

# the Bridge

The School of Social Work

*Building upon a foundation of social justice and an ethic of care, we are a community of learners actively engaged in the development of critical, transformative knowledge for social work practice*



## Report...

from the Director,  
Dr. Kwong-leung Tang



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*Join the club and stay connected! Check this out - visit [www.alumni.ubc.ca](http://www.alumni.ubc.ca) and view or download their Alumni Member Handbook for Perks, Services, Events and the ACard available to all Alumni.*

I am honored to join the School of Social Work at the University of BC as the new director. I follow in the footsteps of some great directors of the School, including Graham Riches, who retired from the School in 2008, and Brian O'Neill, who ended his term as the Acting Director in the summer of 2009.

Founded in 1929, the School of Social Work is the oldest social work education program in BC and the third oldest in Canada. We are a unique place with extraordinary faculty, staff and students, as well as an alumni body of over 2500 men and women who aspire to make the world a better place for the marginalized and poor.

As we enter our ninth decade of preparing students for professional social work practice, the School continues to emphasize critical, transformative knowledge. Students at both the undergraduate and graduate levels are encouraged to develop independent and critical thinking, identify with the humanistic values and ethics of the social

work profession, maintain a special concern for vulnerable groups, and keep abreast of current social issues. Since the inception of the School, our faculty, students and alumni have been engaged in debate and research which seek answers to the question of how best to maximize the well-being of common people, drawing ideas and inspiration from various social science disciplines and our own practice.

A one-day planning retreat was held on 19 January 2010 which enabled colleagues to come together to consider the future directions of the School. A few ideas were seriously considered: on-line delivery, offering of social policy degree programmes, the retention of the BSW programme, etc. This retreat was followed by another session where colleagues came together and considered the future research strategy and directions of the School. In the future, we will strengthen our academic programming in social work and social policy, start to build our research and continuing

education infrastructure, increase our faculty and students involvement in provincial, national and comparative research endeavors, and develop academic and research collaborations with various NGOs and universities. We are particularly excited about our future in the area of interdisciplinary and collaborative research. Importantly, we strive to be a leading centre for social work education and research on the west coast of Canada.

Looking at the past year, I wish to highlight our major developments. These include:

- 1 We have received approval for an additional permanent, full-time, tenure-track professor primarily to initiate and work with First Nations students. This position is currently posted for hiring. Our Field Education Coordinator is now permanent and full time, a change from a two-year appointment at the time of the accreditation in 2008. Finally, our half-time Instructor Position is now permanent, full time, and tenure track, a change from a half-time permanent appointment at the time of the accreditation in 2008.
- 2 The MSW curriculum was extensively discussed and reviewed and as a result, we now have a new MSW curriculum (with concentration in health and social care, international/ social development and children and families) in place for the MSW cohort who will be admitted into the program in September 2010.
- 3 The MSW accreditation self-study report was completed under the leadership of Paule McNicoll. The report was submitted to the Canadian Association for Social Work Education in October. Preliminary feedback from the Association was positive and an on-site visit has been arranged for October, 2010.
- 4 A progress report for BSW re-accreditation was submitted to the Canadian Association for Social Work Education in March 2010. Several issues were addressed in this report including faculty strength, and aboriginal social work education delivery.
- 5 Brian O'Neill (Chair of Equity Task Force) secured some \$10,000 from the University's Equity Enhancement Fund to develop a comprehensive and progressive equity policy and plan for the School that addresses employment, student recruitment and admission, teaching and learning.
- 6 The Third Richard Splane lecture was held on November 26, 2009. The former Special Rapporteur on Adequate Housing of the United Nations, Miloon Kothari, came from India and spoke about the right to housing. His lecture was entitled "The Right to Adequate Housing: Global Issues, Local Action."
- 7 Our PhD programme continued to attract high-calibre students from the region and overseas. Recently, the PhD cohort has become internationally diverse.
- 8 Summer University in Switzerland: This took place in the summer of 2009, attended by Margaret Wright and two students. This event aimed at promoting exchanges between faculty members and students from various countries, facilitating comparative analysis and research, and stimulating new approaches in social work. Participants came from US, Canada, Italy, France, Belgium, Holland and Switzerland.

On behalf of the School, I would like to extend congratulations to the students who successfully completed their studies during this academic year. We expect that some 30 BSW and 45 MSW students will graduate this year. Most importantly, we will soon have our first PhD graduate. Janet Douglas has scheduled her PhD defence in mid-May. The title of her thesis is "Health and Safety of Children Living in Marijuana Growing Operations – a Child Welfare Perspective." Given our strong roots in family and child welfare, it is fitting that our first graduate should be working and researching in this field. Last year we admitted 31 BSW, 39 MSW and 6 PhD students. In the coming year, our intake will be larger for both the BSW and MSW while it will stay more or less the same for PhD.

The quality of teaching in our School continues to impress. As is shown by the results of the student evaluations, students were very satisfied with the undergraduate lecture courses last year. For the graduate programs, the mean scores for the course rating and the teacher were high and deemed most satisfactory. Like my predecessors, I wish to take this opportunity to recognize and thank the sessional instructors who contribute so much to the School's teaching programmes and without whom we would be hard pressed to offer a rich curriculum of consistently high quality. All of us agree that sessional instructors with their rich practice experiences and skills make an important contribution to the quality of the learning environment at the School.

As far as research is concerned, we have had a fruitful year. The broad range of scholarship undertaken by our MSW graduates is evident later in this edition of *The Bridge*. Meanwhile, the faculty's strong record of success in terms of refereed journal paper publications, books and monograph and research grants is to be applauded. Impressively, research funding has increased considerably to reach \$2.7 million in a span of the past seven years. Recently, our faculty members secured a large number of external research grants from various sponsors, such as SSHRC, MITACS, CIHR, ArcticNet, Metropolis BC, the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, CLBC, and the Canadian International Development Agency.

The reputation of the School for high quality research continues to be reflected in the international activities of our faculty members. I was invited to present a paper ("Colonial Policy and Social Welfare: The Case of Hong Kong") in the International Symposium on Colonialism and Welfare: Social Policy and the British Imperial Legacy, organized by the London School of Economics (UK) and the Tata Institute of India. Numerous colleagues did international presentations, including the following:

- Dr. Frank Tester presented his paper ("Mad Dogs and (Mostly) Englishman: A Morphology of Images, Cultural Transformation and the Consumption of Inuit Culture") at the American Society for Environmental History and the National Council on Public History Conference in Portland, Oregon.
- Dr. Deborah O'Connor spoke to the audience on

"Person-centred Care: From Concept to Practice") at the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics Conference in Paris, France.

- Dr Miu Chung Yan was invited to present a paper ("Bridging and/or Bonding: Studies of New Generation Immigrant Youth-Social Capital and Job Search") at the International Metropolis Conference in Denmark.
- Dr. Pilar Riaño-Alcalá presented her paper ("Crisscrossing Boundaries of Identity and Categorization") at the International Association for the Study of Forced Migration 12<sup>th</sup> Conference in Cyprus.
- Dr. Sheila Marshall had two papers ("Testing Moffitt's Predictions of Adolescence-Limited Antisocial Trajectory" and "Parent-Adolescent Conflict") presented at the Biennial Conference of the Society for Research on Adolescence in Philadelphia, USA.
- Dr. Edward Kruk shared his views on family mediation in his Divorce Mediation Conference presentation at the University of Ghent, the Netherlands.
- Dr. Grant Charles talked about the Canadian inter-professional education experience at the Inaugural lecture of the Research in Inter-professional Education and Collaborative Practice Group, School of Health and Social Care, Oxford Brookes University, UK.

Our Centre for Research on Personhood in Dementia has expanded our horizons, disseminating major findings in the field of social gerontology and provides a pioneering environment for collaborative interdisciplinary research.

