

# Partnerships

The newsletter of the School of Counselling, Human Services and Social Work

May 2014 | Faculty of Education, University of Auckland | Number 13

## Korean delegation experience NZ social work practice

A delegation of students from Cha University, Korea, visited the School for two weeks during February to learn about various issues related to social care and social work practice in New Zealand. The visit was arranged and funded by Cha University through the global internship programme with the assistance of Dr Hong-Jae Park from the School of Counselling, Human Services and Social Work.

This international programme enabled visiting students to not only expand their knowledge and world-views, but also strengthen their communicative and cultural competence in an overseas setting. They had opportunities to experience lectures and seminars, conduct their own portfolio project, and do presentations on their experiences. The participants also visited agencies offering services of several kinds in the Auckland region, including Waitakere Hospital, Child, Youth and Family, Connect, Problem Gambling Foundation, Shakti Asian Women's Centre, Age Concern, WINZ and Korean Society of Auckland. They met with a variety of professionals working in these settings, which helped them develop their understanding about New Zealand practice as well as their own abilities as a practitioner.

The students enjoyed participating in the learning activities and processes that the School designed and provided for them. For a couple of the students, "having morning tea in the staff room" was the novelty of their experiences in Aotearoa New Zealand. "I was very impressed with the things I learned here, such as the Treaty of Waitangi, and want to come back to New Zealand for my postgraduate studies if possible," noted one student in her evaluation of the programme.

For the School, this experience was a great opportunity to enhance our international expertise to serve both local and transnational communities. The students were accompanied by Professor Woo-Sik Jung, Dean of Student Affairs, who had meetings with Professor Graeme Aitken, Dean of Education, and Dr John Hope, Associate Dean International Programmes.



Head of School Associate Professor Christa Fouché (centre) with delegates from Cha University.

### Welcome



I have accepted the role as Head of School with Phil Harington completing his three-year term at the end of 2013. I look forward to leading the School for the next three years as I stand on the shoulders of many great people who went before me.

In the ebb and flow of academic life, the first week of an academic term is unlike any other. I never tire of sharing students' first day at University and of the organised chaos when students connect with lecturers and with other students – soon to become good friends. Mostly they are thrilled that they have navigated the timetabling system and campus maze to arrive at the right venue! But they also bring with them their ambitions, the expectations of extended support networks, and the excitement of new beginnings.

What a privilege to share this journey as we give meaning to our Faculty's vision of *Leading Learning, Changing Lives*. With a new head, a new year and an enthusiastic group of new and returning undergraduate and postgraduate students, there are certainly new challenges for the School.

My vision is that our School will be respected by our peers nationally and internationally, and that we will be a preferred community for staff and students in our respective disciplines. I feel confident in the fact that we share the responsibility of inspiring new and experienced practitioners to make the difference we all believe is possible. Thank you for being a member of our community and do keep an eye out for future newsletters as we profile the leaders in our School.

### ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR CHRISTA FOUCHÉ

Head of the School of Counselling, Human Services and Social Work

Phone: 09 623 8899 ext 48648

Email: [c.fouche@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:c.fouche@auckland.ac.nz)

[www.education.auckland.ac.nz](http://www.education.auckland.ac.nz)

# Accolade for academic paper



Dr Jay Marlowe's paper "Resettled refugee community perspectives to the Canterbury earthquakes: Implications for organisational response" published in *Disaster Prevention and Management* has been selected by the journal's editorial team as a Highly Commended Paper of 2013.

The *Disaster Prevention and Management* editorial team was asked by the publishing company to nominate an Outstanding Paper and up to three Highly Commended Papers. Jay's paper was chosen as a Highly Commended Paper winner as it is "one of the most impressive pieces of work" the team has seen throughout 2013.

Jay will be presented with a certificate from Emerald Group Publishing Limited to acknowledge his achievement. The company will also make Jay's paper freely available for the month of May at: [www.emeraldinsight.com/10.1108/DPM-01-2013-0019](http://www.emeraldinsight.com/10.1108/DPM-01-2013-0019)

Jay has also been announced this month as a winner of a 2014 University of Auckland Early Career Research Excellence Award. The award aims to enable early career researchers to further their current research, establish stronger links with researchers in other parts of the world, or embark on new fields of research.

# Recognition for services to mental health



Dr Margaret Nelson Agee was named in the New Year Honours List as an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to mental health education. Margaret has had extensive involvement with mental health and counsellor education during the past 40 years. She is a senior lecturer

in the School and has been leader of the Counsellor Education Programme at the University of Auckland since 2006.

She says the award was "unexpected" and "humbling" and also "acknowledgment of the counselling profession and the field of mental health, as well as of my work". She also acknowledged, with gratitude, the integral contribution that many others have made to the work she has done.

