Welcome to the new electronic newsletter for the alumni and friends of Smith College School for Social Work. This publication will be produced no more than once a month with intervals between publications being between four and six weeks. To submit an item to be considered for a future issue of InBrief, please send it to sswalum@email.smith.edu

October 12, 2007

90th Anniversary Celebration
Planning for the 90th anniversary of the School is well underway. Save the dates of July 17-20, 2008 and prepare to return for an extended weekend of programming and activities in celebration of 90 years of excellence in clinical social work. The schedule, hotel and accommodation information, initial programming and information on the keynote speaker is now available on the web at: http://www.smith.edu/ssw/alumni/90_main.php. We recommend bookmarking this website as it will be periodically updated as events and details become confirmed.

Alumni Volunteer Award
Nominations are being sought for the very first Alumni Volunteer Award to be given out at the 90th Anniversary Celebration. The purpose of the Alumni Volunteer Award is to recognize a Smith College School for Social Work alumna/us who has rendered distinguished service to the Alumni Association, current students and/or the School (excluding current faculty, staff and Board members.) More information and nominations forms can be accessed at: http://www.smith.edu/ssw/alumni/sswaa_vol_awards.php. The deadline for nominating alumni is October 31. Please take a moment and consider the alumni volunteers you know – is there someone who should be recognized?

Honorary Alumni Award
Beginning in 1997, the alumni of Smith College School for Social Work have honored individuals associated with the School who are not alumni by awarding the status of Honorary Alumna/us. The purpose of this award is to recognize those individuals who have rendered distinguished service to the Alumni Association and/or the School, or who have otherwise attained distinction deserving of recognition by the Smith College School for Social Work Alumni Association. More information and nominations forms can be accessed at: http://www.smith.edu/ssw/alumni/sswaa_honorary.php. The deadline for nominating alumni is October 31. Please take a moment now to consider a nomination.

Missing Skits
In planning for the 90th, a review of skits that are in the College Archives was performed. It has been determined that the following years have been preserved: 1983-1985, 1987, 1990, 1992-1998. If you have a video tape skits from missing years and are willing to provide a copy to the School, please contact us at sswalum@email.smith.edu. We do consider these archival records of the SSW, because they provide evidence of the activities of the School and are rich in its history.
The Fallout of Combat Trauma
Q & A with Kathryn Basham, School for Social Work

Recent reports about mental health issues among troops – including one by the Office of the U.S. Army Surgeon General on soldiers deployed to Iraq – reveal serious psychological problems. Smith School for Social Work Professor Kathryn Basham reflected on the subject based on what she has learned through her own research.

Please see http://www.smith.edu/news/2006-07/KathrynBashamQ&A.php for the full article.

Smith SSW Alumni List Serves Now Available in Three Regions

Regions, I (New England), II (NY, NJ and Eastern PA) and IV (Midwest) now have active electronic discussion groups. Alumni in these respective regions who have not received an email from either the School or their moderator inviting them to join the group may ask to be invited into the list server by sending one email to both the moderator and the School at sswalum@email.smith.edu. These list serves are a way of bringing Smith SSW alumni together, sharing information, getting advice and referrals, networking and much more. Join today! You must be an alumna/us of Smith to join, so please include your name, class year and address so that your alumni status can be verified. Once your alumni status has been confirmed the moderator will send you an invitation with simple instructions on how to join. Moderators are as follows:

- New England: Carol Fizer, carolfizer@aol.com;
- NY, NJ and Eastern PA: Susie Greenebaum, sggreenbaum@gmail.com; and
- Midwest: Merrilee Atkins, matkins@3001.us.

Advocate for Loan Forgiveness

SSW students graduate today with an average debt of $43,000. More and more advocacy for loan forgiveness for social work and similar underpaid service professions has been promoted in state governments. Dean Jacobs recently testified at the Massachusetts State House to show support for such a measure in that state. Advocate for your profession and request your representatives to do the same. A document listing state-by-state information on the various states regarding Loan Forgiveness Programs can be found on the School website at http://www.smith.edu/ssw/oas/documents/Loan Forgiveness Programs State-by-State.doc

Faculty Search

The School is in the process of searching for an Assistant Professor in Clinical Practice. We are particularly interested in candidates with a knowledge base in the following populations/areas of study: Latino populations, children and adolescents, gerontology, addictions, vulnerable and marginalized groups, and cross-cultural, cross racial and cross-ethnic theory and practice. We are actively doing outreach and will be meeting with people at CSWE. Send inquiries or nominations to Susan Donner, Chair of the Search, sdonner@email.smith.edu.

Council for Social Work Education - Alumni Reception

Dean Carolyn Jacobs and the Faculty of the Smith College School for Social Work invite you to a Celebration Reception at the Annual Program Meeting of the Council on Social Work Education on Monday, October 29, 2007 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. The event will be at the Hilton San Francisco, Union Square 5 & 6, 333 O’Farrell Street, San Francisco, CA 94102. Affirmative RSVP only: Jensey Graham 413-585-7977 - or - swdean@email.smith.edu
InDepth

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