Our faculty members served as editors, board members, and reviewers for many significant international, regional, and national journals, including the *Canadian Journal of Community Mental Health*, *Social Work with Groups*, *Nouvelles pratiques Sociales*, *Social Work Education Journal*, *The Journal of Men's Studies*, *Iranian Journal of Social Work*, *Identity: An International Journal of Theory and Research*, *International Social Work*, *Hong Kong Journal of Social Work*, *China Journal of Social Work*, *Ethics and Social Welfare*, *Journal of Ethnic and Cultural Diversity in Social Work*, *Journal of Sociology and Social Welfare*, *Journal of Community Practice*, *Dementia: International Journal of Social*

*Research and Practice, Journal of Women and Aging, Études/Inuit Studies Journal, Child Welfare, LGBT Family Studies, International Journal of Child & Youth Care, Practice – Social Work in Action, Australian Social Work, Journal on Social Inclusion, British Journal of Learning Disabilities, and Mental Retardation.*

Field instruction is an integral component of our education, both in the undergraduate programme and the MSW programme. Our School has also actively developed overseas placements for our students with the aim of broadening their personal experiences and expanding their professional horizons. This year, one student was placed in Uganda (Africa) for the first time. Other international placement sites include: India, Costa Rica, England, and China. Overall, our students found their placement experiences to be both enlightening and memorable.

Our faculty members continued to make conscientious contributions to community service through active participation in Ministry's task force, research and agency boards. In addition, our faculty members were very active in delivering talks and conducting seminars and workshops for different helping professionals in the community, and in offering policy consultations to the provincial government and NGOs. The participation and contributions of our colleagues at the university level were equally remarkable.

It has been our longstanding policy to encourage students to participate in the curriculum review and express their views on matters that are related to their learning. Student representatives attended meetings of the School Council and participated in various standing committees of our School, including the BSW Curriculum and Field Education Committee, MSW Curriculum and Field Education Committee and the PhD Committee.

Generally, our students perceived our School to be open, responsive, democratic, and caring, a culture that we will strive to maintain and consolidate in the future.



This academic year, we were host to visiting scholars, professors and delegation members from Mainland China and social welfare colleagues from the universities of other countries. The three visiting scholars we have this year are:

- Mr. Da Wei Zhang, Visiting Scholar (Department of Political Science, Central China Normal University, China)
- Dr. Seung Yeun Shin, Visiting Professor (School of Social Work, Pyung Taek University, South Korea)
- Dr. Jane Fowler, Visiting Professor (Senior Lecturer, School of Health Services and Social Work, Griffith University, Australia)
- Dr. Lesley Chenoweth, Visiting Professor (Professor, School of Health Services and Social Work, Griffith University, Australia)

All in all, it has been a busy year for me. The learning curve of being the Director continues to be steep. I do not think I have answers to all the tough challenges the School is facing. But I am optimistic many of these challenges are surmountable, knowing I could rely on the advice and support of my colleagues, staff and students who are extremely resilient, imaginative and tough as a group.

Teaching has always been one of the most gratifying experiences of my life. Despite a hectic schedule, I taught an advanced MSW policy seminar in the second term. I suspect I had some of the best students of the School in this course. I was fortunate to spend time with a group of dedicated individuals who were investing their time in wanting to learn more about relevant and effective ways to deal with the dominance of market-based approach in social policy. Throughout the course, I was deeply impressed and somewhat inspired by their energy and passion for suggesting new and innovative policy ideas.

Dr. Kwong-leung Tang  
Professor and Director

## Graduated May 2009

Athanasopoulos, Magdalene	"I am the Mother and the Father": The Experiences of Orphaned Children Heading their Households in Uganda
Coates, Jacqueline	Role Differentiation in Lesbian Parenting Couples
de Regil, Ashley	Like it or Not: Exploring Xenophobia Towards Nicaraguan Immigrants in Costa Rica
Gillingham, Stephanie	Caring for Children in Canada: Perceptions and Realities
Hynes, Rebecca	Critical Prevention: The role of social change education within a public health approach to addictions
Kuntz, Brenda	"I hate the AIDS medications, but I hate AIDS more". Persons living With HIV/AIDS Describe the Impact of Highly Active Antiretroviral Drug Therapy on Their Health and Wellbeing
Lee, Won Sok	The Experiences in Canada of Korean Immigrant Parents of Children with Disabilities
Lyrantzis, Maria	Reviewing Alberta's Protection of Sexually Exploited Children Act: A Feminist Structural Analysis
Matheson Jennings, Lesli	Childhood Trauma, Addiction and Recovery: The Experiences of Two Men
Tocol, Easter	Analysis of BC Community Services for Immigrants and Refugees
Williams, Ivyline	Single Mothers of Adult Children with Severe Mental Illness: Care-giving Experiences
Yu, Sharon	The Meaning of Authority in Parenting for First Generation Canadian Chinese Parents

## Graduated November 2009

Anand, Pooja	The Struggles of Two South Asian Women: A Case Study of Domestic Violence and Service Use Within the Traditional South Asian Community
Anderson, Masako	Abuse and Neglect Against Older Adults: Hospital Social Workers' Experience and the Re-Act Model
Banda, Hilda-Klara	Social Work and Community Development: A Personal Journey of Development Work in Tanzania
Chan, Teresa	Experiences and Implications of Diagnosis and Labelling for Individuals with Mental Illness
Chapple, Sarah	"I Feel Like I Just Don't Quite Fit In": Working-age Adults with a Physical Disability Share Their Experiences in Residential Care
Chihara, Shimpei	Asian Men Who have Sex with Men (MSM) and HIV Risks: A Look at the Social Environment and the Implications for Social Work Approaches to HIV Prevention
Cvjeticanin, Dina	Effect of Underemployment and Unemployment on the Psychological, Physical and Family Functioning of Educated Immigrant Men
D'Elia, Stefania	Individual Pathology or Social Issue? Addressing the Experiences of Women with Eating Disorders from a Feminist Perspective
Dhaliwal, Harjit	Working across difference on a renal unit: Making the self-management model more culturally inclusive
Dulay, Sharon	Support for Students Who Bully in Elementary School
Ellison, Jolie	Indigenous Women's Experiences Accessing Healthcare: An Indigenous Feminist Perspective
Fitzsimmons, Shannon	Looking at Animal Abuse in the Context of Family Violence
Frenette, Genevieve	The Experiences of Parents of Children with Autism: Research, Theory, and Implications for Social Work Practice
Funk, Corrie	Understanding Male Caregivers Experiences of Social Supports Through a Social Constructionist Lens
Hamel, Janice	International Trafficking in Canada: A Rights-Based Person-Centered Perspective
Hart, August	Child Protection Social Workers' Conceptualization of Borderline Personality Disorder
Huson, Lisa	Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder and the Transition to Adulthood: Supporting Individuals and Families
Jardey, Ssmaya	Shqwultuns tu s'ulxwe:nst: The Voice of our Ancestors
Johnson, Patricia	When Cultural Competence is Inadequate: An Opportunity for a New Approach to Child Welfare in Nunavut
Kullar, Serena	The Social Construction of Substance Using Women in BC's Child Welfare System

Lau, Jenny	Survival Guidelines for Visible Minority Social Workers
Lee, Da Rae	Immigrants and Volunteerism: In Pursuit of Integration
Mahal, Paneet	Exploring Cultural Implications Amongst South Asian Women and Caregiving
Mathew, Nosheen	Lived Experiences of South Asian Immigrant Women and Their Familial Relationships in the Context of Domestic Violence
Mullaney, Krista	Treated But Not Healed: Visible Minority Newcomer Women's Experiences in the Canadian Health Care System
Nagai, Hiromi	International Parental Child Abduction: Examination of the risk factors of the abductors and the experiences of the left-behind parents among Japanese and Canadian Couples
Schmidt, Heidi	Access Denied: Women with Personality Disorders and Their Right to Mental Health
Sharma-Desilva, Priya	Fitting in-between: An Exploration of the Stories of Being 'Othered' in Second Generation South Asians
Smith, Carrie	Reinforcing the Foundation of Social Work: A Human Rights Approach to Social Work and Housing
Smith, Jen	Re-Examining Motivation: The Effects of Illicit Drug Use on Medically Stabilized Persons Diagnosed with Schizophrenia in the Downtown Eastside of Vancouver
Sohal, Anju	Negotiating Identities: Second Generation South Asian Women's Endogamous Marital Relationships
Strong, Melissa	Religion and Spirituality in Social Work Education
Van Samang, Ocean	Diet Change in Response to a Breast Cancer Diagnosis: The emotional experience and impact

## PEOPLE

### In Memoriam

#### FRASER, John David (Jack) – September 23, 2007 BSW 1951

Jack Fraser passed away on September 23, 2007. After serving overseas in WWII, he completed his Bachelor of Social Work at UBC and had a 35 year career with the province of Saskatchewan, at one time being the Director of Social Services for the Qu'Appelle Region. He was a founding member of HELP Homes and was involved in many service and charitable organizations over the years including the Saskatchewan Abilities Council, CNIB, John Howard Society and Overseas Adoption.

