

Twenty One Years of Social Practice at Unitec



"Twenty One Years of Social Practice crossing the oceans of knowledge, bringing diverse people together working towards social justice and critical practice in the ever changing contexts of Aotearoa New Zealand."

Come and celebrate with us

When 26 October **When** 5pm - 7pm

Where Waitakere campus, 5-7 Ratanui St, Henderson, Building 510

Plases RSVP by 19 October to socialpractice@unitec.ac.nz

If you know of any Social Practice graduates who have not received the Alumni newsletter or an invitation to the 21st birthday party, please ask them to contact: Anne Walsh, awalsh@unitec.ac.nz so she can update the data base and forward them both an invitation and the newsletter.

Fay Pouesi – First Maori Graduate of the Master of Social Practice



Fay Pouesi at 'Kahurangi, the Unitec Celebration of Maori excellence and achievement, April 2012.

Fay Pouesi graduated with an MSocP, honours in April 2012. She was the first Maori (Ngati Ruanui) graduate of the programme. Fay's research explored the 'community of care' approach she developed in affiliation with the Massey Community Church Board and Massey Community Trust. The 'community of care' approach was developed to equip women whose lives were immersed in domestic violence. It offers a holistic, encompassing approach that provides ongoing support, awareness and the skills needed to integrate back into the wider community.

Fay's thesis: Te Puawaitanga o te Ngākau: A case-study of Westside Counselling Services in West Auckland: A 'community of care' approach to working with Māori women and their whānau who have been impacted by domestic violence, can be viewed at Unitec's Research Bank: <http://unitec.researchbank.ac.nz/handle/10652/1807>

Associate Professor, Dr Ksenija Napan appointed to the NZQA Assessment Reference Group (ARG)



Ksenija's expertise as a tertiary educator has been recognised by NZQA with her appointment to the ARG which provides advice to NZQA. Members of ARG must be practising assessors and recognised by their peers as innovative assessment experts. ARG consists

of assessment practitioners from across the educational spectrum. The purpose of ARG is to inform and influence assessment practices for learners transitioning into, through and beyond secondary education.

Alabi Adeosun, Master of Social Practice Graduate, April 2012

Alabi Adeosun was born in Lagos, Nigeria. He gained his Bachelor of Mission and Intercultural Studies from New Covenant International University, Florida, in 2002.

Alabi also graduated with a Postgraduate Diploma in Health Sciences from the University of Auckland, in 2007.

Alabi has worked in the health and disability sector in New Zealand since 2005, and is currently working as a Service Delivery Manager for Richmond New Zealand. His thesis entitled: How people who have a relative or friend with mental illness are supported by the Auckland branch of Supporting Families in Mental Illness, can be viewed at: <http://unitec.researchbank.ac.nz/handle/10652/1869>

Sheree Veysey, Master of Social Practice Graduate, April 2012



Sheree Veysey and Alabi Adeosun, Graduation, April 2012

Sheree was born in Rotorua. She gained a Bachelor of Communications majoring in television production at Auckland University of Technology in 2001. In 2009 she completed a Postgraduate Diploma in Counselling in the Department of Social Practice, Unitec. She currently works for Lifeline Aotearoa and Eden, specialists in body image and eating difficulties.

Her thesis, Look at the human being in front of you who's hurting: Clients with a borderline personality disorder diagnosis describe their experiences of discriminatory and helpful behaviour from health professionals, explored personality disorder diagnosis and stigma and mental health. This thesis can be viewed at: <http://unitec.researchbank.ac.nz/handle/10652/1843>

MSocP Graduate, Sheree Veysey and MSocP student, Laura Ashton have scripts accepted for The Big ReTHiNK

The Big reTHiNK at Q Theatre, Auckland (1st – 6th October) is being promoted as a “Mind-altering event” and will launch Mental Health Awareness week this year by putting on a professional production showcasing multi-genres including multimedia, comedy, theatre and music. The aim is to use reTHiNK as a vehicle to get audiences and mainstream media to think about mental health issues and challenges. Sheree Veysey’s play ‘Terribly Unwell’, and another play she has co-written with Laura Ashton, ‘Making Sense’ were among the top twelve scripts selected to be performed at this event. See <http://rethink.org.nz> and <http://www.mindfood.com/at-community-the-big-rethink-radio.seo> for further information. Bookings can be made at <http://www.qtheatre.co.nz/minds-big-rethink>.

