Dear CWTAP Community,

The summer months leading to the new academic year are often a time of transition and regrouping in higher education.

This summer the School of Social Work experienced a change in leadership. In August, we said farewell to Dr. Lynne Morris. Dr. Morris has served the School of Social Work since 1983. Dr. Morris was not only a professor in social work, but has also served as our Chair for the past four years—she will be missed by many. In July, we welcomed Dr. Martha Raske as a new professor and Chair/Director of Social Work. Dr. Raske comes from the University of Southern Indiana as a professor and chair of their social work department. Please join me in wishing Dr. Morris all the best in her retirement, and in providing a warm welcome to Dr. Raske. With continuing challenges in our state’s budget, Dr. Raske no doubt has her work cut out for her.

Speaking of budgets, as many of you are aware, CWTAP is not entirely immune to state budget difficulties. While we are a federally funded program, we use state budget numbers in our contract renewal process. This year, we experienced a delay in our contract renewal because these state based numbers were delayed by the extended legislative session. Our partners at the University of Washington were in the same situation. We appreciate everyone’s patience, especially our current students, as we worked through the situation as quickly as possible.

Here’s to wishing everyone a productive and successful fall quarter!

Sincerely,
Diana Patterson

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**National Adoption Month**

November is National Adoption Month. This year’s theme is *Build Capacity to Make Lasting Change*. This is a month to raise awareness about adoption of children and youth from foster care by focusing on the retention and recruitment of parents for 107,000 children and youth waiting for adoptive families. The campaign this year is targeting families for preteens, ages 8-12. For information and National Adoption Month poster visit [http://www.childwelfare.gov/adoption/nam/about.cfm](http://www.childwelfare.gov/adoption/nam/about.cfm).

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**Important Fall Quarter Dates**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 21</td>
<td>Instruction Begins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 9</td>
<td>Winter Registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 11</td>
<td>Veterans Day, EWU closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 24 &amp; 25</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 9</td>
<td>Last Day of Quarter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 9</td>
<td>Winter Quarter Begins</td>
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Dr. Lynne Morris
Thank You &
Enjoy Retirement!

Dr. Lynne Morris is retiring after being employed as a faculty member of the EWU School of Social Work since 1983. Most recently, Dr. Morris served a 4-year term as Chair of Social Work. Dr. Morris has served as orals committee chair for countless CWTAP students over the years. We recognize her support of our students and wish her the very best in retirement. Congratulations!

CWTAP Welcomes
Dr. Martha Raske

Dr. Martha Raske has joined Eastern Washington University as professor and Chair/Director of the School of Social Work. Dr. Raske has been working in the field of social work for more than 29 years; 17 have been at the higher education level. Dr. Raske began her career with EWU on July 1, 2011. Welcome Dr. Raske!

Alumni Spotlight

Sharon Ostheimer - DCFS Spokane

By Bob Stirling, Senior Lecturer

I had the honor of interviewing Sharon Ostheimer, the recipient of the 2011 Rosie Oreskovich Award. This prestigious award is given only to individuals who have met the highest standards of service to children and families. Sharon, who is a CPS supervisor in Spokane, was nominated by 86 of her Children’s Administration colleagues. The people who nominated her represent every level of regional staff from administrative support to area administrator.

Sharon’s journey to Children’s Administration began after being a “stay at home” mom for many years. She decided to return to school at Spokane Community College then attended Spokane Falls Community College where she received her AA degree, and then on to Eastern Washington University where she was awarded her BSW in 1995. Sharon completed her undergraduate BSW practicum at DCFS with former CPS supervisor Brian Barbour’s unit. After she completed her undergraduate degree from Eastern, Sharon became a contracted Parent Educator with Children’s Administration in Spokane. Sharon was hired as a Child Protection Worker in 1998 and has worked in CPS since that time. In 2006 she was hired as a Social Worker 4 CPS supervisor.

Sharon was accepted into the CWTAP program and was awarded her MSW in 2004. She credits CWTAP as being an important factor in enabling her to earn her MSW degree.

I asked Sharon what advice she would give to students who want to work in child welfare and she shared they must have passion for the work and a deep concern for the safety, health and welfare of children in the community. Sharon went on to say you have to be able to engage families for effective change and be aware of your own biases. Sharon also told me self care was very important, and specified you cannot take the job home with you. Sharon indicates she exercises every day and spends a lot of time with her children and grandchildren as a way to take care of herself. Sharon went on to say she tells her staff family comes first and everyone needs to make time for themselves.

Sharon is very involved in her church. Before employment with Children’s Administration, she volunteered with LDS Social Services in mentoring single teen mothers and still occasionally teaches classes on Sunday.

Sharon is the proud mother of five children and six grandchildren. She is truly the embodiment of the qualities the Rosie Oreskovich Award was meant to honor.
Helpful Links

National Association of Social Workers: www.naswde.org
Child Welfare League of America: http://cwla.org/
Children’s Defense Fund: www.childrensdefense.org
Casey Family Programs: www.casey.org

Site News

Cheney/Spokane: Congratulations to the Cheney full-time MSW students who graduated on June 12th!

Everett: Everett’s part-time MSW program began June 20, 2011. Welcome new students!

Vancouver: The Vancouver part-time MSW program students are starting the final year of their program, they will graduate June 2, 2012. You are almost there! New MSW cohort to begin summer 2012.

Yakima: Yakima’s MSW students began their first quarter of practicum summer quarter.

Children’s Justice Conference

May 9-10, 2011

By Kasey Cote, Lecturer

In May, CWTAP students were provided the opportunity to participate in the 19th Annual Children’s Justice Conference. The conference was held at the Washington State Convention and Trade Center in Seattle with accommodations at the Sheraton Hotel and Towers. Much of the conference addressed the effects of trauma on workers, both professionally and personally, and focused on self-care. Being at the conference, connecting with fellow students and colleagues, and relaxing off-hours enjoying the beautiful hotel and surrounding area was a wonderful way for students to not only learn about self care, but to put it into practice.

There were over 100 workshops to choose from, as well as vendor displays related to child welfare. Dr. Kevin Gilmartin’s keynote address on “Emotional Survival” was very well received by the students. Dr. Gilmartin also led a workshop on the same topic. Students found this helpful and talked about using some of the techniques they learned from Dr. Gilmartin around self care. Given the amount of time a social worker spends using empathetic energy to work with clients, workers need to spend a similar amount of time allowing their bodies to refresh, both emotionally and physically.

On the second day of the conference, Dr. Raymond Reyes of Gonzaga University delivered a keynote address on “The Spiritual Literacy of Self-Care: Making Sense of the Nonsense that Happens to the Caregiver.” Dr. Reyes was both profound and silly. At one point, he had over 1,000 social workers dance around to a ‘call and answer’ ditty. Dr. Reyes is a clever, passionate and inspirational speaker who reminded all of the guru within “gee, you are you!”

Students expressed gratitude to CWTAP for the opportunity to attend this important and relevant conference.

For more information go to www.dshscjc.com.
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