This spring we celebrate the EWU Center for Aging Studies. Over the last 30 years Dr. Maria Hernandez-Peck has shaped the vision of creating a multidisciplinary approach to the study of aging into a reality that reaches beyond the classroom, embraces community partnerships, engages diversity, and attracts students from throughout the region. Many alumni and community partners have been touched by Dr. Peck’s dedication to aging, diversity and a life-long commitment to putting students first. Many EWU graduates are now part of the workforce shaping policies and services for our aging population. Our newsletter and annual spring reception focus attention on the Center for Aging and its leader, Dr. Peck.

Please join us on Friday, May 3 in the lobby of the Community Building in Spokane (35 West Main Street). Alumni, friends, faculty, and graduating MSW students will gather from 5 to 7 p.m. to focus on the Center and its many accomplishments. We look forward to hearing from former students whose lives and careers have been touched by Dr. Peck. Come to share stories as well as news about your work. We are proud to be hosting the reception with the School of Social & Behavioral Sciences and Social Work and the Center for Justice. Contact us with any questions.

The School of Social Work is exploring ways to better serve our graduates. We want to hear from you about how we might help you stay connected with former students and faculty, keep up with changes in the social work profession, network with colleagues, and reach across the generations of BASW and MSW graduates who share common values and experiences. Alumni, please send me a note about how we might better serve your needs. Are you interested in providing leadership to organize more alumni gatherings? Let me know! Contact me at mraske@ewu.edu. I look forward to hearing from you.

Martha Raske, Director and Chair
School of Social Work

DID YOU KNOW?

According to NASW News, the U.S. Administration on Aging predicts that by 2030, 70 million people in the U.S. will be over age 65. Currently there are only 30,000 licensed social workers specializing in gerontology.

CONTACT US

Change of address? Good news to share? We would love to hear from you! Carol Golden, School of Social Work 208 Senior Hall, Cheney, WA 99004 509.359.4264 • cgolden@ewu.edu www.ewu.edu/csbssw/programs/social-work.xml

DONATE TO SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Send checks to EWU Foundation, 102 Hargreaves Hall, Cheney, WA 99004. Make checks payable to EWU Foundation. On the memo line, write “Social Work Account”.


MAKING AN IMPACT

STUDENTS TRAVEL TO CHICAGO

Five very fortunate MSW/CWTAP students had the privilege of going to Chicago for the American Aging Conference, March 18 - 22. Each of the five students are doing their practicum in DSHS offices in Spokane and Wenatchee. This fantastic experience was made possible by a grant that was obtained by Dr. Maria Hernandez-Peck several years ago. Dr. Peck, the Director of Aging studies, generously invited the Children’s Administration students to participate in this opportunity due to the continual interfacing of child welfare and aging studies.
Continuing to take pride in her Washington roots, DR. BEVERLY BUCKELS is a true inspiration, making a distinguished role model for EWU’s School of Social Work. Now Dean of Behavioral Health at Loma Linda University, her work in mental health and disaster preparedness has drawn national attention. She has served as professor, department chair, vice president for academic science and technology, and dean. Dr. Buckel’s taught undergraduate and graduate courses across the social work curriculum and developed numerous courses such as Advanced Policy Analysis and Research Methods, Interventions with Persons with Serious and Persistent Mental Conditions and Global Psychiatric Care. She led in the transformation of mental health curriculum throughout California by infusing recovery and anti-stigma content, contributions later used by the Council on Social Work Education as standards for the review of mental health curricula. She helped found the International Behavioral Health Trauma team which coordinated response to disasters in over 30 countries around the world, including the 2005 tsunami, Hurricane Katrina, wildfires in Pakistan, China and Haiti, mudslides in Central and South America, California wildfires, incidences of industrial violence and the aftermath of civil war in the Cote D’Ivoire in Africa. Dr. Buckel’s published works cover mental curriculum development, stigma and discrimination experience by persons with mental illness, bio-psycho-spiritual geriatric care management, ethnic sensitive learning, cross cultural curriculum development, pregnancy in the workplace and the application of information technology to social work education. We are proud of this distinguished alumna.

Next Step
The Aging Studies Program will continue under the leadership of Dr. Kim Stansbury, Dr. Kim has a PhD in Gerontology, MSW in Social Work, BS in Psychology, & BS Criminal Justice. The Aging Studies Program will continue under the leadership of Dr. Kim Stansbury. Dr. Kim has a PhD in Gerontology, MSW in Social Work, BS in Psychology, & BS Criminal Justice.