Bachelor of Social Practice graduate, Graig Tunnicliffe, recognised with academic excellence award



Graig at the Graduation Ceremony, Auckland Town Hall, 4 April 2012

Bachelor of Social Practice (Community Development) graduate, Graig Tunnicliffe was one of six Unitec graduates crossing the stage in April 2012 to be acknowledged with a senior scholar award. Senior scholars are students who have scored an ‘A’ average or a grade point average of at least 8.00. Graig was presented with a pounamu taonga at the graduation ceremony and received a cheque for \$2,000. Graig, is currently employed by the Department of Social Practice, Unitec as a Tutorial Assistant (part-time) and also works as a community developer in the community of Ranui. He says he was very proud of this achievement and that it was an honour to be recognised in this way.

MSocP Student, Steve Taylor presents a Paper at the 4th International Gambling Conference 2012



Steve Taylor is the Director of 24-7 Ltd, a Counselling, Supervision, Mediation, and Training private practice that provide services to both New Zealand and Australia.

MSocP student, Steve Taylor presented a paper at the 4th International Gambling Conference in Auckland, February 2012, entitled: Gambling on outcomes – Why Client-Directed, Outcome-Informed practice can no longer be ignored by counsellors. Steve’s presentation reviewed the collaborative use of the research-validated Client Directed, Outcome Informed (CDOI) Session Rating Scale (SRS) and Outcome Rating Scale (ORS) a Client Measurement Outcome Tool which looks at how the clients’ feedback influences and informs the work of the counsellor.

Steve’s power point presentation can

be viewed at: <http://www.internationalgamblingconference.com/Uploads/PDF%20Documents/Powerpoints/Taylor,%20Steve%20Gambling%20on%20Outcomes.pdf>

Dr Geoff Bridgman appointed to the HRC’s College of Experts



In June 2012, Social Practice Lecturer, Dr Geoff Bridgman was appointed to the Health Council of New Zealand (HRC) College of Experts. The college of Experts was established to support the formation of HRC assessing committees and contributes to the robust assessment process of grant applications. Geoff is one of a group of experts who have been identified as having the appropriate

scientific expertise, health research experience and peer review experience for membership.

The recognition of Geoff’s expertise by the HRC is a significant honour and demonstrates the high regard he is held in by his peers.

Educating Early Childhood Centres on becoming more Man-friendly



Social Practice Lecturer, Dr Geoff Bridgman, with help from Violence Free Waitakere, has been running a Focus on Fathering programme for three years and educating Early Childhood Centres on becoming

more man-friendly. His research has found that just 1 per cent of early childhood educators are men, and only half of centres have any male presence.

Geoff’s research found half of the centres surveyed did not have any male volunteers, something often blamed on low pay, but which he said came down to the fear of paedophilia. “Men are really aware of the threat they present, and they themselves feel under threat when they walk into a centre.”

Geoff’s findings suggest there are advantages to having more men at early education centres. Violence Free Waitakere found when fathers were engaged with their children’s development, it could reduce family violence, aggression and divorce, and raise the child’s educational prospects. “In many of the centres deprived of men the children would love a male presence. It’s a mutual benefit. The dads become better dads, and the kids who don’t have much male presence benefit too.”

