



International Network for School Social Work

<http://internationalnetwork-schoolsocialwork.htmlplanet.com>

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Fourth International School Social Work Conference

Massey University will soon announce details of the Fourth International School Social Work Conference to be held in Wellington, New Zealand from 14 to 17 April 2009. For information, contact Professor Michael Belgrave, School of Social and Cultural Studies, Massey University, m.p.belgrave@massey.ac.nz. A web site will soon be available to facilitate submitting proposals for 20-minute presentations. The International Network newsletter will continue to provide information.

School Social Work in Nigeria?

“Lagos State Government has identified economic recession, negative changes in social and cultural values, coupled with poor life-style within the family circle as some of the factors contributing to the falling standard of education in the state. Addressing participants during a one-day workshop on the “Complementary role of school social work in the educational setting,” the Deputy Governor, Mrs. Adebisi Sosan, said these pathetic developments have increased the number of students at risk in the schools. Sosan, who was represented by the Special Adviser to the Governor on Youth, Sports and Social Development, Dr. Dolapo Badru, stated that risk factors ranging from pre-natal, biological to poor environmental conditions have all combined to affect many of the students. As a result of these, she said, many of the students were either not doing well academically, have become cult members or have even dropped out of school. She disclosed that the state government would, as a matter of deliberate policy extend school social work to educational institutions in order to curb the hydra-headed social problems affecting the students in their academic work. “School social work would be given a boost and prominence by expanding the service with adequate financial, man and material resources.” According to her, school social work would help the school to carry out its teaching and learning in ways that contribute to knowledge with the main objective of grooming the leaders of tomorrow for tomorrow’s challenges.”

Editor:

This article appeared in AllAfrica.com. It seems to promise school social work services. We do not have any other information about school social work in Nigeria; so if anyone has a lead, please let me know.

The School Social Work literature continues to grow

Textbooks, brochures, journals and newsletters make school social work better known and understood. Here are some of the publications that have appeared in recent years.

School Social Worker. This brochure on careers in special education for school social workers is available at <http://www.special-ed-careers.org/pdf/socwork.pdf>. It features Katie Hart, a school social worker in the US.

School Social Work: A Life Changing Career. <http://www.sswaa.org/brochures/Blue/Career.pdf>. This is a colorful, informative brochure by SSWAA. It contains information about the role, services, educational requirements, certification and salaries of school social workers.

School Social Work text available in Korea

Professor Min-Sun Sung of the Catholic University of Korea, founding President of KSSSW (The Korean Society of School Social Work) and several colleagues have translated Dr. Paula Allen-Meares' 5th edition of Social Work Services in schools into Korean and published it in February 2008. With this long-awaited text book, it is expected to be able to teach a deepened connection between education and social work practice among students who have shown interest in school social work in Korea. Dr. Allen-Meares told her prospective readers in her congratulatory message: "I am pleased that social work educators and students consider school social work a global topic. In utilizing this text, please keep in mind that it was written for the American school system, including applicable American state and federal laws and policies. Thus it is important for those who use this book, educators and students alike, to re-contextualize the material given the distinctive laws, culture, policy, and practices in Korea".

Social Work Services in Schools (5th Edition) by Paula Allen-Meares 2006. Published by Allyn and Bacon. Dr. Allen-Meares has produced five editions of this standard school social work text since 1986.

Schulsozialarbeit. Eine Einführung by Karsten Speck 2007. Published by Reinhardt-Verlag, München. For both students and practitioners of school social work in Germany.

Qualität und Evaluation in der Schulsozialarbeit. Konzepte, Rahmenbedingungen und Wirkungen by Karsten Speck 2006. Published by VS Verlag, Wiesbaden.

School Social Work: Theory to Practice (Paperback) by Lynn Bye (Author), Michelle Alvarez (Author) 2006. Published by Wadsworth Publishing Company. Includes a chapter on school social work around the world that summarizes the development of school social work, the role in various countries, similarities and differences.

School Social Work: Practice, Policy, And Research (Paperback) by Robert T. Constable (Author), Carol Rippey Massat (Author), Shirley McDonald (Author), John P. Flynn (Author) 2006. Published by Lyceum Books.

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