#### CLOHOSEY, Mary – December 26, 2009 MSW 1954

Mary passed away peacefully on December 26<sup>th</sup>, 2009, in Vancouver General Hospital. She was a very active member of St. Vincent de Paul, the Catholic Women's League, the Newman Association, University Women's Club and UBC School of Social Work (see "Alumni Reading Room" tribute to Mary elsewhere in this newsletter).

#### RUDNICKI, Walter – March 7, 2010 MSW 1952

Walter Rudnicki passed away in Ottawa on March 7, 2010. He worked for Vancouver General Hospital prior to taking a position with the newly-formed Arctic Division of Northern Affairs. He was an 'outstanding Canadian'. His work with and on behalf of Inuit is legendary. He set up the social work department within the Arctic Division and within 5 years it grew from several staff to one of the most important and well-staffed units within the Arctic Division.

Walter dramatically changed the way TB cases were dealt with when Inuit were sent south and anyone who has seen the film *The Necessities of Life* will appreciate what a strange and traumatizing experience it was for Inuit to be confined to southern sanatoria, sometimes for years and sometimes for the rest of their lives. He investigated

the death by starvation of Inuit at Henik Lake in the winter of 1957-58. He argued that Inuit deserved to be communicated to in their own language and hired Inuit as interpreters. He argued that Inuit should get family allowances in cash instead of a credit at the HBC, etc. And the 'ETC.' is a big one!

Walter was a tireless champion of human rights. He fought with officials in his and other government departments over the provision of decent housing to Inuit. He was a 'pain' for administrators more committed to their political masters and maintaining the status quo than they were to the welfare of Inuit whose needs they were supposed to address. He was an advocate for Inuit at a time when the attitudes and values in the Department of Northern Affairs were still a hangover from the 1930s and 1940s - patronizing, colonial and racist. He was a sketch artist with a great sense of humour. His investigation of the deaths at Arviat and Henik Lake using his own version of the Thematic Apperception Test (TAT) is likely one of the most creative reworking of a psychological instrument I have ever seen. He gave me the sketches that he used to help Inuit tell their stories.

In 1973 he was fired by the federal government for leaking documents to the National Indian Brotherhood after the government introduced the infamous 'White Paper'. He sued and won.

I am greatly saddened by his death. It was a 'good run'. I have hours of him on tape talking about his experiences and many documents he gave me. He is one of those quiet Canadians more than deserving of accolade that often goes to many for doing much less. His advocacy for Inuit and First Nations is well imprinted on Canadian history. As a UBC graduate, we should be proud of him.

Frank Tester  
Associate Professor, SOWK

## STUDENTS: News and views

#### Leya Eguchi – MSW Student

Guest Lecture at the International University of Health and Welfare, Tochigi, Japan (July 6, 2009)  
New Westminster Collaborative Service Delivery Model

#### Presentation by Leya Eguchi, BSW

I was invited this summer as a guest lecturer for the International University of Health and Welfare's School of Health and Welfare. I presented on the collaboration initiative I have been working on with the New Westminster Homeless Coalition. I also discussed various collaborative service delivery models in North America and participated in a smaller discussion group after class with several social workers and students. It was a great opportunity to exchange information and network with social workers in Japan. I have been leading an interagency collaboration effort in New Westminster for the past year.

#### National Conference on Homelessness (February 18 – 20, 2009) Presentation: Homelessness Action Week Joint presentation by Sue Noga, BSW, Leya Eguchi and Alice Sundberg

I attended and presented at the Growing Home - the National Conference on Homelessness sponsored by the University of Calgary. I delivered a joint presentation on Homelessness Action Week and community development work with representatives from the Regional Steering Committee on Homelessness. The conference brought together more than 750 participants from across Canada including many homeless and previously homeless individuals. The conference provided a unique opportunity to network with professionals in the field of community development, addictions, planning and social work and provided a place for sharing innovative and effective best practices across the country.

#### THE BCASW FALL CONFERENCE (NOVEMBER 8 + 9, 2009) Presentation: A Community Comes Together to Tackle Homelessness Joint presentation by LEYA EGUCHI, BSc, BSW and LYNDIA FLETCHER-GORDON, MSW

Given the complexity and scale of homelessness, collaboration is the most effective approach to providing services. In many communities, however, it is still the reality that agencies function in relatively independent silos. Large cities have many examples of government-driven collaborative practice, but community organizations in smaller cities are often limited by resources and agency policies surrounding privacy and confidentiality that make it difficult to realize community collaboration. This presentation will focus on New Westminster's Collaboration Model and how we applied the best practices from initiatives across North America and Australia. It will discuss the community consultation process, implementation, successes and challenges, as well as the Social Work role in the process. We will also share our materials and toolkit that can be adapted for use in other small communities.

## 2009 Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences

An estimated 8000 academics from across North America attended the 2009 Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, among them were three representatives from the University of British Columbia's School of Social Work: Janet Douglas, Sarah Chapple and Leigh Green. Grateful to the School of Social Work for allowing us this opportunity we each spent three to four days filling our days with workshops and panel discussions that ranged in topics from child welfare and restorative justice to mindfulness and poetry readings. All of the sessions kept our interest and evoked great thought provoking discussions, but a few highlights stood out to each of us. For example an opportunity to listen to Supreme Court Justice Rosalie Abella's lecture entitled "Human Rights and History's Judgement". Her powerful words such as "silence in the face of intolerance means intolerance wins" were inspiring to say the least.

As the PhD rep, Janet Douglas was impressed with the quality of research that was presented by the Carleton MSW students, most of whom participated in group projects. Their school has developed a reciprocal relationship with local community agencies, whereby calls are made for research proposals and students are linked with agencies based on their interests and availability. The students get access to the 'data' for a project, and the agencies get research that is meaningful for them...a win-win situation! There was a presentation by McGill faculty and researchers of an on-line programme (five modules) they have developed for practicum field supervisors to assist them with the challenges of their work. And finally, our own Dr. Brian O'Neill participated with other committee members from the CASWE in an excellent plenary session on multiple oppressions. The conference overall allowed for a broad range of activities and workshops, despite our Capital being cool and rainy!

The Congress of Humanities and Social Sciences is also an excellent opportunity for graduate students to present their research and connect with students and faculty from many other disciplines of study, as the Congress is a truly multidisciplinary conference with more than 70 participating scholarly associations. Sarah Chapple attended the Student Standing Committee as the UBC MSW Student Representative. The Student Standing Committee provides a venue for social work students from across the country to meet and discuss issues relevant to us all. Topics at this year's meeting included building and maintaining connections

between social work students from schools across Canada, creation and distribution of a PowerPoint tool that explains the role of CASWE student delegates, and improving continuity and communication of the opportunity for students to represent their school of social work at this national conference. Any UBC social work students who are interested in attending a future conference are encouraged to contact the previous year's delegates for further information.

Janet Douglas,  
PhD Candidate

### Margo Nelson is the recipient of both the Richard Splane Doctoral Scholarship and the Henry Maas Memorial Scholarship

Margo Nelson is a 2<sup>nd</sup> year student at the School of Social Work and is working on research concerning policy and practice in British Columbia affecting Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal children in care. Her dissertation research will examine the intent of child welfare legislation in respect of the provinces exercise of its *parens patriae* responsibilities to children who have been removed from the care of their parents, the ways in which policy and legislation negotiate the tensions between western legal notions of family privacy and government obligations to secure the well-being of children, and the degree to which common factors in disproportionality such as poverty, ethnicity, social capital and educational attainment are explicitly or implicitly addressed in policy and programs. She is also currently working with Dr. Richard Sullivan and the Vancouver Aboriginal Child and Family Services Society on research examining cultural continuity for children in care and the relationship of this factor to social, health and vocational outcomes, and with Dr. Sheila Marshall on research examining outcomes associated with the implementation of the Family Development Response within the Ministry of Children and Family Development.

Originally from the United States, where she worked in educational research, drug and alcohol treatment, and in children's psychiatric care, she earned her M.S.W. degree at Portland State University in Oregon and then worked in the United Kingdom as a senior practitioner in child protection before emigrating to Canada and entering the doctoral program at UBC.

Margo Nelson  
PhD Student



After a full day's work, local producers in San Gerardo de Rivas set cane sugar in moulds.

