

WILMINGTON UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

NEWSLETTER

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Women in Criminal Justice Leadership Seminar: Advice From The Top



The best advice Colonel Marian McGovern received in her career in law enforcement was, “to remain true to who you are and let the values that have guided you in the past pave the way for future success.” Col. McGovern, the first woman Superintendent of the Massachusetts State Police, shared this recommendation with the 200 attendees at the fifth annual *Women in Criminal Justice Leadership Seminar* sponsored by Wilmington University’s Criminal Justice Program with generous support from the Delaware Criminal Justice Council.

Col. McGovern, a 30 year veteran, described her ascent through the ranks of a law enforcement agency which sometimes was not hospitable to female troopers back in 1979 when she joined the organization. She earned the respect of her fellow troopers by doing her job well. Her leadership skills were honed in the ranks where she helped develop the DNA Index system and the AMBER alert missing child notification system. She also was responsible for internal affairs investigations and trooper education at the state police academy while serving as a lieutenant colonel.

Col. McGovern inspired the crowd of mainly female criminal justice professionals by offering to them her best advice as they travel their career paths: “Take care of the tasks ahead one step at a time. Never underestimate the wise lessons you will learn each step of the way. While it’s very important to set goals and move to achieve them you cannot forget that hard work and determination will put you on the right path to reaching them.”

In addition to the keynote speakers, the seminar included panel presentations on grants and planning, critical incident stress management and leadership and promotion. Panelists included senior members of regional law enforcement agencies and the legal community, the Criminal Justice Council and the Federal Bureau of Investigations. The coordinator for the seminar, State Police Captain Melissa Zebley, who currently serves in the capacity of Criminal Justice Program Assistant, commented, “The panelists and keynote speakers inspired and challenged seminar participants and offered them tools to be effective leaders in their organizations. If our registration for this event and the waiting list for this seminar is any indication, there is a real need for this type of information in the criminal justice field.”

Pennsylvania State Police Lieutenant Douglas Burig, the incident commander at the West Nickel Mines Amish School shooting in Lancaster County, PA, gave a riveting description of the incidents of that day in October, 2006 when five young female students were killed and five more were injured by a lone gunman who committed suicide. Lt. Burig emphasized the law enforcement and emergency personnel responses focusing on the leadership skills necessary to manage a tragic event of this magnitude including the ability to act as a liaison between the worldwide media which covered the story and the Amish families affected by the tragedy. He focused not only on the operational handling of the school massacre, but also the human side of attending to families and a community devastated by this violent act. His moving account garnered a standing ovation from the participants.

Wilmington University looks forward to partnering with the Delaware Criminal Justice Council in the future to offer high quality programs and training seminars to regional criminal justice system practitioners.

Pictured Above (front to back): Col. Marian J. McGovern, Superintendent of the Massachusetts State Police; Lt. Laura O’Sullivan, New Castle County Police Department; Capt. Melissa Zebley, Delaware State Police; Joseph Aviola, Coordinator of the Administration of Justice graduate program; Hon. Lewis D. Schiliro, Secretary, Delaware Department of Safety & Homeland Security; Dr. Betty Caffo, Wilmington University Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; Christian Trowbridge, Dean, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences; Col. Robert M. Coupe, Superintendent of the Delaware State Police; Dr. Thomas B. Cupples, Assistant Vice President, Wilmington University

Faculty News

Dr. Debra Berke, Associate Professor and a Coordinator of the Psychology Program, has co-authored two recently published journal articles:

[Advocacy as Service-Learning](#), *Family Science Review*, 2010, Volume 15, 13-30, Debra L. Berke, Wilmington University, Erin F. Boyd-Soisson, Ashlin N. Voorhees, and Elizabeth W. Reininga, Messiah College

Service-learning has been used in a variety of educational settings and is a valued aspect of education. Advocacy as service-learning, on the other hand, is not as widely known or utilized. This article bridges the gap that exists between advocacy and service-learning, and, through a case study of a family policy class using an advocacy as service-learning assignment, explains the advantages of integrating the two. For more about advocacy or service-learning, please read the article in its entirety by clicking the article title above.

