AUGUST 2014
New Director for School of Social Work
Dr. John Graham began his tenure as the School of Social Work Director by welcoming over 150 new MSW students at the Fall 2014 MSW orientation. This is our largest orientation class to date. The program has grown significantly from its first class of 18 in 2000 to 300 in 2014. And with that growth, we continue to rely on and appreciate our community partners and agencies to provide exceptional field opportunities for our students.

SEPTEMBER 2014
Faculty Publication Award
Dr. Juyoung Park and her co-authors were co-winners of the Journal of Gerontological Social Work Outstanding Article Award for 2013. The award was presented at the Association of Gerontology in Education in Social Work (AGESW) Reception at the Gerontological Society of America’s Annual Scientific Meeting in Washington, DC, November 7-10, 2014. This article, titled “Nonpharmacological Pain Management by Ethnically Diverse Older Adults with Chronic Pain: Barriers and Facilitators” was co-authored with two graduate students (Christina Hriz & Karen Manotas) at FAU and Dr. Nancy Hooymann at University of Washington.

OCTOBER 2014
Prevost Fellowship Recipients
Anne-Marie Brown, Ana Perez and Abby Stagliano were recognized by the Graduate College on October 22nd at the Graduate Fellowship Awards.

JANUARY 2015
Faculty Educator Awards
Dr. Naelys Luna (Brown County) and Gail Horton Chewning (Palm Beach County) were awarded NASW 2015 Educators of the Year for their respective County Chapters.

MARCH 2015
DSW Information Session
On March 9th, the School of Social Work held an information session for our developing Doctor of Social Work (DSW) Program. We had more than 60 people in attendance. The DSW proposal is expected to be presented to the Board of Governors in late 2015/early 2016.

4th Annual Heart of Social Work Event
The event was held once again at the President’s House. Phoenix Azlade was awarded Outstanding Alumnus and West Palm Beach VA Medical Center was awarded Outstanding Field Agency. Social Work BSW Student Velgaine Auguste and MSW student Lana Seiler read their winning essays.

Lobby Day 2015
Lobby Day 2015 was a resounding success this year with over 120 students traveling to Tallahassee for a three day, two night trip. Students were engaged in a variety of social policy advocacy projects including guns on campus, medical marijuana, GLBT civil rights legislation, needle exchange pilot project, and expanded veteran and child welfare programs. Students participated in mock legislative sessions, tours of the old and new Capitol buildings and the Florida Supreme Court. Many exciting committee hearings were being held while the group was there and several students testified for and against legislation. Dr. DeRigne and Dr. Fatineau led the group.

APRIL 2015
Barnes & Noble Faculty Service Award
Dr. LeaAnne DeRigne won this award for her service to local and regional communities. She has led and chaperoned FAU’s student delegation to Tallahassee for the past six years. She teaches students the fundamentals of the political advocacy process and mentors them as they offer their views to members of the Florida Legislature. This year she also accompanied students on an Alternative Spring Break trip to Philadelphia on March 1-8, where they worked on the “Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program,” an initiative to help young people transition out of the criminal justice system and back into the community.

CSWE Reaffirmation Site Visit
The School’s CSWE reaffirmation site visit was a success due in large part to the extraordinary leadership of Dr. Allan Barsky throughout the process. Scholar James Finley Lecture
James Finley Lecture
Scholar James Finley returned to FAU on April 10-12, 2015 to give a lecture on “A Path to Inner Peace: Freeing the Mind and Heart Through Spiritual Sobriety.” The School of Social Work sponsored the event and awarded CEUs.

May 2015
Several MSW Students received diversity scholarships (intended for outstanding students from underrepresented groups) to attend the annual American Family Therapy Academy (AFTA) conference: Marcia Sutton (1st year), Daniel Oria (2nd year), and Keanne Owens (2nd year).

JUNE 2015
New MSW Reception
On June 10th, the School of Social Work hosted a reception for newly accepted MSW students which is a great opportunity for our School’s new MSW’s to connect with their classmates and faculty.

MSW student, Deidre Ann Burns, was awarded the Adriana Castellano Memorial Scholarship, a Florida Association of Business Tax Officials Award administered by FAU’s Institute of Government. Deidre Ann is a part-time MSW student who will graduate from the program in Spring 2016.

The School of Social Work Office of Substance Abuse, Mental Health and Recovery Research was recently established to provide a venue for the interdisciplinary research and education for which our School provides leadership. We are grateful for the financial support we are receiving towards these activities, and anticipate expanded work in this area. This Office, and other activities that are occurring in the School, highlight the School’s growing aspirations for seeking funded research.

Faculty Publication Award
Dr. Juyoung Park’s publication “The Effect of Sit ‘N’ Fit Chair Yoga among community-dwelling older adults with osteoarthritis” received an American Society of Healthcare Publication Award, Bronze Category, Best Original Research, 2015.

Phi Alpha Induction Ceremony
On April 16, the Phi Alpha Honor Society inducted 108 members and recognized Renita Carter, School of Social Work Program Assistant, for her outstanding contribution to the School of Social Work.

Induction Ceremony
Over 500 people attended the Induction Ceremony on April 29th to welcome 141 new MSW graduates into the profession of social work. This is the largest graduating class since the MSW began in 2000.

The 2014-15 Year in Review

2014-15 Year in Review

Dr. Juyoung Park is accomplishing research and other prestigious scholarly activities that are occurring in the School. This Office, and other activities that are occurring in the School, highlight the School’s growing aspirations for seeking funded research.

Dr. Allan Barsky’s team visit was a success due in large part to the extraordinary leadership of Dr. Allan Barsky throughout the process.