### Student Practicum - International Practicum

As I rode the bus down through Costa Rica's central valley, toward the Caribbean coast, I not only noticed how stiflingly hot and humid it was becoming, but my purpose for coming to Latin America as a social work student was validated. Hundreds of acres of banana plantations, all for export, showed me that Costa Rica was integrated, for better or for worse, in the global economy. As I continued on my way to the small, rural community of Puerto Viejo I started to get more views of thick humid rainforest. Rainforest that was full of fruit and nut trees, spice and starchy root plants. In other words, the rainforest was bursting with food. Costa Rica was going to be a good place to study my newfound social work passion: food security.

Food security within the global context is an important issue for social workers to look at because food is not only a basic human right but a basic human need. Thinking about food in this light immediately makes it a social justice issue. Exploring barriers to food security means looking at global economics, environmental issues, farmers and farming, corporations, politics and policies, social implications of food (in)security, culture and much more. When a social worker advocates for food security, s(h)e simultaneously advocates for indigenous rights, environmental protection, local ownership, community self-determination, women's rights and many other issues. I was granted the amazing opportunity to look at all these issues for the 4th year practicum of my BSW degree.



Local farmer Tristan and I selling his goods at the Saturday morning Puerto Viejo Farmers' Market

In order to learn more about food security from this community's perspective and to build on my understanding of the role of an international social worker in a rural setting I included a variety of practicum activities. I interviewed two agricultural co-operative managers to find out about the local people's democratic, community responses to the corporatization and environmental degradation of their land. I lived on two permaculture farms where I learned to enjoy, preserve and be creative with the abundance of food in our backyard. I worked with a local family who received a micro loan to develop their coconut oil business, and helped them promote their local, sustainable product. I participated in the weekly farmers market where producers spoke passionately about their goods, and made meaningful connections with the community who then benefited from those relationships and from good quality food. I joined with other international practicum students to organize and host free movie nights about the connections between the environment and community life at local outdoor restaurants.

Doing a social work practicum in Costa Rica meant I really learned about grassroots organizing. Social work in Puerto Viejo is far from institutional and responses to community issues arise in very organic ways. For a social worker, it requires flexibility, creativity, and cultural awareness. But the most important lesson I learned was that effective international social work begins at the community level through capacity building. The strengths and solutions to global issues exist here, and I was inspired by and thankful for the opportunity to be part of the food security movement in Puerto Viejo.

Siobhan Gallagher,  
BSW student

## The 19th International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics (IAGG) World Congress: Paris

Being able to attend conferences on aging at the national and international level is a real privilege. I get to hear about and interact with mentors and peers on the latest developments in the field, this time from across the world. Conferences also provide unique opportunities to reconnect with colleagues and meet new people from different provinces and countries. There was, however, only a rather small fraction of the symposia dedicated to the social sciences. The biological and medical sciences dominated the conference. So one thing I learnt is how much more we, as researchers and students in the social sciences of aging, will have to work to make the fruit of our labour bear on the field of aging.

Sing Mei Chan  
PhD (c)  
August 2009

## International Conference on Coping & Resilience – Dubrovnik, Croatia



*Cavtat, the location of the conference*

In October, 2009, I was fortunate to have the opportunity to present a paper at the International Conference on Coping and Resilience, held in Dubrovnik, Croatia. I was particularly grateful to have received financial support for this trip from the School of Social Work and from the Faculty of Graduate studies.

At the conference, I presented a practice paper focused on my experiences as a child protection worker in a multi-agency setting in the UK. I described the process of working with a fourteen year old girl who was

engaged in a variety of risk taking behaviours. Efforts to reduce risk for this young woman were spectacularly unsuccessful until a collaborative process of identifying the needs that she was meeting through her risky behaviours and the skills that enabled her to survive them was undertaken. This process resulted in the development of interventions that allowed her to meet these needs and utilize these skills in safer and life enhancing ways. I also served as chairperson for the thematic session in which my paper was presented.



*Margo Nelson (left) and Neringa Kubiliene*

The conference was truly an international event, with presenters and attendees from every continent, with the exception of Antarctica. Many attendees and presenters came from the field of social work, but many others represented diverse disciplines including psychology, sociology, health, education and others. There was also great diversity in the topics of presentations, ranging from individual interventions that support resilience and coping in children and adults affected by problems at the macro level such as poverty, violence, racism and heterosexism, as well as more individual/family-focused interventions for problems such as intimate partner violence, problematic substance use, and child abuse. There were a number of presentations regarding grass-roots movements in international settings supporting social justice and supporting resilience at individual and community levels.

It was a great privilege to have the opportunity to experience this very lovely part of the world and to participate in such a stimulating exchange of ideas with other conference participants.

Margo Nelson,  
PhD student

## Social Work Student Awards

### Scholarship Winners for 09W

*Jack & Isabel Kirkpatrick Scholarships in Social Work*  
Kristin Kendrick (PhD)  
Tatiana Peres (MSW)

*St. Leonard's Youth and Family Services Scholarship*  
Benson Lee (BSW)

*Jean Jure Scholarship*  
Jaya Babu (MSW)

*Laura Holland Scholarship*  
Ella Ferman (BSW)

*Beatrice Wellington Gonzales Memorial Scholarship in Social Work*  
Andrea Weber (BSW)

*Henry Maas Memorial Scholarship*  
Debra "Margo" Nelson (PhD)

*Neil Douglas McKay Scholarships*  
Pascale de Kerckhove (MSW)  
Andrea Harstone (MSW)

*Thomas A. Dohm Scholarship in Social Work*  
Meredith Elliott (MSW)

*Mary Hill Scholarship in Social Work*  
Stephanie Porter (MSW)

*Zella Collins Scholarship*  
Olivia Kelly (BSW)

*Lilian To Memorial Scholarship*  
Jacqueline Maloney (MSW)

*Penny Hicks Service Award*  
Sarah Jones (BSW)

*Roopchand Seebaran Prize*  
Dan Ji (BSW)

*Richard Splane Doctoral Scholarship*  
Debra "Margo" Nelson (PhD)

## COLLOQUIUM: The Richard B. Splane Public Social Policy Lecture, November, 2009



*L-R: Leonard Angel, Patsy George, Verna Splane, Dick Solane, Miloon Kothari, Kwong-leung Tang*

The School of Social Work, along with sponsors UBC Liu Institute for Global Issues, UBC Habitat Exchange, United Nations Association of Canada (Vancouver Branch), and World Federalist Movement of Canada (Vancouver Branch) were very pleased to present Miloon Kothari, at his lecture: "The Right to Adequate Housing: Global Issues, Local Actions", on November 26, 2009.



Miloon Kothari

Bio: Miloon Kothari is a prominent international voice on human rights, especially economic, social and cultural rights. Mr. Kothari is an outspoken critic of the countries and institutions that see the neo-liberal and military/security policies as a means to achieving democracy and human rights. Formerly UN Human Rights Council Special Rapporteur on adequate housing (2000-2008), he is also the convener of the Habitat International Coalition's Housing and Land Rights Network and a founding member of the International NG Committee on Human Rights in Trade and Investment (INCHRITI). He has also been actively involved in works related to the human rights dimension on poverty, water and sanitation. In his work as Rapporteur he has also focused on strategies to ensure respect for human rights in post-conflict and post-disaster situations.

Mr. Kothari is the author of the 2007 UN Human Rights Council Report on Adequate Housing in Canada.

To view the video of the Liu Institute's interview with Mr. Kothari and the link to his 2007 Council Report visit the Liu Institute for Global Issues website, search "events": Splane lecture Nov 26, 2009, at <http://www.ligi.ubc.ca/GlobalFocus.htm>.

*The details for the next Splane Lecture to be held in the Fall, 2010, are not yet available. Check our School website for new information and updates to this important lecture series.*

## SCHOOL UPDATES

### BSW REPORT

The BSW programme is in its second year of the 2 year conditional accreditation we received in 2008, and we have submitted our re-accreditation report to the CASWE. The "conditions" specifically related to increasing faculty capacity and addressing issues of Aboriginal student recruitment and support. We were pleased to report that we now have a fulltime Instructor position, filled by Elizabeth Jones, and a fulltime Coordinator of Field Education, filled by Laura Harvey (currently on maternity leave and temporarily filled by Jessica Liebster). We are currently recruiting for a fulltime First Nations Faculty. Further, we have almost completed the 5 year Squamish First Nations Pilot Project. Thirteen students are currently in their final social work class with Richard Vedan, and two of the thirteen will receive their BSW at November, 2010 convocation. Many of the other students are making plans to complete their liberal arts requirements and thereby achieve their BSW.

