including Integration, Research, and Practice with Individuals and Families.

Kimberly Wacaster, M.S.W., L.C.S.W. is the new Title IV-E Scholars

Coordinator. Kimberly works to coordinate the Child Welfare Scholars Stipend program and teaches the Child Welfare course. In addition, Kimberly actively pursues creative ways to recruit students to the exciting field of Child Welfare.

Kevin Owens, B.A. is the new Office Specialist for the Social Work Program. Kevin brings skills in administration, organization, and computer literacy to the Program.

Debbie Lewis, L.C.S.W. and **Jen McArthur, L.M.S.W.** continue as Title IV-E PRIDE Coordinators.



Social Work Program Faculty & Staff:
Kevin Owens, DJ Williams, Kimberly Wacaster, Staci Jensen-Hart, Richard Hooper, and Brett Judd

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The Social Work Program is located within the Department of Sociology, Social Work and Criminal Justice in the College of Arts and Letters. It offers a Bachelor of Arts in Social Work (BASW) degree program fully accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), the national accrediting agency.

The mission of the Social Work Program at Idaho State University is to prepare students to work as professionals in entry-level social work generalist practice. It is the program's vision that graduates will work within the social work profession by 1) contributing to the enhancement of quality of life, 2) empowering individuals, families, groups, and communities, and 3) advancing human rights and social and economic justice. Consistent with the University mission, the Social Work Program strives to develop students who think critically and are able to provide health related and other professional social work services within agencies and programs to the people of Idaho, the Nation, and the World.

SSWA Club News

The Student Social Work Association overwhelmed the CSWE Annual Program Meeting in Portland!

A group of 11 social work students attended this national conference along

with two faculty in October. A generous donation to the SSWA by Candlewood Family Counseling enabled students to cover hotel costs. Students were exposed to more than 2,000 social workers from across the

nation as they gathered for workshops on current practice, research symposiums, and poster presentations. Together, ISU students also donated 44 hours of volunteer service at the conference.



Jen McArthur
and Debbie Lewis

Title IV-E PRIDE Coordinators

*Diversity makes for a rich tapestry.
We must understand that all the
threads of the tapestry are equal in
value, no matter their color; equal
in importance, no matter their
texture.*

~ Maya Angelou



Student Social Work
Association
Gathering
September 9, 2010