



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MELBOURNE

Newsletter

Department of Social Work

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Welcome to the MSW Class of 2018

New MSW students were welcomed with drinks at Orientation on Monday 6 February, thanks to our Alumni Association. This year we have a greatly increased percentage of international students, who now make up more than one third of the new cohort (35 per cent of our total intake). As in past years, we have fewer men than women, and this year they constitute 18 per cent of the cohort.

The Professional Officer of the Victorian Branch of the AASW, Anneke Farrington, invited students to become student members of the professional association and the President of the Social Work Association of Graduate Students (SWAGS) also extended an invitation to join the student body.

Research Higher Degree Completion

We wish to congratulate Alex Phleban who has had his thesis titled 'An evaluation of an assertive community linkage intervention for patients presenting to the Sunshine Hospital Emergency Department with suicidal behaviours' passed by examiners, and hence awarded a Master of Advanced Social Work degree. We are also delighted that Caroline Lambert has had her thesis titled 'Exploring medical students' perceptions and experiences of bullying among hospital - based doctors' passed by examiners, and fulfilling the requirements to be awarded a PhD degree.

Opportunities and Challenges for Professional Online Education -Lessons from Abroad

Professor Paul Freddolino (Michigan State University) gave a talk on Tuesday 27 February on current patterns in online and blended education programs in the United State and Europe. He presented emerging evidence suggesting that successful programs combine elements of in-person and online learning, and provide students with flexibility and multiple options in completing degree requirements.



Professor Paul Freddolino (Michigan State University)

Child protection in South Asian Countries

In 2017, Professor Marie Connolly and Professor Ilan Katz from the Social Policy Research Centre (UNSW), conducted an international review of child protection systems in South Asia, including Bhutan, Nepal, Pakistan and the Maldives.

Commissioned by UNICEF, an important aim of the study was to assess progress and explore potential improvements that will help to promote care and safety of children. The study extends Marie and Ilan's work in the area of typology building in child protection.

Pictured right: Research Nepalese Style



International Practice Research Conference Melbourne 25-27 May 2020

We are delighted that the Practice and Research Conference in 2020 will be coming to Melbourne. In hosting this conference our aim is to bring together practice researchers to collaborate, innovate, and celebrate practice research.

Gathering together at an international conference such as this presents us with many opportunities to deepen understanding, build new knowledge, and contribute to policies and practices that respond to our most pressing social concerns. We look forward to welcoming you to the University of Melbourne!

You can register for conference up- dates at [https:// app.smartsheet.com/b/form?EQBCT=e3d0e495a3de4e668cc155490f5ce609](https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form?EQBCT=e3d0e495a3de4e668cc155490f5ce609)

Save the Date -Professional Development Breakfast

Given the success of last year's breakfast, we will be hosting another breakfast at the Woodward Centre on Tuesday 19 June, focussing on youth justice.

Professor Gale Burford (University of Vermont) and Julie Edwards (Jesuit Social Services) will be our guest speakers. We will give further details in our next Newsletter.

Stay in touch



<http://www.socialwork.unimelb.edu.a>