

E-Newsletter– Fall 2017

Issue 12



WU Winthrop
Social Work

**EXCELLENCE
MATTERS**

Message from Dr. Marsha Bollinger— Interim Department Chair

Greetings! I was asked to fill in as interim department chair when Dr. Morrow announced that she would be leaving Winthrop for a wonderful opportunity. Since then I have learned that the department faculty are even more fantastic than I thought! Their dedication to student learning and to the social work profession is very clear.

This is a year of transition in the department. We have welcomed two new faculty members and a new administrative assistant; they have all hit the ground running and are wonderful assets to the department. After a national search, Dr. Anthony Hill has accepted the department chair position, starting in June 2018.

But the biggest change in the department is the development, in partnership with Wiley and Sons, of a new fully online MSW program. Online versions of the traditional MSW and the advanced standing MSW programs will begin in August 2018 and in January 2019 respectively. The department and campus are working feverishly to bring the same quality and excellence found in our on-campus programs to the online modality.

Best wishes in 2018,

Marsha

Dr. Marsha Bollinger



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Welcome to Our New Faculty and Staff

Dr. Jessica Yang LISW-CP



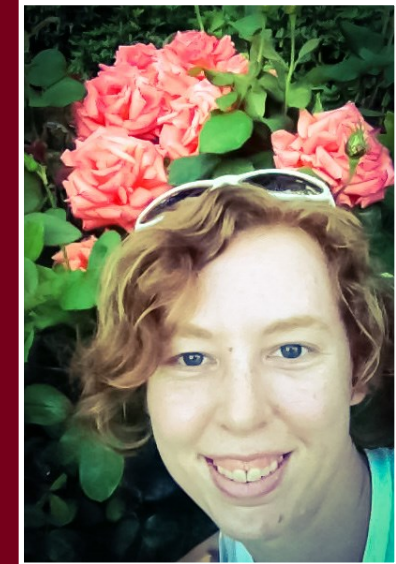
Dr. Yang joins the department from the university of Denver as an assistant professor. Her research focuses on youth aging out of foster care, and addressing systemic inequality for children of color in schools and communities, and critical race theory.

Mr. Christopher Ward



Mr. Ward is finishing his Ph.D. at Virginia Commonwealth University where he gained extensive teaching experience in undergraduate, graduate and online programs. His research interest focuses on healthcare infrastructure and social justice.

Ms. Lee Clark



Lee joins the department as the new administrative assistant. She brings with her a B.A. in international relations, an M.P.P. in international commerce and policy, and an M.Phil. Through her studies, Lee has had the opportunity to travel to Russia, Singapore, Thailand, and Ireland.

Faculty Accomplishments

Our faculty have been exceptionally busy. Since last spring they have published more than 10 peer reviewed articles and book chapters, presented nine conference presentations (some with students!), facilitated three workshops and RAP sessions, supervised at least three student community research projects, and managed more than \$18,314 in grants and contracts within the Rock Hill community.



One of our newest faculty, Mr. Ward, even won the esteemed GADE student teaching award for his “outstanding qualities, vision, and accomplishments of teaching as a doctoral student.” Mr. Ward’s accomplishment was recognized at the annual CSWE APM Conference in Dallas, Texas. Congratulations Chris!



BSW Student Club

The BSW Student Club has participated in many activities so far this year. So far they have:

- Participated in Light The Night: Walk for Lymphoma and Leukemia
- Held group yoga sessions on Wednesday evenings for group bonding
- Created a self care crafting event where they made stress balls and shared current struggles
- Hosted a tabling event where they raised change for Change for the Caribbean
- Hosted a tabling event where they collected items for New Hope Carolinas Treatment Center
- Decorated a window panel in Diggs to support empowerment for the month of November



The Association's first activity of the semester was a Lunch & Learn Series event held on November 9, 2017. Mr. Glenn Smith, a skilled practitioner in the Charlotte area, shared the history and application of Perceptual Control Theory. Mr. Smith currently directs Life Connections of the Carolinas, a non-profit to keep youth out of jail and adults from reoffending. He is also a co-author of the book, *Creating Your BE-Print: Drafting Your Personal Blueprint for Living*.

The Association has two outreach opportunities in the works – one project designed to bring holiday cheer to soldiers and another to support Operation Christmas Child.

MSW Student Association

A Few Words From the Field Team

On Wednesday, December 6, 15 BSW students presented their final capstone project. The professional poster presentation on the student's field placement for the fall semester, where they are required to complete a 32 hour weekly internship for the semester, reflects a final culmination of the student's BSW academic career. The internship placements range from Department of Social Services to Probation, Pardon and Parole, and from Hospice agencies to Veteran services to child welfare agencies. There were approximately fifty participants from the community who spoke with and challenged the students regarding their internship experience. All of the students presented themselves in a professional manner as they proudly represented Winthrop University, their agency internship, and themselves.

Jennifer & Perry

Ms. McDaniel & Mr. Owen



If you would like to support our students field educational experience by taking on an intern, providing supervision, or making a donation, please do not hesitate to contact our field office at 803/323-2168 or check us out by clicking [here](#) for more information.

Congratulations Graduates!



Congratulations to all of the students who graduated on December 16, marking the end of their educational chapter and the beginning of their social work careers. This ceremony saw one MSW student and fourteen BSW students earn their degrees. These students will continue out into the world as proud WU alum proving that that excellence matters!