Our very active BSW Curriculum and Field Education Committee meets four times an academic year, and provides oversight to the continued excellent programming of the BSW. Made up of representatives of third and fourth year students, field, staff, and faculty, the Committee reviews student feedback and actions taken, approves new proposed courses, monitors progress, participates in admissions processes, and considers specific field education matters.

There is a renewed commitment to the BSW Programme and we are moving forward on a number of initiatives. We accepted 30 applicants into the programme in September 2009, and have accepted 35 for September 2010. We are developing several online courses. We have a full offering of 3 courses during summer school. We have engaged in recruitment fairs on campus and off. Once we receive confirmation of our continued accreditation, we will be able to develop a 5 year plan to take us to our next accreditation.

Elizabeth Jones, Instructor  
Chair, BSW Curriculum and Field Education Committee

### Master of Social Work (MSW)

#### Changes to the MSW Curriculum

We are making significant changes to the curriculum of the Advanced Year of the MSW programme. The process started a few years ago with a wide and in-depth consultation of many stakeholders: students, regular and sessional faculty members of the then School of Social Work and Family Studies, community agencies, field supervisors and faculty from other Social Work departments of other BC universities. There were surveys and focus groups. The two main findings were that our curriculum lacked focus and that there was little sense of community among MSW students. We also listened to the input of the external review of the School conducted in 2007. Reviewers strongly suggested that we introduce concentrations and abolish the graduating essay. Through a series of meetings and faculty retreats, we devised the structure and the core courses of the new Advanced-Year curriculum.

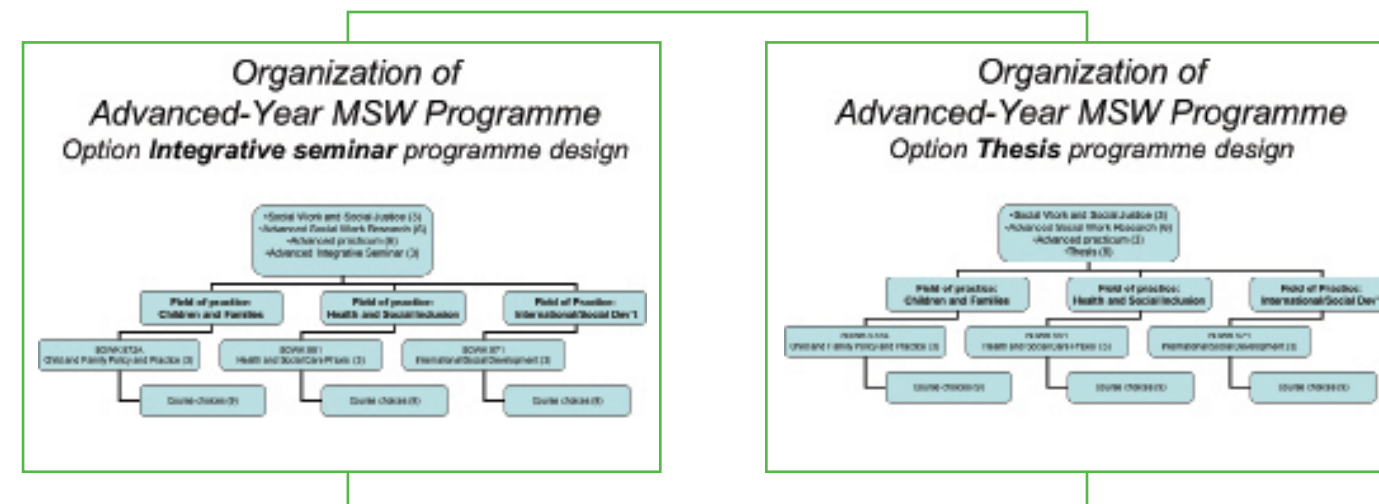
There are 4 main changes: creation of 2 new courses, abolition of the graduate essay, introduction of 3 domains of concentration and the lowering of the number of required credits from 33 to 30, the Canadian standard. The first course will be compulsory. Entitled *Social Work & Social Justice*, it will reflect the focus of

our programme. It will also be the first course offered in the year and we hope it will help create a sense of community and identification among entering MSW students. The second new course will be offered in the second term; it is an integrative seminar that will replace the graduating essay. The goal of this course is the creation of a project (which may or may not be a paper) that will demonstrate students' integration of theory, policy, research and practice in regard to their topic of specialization. Students electing to do a thesis will not have to take this course.

There will be three concentrations: Children & Families, Health & Social Care, and International/Social Development. Students will have to declare a concentration and will have to take the praxis course attached to that particular choice. Since the courses will be offered at different times, it will be possible for students who are interested in more than one concentration to take a secondary concentration.

There are elements that will remain in the curriculum: all students will take a minimum of 6 credits of research and conduct an original study, and will do a practicum of 210 to 450 hours (for thesis or non-thesis students respectively).

Here are graphs depicting the new curriculum for students who opt for an integrative seminar and for a thesis:



#### Future developments

Now that the structure and core courses are in place, we will consult again. Our goal is to ask MSW students, faculty, community agencies, professional social work organizations and alumni about the elective courses they consider the best complements to the core curriculum. Current courses may or may not remain; their fate will depend of the results of this consultation. We plan to send you an e-mail soon and ask you to complete a short electronic survey. We hope that you'll respond to our invitation to contribute to the future of our Advanced-year curriculum. If we do not have your email address, could you please send it to Suzanne Moore at [suzanne.moore@ubc.ca](mailto:suzanne.moore@ubc.ca)



Since the Centre for Inclusion and Citizenship (CIC) officially opened in March 2009 we have been working with the community, government and the private sector to secure justice, equality and well-being of all citizens and have made significant progress in our three priority areas - *Research, Education* and *Knowledge Exchange*.

Over the last year, we have:

- Contributed to student and professional development and employment in the Community Living sector through the provision of *studentships*
- Secured a \$20,000 Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies Exploratory Research Grant to host *In from the Margins: New Foundations for Personhood and Legal Capacity in the 21st Century* a symposium to gather together international scholars for the purpose of developing an interdisciplinary research agenda around Article 12 and the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- Received \$50,000 to develop *CILLI: The Canadian Inclusive Lives Learning Initiative* a comprehensive, systematic and accessible programme of learning and skill development to enhance the capacity of persons with intellectual disabilities, families and communities to create and maintain rich and inclusive lives in their communities
- Collaborated to secure a SSHRC Standard Research Grant (\$128,320) for the *Road to inclusion or increased risk? Home sharing and people with intellectual disabilities* to explore what Home Sharing is and how it can successfully support adults with intellectual disabilities
- Hosted 3 nationally and internationally renowned scholars in the field of Disability Studies at our colloquia series

To learn more about the CIC please visit our website at [www.cic.arts.ubc.ca](http://www.cic.arts.ubc.ca) or contact Colleen Evans, Centre Coordinator, 2080 West Mall Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z2 Phone: 604-822-5872 or Email: [cic.ubc@ubc.ca](mailto:cic.ubc@ubc.ca)

## INTERNATIONALIZATION



L-R: Janice Hamel, Shannon Fitzsimmons, Paneet Mahal

For two weeks in July, 2009 three MSW students and one professor participated in a Summer University experience in Lausanne, Switzerland. Paneet Mahal, Janice Hamel and Shannon Fitzsimmons attended a two week summer course on the theme of Gender and Migration at the University of Applied Sciences of Western Switzerland. Dr. Margaret Wright was invited to participate as a lecturer on the topic of gender and child welfare. In addition to the three students from UBC, there were students from the USA, China, Finland, France, Iran, Mexico, Romania, Russia and Switzerland and professors from eight countries. As a result of the success of this experience, there are plans to attempt to repeat the summer school every two years. The proposed topic for 2011 is Gender and Intergenerational Relationships.

Margaret Wright  
Associate Professor

## FIELD EDUCATION



Leigh Green

My fourth year practicum placement is at Vancouver Aboriginal Child and Family Services Society (VACFSS). VACFSS is an Aboriginal non-profit society providing service

to urban Aboriginal children and families living in the Greater Vancouver area. There are five main branches of VACFSS services, foster care, guardianship, family preservation and reunification, residential resources child protection. My placement has been with a mentor in family preservation. Together with my mentor, as well as on my own, I have attended in-home meetings with clients, originally referred to us from child protection, who are experiencing situations that may place their children at risk. As our interactions are frequent and supportive we are able to take time to build trusting relationships with our clients and as well use preventative interventions in order to reduce assessed risks to the well-being of the children involved.

