



#### **MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK**



I acknowledge the grave harm brought by colonialism to this land, especially the systematic attempts to erase indigenous and African identities through violence, slavery and racist segregation laws.



#### SOCIAL JUSTICE SPOTLIGHT

UTA MSW PROGRAM

# WANTED: YOUR INPUT! you matter.



How could we have made your transition smoother?

DR. P WANTS TO KNOW
YOUR THOUGHTS
ABOUT THE MSW
ORIENTATION
PROCESS!

SCHEDULE AN INTERVIEW ON TEAMS WITH HER INTERN MEGHAN HERE TO GIVE YOUR FEEDBACK.

#### Advocate for Medicaid Expansion!

UTA's Social Work student body's support and action is needed in advocating for Medicaid expansion this Texas legislative s ession. As Texas is one of only twelve states that has not expanded Medicaid, Texas social workers must be involved in the fight for Medicaid expansion. More than 5 million Texans live without access to health care and Medicaid expansion will be a lifeline to the more than 2.2 million Texans who will gain access with expansion. Medicaid Expansion will only pass this session with bold bipartisan leadership during this ongoing public health crisis. Representative Angie Chen Button (R, Texas HD 112) has expressed interest in getting involved in Medicaid expansion and your help is needed to convince her to become a champion for expansion this session! Check out the Texas Social Workers for Medicaid Expansion Toolkit so that you can take a ctionable steps towards healthcare justice in our state (such as tweeting or writing a letter or email to Rep. Chen Button). All of the tools, including talking points, background information, and resources are included in the toolkit.

## WRITE YOUR REPS TAKE ACTION!

SEND YOUR REP. AND SENATOR A LETTER URGING THEM TO EXPAND MEDICAID THIS #TXLEGE SESSION!

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page 1.....Social Justice Spotlight

Page 2......Get Support, Winter Storm Recovery, Student Organization Spotlight, You Matter

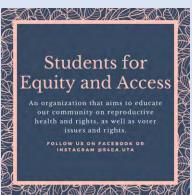
Page 3......Advising, Field Placements, Graduation

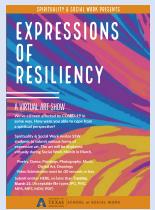
Page 4......Virtual Events of the Week

Page 5.....Research, Funding, Stay Safe

Page 6..... Resources

### STUDENT ORGANIZATION SPOTLIGHT







#### **Rental Assistance**

Rental assistance is available for up to 6 months through Arlington Housing Authority for Arlington residents who are behind on their rent due to the pandemic if they meet certain criteria such as income, need is directly related to the pandemic, currently behind on rent, and a few others. The application is at <a href="https://www.arlingtonhousing.us">www.arlingtonhousing.us</a> and funding IS still available for the program.



Check out UTA's on-demand and live classes like HIIT the Deck, Mixxed Fit, Zumba, NASA Nap, Yoga, and Sit & Stretch:







For more Mavs Hour info please e-mail: <u>Chantinia Chansler</u>

#### WINTER STORM RECOVERY

- Students affected by the recent winter storm may be eligible for UTA's Emergency Assistance Fund. Those experiencing a temporary financial hardship resulting from this disaster can request a one-time award of up to \$500 to cover related expenses. Find more info here.
- Apply for assistance from **FEMA** here.
- Find Arlington storm recovery resources <u>here</u>.
- Find Fort Worth storm recovery resources here.



#### **New Beginnings**

Prior to the break I was asked what I had planned that would be just for myself while a way from school for the week. I didn't have an answer. And that troubled me. I thought to myself, "Do I really not know what I need? And if not, how do I figure it out?"

Not knowing what I needed, I focused on what I didn't need. I didn't need more emails, Teams obligations, or online meetings. I didn't need more outside chatter, at least not until I got back in touch with myself. So, I planned to unplug from the virtual world.

