

## FROM THE CHAIR

Each Fall, in the academic calendar, is a time of new beginnings...new courses, new classmates, new challenges...and this is a much the case for the Social Work Department as it is for our students. One significant change is in the Department's leadership. For the last almost 30 years the Social Work Department has been under the leadership of Dr. Marvin Tossey. During his tenure SU's social work program has grown from just relatively small bachelor's program to a mid-size combined BASW/MSW program with faculty and students in three satellite sites and a Dual Degree Program which is nationally unique. However, as all things come to an end, Dr. Tossey decided to move into a new role where he can refocus on his teaching and scholarship. Just for clarity: he is not retiring (although he is on sabbatical this fall which is why you are not seeing him in the classroom). I previously served as the Associate Chair and Director of the Undergraduate Program, and have now moved into the Chair's position. Dr. Root, who is remaining the Director of the Graduate Program, has also assumed the duties of Associate Chair. Dr. Hyman has moved into the position of Director of the Undergraduate Program. Last, but certainly not least, Dr. Bell has assumed the duties of Director of the Dual Degree Program. She will remain primarily based in her SU office but will also have an office at UMES where she can best serve the interest of those students with feet planted at both institutions. So many roles have changed but the individuals filling those seats are well known.



We are excited to welcome four new faculty members this Fall: Dr. Dawn Higgins, Dr. Marc Felizzi, Ms. Letha Sizemore, and Ms. Sally Hellane. Each of them brings a unique area of practice and experience to the department. Also of note, Ms. Debra Dotson has left the Title IV-E program, but you will still see her around as she continues to be a field liaison for the department.

Dr. Deborah Mathews, Chair of the Social Work Department

## Welcome from the BASW Program Director

Welcome to our new and returning students!

This summer I enjoyed meeting new BASW students during visits to the 3 satellite sites as well as meetings in Salisbury. I'm delighted that classes have begun and I'm seeing the familiar faces of returning students. I'm energized by the enthusiasm of the BASW students who are just entering their field placements and will soon have real clients and situations to talk about. This will enliven your classes.

I hope everyone has a good fall semester! Stop by or send me an email and let me know how you're doing.

Dr. Hyman,  
Director of the Undergraduate Program



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## Welcome from the Graduate Program Director

Welcome to all new and returning MSW students!



After two years of planning, the Basic Skills training was held on September 8-9, 2011. This training was designed to provide a “leveling” experience for incoming foundation students who come to the MSW program from

a variety of majors. The training provided a rich social work perspective and introduction to the planned change process, and basic social work interviewing skills in preparation for beginning the practice sequence. In addition, the training served as a residency opportunity for new foundation students to meet colleagues from other satellite sites and the Salisbury campus.

The MSW student advisory board met last spring and will continue this fall with a meeting sometime mid-semester. I will ask for a representative from each cohort at each site to be the voice of their cohort, and we will come together to discuss the MSW program. Stay tuned for more information!

Note to December 2011 grads: You will have access to the licensing practice exam within a few weeks. The practice exam will appear in MyClasses and is for your use as you prepare for the licensing exam. You can take the practice exam as many times as you wish to gain experience with the types of questions and content found in the Graduate Licensing Exam. May 2012 grads will have access beginning in the spring semester. A licensing workshop is planned for January 2012 to help prepare you for the exam.

Dr. Vicki Root, Director of the MSW Program

# WHAT'S HAPPENING ON CAMPUS?

## BROWN BAG STUDENT ENRICHMENT

This year the Department is starting a Brown Bag series to answer some of your questions about social work, that you don't necessarily hear in classes. Pack a lunch and join us for an hour of enrichment seminars on the following topics:

October 19, 2011: Self-care—Kimberly van Vulpen, MSW, LCSW-C

November 30, 2011: Licensing—Joyce Bell, PhD, MSW, LCSW-C

February 13, 2012: Ethics—Joyce Bell, PhD, MSW, LCSW-C

March 7, 2012: Poverty Simulation—Debra Dotson, MSW, LCSW-C

April 9, 2012: Diversity & Cultural Competence—Batya Hyman, PhD, MSW



All seminars are held in TETC 279 from noon—1:00pm

Come and join us to learn more about your chosen profession!

