



STUDENTS CHALK THE SIDEWALK FOR HUNGER AWARENESS

Class of 2015 Bigger, more experienced than ever

MacMurray Social Work is graduating its largest class in many years, with 12 students participating in the Pinning ceremony and graduating this May. It's reflective of the overall growth in the program, **which has seen a 65% growth in enrollment over the past 3 years.** Practicum placements are now located throughout the region, with students serving the semester in Chicago, St. Louis, Springfield, and Harrisburg, IL, as well as Jacksonville. Congratulations to the graduating students and their practicum placements (listed below):

Kelsey Curren – Skill Sprout, Springfield

Amber Davis – Morgan County Probation Office

Kait Gotthardt – Connections to Success, St. Charles, MO

Jeanine Hampton – St. Martin de Porres High School, Waukegan, IL

Bethany Hillman – Prairie Center Against Sexual Assault (Springfield) and Midwest Youth Services

Brooke Lovekamp – St. John's Children's Hospital, Springfield, Child Life Intern

Samantha Morton – Child and Family Connections

Peper Owens – Morgan County Probation Office

Meagan Pinkerton – DCFS, Harrisburg, IL

Kevettria Townsend – Leslie Bates Neighborhood House, East St. Louis

Cody Ward – JACIL

Stacia Wren – DCFS, Carlinville, IL

Congratulations to all the seniors and their accomplishments!!



MacMurray Social Work



WINTER 2014



Largest Incoming Class in Years

A total of 15 students were officially accepted into the Social Work Program in December 2014. This is the largest group of students accepted into the program in many years. In November 2013, social work students rated the program highly, attesting to the quality, excellence, and rigor of the education received. The incoming classes now receive a “competency-based” education, with a strong focus on professional practice. Many people ask what makes the Mac program unique compared to other social work programs – our response is that our graduates are very strong generalist practitioners that can serve a multitude of populations competently. We are confident in our graduates’ abilities in any practice setting, that they will practice ethically, and do what is just and professionally appropriate.

Homecoming Parade

Mac Social Work takes 2nd place in the Homecoming 2014 parade! Congratulations to Professor Jodi Williams and Social Work Club on their effort!



Partnership Leads to New Resource Website

Through the sponsorship of the Prairieland United Way, MacMurray Social Work created a brand new resource website for the West Central Illinois Region. We wanted to make a centralized location to warehouse information for persons in need, with the goal of that information being easily accessible on mobile devices. Check out the webpage at:

<http://wci-resources.com/>



SOCIAL MEDIA

Don't forget you can connect with us on many different social media platforms!

Twitter:

@MacSocialWork

Facebook:

MacMurray College Social Work

YouTube Channel:

MacMurraySocialWork

Website:

<http://macmurraysocialwork.com/>

More Social Work Mac Students of the Month!

By: Mac PR Department

Amber Davis, a senior double-majoring in social work and psychology, has been named the MacMurray College Student of the Month for October.

The 2011 graduate of Lanphier High School in Springfield, IL, participates in several organizations on campus, including president of the Psychology Club, member of the Mortar Board honors society, treasurer of Boost Alcohol Consciousness Concerning the Health of University Students (BACCHUS), member of the soccer team and of the Homecoming Committee.

In addition, Davis serves in the Center for Learning Excellence (CLE) as a peer tutor for psychology and writing, and recently started the job of the CLE's data assistant.

Senior Brooke Lovekamp Earns Competitive Internship Practicum

By: Mac PR Department

Brooke Lovekamp, a senior in the MacMurray College Social Work Program, has been selected as a Child Life Intern at Springfield's St. John's Children's Hospital.

Lovekamp, from Arenzville, IL, was selected from 10,000 applicants across the nation for the coveted Child Life Intern slots at select hospitals in various cities. Only 4 percent of applicants are selected for the position, with each participating hospital taking two students.

The internship at St. John's, according to the hospital website, "was established in 1996 and was designed to help children and their families cope more effectively with the potentially threatening experiences of hospitalization and illness. This is accomplished by providing preparation, education, distraction and support for children within the hospital as well as supportive services for parents and siblings."



MacMurray College Social Work hosts Child Welfare Conference

Hundreds attend MacMurray child welfare seminar

Journal-Courier staff

MacMurray College's social work department partnered with the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services to bring awareness about the effects trauma on the child welfare system to the region Friday.

More than 200 people were on campus to attend a child welfare conference. Eugene Griffin was the keynote speaker, and talked about his work with children in the child welfare system and the effects that trauma has on a child's brain.

"Over time we have

learned the long-lasting and devastating effects of trauma on children, especially in the critical years of brain development," said Joseph Squillace, director of the social work program at MacMurray College. "It is great that MacMurray College social work can partner with the local community to host opportunities ... to train local service providers about emerging interventions for youth in trauma."

Those attending the conference included social workers, lawyers, doctors, judges and others interested in child welfare.



SEXUAL ASSAULT TRAINING IN MAY

MacMurray College Social Work is partnering with the Prairie Center Against Sexual Assault to provide a professional training on sexual assault work. Topics include: sexual assault, sexual abuse, crisis intervention, medical advocacy, legal advocacy, and more. Certificates are provided upon completion.

May 11-15, 9 am to 5 pm daily.

Register with Professor Jodi Williams

Email:
Jodi.williams2@mac.edu



Students Take Softball Game

Mac Students beat Mac Staff and Faculty at the Provost's Challenge Softball game!

(pictured: Senior Kait Gotthardt and Dr. Squillace)



*Accredited by the Council
on Social Work Education*

Re-accreditation Is Upon Us!

We are excited to have Site Visitors from the Council on Social Work Education join us on campus in January as they review our program for re-accreditation. The Mac Social Work program has been accredited since 1995!

FAST FACTS

25 of our 30 recent graduates between the 2009-2010 academic year and 2012-2013, or 83%, are verified to be working in social work positions or currently attending graduate school.

9 of those have received their MSW already (30%).

These are the areas they work in:

- Aging/Elderly - 5
- Child welfare - 4
- Disabilities - 3
- Mental Health - 3
- Substance abuse - 2
- Domestic Violence - 2
- Health/medical - 2
- Education - 2
- MSW program - 1

Liberal Arts Remain Strong

MacMurray Social Work remains strong in the Liberal Arts! While the College has recently gone through some restructuring of academic programs, Social Work students still receive 31 credits in Mac's strong and traditional General Education core courses. Students will still be reading core texts, for example, in philosophy and religion, to expand critical thinking and cultural understanding – all necessary to be an effective social work practitioner! The Social Work Program remains committed to small classes, access to faculty, and being connected to social work faculty with actual field experience!

For More Information

Remember you can always get a hold of your #MacFam in Social Work!

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