Over the next few days, sitting in the relatively quiet mind space that comes from a digital disconnect, I realized how tired I was and have been for some time now - when I am this tired, I find that time in nature, laying in the sun is a great way to rest and recharge. After many days where I did little more than just lay in the sun, I was overcome with feelings of just how hard this Covid calendar year has been. It has changed and challenged so much in my life that seem to be positive and protective factors. Virtual school, work, meetings, meetups, friend time, hangouts, and conversations are no replacement for the real thing... Ugh!... But there was something else I was struck by during my quiet time in nature, something that was recharging me: it's Spring!

Recently, I was in a Teams chat with graduate student leader Denise Draper, and she said, "Spring is a great time to begin something new as it aligns with the natural cycle of growth and new beginnings." Yes! That's exactly right! And that was exactly what was working in me.

Thinking about this great symbol from nature, I realize that I have been fighting what I cannot change. While I cannot change these circumstances, I can change my response to them. I can grow. I am growing. And so are you! And the more intentional you are the more meaningful and useful your growth may be.

Where could you use a new beginning, a fresh start? How might you be able to begin again after returning from Spring Break? How might you be ready to grow? What do you want to do, and how do you want to do it? This is the perfect time for something new!

This week, this season, consider your new beginnings and what growth you want to realize - whether that's in school, work, relationships, or a new path on your own life journey - and tend to that every day. Life is blossoming all around you; it's only natural that it blossom within you too... Here's to new beginnings ©

Craix Keaton, MSW | Doctoral Student | Adjunct Professor



If you like You Matter posts and want to explore them more deeply, please consider joining us for a Wounded Healers meeting. You can find us on Teams!



#### ADVISING

- Students will be able to view the summer class schedule on MyMav starting April 1..
- Summer class registration opens April 5th.



We've heard from you that many of you are interested in learning more. Stay tuned as we are developing a guide with the different paths to the LCDC that will be shared in this newsletter at a future time.

Don't need a full advising appointment but have general questions?
 Join your advisor for their weekly Power Hour!

Toy Howard Monday 10-11 Click here to join the meeting

Valerie Adame Tuesday 11-12 Click here to join the meeting

Maresia Davis Wednesday 11-12 Click here to join the meeting

Cleondria Marable Thursday 11-12 Click here to join the meeting

#### GRADUATION

- The deadline to apply to graduate in May passed on March 1. To apply late, contact your advisor. (There is a \$60 late fee.) All students planning to graduate this spring must apply to graduate using MyMav. You must apply to graduate regardless of whether you will walk at a commencement ceremony. Applying to graduate is necessary to have your degree conferred AND in order to receive your diploma. Fee is \$40. In-person, virtual commencement programs planned for May
  - UT Arlington will host in-person commencement ceremonies at Globe Life Field from May 13-16 to celebrate its spring 2021 and all 2020 graduates, while preserving virtual commencement ceremonies for those who prefer an online celebration. The spring commencement exercises will mark the first time UTA has hosted in-person ceremonies since December 2019, as all 2020 ceremonies were canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - All 2020 and spring 2021 graduates should RSVP with their intention to participate in an in-person or virtual commencement ceremony. To do so, they should register with MarchingOrder using their UTA student email address.
    (Although the deadline of 3/17 has already passed, students are still able to register via this form).
- Graduation Honor Cords for NASW Student Members
  - The North Central Texas Fort Worth Area Branch of the NASW Texas Chapter would like to gift a graduation honor cord to each graduating student who is a member of the Fort Worth Area branch or who is graduating from a university located within the Fort Worth Area branch. Please complete this online form to request your honor cord by Wednesday, March 31, 2021: https://forms.gle/FiRaE5eseZgUDAKf6
  - If you are not yet an NASW member and would like a graduation honor cord from NASW, please visit socialworkers.org/membership to join prior to completing this form. BSW & MSW Student Membership is \$60 for one