If you have questions, please contact Ms. Amy Habeger at [adhabeger@salisbury.edu](mailto:adhabeger@salisbury.edu) or (410) 677-3923

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## CONTINUING EDUCATION

In keeping with one of the goals of the Social Work Department's Strategic Plan to increase continuing education opportunities for faculty, students and area practitioners, 14 continuing educational programs were offered this past academic year. There were two programs offered this Fall: "Managing the Angry Child: Play Therapy and Cognitive Behavior Techniques" and "The Social Work Code of Ethics: What it is, What it's for & How to use it in Practice"

In addition to the above workshops, the Department is also offering a Traumatic Stress Studies Certificate Program for the second time. This program stretches over the two semesters and is a joint venture with the Trauma Center at JRI (Justice Resource In-

stitute) in Boston, MA. Last year 28 trauma specialists were trained here on main campus. This is an interactive television (ITV) course. This year, our Chesapeake and Hagerstown campuses are the sites for this training, which is already underway.

Students may attend continuing education programs for half price, but we do ask that you register. We offer a light breakfast with coffee, juice and the pastry of the day. Be sure to check the Social Work website for information on upcoming programs.

Thanks so much and keep an eye on the web site and your e-mail for upcoming continuing ed events!

Mrs. Jennifer Wright

# WHAT'S HAPPENING OFF-CAMPUS?

## SATELLITE PROGRAM

The Satellite Program has experienced quite a growth spurt! We began our program in 2007 with 11 students in two locations. This fall we have 148 students in three locations! Due to our growth we have added some new positions at our sites.

We are happy to announce that Dr. Marc Felizzi and Ms. Letha Sizemore have joined us at Elkton Station. Both are fulltime instructors. Dr. Felizzi's office is 233, Ms. Sizemore's is 208 and I have moved to 204.

Equally exciting is the addition of a fulltime site coordinator/instructor at USM

Hagerstown, Ms. Sally Hellane. Ms. Hellane's office is 402.

I will be advising all of the students and facilitating field placements at Elkton Station. Ms. Van Vulpen is advising all of the students and facilitating field placements at the ESHEC at Chesapeake College and Ms. Hellane is advising the students and facilitating field placements at USM Hagerstown.

Cindy Wingate, Coordinator of the Satellite Program

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## SOCIAL WORKERS IN HONG KONG

The Social Work Department is offering a short-term, faculty-led, study abroad course in January of 2012. This course is led by Amy Habeger, MSW, LCSW-C, and offers a

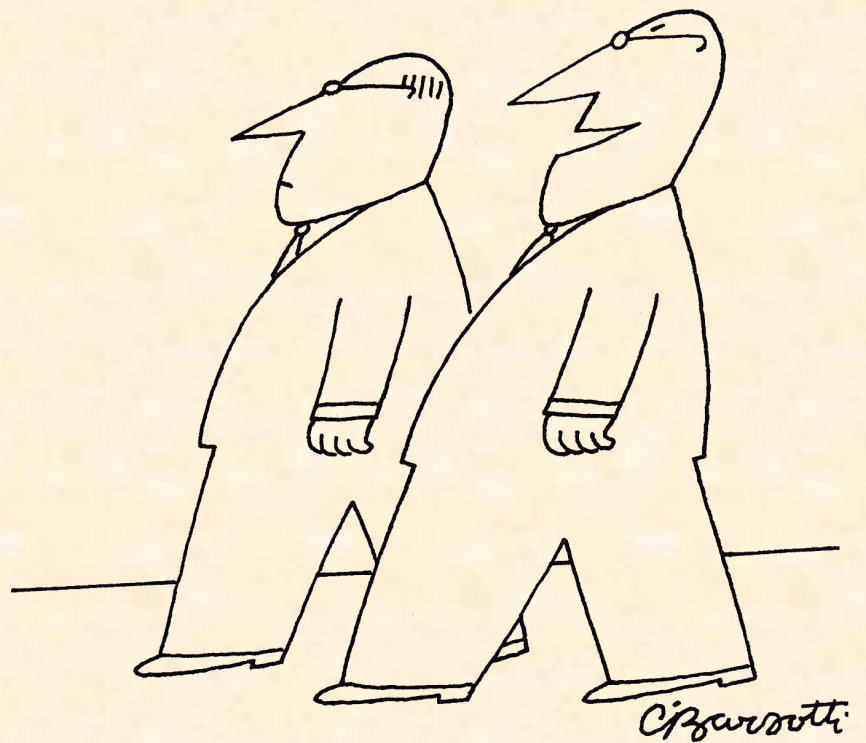
uniquely rewarding academic, humanitarian, and cross-cultural experience. Students will spend 17 days learning and exploring the Hong Kong social welfare system through lecture, readings, assignments, and experiential learning. Participants will have

