

Alumni news from the Department of Social Practice

Social Practice Panui

Issue 6, June 2014

John Stansfield's first year as Head of Department Social Practice



Almost ten years after leading the Department (formerly, the School of Community Studies) as co-founder and Program Leader of Unitec's Graduate Diploma in Not for Profit Management, John Stansfield returned as Head of Department of Social Practice in June 2013. Born a

Te Atatu westie John is a son of the Pacific having worked all over the Islands in NGOs, international development and leadership training. After a couple of years in newly independent PNG in the seventies John took a BSW at Massey University taking a year out to be the first full time president of the students association. John also has post graduate qualifications in NGO leadership and management which he studied in Bangladesh as well as an American Masters in International and Intercultural Management.

John practised in community organisations, hospitals, community health and CYF before taking a career turn in advocacy and community organising in the trade unions. He left Unitec to lead the Problem Gambling Foundation where he was part of a dynamic team who changed the way we understand and deal with gambling harm. John states: "Our society was mired in an addictions paradigm where the locus of concern was the poor individual who had been harmed, post harm rather than a pernicious industry and a dangerous product. We were treating the results but not the cause."

John also has a strong environmental suit having founded and led successful social enterprises in the waste and recycling sector. He was awarded a fellowship in social enterprise and studied with some of NZ's most exciting innovators for 3 years of fabulous reflection. He lives with his partner, Unitec Graduate and MP Denise Roche and their daughter Matariki on Waiheke Island where he is part of an organic farming co-operative and is Chairperson of Waiheke High School. John is an avid home gardener, fisherman and an enthusiastic cook.

During his first year as Head of Department John has initiated a review of fieldwork, resulting in a new stakeholder relations program as well as the six week snapshot where students give us fast feedback on our courses and teaching. This is then analysed and improvements instituted and fed back to students. John has had somewhat of a baptism of fire having arrived in time for the Five Year Cluster Review which is an intensive quality management review as well as the writing of the four year degree.

Help for Ex-Prisoners

Bachelor of Social Practice Graduate, Jane Tresedor is the founder of Fix Up, Look Sharp, a non-profit fashion styling service to help men fresh out of jail. Jane sees prisoners as generally being the most disadvantaged and stigmatised in the world of unemployment. Fix Up, Look Sharp is all about empowering these ex-prisoners, giving them a new experience, and motivating them to go for job interviews.

The idea for Fix Up, Look Sharp was born out of the Mt Eden resident's experience in the fashion industry and social work.

Jane started the organisation after visiting Dress For Success – a charity that provides women with clothes for job interview and realised there was nothing for men. Jane has teamed up with PARS, formerly known

as The Prisoners Aid and Rehabilitation Society, which supports inmates with their reintegration to the community after their release. Her next step will be finding a permanent base for Fix Up, Look Sharp and she will then start asking the community for donations of clothing.



ALLY Network



Unitec has developed an ALLY Network to ensure all staff and students feel valued, respected and connected by creating an environment that values diverse sexualities and genders. The ALLY Network

is made up of Gay and Straight staff and students who want to support the building of an inclusive working and learning environment for all by generating greater awareness, visibility and support of LGBTI staff and students and their related issues. Several Department of Social Practice has completed the ALLY training. These include David McNabb, Helene Connor, Helen Gremillion, Paul Ashley and others.

Auckland Pride Festival 2014



Merryn Statham, Unitec Manager Partnerships and Community Engagement. with David McNabb enjoying the Pride Parade.

Unitec was the Principal Sponsor for the Auckland Pride Festival in 2014 which celebrates the Rainbow community, (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Takatāpui, Intersex, Fa'afafine) culture and identity. A number of Social Practice staff and students participated in the Auckland Pride Parade along Ponsonby Road on Saturday 22 February.

BSocP Graduate, Paula Bold-Wilson, Manager of the Waitakere Community Law Service addresses issue of Synthetic Cannabis



Manager Paula Bold-Wilson has been actively campaigning to educate the community on the effects of legal highs. She states: "Over the past few years we have seen an unprecedented level of individuals begging, loitering, engaging in criminal activity, soliciting and disorderly behaviour. Although it would be easy to blame the individuals, we know that synthetic cannabis products

are addictive, and people will go to the extreme to get their next fix". We have become deeply concerned about what we are seeing, and the hurt that people are experiencing because of these products. We also know that we are not the only ones concerned about the effects." Paula has organised several hui to discuss this issue bringing the community together to educate our youth and initiate some community action to get rid of these products.