#### FIELD PLACEMENTS

- InPlace has a new URL! All students, agencies, and Field Instructors will need to use the new
  - **URL**. https://inplace.uta.edu/
- The InPlace fee is \$67 per year or \$130 for a lifetime.
   Each student will need to plan to pay the InPlace fee on the first day of class for that semester they are starting field
- <u>InPlace Training</u> and <u>Logbook Training</u> can be found here!
- The <u>Spring Field Calendar</u> lists important dates for current field students, as well as summer field application dates.
- Summer Student Application is Open Feb. 15, 2021 Apr. 09, 2021. This is now updated on the Field website. Currently the Fall Field application is scheduled to open on April 12th Jun 4th. We will let you know if there are any changes to the Fall application.
- Field forms are available here!
- Field FAQ
- Spring 2021 Field Accommodations Q&A
- If you are having technical difficulties with InPlace please email <u>sswfield@uta.edu</u> and include a screenshot of the issue.

#### FIELD POWER HOURS

## This is an opportunity for you to check in and ask questions, similar to Office Hours for faculty!

- Foundation MSW
  - Field Advisor: Natalie Mangham
  - 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month, 3-4
  - Click here to join the meeting
- CAP & Children & Families
  - Field Advisor: Monica Brown
  - 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month, 3-4
  - Click here to join the meeting
- Mental Health
  - Field Advisor: Hector Ramos
  - 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month, 3-4
  - Click here to join the meeting
- Aging & Health
  - Field Advisor: Sharon Martin
  - 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month, 3:30-4
  - Click here to join the meeting



#### **Disability Awareness Month**

Friday, March 26, 12-1:30 pm—Ron Lucey speaking on "Universal Design and My Lived Experiences on the Front Lines of Accessibility"

(Executive Director of the Texas Governor's Committee on People with Disabilities) *Teams link & announcement forthcoming; contact Dr. Sarah Rose* (<u>srose@uta.edu</u>) or Mikila Salazar (<u>mikila.salazar@uta.edu</u>) with questions

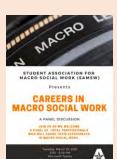
## Virtual Coffee & Tea with Dr. P



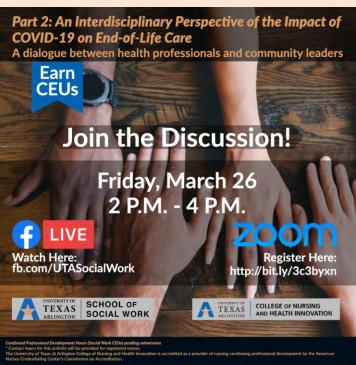
#### Wednesday, 2-3pm

Please drop in on Teams to visit with me. This is **your time** every week to share concerns, questions, suggestions, and triumphs. I look forward to seeing you! <u>Join Microsoft</u>
<u>Teams Meeting</u>

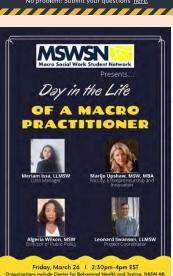














#### National Webinar on March 26th at 2:30 pm ET

For Social Work Month, MSWSN is sponsoring a special webinar, Day in the Life of a Macro Practitioner, on Friday, Mar. 26, 2:30pm-4pm ET.

Join us for a lively discussion with four experienced social workers on the benefits and challenges of being a macro practitioner.

We will email out the link to the webinar to all who register.

REGISTER HERE!





#### **Emergency Rental Assistance Program**

The Neighborhood Services Department is offering an Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) to Fort Worth residents who have been impacted by COVID-19. Click Here to Apply for Emergency Rental Assistance.

#### Write for diversity story contest

UTA Libraries encourages students, faculty, and staff to share their creativity and insight in Shifting Perspectives: A Short Story Diversity Contest. Write a fiction story on how the shifting of perspectives has allowed for a more inclusive and equitable viewpoint. The top prize is a \$500 gift card. Submissions are due by Sunday, April 18. Winners will be announced Friday, May 21, on World Diversity Day.