Being a non-Aboriginal person working for an Aboriginal organization has been an experience for which I am grateful as I have had the opportunity to observe practice in a context that has changed my professional as well as personal perspective. The VACFSS vision of "a balanced and harmonious Aboriginal community, striving to culturally and spiritually strengthen families through holistic service delivery" is evident not only in the approach with clients, but is something incorporated within the agency itself. An example of how this translates into practice is found in the "Strengthening Families Program" where families gather each week for shared meals, age categorized group work, and family bonding activities. I was able to share in this experience and co-facilitated the youth group.

My overall experience at VACFSS cannot be understood by simply describing the tasks I participated in as the most powerful lessons I received took place within. As my mentor has taught me "slow down, sit with experiences, and reflect on the process".

Leigh Green,  
BSW student 4<sup>th</sup> Year



Laura Biagioni

I started my practicum placement at the YWCA Munroe House in October 2009. Munroe House is a second stage transition house that provides housing and support services to women (and their children) leaving violence and abuse. The non-profit organization offers

many services to the residents such as support workers, a legal educator, advocates, and children who witness abuse programs. The house itself is unfortunately quite small with only 10 units and therefore we are always at maximum capacity. When units do come available they are filled within a few days as there is usually a long waiting list.

As a practicum student at Munroe House I am able to participate in a multitude of daily activities and tasks. On a regular basis I accompany many of the residents to appointments with lawyers and doctors and sometimes to the food bank. Some of the residents also ask for accompaniments to court cases and trials so that they are not alone through the lengthy process. Munroe House has also offered me the opportunity to practice my advocating and research skills. The ability to advocate properly is such an important tool for social workers to possess, and therefore I am always grateful when my supervisor allows me the chance to practice and develop my abilities in this area. In addition, because Munroe House is deeply entrenched in the legal system I am able to learn more about the policies and procedures of family court in British Columbia. I always find research in this area to be informative because I am able to see how social systems interact and how certain populations of people benefit more than others.

Since starting my practicum placement at Munroe House I have diligently been working on both my personal and professional development. As a third year BSW student I believe that this practicum placement is a vital component to my education and understanding of social systems and how they interact and intersect with one another. For example, my practicum placement



has shown me that real life situations do not always resemble textbook scenarios. These past six months have tested and challenged my ability to think outside the box and to find alternative resources, skills and tools that I can use with clients when my traditional methods do not work.

Laura Biagioni,  
BSW student 3<sup>rd</sup> Year

## RESEARCH ROUNDUP

**GRANT CHARLES** has had a number of articles published recently. These include "The UBC Model of Interprofessional Education" in the *Journal of Interprofessional Care* (with L. Bainbridge and J. Gilbert), "Outcome research, best practices and the limits of evidence" in *Canadian Social Work Review* (with J. White), "Young carers in Canada: An invisible population" in *Relational Child and Youth Care Practice* (with T. Stainton and S. Marshall), "The impact of an interprofessional rural health care practice education experience on students and communities" in the *Journal of Allied Health* (with L. Bainbridge, K. Copeman-Stewart, R. Kassam and S. Tiffin), "Caring, mutuality and reciprocity in social worker-client relationships" in the *Journal of Social Work* (with C. Alexander), "Young carers: Mature before their time" in *Reclaiming Children and Youth* (with T. Stainton and S. Marshall) and "Self-mutilative behaviour among young people in residential care" in the *Journal of Residential Treatment for Children and Youth* (with J. Matheson). He also had a chapter entitled "The practice of child and youth care in North America" published in *Applied Social Care: An Introduction for Students in Ireland*. Grant has been involved in two Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund Projects at UBC this past year. Both of the two projects, "Community Partnerships for Health Professional Education: Enhancing Diversity and Interprofessional Learning" and "Establishing a Sustainable Platform for Ethical International Service Learning Practices" have had their funding renewed for the coming year. He presented at a number of conferences on young carers, field education, social work relationships and interprofessional education and practice. He was also a guest lecturer this past year at the Australian Centre for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Studies, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia where he spoke (with B. Wyatt) on accountability and evaluation and at the School of Health and Social Care at Oxford-Brookes University in Oxford, England where he gave the inaugural lecture

in a series of research seminars on interprofessional education and practice.

Last October, **PAULE MCNICOLL** gave the Grace Coyle Lecture on Group Work at the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences, Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. The presentation was entitled "Cultural approaches to group work: New explorations, new frontiers". Paule is also working singly and collaboratively on a few conference presentations. In July 2009, she was a co-author of the paper "Structural violence, Inuit housing, health and human rights: A post-mortem of the 1962-63 TB epidemic, Eskimo Point, N.W. T." presented by Frank Tester (primary author) to the International Association of Circumpolar Health at the Fourteen International Congress on Circumpolar Health in Yellowknife. In April 2010, she will co-present the poster "Evolving needs: Parenting of adolescents and young adults with hidden disabilities" with Alice Home (Université d'Ottawa) at the Fourth National Biennial Conference on Adolescents and Adults with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder in Vancouver. Paule will also attend the 32nd International Symposium on Social Work with Groups in Montreal from June 3 to 6, 2010. She will give an invited presentation entitled "Faire place à l'ingéniosité culturelle" and will co-present the research paper "Groups for parents with invisible disabilities: Similarities and differences across the cultural divide" with Alice Home (second author). In the Fall 2010, Frank Tester (first author) and Paule McNicoll will present the paper "Making much of measles: A comparative account of a measles outbreak in the Ungava region of Arctic Quebec, 1952, with measles epidemics among colonized people of the South Pacific" at the Inuit Studies Conference, Val d'Or, Québec. In collaboration with Miu Chung Yan (second author), she published the paper "Democratic social practice and the emergence of social work in China: A call for dialogical engagement" in *Nouvelles Pratiques Sociales*, 22,1, Fall 2009. Paule is also involved in research on an ongoing basis. In collaboration with Frank Tester and Nathan Lauster (Principal Investigator and Co-investigator respectively), she is finishing the project: "'Iglurjuaq' in transition: An historical analysis of Inuit housing policy" funded by SSHRC. Frank Tester (Principal Investigator) and Peter Irniq (Co-applicant), Paule McNicoll (Co-applicant) received another SSHRC grant for the project: "Arviat: An intimate re-examination of colonial relations of rule" that will take place between 2010-12. Finally, with doctoral student Sydney Weaver, Paule received MITACS funding for the study "Father engagement in addictions health services" that took place between April and December 2009.

**SHEILA MARSHALL** and colleagues (Yan, L., Wu, A., Berzonsky, M., & Adams, G.R.) recently published the first examination of longitudinal patterns of mattering or significance to others in *Journal of Adolescence*. Sheila and her colleague, Elli Schachter, completed a special issue of *Identity: An International Journal of Theory and Research* that will appear later this year. The issue focuses on Identity Agents, or those purposefully involved in the identity of others.

**BRIAN O'NEILL** has organized an international panel of social work educators that will address the agenda for social work education in Taiwan, Japan and South Africa at the June World Conference of Social Work and Social Development in Hong Kong. He also has received a grant from Metropolis BC to extend his study of immigrant settlement services in relation to queer newcomers.