Further information about Dr Bridgman’s research can be found on the following links:

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/national/education/7116636/Inviting-blokes-back-to-kindy>

<http://tvnz.co.nz/national-news/call-encourage-male-kindy-teachers-5001400>

MSocP Student, Julie Radford-Poupard, attends United Nations Committee on Violence Against Women, in New York, July 2012



Julie Radford-Poupard (Women's Health Action & Pacific Women's Watch), Georgie Parker (Women's Health Action & Pacific Women's Watch) and Beryl Anderson (National Council of Women)

'Violence against women was a major concern for the UN Committee reviewing the status of women in New Zealand, when it met in July 2012, says Julie Radford-Poupard, one of the non-government

representatives at the United Nations. Julie stated: 'Committee members questioned whether current changes in New Zealand such as legal aid restrictions, the introduction of fees in the Family Court, the restructuring of family violence funding, and a trend towards encouraging the resolution of relationship disputes out of court, may be increasing the barriers for women seeking to leave violent relationships and risking their safety. Committee members also questioned the government on the lack of progress in implementing the recommendations from the report of the Taskforce for Action on Sexual Violence. The report has called for changes to New Zealand legislation to reduce stress and trauma faced by complainants in the criminal justice system'.

Jane Bruning, MSocP Graduate and Coordinator of Positive Women organises the Official opening of centre for women living with HIV



Co-founders of Positive Women Inc. Judith Ackroyd (far left) and Suzy Morrison (far right) with UNDP Administrator Helen Clark, National Coordinator for Positive Women and Asia Pacific UNAIDS PCB NGO Delegate, Jane Bruning (centre) and UNAIDS Executive Director Michel Sidibé.

On the eve of International Women's Day 2012, and as part of their official visit to New Zealand, Mr Michel Sidibé and Ms Helen Clark opened Positive Women Inc's new premises and community house in Auckland for women living with HIV. The organization, coordinated by MSocP graduate, Jane Bruning, aims to raise awareness of HIV in the community through educational programmes, with a particular focus on HIV prevention and de-stigmatisation.

Jane states: "Women represent the invisible face of the AIDS epidemic. These are women who run households, cook dinner, have jobs and raise families. They are the ones keeping everything together. So to be able to offer them a place to come for advice or just a chat and a cup of tea is extremely important."

Further information about this event can be found at:

<http://www.unaids.org/en/resources/presscentre/featurestories/2012/march/20120313fsnz/>

Borderless Classrooms - the Living Curriculum in Action

Department of Social Practice Lecturer, Sue Elliott is an extraordinary lecturer who offers her students many opportunities to expand their knowledge outside of the classroom, especially concerning Auckland's increasingly diverse population. Sue is a social development professional with a wealth of experience. Her specific areas of expertise include: NGO and civil society policy, organisational development, capacity building and institutional strengthening; refugees and displaced people; gender analysis; human rights, including children's rights; governance; community development and education. Sue has a M.Sc. in Development Practices (awarded with Distinction, 1993) from Oxford Brookes University, Oxford, England.

On 31 March 2012 Sue took a group of Bachelor of Social Practice students to the EthnicA Conference in Auckland, organised by the Office of Ethnic Affairs. Students volunteered as note takers at the workshop on social enterprise and were given Certificates of Appreciation.

For further information about the EthnicA conference refer to the March edition of the Office of Ethnic Affairs newsletter: http://www.ethnicaffairs.govt.nz/oeawebsite.nsf/wpg_URL/Resources-Ethnic-Affairs-Publications-EthnicA-Live-March-2012#ethnica



Third Year Bachelor of Social Practice Students: Petro Shamrock; Rose Atoa; Lynair Begman-Thorp; Mi Ae Park; Sejin Ahn; Els Palemne; Jay Kim and Sue Elliott, March 2012



Sifiso Dzadya, Sue Elliott and Rosemine Mutaliza

Also, in March, Sue was invited, along with others, as a guest speaker at the ACOFI (African Community Forum Inc) celebration of African women, which was attended by a number of our Department's students.