the opportunity to visit various social welfare agencies, and participate in a volunteer activity to enhance the international learning experience. While volunteering, students will plan and implement various group activities for special needs children. Students will have the unique opportunity to witness daily life and agency services in one of the most populated cities in the world. Participants will explore the cultural realm of the people of Hong Kong as well, learning appreciation for activities such as: Cantonese Opera, Chinese tea, Feng Shui, and Kung Fu. Fifteen social work/pre-social work students have registered for this course, and are preparing for departure in January on their unique learning adventure!





Cartoons from The New Yorker



*"Empathy? Yeah, I can see how that could be useful."*

## NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK!

### DR. DAWN HIGGINS

The social work department welcomes Dr. Dawn Higgins as an Assistant Professor who will teach Research this year. Dr. Higgins has been a social worker for over 11 years and obtained her MSW and PhD from Catholic University of America in Washington, DC. She started her social work career as a bereavement counselor at Hospice of Northern Virginia where she specialized in children and grief. After opening a private practice in Northern Virginia, Dr. Higgins worked with Brain Injury Services in Springfield, Virginia, as a psychotherapist and consultant. She developed a model of psychotherapy that focused on individuals living with traumatic brain injury and conducted a pilot study testing her model.



Living and working in the DC area when 9/11 occurred, Dr. Higgins was called upon by the media and local businesses as an expert in grief. For her dissertation study, Dr. Higgins interviewed the young adults who were adolescents when their parent died on 9/11. She explored how losing a parent in a national tragedy shapes an adolescent's world-view. From her research, Dr. Higgins started the organization, Life Shines On ([www.lifeshineson.com](http://www.lifeshineson.com)). Her organization offers resources and support to children, families, and adults who have lost a parent. She plans to continue her research on children, trauma, and grief.

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### MS. SALLY HELLANE, LCSW-C, ACSW, DCSW

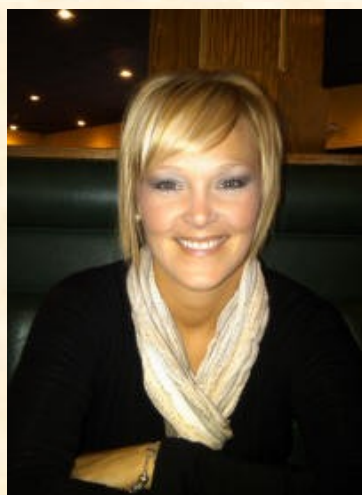
I am delighted to become part of the Salisbury University faculty, and a mentor and site coordinator for Hagerstown social work students. I am looking forward to meeting all student along with their field placement supervisors. I also look forward to teaching courses and sharing the knowledge I have gained from my years of social work practice and experience as a private practitioner, clinician, site supervisor, director of outpatient mental health, and community ambassador and advocate for mental health program services and education.



## LETHA SIZEMORE, MSW, LCSW

Ms. Sizemore comes to the Department with extensive experience in trauma, child and adolescent services, as well as individual and family therapy. Ms. Sizemore has been an individual and family therapist since 2006 and managed outpatient services for children and adolescents at Upper Bay Counseling and Support Services for a number of years. She has taught in the practice sequence and has served as a field liaison for the Department in the past. Ms. Sizemore is located at the Elkton Station Campus in

Cecil County. The Department welcomes Ms. Letha Sizemore to our faculty!



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## DR. MARC FELIZZI

Dr. Felizzi has been involved in the practice of psychotherapy with children, adolescents and families since 1993. Dr. Felizzi earned his Masters in Social Work from Delaware State University, and his PhD in Social Work from Widener University. His areas of interest are emotional abuse, family instability and juvenile sex offending. Dr. Felizzi has



been the chair of the Delaware Sex Offender Management Board's Juvenile Treatment Committee, and is a member of the Pennsylvania Sex Offender Assessment Board and the

Delaware Sex Offender Management Board. He is a member of the Mid-Atlantic Region of the Association of Treatment of Sexual Abusers (ATSA). Dr. Felizzi is also involved nationally in ATSA's National Policy and State Policy committees. He has presented at state and national conferences regarding the treatment needs of children, adolescents and families. Dr. Felizzi has had several articles on juvenile treatment published, and has appeared on television and radio to discuss the treatment needs of young people. The Department welcomes Dr. Felizzi to the faculty!

