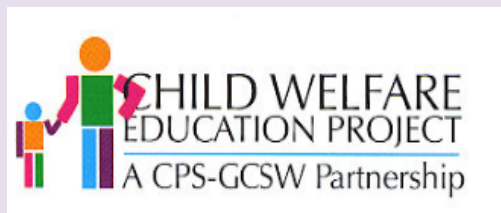


# Child Welfare Education Project

## CWEP NewsLine

**Volume 13 Issue 5**  
**April 2012**



CWEP Website: <http://www.sw.uh.edu/community/cwep/current-students/index.php>

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## CWEP Staff

**Dr. Monit Cheung**  
Principal Investigator  
Room 424 – 713.743.8107  
[mcheung@uh.edu](mailto:mcheung@uh.edu)

**Dr. Patrick Leung**  
Project Evaluator  
Room 412 – 713.743.8111  
[pleung@uh.edu](mailto:pleung@uh.edu)

**Brunessia Wilson**  
Student Affairs Coordinator  
Room 436 – 713.743.8147  
[bwilson3@uh.edu](mailto:bwilson3@uh.edu)

**Arnitia Walker**  
Director  
Room 432 – 713.743.1394  
[amitchell3@uh.edu](mailto:amitchell3@uh.edu)

**Ann McFarland**  
Stipend Coordinator  
Room 444 – 713.743.8145  
[amcfarland@uh.edu](mailto:amcfarland@uh.edu)

**Jackie Duron**  
LEO Mentor  
Doctoral Associate  
Room 420 – 713.743.8115  
[jfduron@mail.uh.edu](mailto:jfduron@mail.uh.edu)

**Kathy Clark**  
Field Coordinator  
Room 434 – 713.743.8157  
[klclark@uh.edu](mailto:klclark@uh.edu)

**Dr. Patricia Taylor**  
Curriculum Coordinator  
Room 438 – 713.743.8081  
[ptaylor2@uh.edu](mailto:ptaylor2@uh.edu)

**Stefanie Fisher**  
NewsLine Editor  
Graduate Associate  
Room 445 – 713.743.8141  
[stefaniedfisher@gmail.com](mailto:stefaniedfisher@gmail.com)

## *Director's Corner*

**Let's celebrate!!!!**

**May is a month full of celebrations. While some are celebrating the end of a semester, graduates are celebrating the successful completion of the MSW program. This is also a celebration of new beginnings. This is a time when some will embark on new careers. Others will utilize their knowledge gained at the GCSW to enhance their skills at their current places of employment. Congratulations to each and every one of you!**

**It is also a time for us to honor those who have helped our students achieve their educational goals. This includes the entire CWEP and GCSW staff, DFPS staff, field instructors, field agencies, preceptors, supervisors, managers, etc. Our hats go off to these incredible people. With their ongoing support we are able to produce high quality graduates who are committed to this great profession.**

*Arnitia Walker*

**CWEP Director**



# CWEP Graduate Spotlight



*Amanda Harris*

***Tell us a little bit about yourself:***

I'm currently an intern in the E0 Conservatorship unit at Northpoint. As one of only a few CWEP students who does not currently work for the agency, I'm not sure what specialty I'll land in after graduation. I do know I'll be thankful for the job!

In addition to my duties as an intern and grad student, I'm a singer in two elite Houston choruses- the Camerata, a small Brazilian ensemble, and the Houston Symphony Chorus, the vocal arm of the Houston Symphony. I'll also be getting married two days after graduation from the MSW program. My life is changing quickly in dramatic ways, but frankly, that's the way I like it. I just keep my eyes set on that Irish honeymoon...

***What motivated you to join the MSW program?:***

Like most social work students, I was called to the MSW program by an ill-defined desire to "help people". I'm a pragmatist, however, and understand that even the best of intentions are simply not good enough. In order to make substantive changes in the community, a person must be fortified with knowledge, skills, and a network of similarly motivated people. I've found those things in the GCSW, and can't wait to operationalize my social work education in the CPS setting.

