

**Indiana University School of Social Work
Faculty Senate Agenda
September 14, 2012**

Attendance: M. Adamek, B. Barton, J. Bell, B. Bennett, C. Black, L. Blackman, K. Brandon, K. Byers, J. Carlson, M. Dale, J. Daley, C. Davis, D. Davis, E. Fitzgerald, G. Folaron, S. Gass, C. Gentle-Genitty, J. Hall, P. Howes, K. Khaja, S. Khamis, S. Larimer, K. Lay, L. Lecklider, C. Luca-Sugawara, G. Majewski, H. McCabe, L. McGuire, K. Moffett, A. Omorayo-Adenrele, P. Ouellette, M. Patchner, C. Pike, I. Queiro-Tajalli, C. Satre, V. Starnino, S. Sullenberger, P. Sullivan, J. Thigpen, R. Vernon, B. Walton, B. Weiler, D. Wilkerson

In South Bend: J. Gallagher, Jan Ness, M. Ramsay, B., Wahler

In Bloomington: C. Hostetter

In Gary: J. Davis, M. Harris, D. Lynch, A. Tamburro

Meeting Called to Order: 10:09 am EST

Welcome and Approval of Agenda: C. Davis

Approval of May 4, 2012 Minutes: Accepted without changes or discussion.

Dean Patchner welcomes faculty and makes announcements:

Mike welcomed faculty. Introduced new faculty, John Gallagher (IUSB), Beth Waller (SB), Kori Bloomquist (Lecturer, IUPUI), Jan Ness (IUPUW, Coordinator), and Marshelia (Visiting Lecturer, IUN). Ginny was welcomed to the faculty; Bob Weiler to his new appointment from senior field coordinator to senior lecturer and Kathy Byers was welcomed back after heart surgery.

Site visit

The site visit will be Nov 1 & 2. Schedules were sent to site team and we are waiting for approval. We are first school to pilot new system. Mike explained changes in site visit as a targeted review with the focus being determined by the accrediting body and explored by site team. Mike reviewed some of the questions that will be addressed. He said the real concern is about the leadership on the Richmond campus. There are two programs (MSW & BSW) on that campus but only one director. There needs to be two directors. Bob Bennett will take over the directorship of the MSW program in Richmond. All site questions will be reviewed at the retreat with the goal of addressing a response. Andrew W. Safyer, Dean of Adelphi University School of Social Work Lois Pierce, Director of the University of Missouri-St. Louis School of Social Work. Site visitors will be staying at University Hotel.

Retreat

The annual retreat will be held on Oct 12 at the Hilton Garden Inn. Agenda will be sent out by early next week. Registration 8:30-9:00.

Park 100

We are securing more space at Park 100. Same place where Child Welfare Partnership (IV-E program) is housed. The Leadership Academy has just been funded to train administrators in public service particularly Child Welfare. The leadership academy and the MSW Direct will have space here.

Enrollment and budget

Our annual budget is based on state appropriation and tuition. Enrollment is down 1.6% on the IUPUI campus. We don't have all of the numbers from other campuses yet and Labor Study has compressed courses at end of semester. Overall, we have stayed even.

MSW Direct

Anticipated to start with MSW Direct was this month but there is a need to do more marketing. 146 people expressed interest but this didn't materialize for a full class. The new start date is set for December with a new cohort every 11 weeks. Carlene suggested that federal student aid doesn't come up again until Spring which might impact enrollment. Mike said we are targeting Military Personnel.

Committee Reports

BSW Curriculum

Course Approvals: Andrea Tamburro made a motion to accept the revised course description and objectives for S342 and S281. More people are working on the case manager certificate who are not BSW students. S281 separates them from field practicum so they have their own field experience. S342 removes non social work students from 442 and serves as a substitute course. The motion received unanimous approval.