[Enhancing Graduate Education: Promoting a Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Through Mentoring](#), *International Journal of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education*, 2009, Volume 20, 438-446, Bahira Sherif Trask, University of Delaware, Ramona Marotz-Baden, Montana State University, Barbara Settles, University of Delaware, Deborah Gentry, Illinois State University, Debra Berke, Wilmington University

This article highlights the importance of mentoring processes in the education of future scholars. The purpose is to recommend that scholars link the process of mentoring graduate students with promoting a scholarship of teaching and learning (SoTL). It suggests that through this process graduate students will acquire some of the skills they need to be successful in careers that require teaching as a central component of their work. Recommendations are provided for informal and formal mentoring initiatives. For more about mentoring or the scholarship of teaching and learning, click on the article title above.

A Note From The Dean



Photo Courtesy of: Susan Gregg

In an effort to keep our students, alumni and instructors informed of the news of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, we have instituted a completely on-line version of our newsletter.

Through this electronic platform, we'll be able to communicate more frequently than with our previous bi-annual, printed format. The advantages are many – news from the College will be disseminated on a timely basis and we'll save our resources by not printing and mailing hundreds of paper newsletters. So, send your news stories, career updates and pictures to the editor, Prof. Lori Sitler, at lorraine.r.sitler@wilmu.edu. We're counting on your input to help us keep this newsletter informative and fresh!

Have a restful summer!

College Updates

New Homeland Security Graduate Degree - ONLINE!



After consulting with professionals in the field who provide leadership to state and federal homeland security agencies, the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences is pleased to announce its new Master of Science in Homeland Security degree.

Courses will be offered for the first time in Fall, 2010 for this 33 credit, multidisciplinary, on-line degree. In addition to 6 core courses, students in the Homeland Security master's program will opt for one of three concentrations to meet their professional goals and interests. Students will complete specialized coursework in Safety and Security, Organizational Leadership or Information Assurance.

The final requirement for the degree will be a Capstone project developed to enhance and complement the coursework in the student's chosen concentration. Information about this dynamic new degree will be available in the Fall course catalog.

Community Psychology Service Project

Dr. Debra Berke's Community Psychology (PSY 310) class conducted a service project for ContactLifeline during Spring Block I. The class was asked by the organization to identify skills/knowledge needed by crisis line volunteers as well as the best potential structures/formats to deliver this knowledge. The class began the process by searching the scholarly literature as well as conducting an internet search of crisis organizations to put together a list of skills/knowledge needed by crisis line volunteers as well as all potential structures/formats to deliver this knowledge. The students used this knowledge to create a survey using SurveyMonkey which was distributed to current volunteers. Once responses were received – the volunteer survey had a response rate of 31% - the class analyzed the data and developed a PowerPoint presentation for ContactLifeline.

The students presented their findings to three ContactLifeline staff on the last night of class. Patricia P. Tedford, Executive Director of ContactLifeline, Inc., commented, "The students did an outstanding professional job in conducting and presenting the survey to us. We will use this study to further enhance and refine our core volunteer training for Crisis Helpline Specialists." Tedford added, "Thanks again for a 'job well done.'"

The students in this course included Sheila Boyer, Shelley Day, William Donato, Janel Goode, Heather Jarman, Emily Miles, Lorna Miller, Katie Parks, Carrie Ridgway, Donnice Robinson, Lauren Stevenson, and Ruth Ann Woods.

MSCC Awards Honor Top Students

On April 23rd, the Community Counseling (MSCC) graduate program celebrated! The MSCC Awards Banquet honored this year's graduates who have just completed their field work as interns. Those graduates included 21 students from the Wilson Graduate Center and 9 from the Dover campus. There were several students given individual honors including:



Dr. Doris Lauckner and the MSCC graduating students from the Dover site.

Academic Excellence Award 2010 (Highest GPA; all three students had perfect 4.00 GPA's)

Malia Boone (Dover)
Tiffany Tomaski (Dover)
Todd Grande (WGC)

Clinical Excellence Award 2010 (as determined by their Clinical Supervisors; awarded for consistent demonstration of clinical skillfulness)

Malia Boone (Dover)
Alicia Kendorski (Dover)
Megan Doyle (WGC)
Megan Youtz (WGC)
Rebecca Trent (WGC)

Compassionate Colleague Award 2010 (as determined by their fellow students; recognized for their compassionate caring throughout their time in the MSCC program)

Edie Outten & Sandra Hagans (Dover)
Virginia Thomas, Kate Wingate, & Debbie Jackson (WGC)

CPCE Scholar Award 2010 (recognition of the highest score on the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Examination)

Shana Powell (Dover)
Todd Grande (WGC)

Additionally, 25 students were recognized for their outstanding results on the CPCE Exam, and another 19 were recognized for having completed the MSCC program with GPA's exceeding 3.50.