***Tell us about your achievements in child welfare:***

As I am not yet a CPS employee, my greatest achievement in child welfare is a three-hour foster parent training on autism that I created and presented over the summer. My second greatest achievement is managing not to trip up any of the caseworkers I've been shadowing. Not making a fool of myself in court is a close third.

***Is there anything else that you would like to add?:***

The organizational climate of CPS is not one that inherently lends itself to the practice of social work. I look forward to the challenge of infusing the agency with the knowledge, vibrancy, and compassion our profession demands of us as social workers.

# CWEP Staff Spotlight



*Ashleigh Scinta*

***What is your current position with CWEP, and what prior experience(s) did you bring with you to this position?***

I am a Research Assistant (RA) for CWEP. I started my position as an RA in August of 2010 when I began the MSW program at the UH-GCSW. Many of the projects that I worked on or reviewed as part of my position focused on child sexual abuse and domestic violence. I have served as a volunteer at the Children's Assessment Center and have been a volunteer at the Houston Area Women's Center for the past 4 years on the domestic violence and sexual assault hotlines and with child witnesses to domestic violence and incest survivors. My volunteer experience in the fields of the child sexual abuse and domestic violence provided a strong background for me to enter into my current position with CWEP.

***What have been the greatest rewards working in the CWEP or CPS family?***

I am extremely appreciative of all my learning experiences as a member of the CWEP team. As a master's student, this position allowed me to have a high level of exposure and hands-on experiences with scholarly research and evaluation. As I will be pursuing my doctoral studies this Fall and plan to focus on domestic violence, child welfare, and reproductive health, my position as an RA through CWEP has enabled me to develop a strong foundation in research and insight into my substantive areas of interest. Most importantly, I have been able to create relationships with faculty members, such as Drs. Leung and Cheung, and other students who I count as mentors, future colleagues, and friends.

***What advice do you have for our CWEP students?***

Through my interactions with CWEP students, faculty, and staff, I have learned that CWEP is a direct reflection of the level of talent, commitment, and dedication of all of its members. Although CWEP students often have many obligations, I would strongly recommend that they attempt to invest as much of themselves as possible and maintain a high level of engagement and participation in the program. CWEP is a small, but extremely important, community in the GCSW. Whether it is the opportunity to attend a CWEP social event, be involved with an advisory committee, or develop an independent study to foster further growth in the field of child welfare, I would encourage CWEP students to capitalize on the rich resources available to them through the CWEP program, especially those offered through relationships with CWEP faculty and staff.

# Spotlighting CWEP Graduates



## *December 2011 Graduates:*

Mary Davis  
Shannon Manning  
Ashlee Marshall  
Christine Underwood

## *May 2012 Graduates:*

Alma Carillo  
Amanda Harris  
Loretta Manjarrez  
Tara Reed  
Melinda Rushing  
Diana Scroggins  
Margaret Grace Smith  
Stacy Thompson  
Jaclyn Young

## *Summer 2012 Graduate:*

Ana DeJesus

CONGRATULATIONS!

CONGRATULATIONS!



## *In Appreciation of Dr. Taylor*

For the last year, I have had the opportunity to work closely with Dr. Patricia Taylor (Trish) in various aspects of the national child trauma project. She has been committed, involved, and of tremendous value to me in the delivery of this project.

For example, she has--

- Participated in collaborative calls with others around the country regarding the delivery of the Core Concepts course;
- Co-taught the Core Concepts course with me last summer in July, 2011 and will teach it again with me in June, 2012;
- Provided consultation to me in challenges I have experienced with the project; and
- Most recently, offered to participate with me in interviewing applicants (16) for the child trauma project

We are also working together in the development of an article around the Trauma course and our presentation to the International Conference in Sweden was accepted. We have also submitted our work to CSWE for this year's conference and are awaiting notification of acceptance.

In addition, she has worked collaboratively with me in promoting greater content within our curriculum on the topic of trauma and helped to create the current Trauma & Social Work Course alongside a doctoral student.

The other day it occurred to me that I was so unbelievably indebted to Trish for her continued support and work with me on this project. I don't want her work, dedication and commitment to go unnoticed and thus, I am sharing this with all of you. Thank you for allowing Trish to play such a key role in this national project and to work with me in creating a trauma informed practice environment in our college.