Pink Shirt Day at Unitec



Bachelor of Social Practice Student, Matalena Lillyana Kim Omara in her pink antibullying tee-shirt.

Staff and students across Unitec said 'No to Bullying' on Pink Shirt Day, Friday 23 May 2014. Pink Shirt Day (PSD) aims to reduce bullying by celebrating diversity and promoting the development of positive social relationships. An annual event celebrated throughout New Zealand

and the world, Pink Shirt Day aims to create a New Zealand where all people feel safe, valued and respected.

New Zealand African Welfare Service Trust



Frank Amoah with Auckland Super City Mayor Len Brown, April 2014.

Bachelor of Social Practice gradaute, Frank Amoah is a founder of the New Zealand African Welfare Service Trust. The Trust is a not-for profit non government organisation that provides professional and culturally appropriate social services to empower and support individuals and, or the whanau (family). The New Zealand African Welfare Service Trust (NZAWST) provides appropriate and sensitive services by responding to people's needs regardless of their social status.

Knitting - Stitching us together

World Wide Knit in Public Day was started in 2005 and takes place on the second Saturday of June each year. Department of Social Practice Lecturer, an avid knitter and yarn bomber has implemented knitting in public week at Unitec. Bring your knitting to the Waitakere campus in the week of 16–20 June 2014 and dare to knit in public!



Faculty Knitting in Public Week, 10-14 June 2013. Staff: Liz Nicholson, Anne Walsh, Sue Elliott.

Pink Ribbon Breakfast

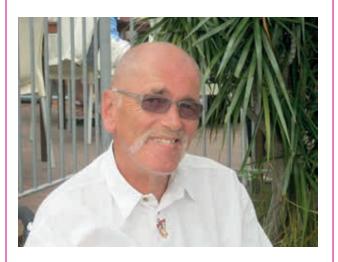
Anne Walsh organised a Pink Ribbon Breakfast to raise funds for the New Zealand Breast Cancer Foundation (NZBCF) on Wednesday 4 June 2014. The Pink Ribbon Breakfast was held in the Department of Social Practice Reception area and was well attended raising over \$200.00. Sue Elliott knitted a baby hat in the shape of a breast, (complete with nipple), which was auctioned off for \$20.00.





If anyone is interested in hosting a Pink Ribbon Breakfast with friends, family, colleagues and community go to www.pinkribbonbreakfast.co.nz for further information.

Wolfgang Wolf BSocP (Couns.), DipComD



In 1990 Wolfgang had a major stroke, which he barely survived. It left him in a wheelchair, unable to write, barely able to stand, and talk. While he recovered and adjusted to life in a wheelchair he wrote the book *I'm Not Stupid, Just Disabled*. An electronic, revised version entitled *How to Survive after a Stroke* is now on Amazon/Kindle. After this he studied and completed a Bachelor of Social Practice (Major: Counselling) and a Diploma in Community Development. While studying he founded, "Computers Against Isolation" a registered charity which provides people who live with disabilities with computers (http://computersagainstisolation. weebly.com). Wolfgang is also an enthusiastic blogger. His blog, "I used to drive a BMW, now I get around in a wheelchair" is about change and building a new life.

http://theglassishalffull.weebly.com/i-used-to-drive-a-bmw-now-i-get-around-in-a-wheelchair.html

National Social Workers' Day



Unitec hosted a National Social Workers'
Day event with ANZASW Chief Executive
Lucy Sandford-Reed on Wednesday, 25
September 2013. Lucy spoke on membership
in a future mandatory registration
environment. There was also a discussion
on what sort of on-going ANZASW social
workers group want in the West? Thanks to
David McNabb who organised this event.

Unique Appearances

Bachelor of Social Practice Graduate, Areena Deshpande is the Director of Unique Appearances which aims to change the way people are judged about their appearance.



Staff News

The Department of Social Practice farewell several staff members in 2013.

- » Dr lan Hyslop is now lecturing at the University of Auckland
- » Jinling Lin has also joined the staff at the University of Auckland
- » Associate Professor Dr Ksenija Napan is now lecturing at Massey University
- » Joan Campbell left to pursue her private practice and other work
- » Andrew Lynch is studying towards his PhD at the University of Auckland
- Tepora Pukepuke is also studying towards a PhD at the University of Auckland
- » Claudine Hutchings has taken up a new role as Practice Supervisor (social work) at Te Puaruruhau attached to Starship Hospital

Farewell to Aileen Cheshire and Dorothea Lewis

After twelve years of service at Unitec leading the Postgraduate Diploma in Counselling Dorothea and Aileen have decided to semi-retire and pursue their private practice and other interests. They have made a significant contribute to counselling training at Unitec and will be sorely missed by colleagues and students.