**PILAR RIAÑO-ALCALÁ** was on sabbatical leave on 2009/2010. During this year she spent part of her time in Colombia as an appointed member and researcher of the Colombian Commission of Historical Memory. The Commission published in a 2009 the report "The Salado Massacre. This War was not Ours" and a pedagogical and research toolkit "To remember and narrate the conflict. Tools for reconstructing historical memory" that was written and produced by Pilar and two other researchers of the commission. As part of the study "Women's Memories of War, Peace and Resistance. Case Studies from the Northern Coast of Colombia (1995-2008)", she is currently completing a report on a paramilitary massacre in an indigenous community. Pilar was invited by the Multicultural Centre and the University of Stockholm to speak on the topics of Youth, Violence and Displacement and Urban Violence and Critical Enquiry. She also presented on five other national and international conferences on the topics of forced migration of Colombians, ethnographies of memory and violence, the politics and practice of witnessing and on community based research as public pedagogy. She continues working on her Hampton Fund research grant that explores the social functions of historical memory work and is completing a manuscript on the practice of witnessing. Together with professor Erin Baines at the Liu Institute for Global Issues, they received funding from the UBC Martha Piper Research Fund and from the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) for the project "Against Mass Atrocities: Community Based Strategies to Document Human Rights Abuses in Settings of Ongoing Conflict (Colombia and Uganda)". Pilar also received funding from the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs for an exchange and training project

for researchers and practitioners of historical memory in several regions of the world affected by war and massive human rights violations (Latin America, Great Lakes Region of Africa, the Balkans and Caucus regions). Her article with Francisco Ibañez-Carrasco, "Organizing Community Based Research Knowledge Between University and Communities: Lessons Learned" was published in the *Journal of Community Development* and with Luin Goldring they have an article accepted for publication in the *Journal of Refugee Studies*. A book chapter prepared with Marta Villa on methodology for comparative research on immigration appeared in the book *Disciplinary Encounters and Methodological Debates* (Mexico, Siglo XXI Editores). Between January and April, 2009 Pilar was an invited professor at the National University of Colombia where she taught a graduate course on "War, Memory and Social Reconstruction" and presented two public talks on arts and massive violence and ethnography in unstable zones.

**KWONG-LEUNG TANG** joined the School in July 2009. At about this time, his book ("Social Security, the Economy and Development" co-editor: James Midgley) was published by Palgrave Macmillan (New York and London). His book examines the complex relationship between social security and economic development contending that social security contributes positively to economic development by promoting social investments that not only foster growth but also enhance social welfare. Prior to his departure from the Chinese University of Hong Kong for UBC, he completed a research project on child poverty in three Chinese societies which was funded by Grants Research Council, Hong Kong Government. In April 2009, he presented a paper highlighting some preliminary findings in the International Symposium on Anti-Poverty Social Work: Contributions from East Asia in Hong Kong. Parallel to this, he completed another research project in December 2009, entitled "A study investigating factors that affect long term care use in Hong Kong" for the Hong Kong Special Administration Region Government. Another paper, entitled "Child Poverty in Urban China: A Rights-based Assessment" was presented at the Asian Association for Global Studies 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference at the University of Calgary (March 21-22, 2009). In the same conference, he presented a paper on "Human Rights Consciousness among welfare recipients in Hong Kong." Both papers were co-authored with Jane Jiang who taught at East China University of Science and Technology in Shanghai. Recently, he presented a paper on "colonial policy and social welfare" at the London School of Economics in March 2010. The Symposium is funded by the Department of Social Policy, Tata Institute of India and

Asian Centre (LSE). A revised version of this paper will be incorporated in an edited book now in press with Edward Edgar (UK). In early 2010, he received the "Distinguished Alumni Award" from the Department of Social Work and Social Administration, University of Hong Kong.

**FRANK TESTER**, Paule McNicoll and Inuit Elder, Peter Irniq, have received funding from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada for a two year project bringing together Inuit youth and elders in Arviat, Nunavut, to explore the history of the community and Inuit who located there during the period of consolidation of Inuit into settlements. Inuit youth are to be trained as researchers. The project includes documenting on film, the activities of these youth as they work at the Library and Archives of Canada and the Prince of Wales Heritage Centre, Yellowknife and visit UBC. Youth researchers will be interviewing Elders as well as other Canadians involved in, and knowledgeable about the history of this community and the development of Nunavut. Students will be blogging their experiences with other Inuit students throughout Nunavut. Frank presented papers on research conducted when he was working with the Qikiqtani Truth Commission at the American Society for Environmental History conference in Portland Oregon in March and in a lecture given as part of a colloquium series sponsored by the Department of Native Studies, University of Manitoba. He is co-author of a paper published with Nathan Lauster, UBC Department of Sociology, dealing with measures of overcrowding and cultural considerations in dealing with Inuit housing, and author of a paper dealing with the history of housing policy affecting Inuit, published recently in the *Journal of Canadian Studies*. Frank has also received (along with some colleagues in Geography) an ArcticNet grant of \$423,000 to examine the history of mining and mineral exploration in Nunavut Territory and its environmental, social and cultural implications.

**MIU CHUNG YAN** has recently received two research grants from Metropolis British Columbia and Social Science and Humanity Research Council. The former award is to support a study entitled "Out-Migrating or returning migrant: A study on young Chinese Canadian in Hong Kong" which is to understand how new generation Chinese Canadian youth decided to work in Hong Kong and its impacts on their Canadian connection, their family and the Chinese community. This will be his third study on the new generation youth in collaboration with Dr. Sean Lauer (UBC Department of Sociology) and Mr. Sherman Chan (MOSAIC). This new study is also in partnership with Dr. Ching Man

Lam of the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Through a letter of intent process, the grant from SSHRC was awarded to support a process for the development of a full proposal for a five-year CURA grant. This proposal entitled "Neighbourhood Houses in Canada: Examining a place-based solution to complex challenges in Canadian urban communities" involves the partnership of nine researchers from six universities and the three umbrella organizations including the Canadian Association of Neighbourhood Services, the Association of Neighbourhood Houses of British Columbia and the Toronto Neighbourhood Centres. While finishing the national study on recent immigrant youth, Miu has been actively conducting data collection for the project, The Self-Other Issue in the Healing Practices of Racialized Minority Youth. As supported by the MITACS/Accelerate BC internship grant, Miu supervised Jenny Francis, a MA geography student, to complete a study on the needs of African refugee youth in Metro Vancouver. Currently, with another two MITACS/Accelerate BC internship grants, he is supervising Raj Khadka, a social work doctoral student, to develop a program model for a refugee youth program of MOSAIC. Since April 2009, Miu has published three articles: 1) "Is Social Work a Moral and Political Practice?" in *International Social Work* with Chi Keung Chu and Ming Sum Tsui; 2) "Searching for Chinese Characteristics: A Tentative Empirical Examination" in *China Journal of Social Work* with Sheng Li Cheng; and 3) "Intersecting social capital and Chinese culture: Implications for services in assisting unemployed youth" in *International Social Work* with Ching Man Lam. He has also presented in several international conferences including the 80<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Pacific Sociological Association at San Diego California in April 2009, the 5<sup>th</sup> International Social Policy Forum and Workshop in July 2009 at Jinan China, the 14<sup>th</sup> International Metropolis Conference (with Dr. Sean Lauer) at Copenhagen Demark in September 2009, the Conference on Japanese and Canadian Research into Immigration and Foreign Workers organized by UBC Asian Studies in November 2009, Welcoming Communities Priority Seminar organized by the National Metropolis Secretariat at Ottawa in January 2010 and the 12<sup>th</sup> National Metropolis Conference at Montreal in March 2010. Administratively, Miu has been appointed as the Acting Co-Director of Metropolis British Columbia, one of the five centres of excellence for immigration and integration research in Canada. In terms of community engagement, Miu has been appointed as the Co-chair of the Mayor's Working Group on Immigrants and Refugees and member of the Multicultural Advisory Committee of the City of Vancouver.

## ALUMNI READING ROOM

As many of you know, the Alumni Reading Room's history parallels the development of social work education at UBC and has evolved from being first, a social work library with its own librarian, Beverley Scott, to becoming a Reading Room in the 1950s by the Director at the time, Leonard Marsh, then developing into the Marjorie Smith Social Work Library in Graham House and with the demise of the library, to becoming a Social Work Alumni Reading room, announced at the celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Social Work education at UBC along with the formation of the Social Work Alumni Division. At the time of the move of the School of Social Work in 1992 from Graham House to its present location, the Jack Bell building for the School of Social Work, the Social Work Alumni formed a group of volunteers which were called "Friends of the School". Its first and most important role has been support of the Reading Room, as well as assisting with events such as convocation receptions for new graduates, family and friends. From the beginning, the unchallenged lead of the Friends has been Mary Clohosey.

At the School's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Reunion in 2005, a tribute was paid to Mary (along with tributes to Laura Holland and Helen McCrae) at the unveiling of her picture, which was hung in the Reading Room, to thank her for her tireless efforts and loyal support to the School. Below are the words of Marty Lund to Mary on behalf of the School's appreciation:

*"For 13 years, Mary has been the "mover and shaker" who supported this Reading Room and alumni events, recruited volunteers, and organized this room and its activities. Mary also obtained and trained social work students on grants each year to assist, enabling them to benefit both financially and from the learning opportunities the role provided. She is a doer, and is tireless, giving of her time and energy in many more ways. Only she knows how many! Among those I know of: she is a key member of a group that serves food at night in the Downtown Eastside, she has visited seniors and the disabled to introduce them to Lifeline alert systems, and she is a leader with the University Women's Club. Let us all recognize with a round of applause a woman who has been of such great service to the School of Social Work, its students, faculty, alumni and friends..."*

The School and the Reading Room will miss Mary and her devotion to the School.



