Issue #13 Whiringa-ā-nuku/ October/ 2013

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- Continuing Professional Development
- Pre-Assessment Workshop Contacts
- Social Work Education
- Social Work Digital Resources
- PODSocs: Podcasts for Social Workers
The 2013 elections have now been finalised and I welcome Karin Brown, Simon Lowe and Anaru Gray onto the ANZASW Board. Also congratulations go to Bella Wikaira and James Makowharemahihi on being re-elected to the Board.

Board members who have stood down over the course of 2013 are acknowledged and thanked for their many contributions to the Board and ANZASW. These Board members are John Dunlop, Tauha Te Kani, Paula Grooby, John White and Andrew Lynch.

Thanks also go to the employers of Board members. Many employers are highly supportive of staff being involved with the ANZASW Board. Support from employers allows staff to contribute to the development of ANZASW and supports the profession of social work.

National Office and Brogan Taie in particular has been developing ANZASW submissions for:

- Victims Orders Against Violent Offenders Bill
- Funding of Specialist Sexual Violence Social Services
- The Inquiry into engaging parents in the education of their children
- The Vulnerable Children’s Bill

These are significant pieces of work that enable social workers to be able to have a voice and potentially influence the direction of policy development. Members are encouraged to participate in the development of submissions by responding to requests for information.

Minister Paula Bennett (Christchurch Press 2 October 2013) indicated that NGO’s could not be fully Government funded as “by definition that would mean they’d cease to be a non-government organisation”. NGOs rely on a wide range of funding to deliver a wide range of essential services within the community. However where a Government Department is purchasing a service from an NGO there is a responsibility to fully fund the service being purchased. This in no way detracts from the fact that the organisation is a non-governmental organisation. Funds raised from charitable and philanthropic sources allow NGOs to add value to the services they provide and to provide additional services that sit outside those purchased by the State. This can only be a positive thing for the family, whanau and communities supported by NGO’s. It is no longer ethical or appropriate for the State to purchase services, often for highly complex services targeting vulnerable families, aimed at supporting the work of Government then partially funding the service. This approach serves to stifle the ability of NGOs to be innovative and to deliver truly preventive early intervention services that support families to achieve sustainable wellbeing.

Thanks go to AIL of New Zealand and in particular Mario Soljan, for sponsoring the prize for the Young Social Workers Survey participants draw. Alexandra was presented with the Apple i-Pod at the recent meeting hosted in South Auckland.

The winner was Alexandra Franks from Auckland.

I have enjoyed the photos and stories from members’ activities of Social Workers Day 2013. It is a pleasure to know that social workers are taking the opportunity to celebrate the work they do. Thank you all for making the day a success round the country.
DHB Report: Regional Oncology Social Work Director for the Central Cancer Network

By Sue Wragg

Established in February 2013 for a 2 year period this 0.4 FTE position is designed to add value to all aspects of the Central Cancer Network’s Projects and Core business from a Social Work perspective. The Central Cancer Network is the network responsible for 7 of the lower North Island region’s focus on cancer care across the continuum, from a strategic focus with funding from the Ministry of Health.

Promoted by an active group of Oncology Social Workers who already meet regularly, the position was able to be created to focus on both specific projects as well as consultation to a range of polices and documents being created. It aligns with nursing positions already in place. It is an innovative position which it is hoped may serve as a template in the future for other allied professions in the cancer arena.

One of the main drivers in the planning is the Ministry of Health (MOH) Supportive Care for Adults with Cancer Guidelines 2010. Underlying this work is always a focus of looking at aspects of best practice of psychosocial care for cancer patients and their whanau. Keeping in line with current trends both internationally and locally and looking at developing consistency of patient care across the region. The core group of practitioners the Director focuses on engaging with is any Social Work practitioner working with clients with an oncology diagnosis. This is inclusive of
Social Workers working for the Central Regions DHB’s, those working in Hospice Care in the region and those working for NGO’s where Cancer is a primary focus including the Cancer Society.

