

Seidel School of Education & Professional Studies

Social Work Behavioral Health Integration Program

When Jennifer King suggested her young patient try to calm hyperactivity by doing her favorite thing (singing) in her head, the positive results were immediate. For the recent Salisbury University graduate, providing simple therapies, such as this, was one of the most rewarding aspects of her year-long internship at a local pediatric office. Her placement was part of an initiative led by SU's Social Work Department to better help children in the community with behavioral and mental health issues.

King was one of four M.S.W. students from SU who worked with area pediatricians in the first year of the program. In 2013, the program expanded to eight interns in Wicomico, Somerset and Talbot counties. Their role: work on-site to provide free screenings and brief intervention, coordinate care management referrals, and offer consultations and support for primary care providers.

The initial group of SU interns had 269 contacts with families and children. The department's co-location model is part of a larger Behavioral Health Integration in Pediatric Primary Care (B-HIPP) program, funded by the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and Maryland State Department of Education.

"As healthcare reform continues to move forward, additional social workers will be needed to work in integrated settings, and SU and the B-HIPP Salisbury Program will continue to be a frontrunner in producing trained M.S.W. graduates," said Amy Habeger, project coordinator and SU Social Work Department faculty.

The University of Maryland School of Medicine and Department of Psychiatry and the Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health also are partners in the project.

Wiencek Earns Light of Literacy Award

As director of SU's John B. and Florence Simmonds May Literacy Center, Dr. Joyce Wiencek arranges and oversees reading tutoring and family outreach for area students from kindergarten through eighth grade. For this and other accomplishments, Friends of the Wicomico Public Library honored her with its Light of Literacy Award in the higher education category. According to her nominators, Drs. Maida Finch and Nancy Michelson of SU's Education Specialties Department, Wiencek has nearly quadrupled the number of children served by the center annually since becoming director in 2007, from 53 then to 195 in 2013. During that time, she also has doubled the number of books at the center, from 400 to 800, and grown its budget exponentially, thanks in part to a \$50,000 family literacy grant from the Barbara Bush Family Literacy Foundation of Maryland. In addition to tutoring, the center offers an annual art poster contest. Reading tutors are SU teacher education and graduate students, who gain skills they can use in their careers.

School Earns Friends of Education Award

Wicomico County Public Schools honored the Seidel School of Education and Professional Studies with its 2014 "Friend of Education" Award. Recognizing generous support for local children and schools, the award was presented to Dr. Cheryl Parks, Seidel School dean, at the Wicomico County Teacher of the Year banquet. According to the school system: "A trademark of all Seidel School majors is experiential learning. Students gain real-world experience with our partners in multiple settings that include regional professional development schools, social work agencies [and] sports medicine clinics. Course work culminates into semester-long internships in most of our schools to help prepare students for future career challenges. Our schools and students benefit greatly from this collaboration between our two organizations."



B-HIPP graduate King



Wiencek



Parks



Forte & Garrow



Social work students in Germany

Forte and Gorrow Publish Books

Seidel faculty in two departments published in the last year. Dr. James Forte, Social Work Department, published two books on using theory in the social work field. The first, *An Introduction to Using Theory in Social Work Practice*, provides a foundation for using theory in social work practice and explores the integration of 14 key theories across each phase of the planned change process. The other, *Skills for Using Theory in Social Work: 32 Lessons for Evidence-Informed Practice*, explores how theory, research evidence and experiential knowledge are critical components of good social work. Dr. Teena Ruark Gorrow, Teacher Education Department, published *Inside a Bald Eagle's Nest: A Photographic Journey through the American Bald Eagle Nesting Season* with co-author Craig Koppie, eagle/raptor biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Chesapeake Bay Field Office. The book presents a factual and rare glimpse into the nesting behaviors of the Chesapeake Bay bald eagle. It illustrates how eagles select their nest site, construct and gather nest materials, forage for prey, ward off intruders, and care for their young.

Social Work Expands to Europe

SU's undergraduate and graduate programs in social work are now available to students at Ramstein Air Force Base in Germany through a partnership with University of Maryland University College (UMUC).

Dr. Deborah Mathews, chair of SU's Social Work Department, said: "We were honored to be approached by UMUC to be part of this project and have the opportunity to bring social work education to active military members and their families who are serving our country abroad."

The social work programs are made possible by a \$250 million U.S. Department of Defense contract awarded to UMUC to provide exclusive instruction at military installations across Europe. Mathews said SU offerings also may expand to bases in England and Italy.

Dr. Cheryl Parks, dean of the Seidel School, said the social work collaboration helps meet a need that has been growing over the past decade for social workers who are well-trained to assist those with military connections. "The department uses creative instructional approaches to reach students statewide and this collaboration enables them to do the same for military personnel stationed outside the U.S.," she added.

Focusing on the national need for social workers, Parks and Mathews attended a White House briefing on social work education: the Council on Social Work Education event on "Addressing the Social Determinants of Health in a New Era: The Role of Social Work Education."

"Our discussions focused on preparing the next generation of social work practitioners and understanding the future of health care, which includes social work, in the United States," Parks said.

Panels of White House and federal agency officials explored such topics as shifting U.S. demographics and ensuring care for all, new health care expectation, the national dialogue on mental health, and building a workforce that includes social workers to meet health care needs.