Message from Dean Cathryn Potter

Hello to all and thank you for your readership of E-News.

It was wonderful to see so many alumni return for our recent “60th Anniversary Alumni Reception.” Thanks to Kyle Smidt, attorney at the U.S. Department of Justice and graduate of our dual degree Juris Doctor/Master of Social Work program, and Richard Edwards, executive vice president of academic affairs and chancellor of the New Brunswick campus, for speaking at the event and welcoming our alumni back. No matter where you go in the world, you will always have a home with Rutgers School of Social Work, and I hope our alumni will continue to participate in special events, lectures, career fairs and other programs of interest.

I would like to congratulate Lia Nower, professor and director of the Center for Gambling Studies, for a new grant. The Center has been awarded $1,287,504 to study the impact of Internet gambling in New Jersey. Funded by the New Jersey Division of Gaming Enforcement, in partnership with the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services, the three-year project will be the first comprehensive investigation of betting behavior on the Internet in the U.S.

Once again, thank you for your support. I hope you enjoy this issue of E-News.

Cathryn Potter, Ph.D.
Dean and Professor
A Wonderful 60th Anniversary Alumni Celebration

Thank you fellow alumni for returning to the School of Social Work to celebrate our 60th anniversary at the Rutgers School of Social Work! Since 1954, our alumni, faculty and staff members have made us proud.

View photos from the event here.

VAWC in the News

The U.S. State Department asked the Center to host a small group of 15 distinguished visitors from the Middle East and North Africa for an International Visitor Leadership Program on preventing and confronting domestic abuse and violence in the Near East and North Africa. The group included government officials, researchers, educators and legal experts who are visiting the U.S. as part of the program sponsored by the State Department. They met to discuss the work and research done at VAWC.

The Huamin Research Center Lecture on Donations from Wealthy People in China

The Huamin Research Center and the Center for Leadership and Management were pleased to host a lecture titled “Donations from Wealthy People in China: Level and Changes” by Dr. Guosheng Deng from Tsinghua University.

Learn more information here.
Dr. Lia Nower's Research Receives Extensive Media Coverage

Congratulations to Dr. Lia Nower for her media hits from, “Center for Gambling Studies at Rutgers Conducts First Research Study of Internet Gambling in United States.” The Center for Gambling Studies at the Rutgers University School of Social Work has been awarded $1.2 million to conduct the first comprehensive investigation of internet betting behavior in the United States. The study will examine the impact of legalized online gambling and assess whether problem behaviors vary with demographics across the state.

Learn more information here.

Students Learn about Grief and Loss Across the Lifespan

Grief and loss sound like experiences that would impact senior citizens more than the fresh faced master of social work students who are enrolled in, “Grief and Loss Across the Lifespan.” Yet students learn immediately through the coursework that loss is a universal human experience that occurs at every age, and that grief is a normal part of the process. Armed with the knowledge they gain in this class, these future social workers will use that information to help people process the meaning of loss in their own lives.

Learn more information here.

Centers Host Chinese Delegation in NJ

With China's non-profit sector expanding in recent years, a delegation of leaders from foundations, non-governmental organizations and businesses in mainland China visited a Pequannock non-profit to learn about its approach to philanthropy and programming. NewBridge Services, Inc. welcomed 23 delegates who are all enrolled in an executive master of philanthropy degree program at Beijing Normal University.

Learn more information here.
Good News: SSW Faculty and Staff Bulletin

Beth Angell, Allison Zippay and Bill Waldman received a grant from the New Jersey Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services for $491,000, to conduct an evaluation of New Jersey's Involuntary Outpatient Commitment (IOC) program. Other key personnel for the project include Tina Marie Gajda, project coordinator, Elizabeth Matthews, SSW Ph.D. student and Gina Pearson, MSW intern.

For more Good News about Faculty and staff, visit here.

Heidi Peck, a life of Advocacy

For Heidi Peck, 2004 BASW alum, social work has always come naturally. During her time at Rutgers, she lived on Livingston Campus and was elected to the position of committee member of Middlesex County for Piscataway, New Jersey Ward 4, District 6, where she served two terms. She also completed a two-year fellowship at Eagleton Institute of Politics as an undergraduate associate. Peck said, “My time at Rutgers certainly helped to shape my career. Learning more about the political process, the needs of my constituency, and starting the first successful on-campus voter registration initiative helped me to learn what it means to help a community.”

Learn more information here.

For more information and updates, please like the SSW Facebook, follow the SSW on Twitter, or subscribe to the SSW Youtube channel.