Department of Social Work
Words from the Chair,

The spring 2018 semester has been incredibly busy and productive. And as we all emerge from final projects and presentations, it is a wonderful time of celebration. Within this newsletter you will get a glimpse at the many wonderful accomplishments of Winthrop’s social work students and faculty. Excellence DOES matter and it has been on full display recently.

While Bancroft Hall has changed little since 1912 (below), the department is ever changing with more transitions coming this summer. Dr. Brent Cagle, who has been an important part of the department for 10 years, is headed off to a new job at the University of South Carolina. Dr. Anthony Hill will arrive in June and will serve as both the department chair and the graduate director. And we will welcome some additional new faculty in late summer and fall, keep an eye out for future updates.

Marsha

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Our faculty were hard at work sharing their research locally and nationally. Conferences included:

- Society for Social Work and Research
- Baccalaureate Program Directors Annual Conference
- International Congress on Qualitative Inquiry
- Social Work Distance Education Conference
- National Association of Social Workers– South Carolina Chapter Annual Conference

Yet again our amazing faculty have been hard at work producing high quality scholarship. Since the start of 2018 our faculty have published six manuscripts and one book chapter. Highlights include an exploration of student-adult relationships and school discipline in *Children and Schools*, inquiry into Title IV-E processes in the *Journal of Public Child Welfare*, and an exploration into colorblind racial attitudes in *Urban Social Work*. Our faculty also created two technical reports in support of their community-engaged scholarship with Keystone Substance Abuse Services and the Administration of Children and Families.
Another way that Winthrop social work students embody the idea that excellence matters is through their commitment and dedication to scholarship.

Gabby Lee & Dr. Bloomquist presented on “Adverse Childhood Experiences and the Social Environment: Interviews with Women of Color” at the International Congress for Qualitative Inquiry in June (not pictured).

Anna Grace McLaughlin presented her research at the National Conference for Undergraduate Research in Oklahoma. (Left)

On Friday, April 20 five BSW students presented their research at the Symposium of Undergraduate Research and Creative Endeavors (SOURCE). Students: Sarah Bechtold (bottom right), Molly Boyle, Shelby Anderson, Gabrielle Lee, Tucker Chandler (bottom left), & Anna Grace McLaughlin all did an outstanding job.

MSW Students Ethan Johnston and Krista Parenti presented with Mentor Dr. Constance-Huggins and Taylor Bagwell presented with her MSW supervisor at the NASW-SC Conference in Columbia. (Above)
Members of the BSW Club gave more than 32 hours of service this semester. Students prepared and distributed lunches to individuals who are homeless; organized a sock drive for area agencies; participated in the campuswide “Day of Service 2018” in honor of Martin Luther King Jr.; and participated in Relay for Life, placing 10th for total funds raised.

Excellence Matters!
BSW Field Excellence Award was given to Julia Swidzinkski,
Academic Excellence Award was given to Lily Carter.
26 BSW students were inducted into Phi Alpha, the national social work honor society.

BSW students even managed to sneak in a little self care this semester visiting the Winthrop Easter petting zoo with Dr. Sellers!

Students & Dr. Neff at South Carolina Legislative Day. Students and faculty met with representatives to empower, advocate, and learn.

Students with Dr. Constance-Huggins at Legislative Day in Columbia.
Excellence matters among our graduate students as they demonstrate professionalism and commitment in their field placements, their communities and the classroom.

- 20 MSW students were inducted into Phi Alpha
- JD Deloney was awarded the Linda M. Ashley non-traditional student award
- The MSW Field Excellence Award was given to Ludie Floyd-Moore

MSW student Ethan Johnstone earned local and state recognition as he was named the NASW-SC graduate student of the year and he received the MSW Academic Excellence Award.

Praised by many for his academic excellence, professionalism, and commitment to social justice, Ethan was instrumental in securing new funding streams for Pendleton Place in Greenville, South Carolina, where he completed his MSW field placement. In conjunction with a fellow MSW student & Dr. Monique Constance-Huggins he completed a community needs and asset assessment of the LGBTQ community in upstate South Carolina.

For more information about our online MSW programming, please visit https://online.winthrop.edu/programs/masters-social-work. For online admissions information, please contact our MSW Admissions Office at 803-323-3396 or msw@winthrop.edu
As a final requirement of their MSW program, graduate students must compose a comprehensive paper and facilitate a round-table workshop for their contemporaries, faculty, and community-based colleagues. This year, capstone topics covered a range of important practice issues such as the intersection of child welfare and the commercial sexual exploitation of children and work with a variety of diverse populations including South Carolinians who identify as LGBTQ.

On April 25 in the Richardson Ballroom BSW students presented their capstone projects. Family, friends, and field instructors attended the event and played a role in the evaluation of the student’s presentation. The student’s lived the motto “Excellence Matters” as they presented their posters, which represented a semester of interning at a wide variety of non-profit agencies in Rock Hill, Charlotte, Lancaster and Spartanburg. At the end of the presentation, the students were recognized individually for their internship accomplishments and received a Winthrop Department of Social Work key chain to commemorate the day.
The MSW program graduated 59 MSWs on Thursday, May 3. The department is immensely proud of all that these students have already achieved, and all that lies before them. Congratulations, graduates!

The BSW program graduated 25 BSWs on Saturday, May 6. These students are bravely settling into the next chapters of their lives as some will continue on to graduate school, some have already landed their first jobs, and others are exploring exciting opportunities. We are incredibly proud of each and every one of you. Congratulations, graduates!