Tovah Carr, Reading Room Assistant, 2009-2010

The Reading Room is an alumni legacy that was founded in 1993 by Mary Clohosey and the Alumni Board as a means to preserve major papers and theses produced by the School of Social Work. The Reading Room and Alumni Board suffered a great loss when Mary Clohosey unfortunately passed away in December of 2009.

The intent of the Reading Room is to provide social work students with access to major papers and theses produced by the UBC MSW students. Over the years, the Reading Room has evolved into a 'social work library', now providing students with access to current social work journals as well as various social work related books that have been donated to the school. The Reading Room has also recently subscribed to four major newspapers, giving all social work students access to current events.

This year the UBC cIRcle digital archive programme was introduced into the Reading Room. cIRcle is a programme that allows UBC MSW students the opportunity to showcase their work. This programme will guarantee the preservation of student's work as well as allows all UBC students the ability to gain full online access to the MSW major papers and theses. The MSW students have been slow to approach cIRcle as a means to increase the accessibility to their work however, this year efforts have been made to increase their awareness of this programme and its benefits.

Tovah Carr, MSW student  
Reading Room Assistant 2009-2010

The Reading Room was created in 1993, when the School's first purpose-built home opened, at the urging of the Social Work Alumni Association. Its purposes were, and remain, to provide a place for quiet study and to preserve and provide access to students' major papers and theses as well as relevant books and journals. The papers and theses are located in the anteroom to the computer lab and are available on request. A list of them is available by the door. Hard copies can be accessed by speaking to or leaving a message for the reading room support person at the adjacent office. There is also a locked collection nearby of important social work texts and historical material including those produced by School faculty. The School and the Reading Room suffered a great loss when Mary Clohosey passed away in December, 2009: her vision and determination led to the Reading Room's creation and she stayed active in support of it to the end.

Over the past year or so, the UBC Library cIRcle digital archive program has been added to the services supported by the Reading Room project and as indicated above, by Tovah, will preserve and allow global access to MSW major papers and theses. The cIRcle website can be accessed at <https://circle.ubc.ca/>.

Marty Lund, MSW  
Friend of the School and Reading Room



## FUNDRAISING

**F**undraising continues for priority projects that need your support. Please see the back page for a donation form.

**The 75<sup>th</sup> Social Work Anniversary Global Learning Endowment Fund** has been created in honour of the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the School of Social Work (2005). This endowment will assist students in the School of Social Work with expenses locally, nationally and internationally to advance their learning and citizenship in globally challenging contexts. The endowment will be awarded on the recommendations of the School of Social Work.

### **The Henry Maas Memorial Scholarship Endowment Fund**

The Henry Maas Memorial Scholarship for doctoral students at the UBC School of Social Work has been created to honor his spirit, memory and his strong beliefs in the merits of theory and research informing social work education and practice. This scholarship will enable Doctoral students to develop their own theories and contribute to knowledge building in social welfare.

### **Roopchand Seebaran Prize**

In recognition and celebration of Professor Seebaran's significant contributions to community development, teaching and practice, and to anti-racist social work education during his academic career, the UBC School of Social Work has established the Roopchand Seebaran Prize. The prize is awarded on an annual basis to BSW or MSW student(s) whose essay or project work on the subject of either community development or anti-racist social work education is judged to be of the highest quality.

### **Mary Hill Scholarship**

Friends and alumni of the School have established a scholarship in honour of Professor Emerita Mary Hill, a pioneer in the field of social gerontology. Under the leadership of Kathy Hamilton (BSW, MSW) a group of committed fundraisers have raised over \$30,000 to endow a scholarship for students in Social Work who are studying in the area of gerontology.

### **Social Work Annual Giving Fund**

This fund allows the School to work beyond our annual operating budget to respond to priorities that arise each year. It supports the production and distribution of the

School newsletter to more than 3,000 alumni, and the Alumni Reading Room (hiring student assistance and purchasing publications).

### **Lilian To Memorial Scholarship**

A scholarship has been established in memory of Lilian To for graduate students in the UBC School of Social Work intending to study in the area of immigration and refugee policy and practice. Lilian, a social work graduate (1968) of the University of Hong Kong and an MSW graduate (1979) of the UBC School of Social Work, was a renowned and internationally recognized social worker and Chief Executive Officer (1988-2005) of S.U.C.E.S.S, Vancouver's leading Chinese social service agency with a particular interest in meeting the economic, social and cultural adjustment needs of new immigrants to Canada.

### **Richard Splane Doctoral Scholarship**

A \$2,500 scholarship has been endowed to recognize and honour Dr. Richard Splane's work as a distinguished Social Policy and Social Work academic, and Professor Emeritus at UBC. Dr. Splane's initial contribution to the endowment principal has been matched by the Faculty of Arts. The award is made on the recommendation of the School of Social Work, in consultation with the Faculty of Graduate Studies, to a doctoral student doing research in the area of social policy.



# DONORS AND CONTRIBUTORS

The School would like to thank the following individuals for being financial supporters for the period January to December, 2009. We apologize to anyone whose name has been inadvertently left off this list.

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## DID YOU KNOW?

The Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games are now over and the UBC 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Secretariat would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support, co-operation and understanding for the changes that took place on UBC's campus over the course of the Winter Games.

As a parting note, we thought we would leave you with some stats related to the impact of the Winter Games at UBC.

10	UBC researchers contributing to Own the Podium
12	Olympic Torch Relay – February 11, 2010 – torchbearers
22	Paralympic Torch Relay – March 11, 2010 – torchbearers
100+	Academic and Community dialogue programs on Games-related issues
310	Student, alumni and staff volunteers for UBC
600+	Students/staff in Community Service Learning Projects during the Games
800-1000	Weekly UBC mentions by International media outlets during the month of February
3,000	Paralympic Torch Relay – March 11, 2010 – attendance
13,000	Olympic Torch Relay – February 11, 2010 – attendance
115,600	Olympic Games attendance
136,000	Paralympic Games attendance
78,310	Unique visitors to the UBC 2010 Website (September – March)
120,601	Total visits to <a href="http://www.ubc.ca/2010">www.ubc.ca/2010</a>
293,766	Total pages viewed on <a href="http://www.ubc.ca/2010">www.ubc.ca/2010</a>
\$10.0 M	UBC contribution to the venue – met by a philanthropic gift from the Mitchell Family
\$38.5 M	VANOC contribution to the venue construction

## MISSION STATEMENTS

### Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) Mission statement

The BSW programme provides students with the knowledge, values and skills necessary for an initial level generalist professional practice through a social justice lens.

### Master of Social Work (MSW) Mission statement

The MSW programme offers an accessible, advanced professional degree focused on social work practice in the fields of child and family welfare, health and social inclusion, and international and social development using a social justice lens.

### PhD in Social Work Mission statement

The PhD programme provides opportunities for advanced scholarship towards the generation of transformative knowledge through research relevant to social work theory and practice, social development and administration.

# DONATION REPLY FORM

These projects need your financial support and will be gratefully received by our Development Office, Suite 500-5950 University Blvd., Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z3. One of the easiest and fastest ways to donate to UBC is to make a secure on-line gift by credit card. Access [www.supporting.ubc.ca](http://www.supporting.ubc.ca) and follow the instructions to make an on-line gift. Thank you for your support!

- Mary Hill Scholarship
- Lilian To Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Henry Maas Memorial Scholarship Endowment Fund
- 75<sup>th</sup> Social Work Anniversary Global Learning Endowment Fund
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- Roopchand Seebaran Prize
- Annual Giving Fund

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**Attention Alumni: We depend on alumni, friends and relatives for Alumni information. Please send any contributions, comments, questions or items of interest to the Editorial Committee at the address above or to [suzanne.moore@ubc.ca](mailto:suzanne.moore@ubc.ca).**

## May & November, 2009 Graduate Statistics

30 Bachelor of Social Work

45 Master of Social Work

Total Graduates: 75

*Congratulations Graduates of 2009!*

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