**Read the full story here:**

[www.education.auckland.ac.nz/services-to-mental-health](http://www.education.auckland.ac.nz/services-to-mental-health)



**Jan Duke, from the Social Workers Registration Board, and staff and students from the social work programmes celebrate International Social Workers' Day, 18 March 2014.**

## Congratulations

to all our students who graduated at the Autumn Graduation on Monday 5 May 2014.







# Crossing Borders UPDATE

**The Crossing Borders team has turned their focus to New Zealand-qualified social workers who have returned to practice in New Zealand after working overseas.**

Social work is a global profession practised in over 140 countries with 80 countries belonging to the International Federation of Social Work. With growing global workforce mobility it can be expected that a large percentage of these professionals will practise in a country other than where they obtained their professional qualification.

In fact, social work has been amongst the professions targeted in changes to migration policies designed to overcome labour shortages. In New Zealand, nearly 10 per cent of the registered social work workforce were professionally qualified overseas. This raises questions about how we strengthen the social and cultural wellbeing of migrating social workers to ensure resilience in practice. Gathering information on the experiences of transnational social workers at all points in their professional journeys will help to inform those strategies.

The Crossing Borders team, led by School of Counselling, Human Services and Social Work researchers Associate Professors Liz Beddoe and Christa Fouché, Dr Allen Bartley, and Phil Harington, has been investigating the transnational dynamics of the social work profession in New Zealand for the past several years. This work began with an analysis of the qualifications and trajectories of all foreign-qualified social workers registered in New Zealand. This was followed by a national survey of overseas-qualified social workers practising locally, as well as a series of interviews with New Zealand-trained social workers practicing in the UK and Ireland.

The 'Coming Home' study is an anonymous online survey of New Zealand-qualified social workers who have practiced in overseas jurisdictions and have since returned to practice at 'home'. In addition to demographic information, the survey addresses three major topic areas:

1. Overseas experience: motives for emigration; destinations; professional roles; experiences of induction; reflections on professional differences.
2. Return to New Zealand: motives; employment; job satisfaction; reflection on professional differences.
3. Overall reflection/assessment of transnational experience.

**Further information is available on the Crossing Borders blog: [crossingbordersnz.wordpress.com](http://crossingbordersnz.wordpress.com)**

## Upcoming seminars

### The Human Cost of Inequality

This year's lecturers in the provocative and popular **Sir Douglas Robb lectures** are Professor Richard Wilkinson and Professor Kate Pickett. They are the authors of *The Spirit Level: Why Equality is Good for Everyone* (London: Penguin, 2010), a book that has given rise to much recent debate.

Richard Wilkinson has played a formative role in international research on the social determinants of health and on the societal effects of income inequality. Kate Pickett's research focuses on the social determinants of health. Wilkinson and Pickett's research is especially relevant to New Zealand. It suggests that our claim to be a country with relatively little inequality is unfounded, and that our incidence of health and social problems may be closely related to this fact. This is a great topic to be debating in an election year.

**They will present a series of three lectures:**

**Venue: Fisher & Paykel Appliances Auditorium (260-115), Owen G Glenn Building, 12 Grafton Road, The University of Auckland - City Campus**

**Lecture 1: Evidence of damage**

Monday, 19 May – 7.30pm

**Lecture 2: The causal processes**

Wednesday, 21 May – 7.30pm

**Lecture 3: The solutions**

Friday, 23 May – 7.30pm



Visit [www.auckland.ac.nz/robb](http://www.auckland.ac.nz/robb) for further information on the lectures.

## Confronting neoliberalism: Classroom practice and social justice teaching

*A seminar presented by Distinguished Visitor, Professor Christine Sleeter*

**Date: Thursday 29 May, 5pm**

**Venue: J1 lecture theatre, Gate 3, 74 Epsom Ave, Epsom Campus (followed by refreshments in A201)**

Neoliberalism increasingly drives education reform internationally. While public schools face increasingly constrained funding, especially in the wake of the economic recession, market-based reforms that emphasise competition, standardisation, and accountability have expanded, driven by the corporate sector and private venture philanthropy. Who stands to benefit most from such reforms? In this lecture, using examples primarily from the U.S., Christine Sleeter will show how and why neoliberalism has gained ascendancy and how it is impacting on society and schooling. She will argue in favour of more democratic and socially just approaches to education that include critical analysis and organised activism, illustrating what educators can do, both in and out of the classroom.

Professor Sleeter is widely regarded as one of the world's leading scholars of multicultural and anti-racist education and has had a long-standing association with work in these areas in Aotearoa New Zealand.

# Summer Scholar Research

Summer Research Scholarships give our University students valuable experience in research. This summer, the School of Counselling, Human Services and Social Work offered eight summer research projects for students to be involved in. Four are summarised in this newsletter and the other four will feature in our next issue.

