Dear Students,

Welcome to the first edition of Eastern Washington University’s CWTAP newsletter. You can help get it off to a good start by sending your ideas for items you’d like to see in the newsletter and suggestions for a name. Please contact Carol Erbeck with your ideas (cerbeck@ewu.edu). A prize is being offered to the person who submits the winning newsletter name!

As you probably know, Eastern’s CWTAP students are located at several MSW program sites around Washington State. We have full-time students on campus in Cheney, and students in our part-time programs in Spokane, Everett, Yakima and Vancouver. Except for our Cheney full-time students who start in the fall every year, our programs run in three year cycles, all starting and stopping at different times. This newsletter has been created to help connect all of us on a regular basis to share updates, success stories, trends in child welfare and more.

This summer we added two new staff members to our program. Carol Erbeck is our new Administrative Assistant and Sandra Cobb is our new Budget & Administrative Services Manager. Please read more about Carol and Sandy on page 2.

This year represents CWTAP’s 17th anniversary. We all know these are tough times for state budgets and while CWTAP is federally funded, we experienced our first budget shortfall this year. As students who have been in the program for awhile know, CWTAP is no longer able to provide stipends in addition to tuition support. I want to emphasize that although CWTAP has had to make adjustments to our budget, we are still a strong program and more committed than ever to supporting students and providing as many qualified and highly trained social work professionals as possible to the field of public child welfare. That’s why we’re here.

I’m wishing all of you a successful fall quarter and happy holiday season.

Sincerely,

Diana Patterson, LICSW
CWTAP Director

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**Did you know...**

National Adoption Day 2010* is Saturday, November 20, 2010.

The goals of National Adoption Day are:
- Finalize adoptions from foster care in all 50 states;
- Celebrate and honor families who adopt;
- Raise awareness about the 123,000 children in foster care waiting for adoption;
- Encourage others to adopt children from foster care; and
- Build collaboration among local adoption agencies, courts and advocacy organizations.

*www.nationaladoptionday.org

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**School of Social Work Merges with College of Social and Behavioral Sciences**

On July 1, 2010, the School of Social Work merged with the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences. We are now known as the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences and Social Work (CSBSSW).

This is an exciting time for us as we continue our mission of enhancing professional practice in public child welfare and providing assistance to current and/or potential social workers committed to serving children and families.

**IMPORTANT FALL QUARTER DATES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 25 – 26</td>
<td>Thanksgiving; EWU closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 4</td>
<td>Everett Program Graduation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 10</td>
<td>Last day of fall quarter</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 11</td>
<td>Spokane Evening Program Graduation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 24</td>
<td>Christmas holiday; EWU closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 31</td>
<td>New Year’s holiday; EWU closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 3</td>
<td>Winter quarter begins</td>
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Staff Spotlights

Sandy Cobb: Budget & Administrative Services Manager

Since coming to EWU in September 2002, I’ve been the Manager of Budget and Administrative Services for the Idaho Title IV-E program located in Coeur d’Alene. The Idaho Child Welfare Research and Training Center (ICWRTC) has a Scholars program that provides support to EWU MSW and BSW students. In addition, the ICWRTC includes the Resource Family Training and Recruitment program and the Infant Toddler Mental Health Endorsement program. The ICWRTC also provides support to various regional service districts for child visitation, independent living, and family group decision making services.

I joined CWTAP on July 1, 2010 in a position split between Washington CWTAP and the Idaho Title IV-E program. I’m thrilled to be part of the Washington program.

Before EWU, I held various business administration, marketing, sales management, logistics and event planning roles with Alcatel Internetworking, Spokane Area Economic Development Council, PacfiCAD Inc., Lilac City Casket, Oregon Digital Computer Products, and Key Tronic Corporation.

I was a twelve year student in Chattaroy, WA in the Riverside School District, graduating in 1979. I received my BA from EWU in Interdisciplinary Studies, with a Minor in Business Administration, graduating magna cum laude in 2000. The Interdisciplinary Studies program allows for development of a portfolio for evaluation of experiential learning for credit at the university.

In addition to being staff at EWU, I am also a graduate, and an Eastern mom, with my daughter graduating with her Bachelor’s in Clinical Psychology in 2008 and her Master’s of Social Work in 2010.

My husband and I enjoy camping with our shelter dog, Katie. We also like to go bike riding on the Centennial Trail and the Route of the Hiawatha, and we both do a lot of reading when we can.

Carol Erbeck: Administrative Assistant

As a foster parent and now adoptive parent, I am honored to be part of the CWTAP family. I am CWTAP’s administrative assistant and joined CWTAP in July 2010. Prior to CWTAP, I was a paralegal, specializing in criminal defense. I earned a BA in Criminology from the University of South Florida and an MA in Management from the University of Phoenix, Tampa campus, where I also worked as an academic advisor and then campus branch manager. I enjoy spending time with my family and cheering my children on at their sports activities.

Be the change you want to see in the world.
Mahatma Ghandi
Congratulations to our CWTAP Graduates!

CWTAP congratulates recent and upcoming cohort graduations. The Cheney full-time students graduated in June, our Spokane part-time day program graduated in August, and the Everett and Spokane part-time evening programs graduate this December. Please join CWTAP in congratulating our newest child welfare graduates and wishing them well as they embark on their critical work in child welfare.

**Everett Graduation**

Congratulations to our Everett Program CWTAP students. Their graduation ceremony will be held Saturday, December 4, 2010 at 2:00pm in the Historic Everett Theater.

**Spokane Graduation**

Congratulations to our Spokane Evening Program CWTAP graduates. Their graduation ceremony will be held on Saturday, December 11, 2010 at 2:00pm in the Showalter Auditorium on EWU’s main campus in Cheney.

**Site News**

**Yakima:** The Yakima part-time MSW cohort started this summer at Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences with 24 students. Six of these students are CWTAP.

**CWTAP thanks Spokane DCFS:** Last year the DCFS Union Management Team united to provide space and equipment for a dedicated CWTAP Student Computer Lab at the DCFS office in Spokane. The lab has six laptop computers, two additional desks and two phones for CWTAP students to use. The lab has provided a space for students to work on their practicum assignments without interfering with their AFI's work or having to use their AFI's computer. The space provides the students with a confidential place to work and a place to have discussions with their AFI and/or cohort. There was a big need for the space and it is heavily utilized. The computer lab is a good example of the partnership between DCFS and CWTAP to support EWU CWTAP students.

**Notable CWTAP Students:** Victor Larios is a Spokane CWTAP student who will graduate in December, 2010. Victor was recently featured in *LatiNewsZone.com*. The news story told of Victor's family move to the USA from Mexico. While Victor was growing up, he faced numerous challenges, including learning English and overcoming hardships such as poverty and homelessness. He overcame extreme adversity through perseverance, determination, and with the support of his family. We are proud of you, Victor!

**Upcoming Training**

**CHILDREN'S JUSTICE CONFERENCE:** The Children’s Justice Conference is an assembly of multi-disciplinary professionals committed to keeping children safe from abuse and neglect. Details for the 2011 conference will be posted at www.dshscjc.com in January, 2011.

**Helpful Links**

- National Association of Social Workers: [www.naswdc.org](http://www.naswdc.org)
- Casey Family Programs: [www.casey.org](http://www.casey.org)
- Children's Defense Fund: [www.childrensdefense.org](http://www.childrensdefense.org)
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This is your newsletter, so share your good news with us. Send us word about your accomplishments and activities, an award or recognition you received, a new job, or other news you’d like to share with the CWTAP community in the next issue of our newsletter. Just e-mail your news to cerbeck@ewu.edu.