Eight new staff have been recruited into the Department. A warm welcome to:

Irene Ayallo is a recent PHD graduate and a former social worker from Kenya. Irene has been doing fieldwork in Kenya in the HIV/Aids affected community helping women and children find a voice in public policy. She is an educator at Rape Prevention Education and has a strong suit in social justice issues. Hujambo Irene.

Irene will be speaking about her work on HIV/AlDs on 18 June at the Department of Social Practice Winter Lecture Series, 5.00pm, Basement Lecture Theatre, B007, Building 510, Ratanui Street, Henderson.

Natali Rojas is a community development specialist from Colombia. Natali combines her love of community work with a strong arts background. She has studied in Spain, Finland and the USA and did her fieldwork in Bogata, working with marginalised communities to develop films for empowerment. Bienvenido a Unitec Natali.

Selina Akhter is a Bangladeshi social work educator. She gained her doctorate in Australia at MacQuarie and has an MSW and BSS as well as a Diploma in Adult Education. Selina has had seven years at Te Wananga, as a Social Work Senior Lecturer and has also worked for Shakti. Selina will join us in Semester Two and will work in fieldwork as well as teaching Professional practice and psychology. Shubha-gaman Selina.

Sue Bradford is a former member of parliament and has just completed her PHD with Marilyn Waring at Auckland University of Technology. Sue has a life-long commitment to social justice and a strong background in adult education and community development.

Sue will be speaking on the topic, 'Is there a place for Radical Social Work?' on 30 July at the Department of Social Practice Winter Lecture Series, 5.00pm, Basement Lecture Theatre, B007, Building 510, Ratanui Street, Henderson.

Selina Ledoux-Taua'aletoa is a graduate of the Master Social Practice program. Selina is our first Samoan Masters graduate and has a very strong background in youth justice and child protection. She will be joining the fieldwork team and teaching on Talanoa and Child Protection studies. She did her thesis on intergenerational Pacific households. She is an experienced adult educator. Afio mai Selina.

Sandra Hosking, Programme Administrator, is assisting the Field Work Team with finding placements and upgrading the field work database.

Yolanda Meima has a long history with the Department of Social Practice. She is a graduate of the Master of Social Practice, the Bachelor of Social Practice (Counselling major), the Diploma in Social Work and Community Development (social work) and a Certificate in Community Skills. She has significant experience in the NGO sector including her work as the Director for SHINE, Home and Family Counselling services and several other well-known agencies.

Alexandra Hart has recently completed her PhD, Action in Chronic Fatigue Syndrome: An enactive psychophenomenological and semiotic analysis of thirty New Zealand women's experiences of suffering and recovering, at the University of Canterbury. Alexandra also maintains a private practice as a Counsellor and Supervisor at Sustainable Health, Brown's Bay and Panmure, Auckland.

Congratulations to Catherine Hughes



Congratulations to Catherine Hughes for winning the Meeting the Needs of Community award at the Unitec's Got Highly Productive Talent event on Friday, 6 December 2013. Catherine won against a very strong field and it was delightful to see her hard work and determination being recognised.

Catherine's work on taking care of the dying was featured in Advance magazine. In the article she talks about using an ethnographic research methodology to find out whether culture plays a role when a person is dying. Refer to: www. unitec.ac.nz/advance/index.php/how-our-culture-affects-our-death/

Student Success

Master of Social Practice Graduates



Teri Harnell graduated with a Master of Master of Social Practice in September 2013. Her thesis, entitled: Created for a purpose: implementation and evaluation of the Lighthouse Programme. Student talent identification and exploration as a means of increasing collaboration and

lifting academic self-concept examined the "Lighthouse" programme which she created. This is a strengths-based programme aimed at students with 9-13 year old that is designed to expand thinking around their natural talents, aid the development of those talents into strengths and collaboratively encourage enhancement of student academic self-concept within a classroom environment. The programme applies [George] Gallup's philosophy within its creative methodology as means of developing student strengths and improving academic self-concept. Teri's thesis can be viewed at the Unitec Research Bank: http://hdl. handle.net/10652/2306

Teri will be speaking about the inspirational Lighthouse programme on 10 September at the Department of Social Practice Winter Lecture Series, 5.00pm, Basement Lecture Theatre, B007, Building 510, Ratanui Street, Henderson.