Thank you Trish!

*Sandra Lopez*

# Child Sexual Abuse

*Best Practices  
for Interviewing  
and Treatment*

**Monit Cheung**

To read more about Dr. Monit Cheung's new book, please read her feature in The Daily Cougar at:

<http://thedailycougar.com/2012/04/09/prof-pens-social-work-handbook/>



**A GUIDE FOR CHILD WELFARE PROFESSIONALS,  
SCHOOL PERSONNEL, AND CHURCH REVIEW BOARDS**



**Information and materials for the  
“Child Welfare Trauma Training Toolkit”  
can be found at:**

<http://www.nctsnet.org/products/child-welfare-trauma-training-toolkit-2008>

**Congratulations!!!  
GCSW Student Association Officers  
2012 -2013**

CWEP Students:

**Christina Veillon – Co-President**

**Amber Riaz – Director of Outreach Communication**

**Mark Your Calendars!**





# “Celebrating CWEP”: Our Annual Event

All CWEP graduates will be recognized.

Two awards will be given to **CWEP Field Instructor of the Year** and **CPS Supervisor of the Year**.

**Dean Ira Colby** and **Mr. Scott Dixon** will present welcoming remarks.

**Date: Friday, May 4, 2012, 6-8pm**

**Venue: 2525 Murworth Dr., Houston, TX 77054, Room D-36**

You should have received an Evite for the event. If you did not receive an Evite, you may send an e-mail to [amitch7@central.uh.edu](mailto:amitch7@central.uh.edu) or [mcheung@uh.edu](mailto:mcheung@uh.edu)

## **Dinner will be served:**

Vegetables with Shrimps  
Fried Chicken Wings  
Broccoli with Beef  
Tofu Vegetables  
Vegetarian Rice Noodles  
Fried Rice  
Steamed Rice  
Cheese Cake  
Chocolate Mousse Cake

Can't wait to see you all there!!! Please RSVP before 5/1/2012  
Please reply with the number of your guests for us to prepare enough food.

## **Organizing Committee:**

Monit Cheung (Faculty), Arnitia Walker (CWEP Director),  
Dalen Dilieto, Amber Riaz, and Jamelle Gibbs (CWEP students),  
Becky Cole, Diana Sutton, and Will Walker (CWEP alumni)





### 2012 National Child Abuse Prevention Month Web Section Launches

Awareness about child abuse and neglect strengthens communities and builds support for children and families in the effort to prevent child abuse. Learn how you can raise awareness during National Child Abuse Prevention Month in April and throughout the year through the 2012 Prevention Month web section now live on the Information Gateway website.

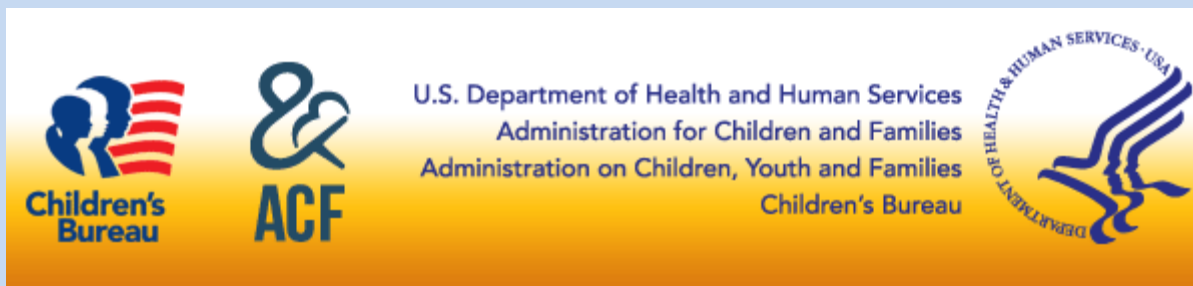
The section features:

- *Preventing Child Maltreatment and Promoting Child Well-Being: Network to Action 2012 Resource Guide*
- Tip sheets addressing particular parenting concerns or questions—in English and Spanish—to distribute to parents and caregivers
- A calendar for April with activities relating to the Six Protective Factors
- Prevention Month widgets to post on your website

<http://www.childwelfare.gov/preventing/preventionmonth>

Your feedback is important to us! Please take the survey on the Prevention Month web section and give us your input. For more information on Prevention Month, contact Child Welfare Information Gateway at [1.800.394.3366](tel:18003943366) or [info@childwelfare.gov](mailto:info@childwelfare.gov).