Sue Elliott with students Shay Toomey and Mi Ae Park with members of the Ethnic Media, May 2012

In May, Sue organised several students to attend a Regional Settlement Network meeting which brought together

Social Practice Panui

organisations including government agencies, to share and develop ways to assist newcomers to settle more easily and quickly.

SOCIAL PRACTICE IN ACTION

Shave for a Cure Event



Mira el Haddad preparing for her head shave

Bachelor of Social Practice, third year student, and Student Union Representative for the Waitakere Campus, Mira El Haddad, together with her fellow students, Rosemine Mutamuliza, Mi-Ae Parg and Lynair Bergman Thorpe organised the 'Shave for A Cure' fund raising event in April 2012 as a community development project. The students raised approximately \$4,500.00 from this event.



Students who shaved for a cure

This event was covered by the Western Leader. Refer to: <http://westernleader.realviewdigital.com/default.aspx?iid=61705&startpage=page0000006#folio=6>

@Heart



Bachelor of Social Practice student, Lynair Bergman Thorpe collecting donations for @Heart, the charity that provides support services for children born with a congenital heart condition and their families. Information on this charity can be found at: <http://www.heartnz.org.nz>

Men's Health Trust NZ Wairakei Development Scholarships 2012



Bachelor of Social Practice Programme Leader: Catherine Hughes; James Boyd-Bell, Philippe Eyton and Social Practice Head of Department, David McNabb at the presentations of the awards on 30 May 2012

Three Bachelor of Social Practice students won Men's Health Trust New Zealand Wairakei Development Scholarships this year: Philippe Eyton, James Boyd-Bell and Keith Filo. Each of the students had to submit an essay on the topic of men's health.



Keith Filo was unable to attend the awards

Men's Health Trust to award an extra three this year.

Each of the students were awarded \$5,000.00.

Mens Health Trust New Zealand awarded five scholarships to students in 2010, six scholarships in 2011 and nine scholarships in 2012. Along with Wairakei Development Scholarship Awards, Parker Hanifin and Parker ENZED have also committed to funding for scholarships which enabled

Alumni Profiles - Where Are They Now?

Bachelor of Social Practice Graduate (1997), Di Jennings



Di Jennings is a creative community organiser whose diverse career has spanned working in community development, community arts and social enterprise. Di Jennings graduated from the Bachelor of Social Practice, with a Community Development Major in 1997.

Upon leaving Unitec, Di worked for the Hon Helen Clark as an Electorate Office Assistant during the period of the election of the 1999 Labour Government. She subsequently worked with the diverse Ranui community in Waitakere City as Manager of the Ranui Action Project, a community development initiative that involved working with local people to develop a shared vision and local projects.

Di is currently carrying out national research into community economic development, funded by the Lotteries Community Research Fund, with Unitec as a research partner. In her spare time Di is involved in creating recycled art and fashion, and has co-authored a book that was published in 2009, entitled "Alchemy Arts: recycling is chic".

Bachelor of Social Practice Graduate (2005), Grant Wilson



Grant Wilson is of Māori descent. His iwi is Ngāpuhi and his hapu is Ngāti Hine. Grant graduated with a Bachelor of Social Practice (Social Work major) in 2005. He is currently employed as a Kaiarahi (Navigator) at Te Whanau O Waipareira. The role of Kaiarahi takes

Grant into Whanau homes working on Whanau Ora Plans. These are long-term plans set out to prioritise and address multiple issues that the Whanau are struggling with.

Grant finds his work in social practice immensely satisfying. He enjoys witnessing the successes and personal growth of the whanau he works with and he is a strong advocate for Māori self-determination and empowerment.

Grant draws on his personal experience and the resilience he fostered to overcome adversity to help others. He states:

"Having been through so many negative situations in my life, I felt that I could turn these into positives and help young people who were struggling with similar problems. I felt I could share my experiences with other young people and their families and find ways to Keep them moving forward - the challenge for me is to find solutions and options to keep going. I take all of my experiences and use them to help others.