First Samoan Graduate of the Master of Social Practice, Selina Malama Ledoux-Taua'aletoa



Selina Malama Ledoux-Taua'aletoa graduated with a Master of Master of Social Practice in September 2013. Her thesis, entitled: An Exploration into the ways in which Multi-Generational Samoan Households Contribute to the Development of Societal and Collective Values about Aiga/Families in Contemporary New Zealand/

Aotearoa/Niu Sila utilizes an autobiographical/collective biographical research approach to examine some of the ways in which multigenerational households can contribute to the development of societal and collective values around Samoan aiga in Aotearoa/New Zealand. Selina's thesis can be viewed at the Unitec Research Bank: http://hdl.handle.net/10652/2316

Selina will be speaking about her research on 16 July at the Department of Social Practice Winter Lecture Series, 5.00pm, Basement Lecture Theatre, B007, Building 510, Ratanui Street, Henderson.

First International Student from Laos to Graduate with the Master of Social Practice



Soukphaphone Phanit gained a
New Zealand International Aid and
Development Scholarship to study at
Unitec. She graduated in absentia with
a Master of Social Practice in September
2013. Her thesis sought to explore the
relationship between the Lao People's
Democratic Republic (Lao PDR) and the
ASEAN Commission for the Promotion

and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC). Soukphaphone's thesis entitled: The relationship between the Lao people's democratic republic (LAO PDR) and the ASEAN commission for the Promotion and protection of the rights of Women and children (ACWC) with a focus on women can be viewed at the Unitec Research Bank: http://hdl. handle.net/10652/2318



Laura Ashton graduated with a
Master in Social Practice in April 2014.
Her thesis explores young women's
dis/identifications with feminism, and
dis/articulations of feminism, within
Aotearoa/NZ today. Grounded within
a feminist poststructuralist approach,
she carried out 14 semi-structured
interviews with young women about
their lives, feminism and post feminism.

The women were aged between 18 and 30 and came from diverse backgrounds in terms of ethnicity, sexuality and class. Laura then employed a discursive psychological analysis of the transcripts of the interviews.

Her thesis entitled: "I don't necessarily go out there and tell everyone that I'm a feminist, but I won't go out there and tell everyone that I'm a musician either": dis/identifications and dis/articulations: young women and feminism in Aotearoa/New Zealand can be viewed at the Unitec Research Bank: http://hdl.handle.net/10652/2400

First Tongan Graduate of the Master of Social Practice, Maile Uluave



Maile's mother, Hingano Finau, and Maile Uluave, Graduation, 9 April 2014.

Maile Uluave graduated with a Master of Master of Social Practice in April 2014. She was the first Tongan student to graduate with the MSocP. Her thesis, entitled: Toulanganga: A Tongan model for community engagement and social enterprise, investigated a Tongan model of tapa-making and a process of Toulanganga which could be viewed as a metaphor for the community development of a New Zealand-based Pacific social enterprise.

This research was carried out for the multicultural members of the Multi - Educational Support and Services Trust (MESST) who shared common goals within their community development work. Maile's thesis can be viewed at the Unitec Research Bank: http://hdl.handle.net/10652/2435

First Japanese Graduate of the Master of Social Practice



Hiromi Kominami graduated with a Master of Social Practice in April 2014. Hiromi is also a graduate of Unitec's Bachelor of Social Practice. She works as a registered social worker within the mental health sector. Her thesis, entitled: "Moving toward diverse cultural communities". Lost in Translation – When the Sakura cherry blossom meets the Pohutukawa.

What are the opportunities and challenges facing Japanese migrants in Aotearoa/New Zealand? examined Japanese migrants' settlement experiences in New Zealand. The aim of the thesis was to gain an understanding of the migration process purely from their personal perspectives. Using a qualitative research method, 14 Japanese migrants were interviewed and shared their positive and negative experiences through their migration process. Hiromi's thesis can be viewed at: http://hdl.handle.net/10652/2432

Student Publications

Johanna Milne with David Epston, The Corner: A Stepson/ Stepfather Reunion, *Journal of Systemic Therapies*. Vol. 31. No. 4. 2012. Pp. 77-89

Veysey, Sheree. 'People with a borderline personality disorder diagnosis describe discriminatory experiences' *Kōtuitui: New Zealand Journal of Social Sciences Online* Volume 9, Issue 1, 2014. www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10. 1080/1177083X.2013.871303#.UzD4evmSxIE

Sara-Jane Sadler Memorial Award recipient 2013

The Sara Jane Sadler Award 'for courage in adversity' was awarded to third year student, Rosalie Oliver, at an event on 26 November 2013. Congratulations Rosalie.

