Watch the September/October 2023 Monthly Video & News Update

Video edited and produced by Douglas Gutierrez

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Happy Hispanic Heritage Month!

In September, The School of Social Work recognized Hispanic Heritage Month. Hispanic Heritage Month is from September 15th to October 15th every year.

The observation of Hispanic Heritage Month started in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage (Week) under President Lyndon Johnson and was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period starting on September 15 and ending on October 15.

It was enacted into law on August 17, 1988, on the approval of Public Law 100-402.

September 15 is a significant date because it commemorates the anniversary of independence for multiple Latin American countries such as, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on September 16 and September 18.

Beloved adjunct professor for 22 years, state board member dies

By Antwan C. Williams

A longtime University of Texas at Arlington School of Social Work adjunct assistant professor and Tarrant County victim services advocate died earlier this week.

Derrelynn Perryman, who was appointed in 2015 by Texas Governor Greg Abbott to a six-year term on the Texas Board of Criminal Justice, was found dead in her home.
Former dean receives prestigious award

By Jaelon Jackson

A social work professor and former dean has been named a National Association of Social Workers Pioneer.

Dr. Scott Ryan, who stepped down in May after 14 years as the School of Work dean received notification this summer. Ryan served as dean from 2009 to 2023. He has now resumed his role as a faculty member and researcher.

Sleep knowledge, deprivation in social work students

By Jaelon Jackson

Sleepless nights have long been a part of the college experience, but a recent study by a University of Texas at Arlington professor and sleep researcher has brought to light a pressing issue among social work students: chronic sleep deprivation.

Dr. Christine Spadola’s recent research represents the first in-depth study of sleep and sleep beliefs among social work students. Findings highlight important sleep knowledge gaps and the need for improved sleep education in social work programs.
Study Abroad, adjunct professor donates funding

By Jaelon Jackson

Faculty and students completed a Study Abroad Trip to Kenya, organized by UTA's School of Social Work. The participants, three faculty members and 13 UTA students from various disciplines, were in Kenya June 11 through July 2.

Upcoming SSW Events

- **October 26-29** SSW Presentations at 69th CSWE APM in Atlanta, Georgia
- **October 28** 4th Annual SSW Fall Harvest, Food Giveaway & Trunk-or-Treat 2023
- **November 11** UTA Homecoming 2023: School of Social Work Pre-Game Party
- **November 17** SSW Mini Conference & Social Work Career Day Expo
- **December 15** Fall Celebration of Excellence

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