Welcome!

Please welcome our incoming cohort of 2015: Molly Costanzo (not pictured), Emma Carpenter, Melody Waring, and Victoria “Vicky” Knoke!

Congratulations!

Congratulations to our 2015 graduates: Bomi Kim (pictured left), Laura Cuesta (pictured bottom left), and Lynette Studer!

Bomi is now an Assistant Researcher at the UW-Madison Population Health Institute. Laura is an Assistant Professor at the Rutgers School of Social Work. Lynette is an Adult Mental Health Policy Specialist at the Minnesota Department of Human Services.

Inside

Student announcements, faculty updates, and other news on page 2.

Learn about our new doctoral students on page 3.

See photos from the Welcome Picnic on page 4.

Enjoy wedding and baby photos on page 5.

Check out other event and conference photos on page 6.

Read about our 2014-15 doctoral student award winners on page 7.
Faculty Updates

Stephanie Robert is the new Director of the School replacing Jan Greenberg as he steps down to serve as an Associate Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education.

Betty Kramer is the new Associate Director and Director of the Part-Time MSW Program.

Dan Meyer received the Kellett Mid-Career Award to recognize his outstanding research career and commitment to teaching.

Tova Walsh joins the School of Social Work faculty.

Angela Willits is the new clinical assistant professor.

Alejandra Ros Pilarz and Lauren Bishop-Fitzpatrick will join the faculty over the next two years after completing postdoctoral fellowships on campus.

School Committees

Thanks to everyone who volunteered to serve on the following School committees this year:

Diversity: Andrea Larson, Angela Guarin, Hana Lee

IV-E: Yonah Drazen

Awards & Scholarships: Young Sun Joo

PhD: Ying-Chun Lin

Steph Robert introduces herself as the new director at the Welcome Picnic.

Student Announcements


You Hang Her was selected to the AGE SW Gerontological Social Work Pre-Dissertation Initiative. Way to go, You Hang!

Andrea Larson, Tora Frank, and Eun Ha Namkung successfully defended their prelims and became dissertators this fall. Well done, ladies!

Hana Lee was married December 2014 in South Korea. Angela Guarin will be getting married December 2015 in Columbia. Leah Gjerston is getting married next month. Congratulations!

Eun Ha Namkung gave birth to her daughter, Ayin, on March 8, 2015. Congratulations! Photos on page 4.

Doctoral Course Offerings

Spring 2016:
SW 947 Student Research Seminar (Berger)
SW 948 Quantitative Research Methods (Magnuson)
SW 951 Applied Theory in Child Welfare (Slack)

Fall 2016 (tentative):
SW 946 Faculty Research Seminar (Berger)
SW 949 Qualitative Research Methods (TBA)
SW 950 or SW 951 (TBA)
Welcome incoming doctoral cohort of 2015!

**Emma** is beginning her first year in the Joint MSW/PhD Program after completing one year of the MSW Program. She earned her B.A. in Women and Gender Studies from University of Colorado in 2011. Before returning to graduate school, she worked as a research assistant for a health policy research and consulting firm, focusing on implementation of the ACA and increased access to contraception. Emma also worked for a hospital in Uganda as the program coordinator for the Initiative to End Childhood Malnutrition. Emma’s research interests include the social determinants of health, health disparities and health equity, health policy, and the intersection of health and social policy. Stephanie Robert is her faculty advisor and Yonah Drazen is her peer mentor.

**Molly** earned her Master’s in Social Service Administration from the University of Chicago in 2010 and her B.A. in History and Religious Studies from Loyola University Chicago in 2005. Since completing her master’s, Molly has been working as a research analyst at the Social Security Administration focused on disability policy and the agency's demonstration projects. Molly previously worked in a handful of social service roles, including being a case manager at a housing agency in Chicago. Molly is interested in programs and policies that support low-income families, particularly transition-aged youths. Katherine Magnuson is her faculty advisor and Ying-Chun Lin is her peer mentor.

**Vicky** earned her BSW in 2010 from the University of Illinois at Springfield and her MSW from UW-Madison in 2014. She has worked various positions with older adults and adults with disabilities, most recently as director of social services in a long term care facility. Her interests focus primarily around aging and end of life care for people with developmental disabilities. Tracy Schroepfer is her faculty advisor and Young Sun Joo is her peer mentor.

**Melody** completed her A. M. at the University of Chicago's School of Social Service Administration in June 2015. Her social work field placements included court advocate at the Cook County Domestic Violence Courthouse and policy intern at Chicago Jobs Council, advocating for workforce development. Before her master's, Melody managed administration of a USDA grant at a global health organization in Seattle, coached afterschool service providers on racial equity, and served two years as an AmeriCorps VISTA with Somali refugees. Melody earned her B.A. in government from Lawrence University in Appleton, WI in 2007. Her primary research interest is welfare reform and she plans to complete the PhD minor in Gender and Women's Studies. Dan Meyer is her faculty advisor and Tenah Hunt is her peer mentor.
Welcome Picnic 2015!
Congratulations!

Hana Lee’s wedding!

Baby Ayin!
Doctoral Student Award Winners!

Emily Warren

Emily (pictured right) was awarded the Irving Piliavin Award for demonstrating her commitment to studying “real life problems” through the use of advanced statistical techniques and research methodology.

She also received the Teaching Excellence Award for her exemplary work as a teacher and her dedication to the students of our School of Social Work.

Vanessa Ríos-Salas

Vanessa won the Student Research Paper Competition with her paper entitled, “Single Mothers and Child Support Receipt in Peru.”

Tricia Egan

Tricia (pictured below) was awarded the Sheldon D Rose Memorial Award for her interest in developing a career in group work and research-based direct practice.

Emily Warren & Tricia Egan at the 2015 Welcome Picnic at the Director’s house.

June Paul

June Paul was awarded the first annual Alfred Kadushin Dissertation Research Award to support her child welfare research.
Don’t forget...

All doctoral students and faculty have access to the Social Work Doctoral Program Learn@UW site, which has lots of useful information — student directory, program guidelines, examples of grant proposals and dissertation proposals, tips on writing abstracts and papers, and more!