The Sara-Jane Sadler Memorial Award was established in 2010 to commemorate, Bachelor of Social Practice student, Sara-Jane Sadler, who died of cancer. The

intention of the Award is to acknowledge a Bachelor of Social Practice student, who, like Sara-Jane, demonstrated courage in the face of adversity.



Alumni Profiles Where are they now?

Carla King Postgraduate Diploma in Counselling Graduate (2012)



Carla King graduated with the Unitec, Postgradaute Diploma in Counselling April 2012 after a very challenging but rewarding 18 months working with Aileen Cheshire and Dorothea Lewis. During this time she met some amazing people and made some wonderful friendships. In fact her group continues to meet monthly for peer group supervision. By the end

of 2011 she had her first interview as a school counsellor, but was unsuccessful due to her lack of experience. Not to be discouraged she continued looking for jobs across the counselling sector and was pleasantly surprised when she applied for and got an interview for a position as a

counsellor in a South Auckland Primary/Intermediate school. She started part time work in Term 2, 2012 and hasn't looked back. While working in a school with primary and intermediate aged children was not what she had expected to be doing, it is a rewarding job and she enjoys the students she gets to meet. Carla says, "It is a privilege to work with them; they inspire me and have so much to teach me." Carla's goal is to be a full NZAC member by the end of 2014.

Social Practice Alumni

Stay connected with the Social Practice Alumni through our the Bachelor of Social Practice Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/groups/290161341060606/

If you know of any Social Practice graduates who have not received the Alumni newsletter or please ask them to contact: Anne Walsh, awalsh@unitec.ac.nz so she can update our Alumni database and forward them a copy of our panui.

Social media

Stay connected with Social Practice Alumni.

- you can stay connected with the Facebook Page, Bachelor of Social Practice Alumni.
- >> You can also join the Unitec Alumni group on LinkedIn.

Alumni benefits

You can also check out our new Unitec Alumni website pages (www.unitec.ac.nz/alumni) to see what our alumni network offers and other ways you can stay connected.



Unitec's Department of Social Practice invites you to join thought leaders from the social practice sector for a fortnightly lecture, Q&A and light refreshments.

WHEN

Wednesday evenings (fortnightly) from 5pm

WHERE

Unitec Lecture Theatre B510-B007, Waitakere campus, 5-7 Ratanui Street, Henderson

ADMISSION

\$10 (gold coin donation for students)



21 MAY Bringing down the house: The subversion of a public health approach to gambling harm by the gambling industry in partnership with Government **John Stansfield,** Head of Department, Department of Social Practice, Unitec

04 JUNE Seeking justice in extra-legal circumstances?

David Epston, Lecturer, Department of Social Practice, United

18 JUNE HIV-AIDS: Public policy making processes in Kenya: Assessing the participation of women and youth living with HIV Dr Irene Ayallo, Lecturer, Department of Social Practice, United

O2 JULY Child Poverty: What we know and what we can/should do Dr Mike O'Brien, Associate Professor, School of Counselling, Human Services and Social Work, University of Auckland

16 JULY Pasifika Models
Selina LeDoux-Taua'aletoa, Lecturer, Department of Social Practice, United

30 JULY Is there a place for radical social work in Aotearoa 2014?
Sue Bradford and Peter Matthewson, Lecturers, Department of Social Practice,

13 AUG Collaboration in community development: discussions from the field Craig Tunnicliffe, Community Engagement Field Work Coordinator and Lecturer, Department of Social Practice, United Dr Peter Toews, Academic and Independent Consultant,

former CEO of WAVES Trust

Matt Appleyard, Auckland Council

27 AUG Advocacy in the social sector; what leads to silencing?
Sue Elliott and David Haigh, Lecturers, Department of Social Practice, United

Created for a purpose: The Lighthouse Programme- Student talent identification and exploration as a means of lifting academic self-concept *Teri Harnell, CEO Heartsong Trust*