## Developing an evaluation framework for a care to independence transition programme

**Student:** Jonathan Sampson

**Supervisor:** Associate Professor Christa Fouché

Transitioning young adults from care to independence is a priority for the Ministry of Social Development, but future funding decisions are dependent on evidence of the effectiveness of existing programmes. Due to the integrated nature of services for these young adults, evaluation designs are particularly challenging, and globally, different designs have yielded diverse evidence.

This project comprised the first phase of an evaluation project in partnership with a practice agency. The aim of the first phase was to develop an evaluation framework that will enable the on-going monitoring and outcomes evaluation of the programme aimed at supporting young adults to transition from care to independence.

Jonathan conducted a systematic review of published studies on transitioning to independence and the evaluation measures utilised. He then reviewed relevant literature on the core variables, and explored (and located) existing databases for comparable population measures. In partnership with the agency, an evaluation framework was developed and evaluation measures identified. The identified measures are currently being adapted for implementation by the agency. This was a win-win for all the stakeholders: the summer scholar developed crucial evaluation capability and an understanding of the planning of complex outcome evaluations in the social services; the supervisor and agency strengthened the evaluation partnership; and the agency is now making significant progress with implementing the evaluation framework.

## Developing leadership and management practice standards for social workers in Aotearoa New Zealand

**Student:** John Darroch

**Supervisor:** Mike Webster

John collaborated with Mike in a ground-breaking exploration into social work management and leadership standards for the profession in New Zealand. The project originated from the Aotearoa New Zealand Association of Social Workers' (ANZASW) Managers and Leaders Interest Group – of which Mike is the convenor – and is the first such endeavour outside the United States.

New Zealand social work leadership and management take place in a unique context because of the Treaty partnership between the Crown and Māori. This affects the way services are delivered and function. The research project will provide a New Zealand-specific set of standards validated by the International Federation of Social Work's recognition in 2004 that management is a 'core purpose' of social work.

John completed a literature review and also facilitated two focus groups. In accepting the scholarship, John commented, "This scholarship provides a valuable opportunity for me to improve my research skills in terms of postgraduate research".

Once analysed, focus group data will inform forthcoming publications. John will co-author journal articles with Mike and a social work academic colleague from Unitec, David McNabb. Mike says, "Working with John was refreshing and invigorating. He is an original thinker and I wish him well in his future career trajectory."

## Community perceptions of child health, wellbeing, safety and protection – a study of the general public's awareness of the commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) in Aotearoa New Zealand

**Student:** Zoi Triandafilidis

**Supervisor:** Cherie Appleton

This research project explored how much knowledge the general public has about the sexual exploitation of children, and to understand people's attitudes, beliefs and perceptions around this issue. Understanding how the public thinks about and makes sense of child sexual exploitation is important because it underscores the way in which we as a society can respond to these issues.

The research involved a public perception survey, which examined the perceptions of 407 New Zealanders. Results showed that only five of these 407 respondents were able to identify the correct number of attempts to access child pornography, between 20,000 and 49,000 every day. Many respondents (30.3%) were 'unsure' about how many children are prostituted in New Zealand, and only 3.1% of responses identified the correct number, which is estimated to lie between 200 and 299 children. With regards to how to best address this issue, respondents overwhelmingly suggested educating the public. Other common answers respondents gave included media coverage and advertising to raise public awareness, and to introduce harsher penalties for commercial sexual child exploitation offenders. The results of this study will help ECPAT Child Alert to secure funding for their work, and to develop educational resources to target this information gap.

Zoi, who started a PhD at the University of Western Sydney in March, says "Through this scholarship my writing and organisational skills have developed further and I've also improved my technical skills, which I think will be invaluable to my future career in academia. It has placed me in an academic setting as well as allowed me to meet with people from a variety of organisations including ECPAT Child Alert."

## People's relationships with non-professional helpers

**Student:** Ashley Balderston

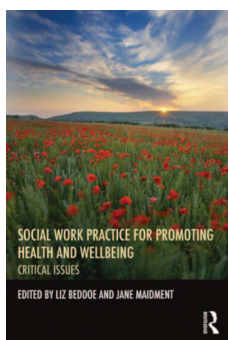
**Supervisor:** Dr Barbara Staniforth

In September of 2013 senior stylist Gene Cooksley and nine of his hairstylists attended a short training course by CASPER (Community Action on Suicide Prevention Education and Research) to learn how to respond should a client talk about suicide during a salon visit (Collins, 2013). The article published by the New Zealand Herald suggests that many people choose to confide in 'natural helpers' like hairdressers, bartenders, sport coaches and school grounds staff.

Ashley's part of the research project was to discover relevant literature to provide insight as to whether this interpersonal exchange may provide helping professions with a greater understanding of the help-seeker, their environment, and how they perceive trust and helping-roles around them.