HIGHLIGHTS IN AGING SERVICES
Center for Aging Studies students learn by applying their knowledge and skills beyond the classroom. Here are a few examples:

Long Term Care Ombudsman Program
The Long Term Care Ombudsman Program, a federally-mandated program that advocates for the rights of persons living in long term care facilities. Center for Aging Studies students are certified as Washington State Long Term Care Ombudsmen and conduct regular visits with residents of long term care facilities, assisting them with concerns about their families, about their needs for care, and personal financial matters. One student reported, “During my internship with the Ombudsman program, I’ve learned a multitude of lessons, met many wonderful people and gained skills that will help me as I work toward a Master’s degree in Social Work.” Another stated, “Anyone interested in working with older adults stands to gain some wonderful ‘hands on’ experience with this program. I strongly urge you to consider this opportunity. If you plan on working with older adults, you’d be lucky to have this program as your practicum site.” (Amanda DeBieker – Senior, Psych BA, EWU)

Leadership Academy
The American Society on Aging (ASA) hosts the ASA Leadership Academy for MSW students wishing to take the next step forward in evolving their career. The cornerstone of the program is the four days the class is together in Chicago during the Aging in America Conference. This is a three-month leadership development program experience which is complemented with additional online tools, webinars, and an individualized development plan, lectures by recognized leaders, facilitated dialogues, extensive networking opportunities, and selected leadership literature. The program components are skillfully designed to prepare participants to be among the next generation of leaders in the field of aging. The program begins in February and continues through May, with most activities happening at the Aging in America Conference.

Adult Day Health Center
Providence Adult Day Health (PADH) provides an opportunity for social work, aging studies students as well as occupational and speech therapy students to work with a diverse population. This population presents a variety of issues and problems that challenge the staff and students. With clients ages ranging from 23 to 97 years, from fully cognizant to mild dementia, from physically healthy to advance disabilities, intern have an opportunity to develop skills and a solid foundation for the future in their disciplines. The agency offers case management, medical intervention, rehabilitation services, therapies and respite. Providing a compassionate environment where clients, caregivers, staff and student work together is one of the main focuses of PADH.

Outreach Native America: Grandparents raising Grandkids
The Department of Children and Family services is currently, on a regular basis, placing children at risk in the care of their grandparents. This is a rather new development that challenges social workers in both aging and children services to create strategies, resources and intervention’s to support these families.

Outreach to Alaska Natives/American Indians
The Center for Studies In Aging has partnered with The National Indian Council on Aging to recruit Alaska Native/American Indian students to the field of aging and long term care. To that end, educational opportunities available through our program were highlighted in presentations given at recent conferences of The National Indian Education Association and The National Indian Council on Aging.

HIGHLIGHTS IN AGING SERVICES
Center for Aging Studies students learn by applying their knowledge and skills beyond the classroom. Here are a few examples:

Long Term Care Ombudsman Program
The Long Term Care Ombudsman Program, a federally-mandated program that advocates for the rights of persons living in long term care facilities. Center for Aging Studies students are certified as Washington State Long Term Care Ombudsmen and conduct regular visits with residents of long term care facilities, assisting them with concerns about their families, about their needs for care, and personal financial matters. One student reported, “During my internship with the Ombudsman program, I’ve learned a multitude of lessons, met many wonderful people and gained skills that will help me as I work toward a Master’s degree in Social Work.” Another stated, “Anyone interested in working with older adults stands to gain some wonderful ‘hands on’ experience with this program. I strongly urge you to consider this opportunity. If you plan on working with older adults, you’d be lucky to have this program as your practicum site.” (Amanda DeBieker – Senior, Psych BA, EWU)

Leadership Academy
The American Society on Aging (ASA) hosts the ASA Leadership Academy for MSW students wishing to take the next step forward in evolving their career. The cornerstone of the program is the four days the class is together in Chicago during the Aging in America Conference. This is a three-month leadership development program experience which is complemented with additional online tools, webinars, and an individualized development plan, lectures by recognized leaders, facilitated dialogues, extensive networking opportunities, and selected leadership literature. The program components are skillfully designed to prepare participants to be among the next generation of leaders in the field of aging. The program begins in February and continues through May, with most activities happening at the Aging in America Conference.

Adult Day Health Center
Providence Adult Day Health (PADH) provides an opportunity for social work, aging studies students as well as occupational and speech therapy students to work with a diverse population. This population presents a variety of issues and problems that challenge the staff and students. With clients ages ranging from 23 to 97 years, from fully cognizant to mild dementia, from physically healthy to advance disabilities, intern have an opportunity to develop skills and a solid foundation for the future in their disciplines. The agency offers case management, medical intervention, rehabilitation services, therapies and respite. Providing a compassionate environment where clients, caregivers, staff and student work together is one of the main focuses of PADH.

Outreach Native America: Grandparents raising Grandkids
The Department of Children and Family services is currently, on a regular basis, placing children at risk in the care of their grandparents. This is a rather new development that challenges social workers in both aging and children services to create strategies, resources and intervention’s to support these families.

Outreach to Alaska Natives/American Indians
The Center for Studies In Aging has partnered with The National Indian Council on Aging to recruit Alaska Native/American Indian students to the field of aging and long term care. To that end, educational opportunities available through our program were highlighted in presentations given at recent conferences of The National Indian Education Association and The National Indian Council on Aging.

Next Step
The Aging Studies Program will continue under the leadership of Dr. Kim Stansbury, Dr. Kim has a PhD in Gerontology, MSW in Social Work, BS in Psychology, & BS Criminal Justice.