Cathy Cowin, MS, LPCMH, a graduate of the MSCC program in 2007, was the keynote speaker at the banquet. Besides working as a counselor and an advocate for special needs children, she is currently the President of the Delaware Professional Counselors Association.

Congratulations to all the MSCC honorees!



The MSCC graduating students from the Wilson Graduate Center

ABUSE HURTS AT ANY AGE

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

Mark your calendars! The International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (INPEA) announces the 5th Annual ***World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD)*** on ***Tuesday, June 15, 2010.***

What is Elder Abuse?

Elder abuse is not gender specific, and can affect people of all ethnic backgrounds and social status. In general, elder abuse refers to intentional or neglectful acts by a caregiver or “trusted” individual that lead to, or may lead to, harm of a vulnerable elder. Physical abuse; neglect; emotional or psychological abuse; verbal abuse and threats; financial abuse and exploitation; sexual abuse; and abandonment are considered forms of elder abuse.

What Can You Do?

REPORT YOUR CONCERNS! Most cases of elder abuse go undetected. Don’t assume that someone has already reported a suspicion of abusive situation.

Two programs are available in Delaware to handle reports of suspected abuse, neglect or exploitation of infirm or disabled adults. .

To report a case of suspected abuse, neglect, or exploitation of an older person or a person with a disability *who does not live in a licensed long term care facility* (for example, the person lives in his or her own house or apartment; in a group home; or in an unlicensed adult foster care home), contact the **Adult Protective Services Program**. <http://www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dsaapd/aps.html>

To report a case of suspected abuse, neglect or exploitation of a resident of a *long term care facility* (for example, a nursing home or assisted living facility), contact the **Division of Long Term Care Residents Protection**. <http://www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dlcrp/about.html>

To report suspected elder abuse, neglect or exploitation in Delaware, call:

Adult Protective Services
1-800-223-9074

If you know someone in immediate danger, call 911.



For more information about elder abuse:

National Center on Elder Abuse

(www.ncea.aoa.gov)

National Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (<http://www.preventelderabuse.org/>)

International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (INPEA) <http://www.inpea.net/about..html>



WILMINGTON UNIVERSITY

Special Topics Electives in Child Advocacy Offered by The College of Social and Behavioral Sciences

A plan to end child abuse was set forth by Victor Vieth in 2006. His proposal, “Unto the Third Generation: A Call to End Child Abuse in the United States Within 120 Years” outlines an educational plan to help professionals recognize and investigate child abuse. This plan has implications for all those front line workers who come into contact with families and children, including teachers, nurses, and law enforcement as well as social workers and mental health professionals.

According to Vieth, universities need to play a significant role in eradicating child abuse, as current programs educating professionals in recognizing and investigating child abuse fall short. Wilmington University is one of 20 colleges and universities throughout the country that received grant funding to train faculty members in the specialized curriculum.

SOC 465: Child Abuse: Recognition and Investigation

Recognizing the varying forms of child abuse and understanding the typical profiles of child abusers, this course provides an introduction to identifying typical profiles of child abuse, the reporting requirements, and investigation processes.

SOC 466: Responding and Investigation: Child Maltreatment

This course is the second course in the child advocacy studies series and focuses on the responses of professionals to allegations of child maltreatment. The purpose of this course is to expand the student’s knowledge and skills in identifying, investigating and prosecuting child maltreatment. Students majoring in criminal justice, behavioral science, psychology, education, nursing, or paralegal studies will receive information on topics such as the value of forensic interview protocols and interview techniques, issues related to child victims, issues related to perpetrators, the importance of the crime scene investigation and the autopsy, prosecution challenges and other trial related issues, the child abuse hotline process and the role of the mandated reporting professional.



SOC 467 – Responding to the Survivors of Child Abuse and Survivor Responses

This course is the third course in the child advocacy studies series. This course will help prepare students to recognize the effects of child maltreatment and identify intervention strategies for children and their families. Multidisciplinary approaches to prevention, advocacy and treatment of survivors of child maltreatment will be presented and discussed. This course is designed for students majoring in behavioral science, psychology, criminal justice, nursing, education or legal studies or other areas where knowledge of child maltreatment and advocating for children will be necessary.

Prerequisites for this course are SOC 465 and SOC 466 or approval of the behavioral science coordinator.

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