The results of the review produced a small body of literature relevant to the project's aims. However, most texts focused on either the interaction between service-provider and client, or the service-provider's response to challenging topics or questions. What is missing is an understanding of the help-seeker, and why they choose to disclose personal issues to service-providers, as well as an understanding about the impact the interaction has on the life of the help-seeker. Also, as most relevant studies operated in the 1970s and 80s there is a need to conduct contemporary studies.

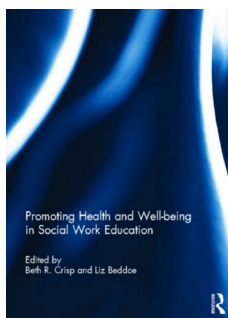
# Recent publications



## Social work practice for promoting health and wellbeing: Critical issues

Beddoe, L, & Maidment, J. (Eds.). London, England: Routledge, 2014.

Drawing on international literature and research, the authors collected here encourage thinking about the social, political, cultural, emotional, spiritual, economic and spatial aspects of health and wellbeing, and how they impact on the unique strengths and challenges of working with particular populations and communities. Exploring how structural inequality, oppression and stigma can impact upon people, and drawing upon a social model of health, this book is an important read for all practitioners and researchers interested in social work, public health and social inclusion.



## Promoting health and well-being in social work education

Crisp, B. R., & Beddoe, L. (Eds.). London, England: Routledge, 2013.

Social work educators can play an important part in ensuring that the promotion of health and wellbeing is firmly on the social work agenda for service users, as well as for students and educators. This book contains contributions from social work educators from Australia, America, Canada, New Zealand and the UK. They reflect on how best to prepare students to put health and wellbeing to the forefront of practice, drawing on research on quality of life, subjective wellbeing, student wellbeing, community participation and social connectedness, religion and spirituality, mindful practices, trauma and health inequalities.

**Journal articles and chapters:** To view a full list of recent journal and chapter contributions by School of Counselling, Human Services and Social Work staff visit [www.education.auckland.ac.nz/chsswk-news](http://www.education.auckland.ac.nz/chsswk-news)

## Counselling students' work internationally published



**Caption:** Margaret-Mary (left) and Sarah (right) with the books they contributed to.

A significant achievement in 2013 for two Master of Counselling students – Margaret-Mary Mulqueen and Sarah Va'afusuaga McRobie – was becoming internationally published authors. Both are experienced practitioners undertaking their research portfolios. Margaret-Mary contributed a chapter entitled 'The inner pilgrimage: Through heart to soul' to Caroline Miller's edited book, *Assessment and Outcomes in the Arts Therapies: A Person-Centred Approach*, published by Jessica Kingsley. The focus of this chapter is a case study about complex grief that demonstrates how the use of the Guided Imagery and Music (GIM) therapeutic process, underpinned by feminist theory, contributed to one woman's understanding of herself, and her renewed capacity for connectedness with herself and others. Margaret-Mary graduated with First Class Honours at the University Graduation Ceremony in May.

Sarah Va'afusuaga McRobie, a Samoan counsellor with the University's Student Health and Counselling Service, contributed a chapter to the book *Pacific Identities and Well-being: Cross-Cultural Perspectives*, edited by Margaret Agee, Tracey McIntosh, Philip Culbertson and Cabrini 'Ofo Makasiale, and published in 2013 by both Routledge and by Otago University Press. In her chapter, 'On values and spirituality in trauma counselling' Sarah

and co-author Cabrini 'Ofo Makasiale address the challenging topic of sexual abuse within Pacific families, discussing therapeutic approaches that are respectful and holistic. Sarah, who has undertaken research with Pacific practitioners, is completing her research portfolio this year.



# POSTGRADUATE



## BUILD ON YOUR SUCCESS — *with postgraduate study* —

Postgraduate study in social work, counselling and professional supervision will advance your knowledge and expertise so that you can help others to lead fulfilling lives.

PG Fair is the perfect opportunity to discover how you can take your degree further through postgraduate study at the Faculty of Education.

**TUESDAY 27 MAY: EPSOM CAMPUS**

For social workers and counsellors

**WEDNESDAY 28 MAY: CITY CAMPUS**

For social workers, counsellors and graduates of other subjects wanting to pursue a rewarding career in social work

Registration essential at  
***[www.auckland.ac.nz/pgfair](http://www.auckland.ac.nz/pgfair)***



**THE UNIVERSITY  
OF AUCKLAND**

**FACULTY OF EDUCATION**

*If you do not wish to receive this newsletter please email [partnerships-chsswk@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:partnerships-chsswk@auckland.ac.nz) with the subject title "unsubscribe Partnerships newsletter". Thank you.*