#### UTA is Offering Additional Financial Help to Students in Need

UTA plans to provide HEERF II Emergency Grants of \$1,000 for full-time students and \$500 for part-time students who meet federal eligibility criteria, and \$600 for full-time Accelerated Online students and \$300 for part-time Accelerated Online students. You can apply for this grant by logging into your MyMav account, clicking the 'MyForms' tile located on the UTA Student Homepage, and then clicking on the "Fill Out a New Form' button. Students may apply for assistance through <u>UTA's Emergency Assistance Fund</u>. Please visit our <u>HEERF II Frequently Asked Questions page</u> for more information.



Schoolof **Social Work** Scholarships **NOW OPEN!** 

Click here to apply by March 26!







Student Research **Opportunity Center** 

#### Social Work Course Guides

#### **SURVEY**

We want to know how social work students are involved with advocacy. CLICK HERE FOR SURVEY Thank you

The SPEAK Program

Policy Education Advocacy & Know





#### UTA continues protocols to protect campus community

In the interest of the health and safety of our community, UTA's current COVID-19 protocols and guidance will remain in effect through May 31, at which point they will be reassessed. This decision has been made after review of the latest Governor's Executive Order, which goes in effect Wednesday, March 10, and its direction that higher education institutions are to follow the most recent guidance issued by the Texas Education Agency. Read the announcement.

Dean Ryan's Statement on **COVID-19 Health Disparities**  **UTA's COVID Vaccine Resource Page** 

If you believe you have contracted COVID19, please type in 'COVID-19 Testing' and your zip code into the Texas Health and Human Services to find a testing location closest to you

Did you know? Any Texas resident can register for a Covid vaccine in any Texas County! Sign up in Tarrant County HERE or Dallas county HERE.

#### Have you tested positive? Had close contact with someone with Covid?

- 1. Complete mandatory reporting form
- 2. If needed, you can:
- Ask professors for deadline leniency
- Contact your USL, Program Director and/or Academic Advisor for additional support and guidance.



#### Face Covering Protocol:

To create the safest possible environment on campus, UTA implemented a mandatory face-covering protocol, effective until further notice. For more information, click here.

#### MANAGING STRESS AND ANXIETY DURING COVID-19 **UTA COUNSELING AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES (CAPS)**

THERAPIST ASSISTED ONLINE (TAO)

THRIVE APP

Visit TAOconnect.org





MAVS TALK 24HR CRISIS LINE

Call (817)272-8255



Visit uta.edu/caps for more information







#### **UTA Academic Calendar**

#### **Evidence-Based Practice Research Guide**



**Check Canvas** for the MavsUnite Page! To add please e-mail:

**Chantinia Chansler** 

#### SAR Center

(Formerly Office of Students with Disabilities)















#### Webinar Library

Isabella Hong, an MSW Alum, graciously compiled a list of webinar resources and a video going over the basic functioning of Teams to any who may need assistance. Special thanks to Jose B. Yerena, LCPAA, who has taken over updating the list on a weekly basis! Please note that it is necessary to ask your supervisor permission for these to count towards any required field hours. **Basic Function of Teams MSW Specialties Social Work Webinars List** 



#### **Rental Assistance Program**

The Tarrant County Rental Assistance Program assists residents who have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. For more details, email renthelp@tarrantcounty.com or call 817-850-7940.



#### **Emergency Assistance Fund**

UTA students with a temporary financial hardship resulting from a sudden emergency may apply for financial help

Get Microsoft 365, The Wall Street Journal and Other Apps FREE with your student email!

How to gain access to SSW writing resources: Advising & Student Success Canvas

#### **UTA/Tri-C Food Pantry Distributions**

Currently distributing groceries on Thursdays only, from 9-11:45 a.m. and 2-4:45 p.m. To receive these grocery bags you must send an email to utafoodpantry@gmail.com to request a pickup time. Include student name, last four digits of UTA ID, requested grocery pickup time, choice of vegetarian, chicken, or any meat groceries.

If you have any questions or content suggestion for the newsletter, please contact Meghan Sheridan: mls9929@mavs.uta.edu



UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS

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