## FACULTY HAPPENINGS!

The faculty in the Social Work Department have been very busy!

Ms. Kim van Vulpen successfully defended her dissertation proposal at the University of Maryland at Baltimore School of Social Work!

Dr. Marc Felizzi successfully defended his dissertation *“The study of the relationship among emotional abuse, parent and caregiver instability, and disrupted attachment on juvenile sex offender status”*

Dr. Rachel Buchanan had an article *“Pathways from acculturation stress to negative friend associations”* published in the *Child and Adolescent Social Work Journal*

Dr. Batya Hyman and Dr. Vicki Root are presenting on teaching the hybrid model at the Annual Program Meeting for the Council on Social Work Education in October.

Dr. Dawn Higgins participated as a panel member in the PACE Forum on how 9/11 impacted Americans. Dr. Higgins focused on outcomes for adolescents who lost a parent on 9/11.

Dr. Joyce Bell will present at the NACSW Conference in Pittsburgh, PA on October 22nd on factors affecting faculty use of faith interventions with students.

Dr. Joyce Bell is co-presenting with Dr. Geoffrey Greif at the CSWE APM in October on disciplinary cases filed through the Maryland Board of Social Work Examiners.

Dr. Margo Kushner is under contract to write a textbook on her practice experience.

Dr. Jim Forte is writing his second textbook called *“Practical Theorizing: A Primer for Mastering Social Work’s Core Competencies”*

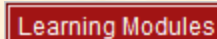


## Understanding the Navigation of Learning Modules inside MyClasses

In order to provide the student with a clean path of navigation, faculty provide all materials for a given unit, chapter or week inside a learning module. Think of a learning module as a book with chapters. You are given (on the left-hand side) a table of contents. You can easily navigate from one item to another inside the learning module by simply clicking on the name of the item in the table of contents. Materials such as powerpoints, video lectures, pdfs, quizzes, tests, discussions, blogs and assignments can be placed in a learning module to complete for that given unit, chapter or week.

To access materials in a learning module:

Click on the name of the menu button that directs you to the learning module. Each instructor has the ability to title this button whatever they would like, but most often it is called Learning Modules or Course Content.



Once you have click on that button, you will be taken to a screen that lists all the learning modules available to you. Click on the learning module's name to access the content.

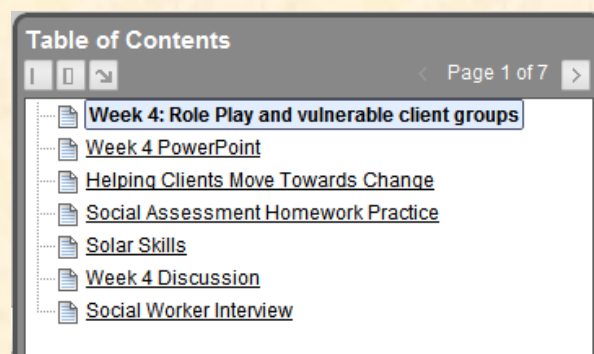
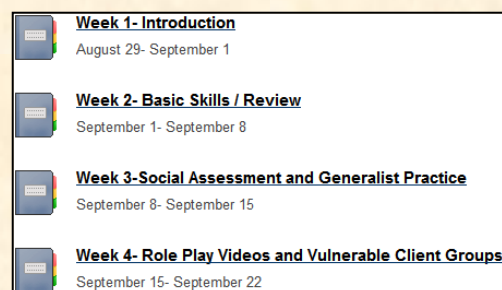


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Week 4 PowerPoint	
Helping Clients Move Towards Change	
Social Assessment Homework Practice	
Solar Skills	
Week 4 Discussion	
Social Worker Interview	

Once inside the learning module you will see the table of contents and provided materials. The first page you see will be the first item in the table of contents. You can easily navigate to other pages by simply clicking on their name. Remember, faculty may place materials in a module for the week in which it is due, so check the syllabus or weekly outline for more information.



Week 1- Introduction	August 29- September 1
Week 2- Basic Skills / Review	September 1- September 8
Week 3- Social Assessment and Generalist Practice	September 8- September 15
Week 4- Role Play Videos and Vulnerable Client Groups	September 15- September 22