A motion was made by Andrea Tamburro to change the grading of 481 and 482 from P/F to a letter grade. The rationale given was to increase student focus throughout the spring semester. "The hope is that a letter grade will encourage students to stay focused in field, our signature pedagogy." Andrea did a brief survey of other schools and provides some of the results. There was considerable discussion on this question including the following comments:

- Irene concerned with rationale for change the grading system and the difficulty of standardizing grading across field placements and field instructors.
- Lisa agrees and spoke from her background as a field instructor. Believes the change in grading will result in more problems around quality assurance than a gain in learning by the students.
- Kathy Byers, speaking for Bloomington campus, feels that grading will discriminate between those who go above and beyond from those who are just getting by. Feels strongly that a passing grade means very little about what students are accomplishing and diminishes the recognition for those who excel.
- Ginny reminded everyone that there is a seminar. Students could be encouraged to focus through the seminar. Throughout the country, reason for P/F is the diversity of field instructors

from agency to agency. If graded, an unintended consequence maybe the perceived threat by students which would discourage them from challenging agency policy.

- Rubric would be changed to be more specific.
- Sheila concerned about the need for more field instructor training and standard assessments, extra emphasis on field liaison to educate field instructors.
- Carlene, explained that the BSW now has a year long practicum and after spring break there is a problem with “brain flight” in Bloomington. P/F gives them a pass for doing serious work. Field instructors are excited about the proposed change because it gives them more teeth. She also pointed out that the high number of P/F on a transcript negatively affects GPA.
- Mike, addressed issue of grade inflation and the problems it creates.

Erika Galyean motion to table until we get more information from field instructors. 27 in favor of tabling; 18 opposed; 1 abstention.

Kathy Byer moves to reopen discussion for purpose of letting BSW committee know what they need to bring back. The discussion was reopened to the following suggestions:

- Lisa – develop more observable rubrics to anchor grades.
- Carol Satre-we are in the process of reducing practice behaviors. We need to think about how this fits into the grade. It’s been a challenge in the MSW program when we shifted.
- Carlene – Spring are letter graded this year. Fall is P/F.
- Andrea – Neither field placement is graded. Not passed in Faculty Senate.
- Vince-concern about losing field instructors and wants more field input.
- Ivette-asked that the committee take into consideration volume. IUPUI has over 80 students making it difficult if field instructors become disgruntled.
- Phil-seconds idea of stronger, more specific rubric.

Additional Items

Discussion on Textbooks

Sabrina Williamson Sullenberger addressed the cost of books. Sabrina discovered that textbooks are up to 60% cheaper through Amazon.com but that students need a good lead time to order on-line. She reminded us that to be compliant with higher education act students should have access to textbook information at time of registration. That means text book orders need to be in this October so we need to get textbook orders within the next week or so.

Revision of Practice Behaviors.

Sheila Dennis introduced self as new interim director of field. Several concentrations need to revise their LET. What we are measuring needs attention. The practice behaviors are unwieldy and hard to measure. In the past we had curriculum workgroups. These need to be revived. The MSW committee agreed that field faculty will be taking the leadership and bringing the revisions back to the MSW

committee. Appointed field persons will take the leadership to review the practice behaviors and seek a classroom faculty to start this process.

Old Business - None

New Business

S618 Policy concentration

Bob Bennett - S618 Policy concentration has competing set of objectives. Sabrina took input and reviewed syllabi. Common course objectives were developed reducing 10 common objectives to 5. Motion to accept revised policy objectives passed

Dr. Sheldon Siegel

Irene – express sorrow for passing of Dr. Sheldon Siegel. NASW has given us an opportunity to honor someone. Suggested we honor Dr. Siegel for contributions to education. Motion made by Lisa to submit Dr. Siegel's name for NASW recognition. Approved unanimously. Lisa will take follow through.

Retreat

Sabrina is collecting celebrations to bring to retreat.

Rural Social Worker Conference

Bennett recognized the great job of the Rural Conference committee. Ginny noted that attendees noticed that IUSSW was highly involved which was unusual.

Funeral Fund

Joan Carlson made a motion to collect voluntary contributions towards a Funeral Fund. The money would be used for flowers or donation as specified by family. Unanimously approved.

IU Clinic

JB recognized the great work of the students at the IU free clinic. Great collaboration across schools. Bennett requested that we please mention in the opportunity in our classes. Need more first years. Current volunteer students have set up two sessions for information and orientation for interested students. New volunteers are urgently needed. The second year students can't keep up at current pace.