The 18th National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect is April 16-20, 2012 in Washington, D.C. For more information and to register, visit <http://www.pal-tech.com/web/OCAN/index.cfm?p=5>



## NASW/Texas 2012 State Conference

**Saturday - Monday, September 8-10, 2012**

**The Westin Galleria, Houston, TX**

# Title IV-E National Roundtable Conference

May 29 - June 1, 2012  
Galveston, Texas

[http://www.uhd.edu/academic/colleges/humanities/sos/family\\_strengths/](http://www.uhd.edu/academic/colleges/humanities/sos/family_strengths/)

Sponsored by the University of Houston-Downtown's Center for Family Strengths and the University of Houston's Graduate College of Social Work, this conference builds on the 14 year history of the IV- E Roundtable sponsored by the Center for Children & Families at Texas State University-San Marcos.

The conference will focus on knowledge transfer for best practices for major IV- E topics including:

- Field Placements for IV- E
- Administration and Contract Issues
- Child Welfare Curriculum and Courses
- Recruitment, Retention and Employment
- Research and Evaluation

## Conference Registration

-**Early-bird Registration:** \$275.00 (Expires May 11, 2012)

-**Regular Registration:** \$325.00 (After May 11, 2012)

- [Registration](#) can be completed online.
- Please make checks payable to UH-D
- ***\*Contract education hours are available for no additional fee.***



## Location & Accommodations

(Reservations and payment paid by attendee)

-Galveston is located 45 miles south of Houston Hobby Airport.

-Rooms are \$101.00 at the [Moody Gardens Resort Hotel](#), Galveston.



# CWEP Calendar of Events

(Also available via [GCSW website](#))

## Spring 2012

### April

- 6th - Field Applications Due For Summer/Fall 2012
- 13th - GCSW/ Licensing Prep Class (**Spring Graduates Only**)\*
- 30<sup>th</sup> - Field Grade Evaluations Due
- 30<sup>th</sup> - Last Day of Classes

### May

- 2<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> - Final Examination Period
- 4<sup>th</sup> - GCSW/ Licensing Prep Class (**Spring Graduates Only**)
- 4<sup>th</sup> - **CELEBRATING CWEP** (at Murworth CPS Office, Rm D36B from 6 pm-8 pm)
- 9<sup>th</sup> - Field Preference Forms for Concentration Year Summer/Fall Placements Due
- 11<sup>th</sup> - **CONVOCATION** (1pm at Cullen Auditorium)

## Summer 2012

### May

- 28<sup>th</sup> - **MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY**
- 29<sup>th</sup> -1st - Title IV-E child welfare roundtable conference in Galveston, TX (see the announcement on last page)

### June

- 4<sup>TH</sup> - **Classes Begin for Summer**
- TBA - GCSW/ Licensing Prep Class
- 8<sup>th</sup> - New Applicant's Deadline to turn in CWEP Application for Fall 2012
- 18<sup>th</sup> - Field Educational Contracts Due

### August

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Field Grades Due

\*If you take the Licensing Prep Course (Free for the graduates), you will also take the online prep exam designed by the ASWB (the licensing exam board), **free** at GCSW computer lab. Ask Dr. Cheung for details.

\*\*If you need academic assistance, please contact Jackie Duron, LCSW, our own GCSW doctoral student who volunteers her time to be your Learning Enhancement Opportunity (LEO) mentor. Learn more about it at <http://www.sw.uh.edu/community/cwep/current-students/index.php> (under "The LEO Mentor Program"). Email Dr. Cheung at [mcheung@uh.edu](mailto:mcheung@uh.edu) for details.