Within the focus of the role work is being undertaken in a number of arenas. For example, how can we take the health competencies required for social work in health and take them further to up-skill those working in oncology? When polices and procedures are being developed around treatment, what are the key contact points where patients can benefit from referral and support? And do we, across the continuum in this resource-strapped environment, have our focus in the right parts of the pathways? Cancer Nurse Co-ordinators is a national drive and, as each DHB implements this system, part of the role is to look at how we can support these nursing positions and enter into them in the spirit of collaboration and sharing the knowledge that Social Work holds in this area, while also ensuring we are being utilised appropriately and from the strong professional base we come from.

One of the interesting learnings from this role being established is that often the most common issues arise when we are talking with different understanding of terminology and what that means for us in practice. With many coexisting terms and jargon out there how do we establish we are on the same pathway? With learnings from the attendance at the American Oncology Social Work Conference, how can we ensure our professional identity remains clear with the push and need for interdisciplinary work so we don’t lose our own sense of value?

If there is any work being undertaken in other regions not covered by the Central Region I would appreciate a sharing of information and dialogue about that, as I am a firm believer in not reinventing the wheel so any contact is welcome.

Sue Wragg, Regional Oncology Social Work Director can be contacted on sue.wragg@midcentraldhb.govt.nz CCN c/-PO Box 2056 Palmerston North New Zealand.

**ANZASW 2013-2014 Board Elections**

The results of the 2013-2014 elections are:

**Tangata Whenua elected members:**
- Bella Wikaira, Ngapuhi, Te Rarawa, Tamaki Makaurau (re-elected)
- Anaru Gray, Maniapoto, Te Arawa, Waikato

**General Membership elected members:**
- Karin Brown, Wellington
- Simon Lowe, Bay of Plenty
- James Makowharemahihi, Te Iwi Morehu, Te Atihaunui, Ngarauru, Nga Ruahine, Te Atiawa, Ngati, Te Whanganui-a-Tara (re-elected)

**The newly elected and re-elected Board members are welcomed to the ANZASW Board.**

The full Board is now:
- Jane Maidment, President, Canterbury
- Bella Wikaira, Ngapuhi, Te Rarawa, Tamaki Makaurau
- Anaru Gray, Maniapoto, Te Arawa, Waikato
- Merill Simmons Hansen, Bay of Plenty
Board members who have been farewelled over 2013 are:

- John Dunlop, Canterbury
- Tauha Te Kani, Tairawhiti
- Paula Grooby, Canterbury
- John White, Te Whanau o Rongokako
- Andrew Lynch, Auckland

*The outgoing Board members are thanked for their contribution to the Board and the Governance of ANZASW. Being a Board member is a significant time commitment, which is appreciated.*

**ANZASW 2013 Annual General Meeting**

The 2013 Annual General Meeting was scheduled for 17th October 2013 in Wellington.

Unfortunately there was not the required quorum present as specified in the Constitution:

13.5 Twenty members entitled to vote and physically present shall form a quorum of a General Meeting.

13.6 If within half-an-hour after the time for which the meeting has been called a quorum is not present, the meeting shall stand adjourned to a new time and place fixed by the members present, and of which all Association members shall be informed. If at such an adjournment a quorum is not present, those members present may transact the business for which the meeting is called.

In accordance with the Constitution the 2013 Annual General Meeting has been adjourned until:

**Time: 5.30 pm**
**Date: Thursday 12th December 2013.**

The Annual General Meeting will be held in South Auckland, venue to be confirmed.

The Agenda will include:

1. The Standing Orders on the Conduct of General Meetings
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of the 2012 Annual General Meeting
   3.1 Matters arising
4. Board Reports
5. Statement of Accounts
6. Election of the external Auditor
7. General Business:
   7.1 Life Membership, Kara Coombes
   7.2 Honoraria for the 2013 Calendar year
   7.3 Constitutional Changes
   7.4 Remit re Competency by Ross Kelly
Social Justice Committee

Nau Mai, Haere mai-

ANZASW Vision- All social work action creates and contributes to a socially just Aotearoa New Zealand.

The Board continues ongoing reflection and action as expressed in ANZASW vision (above).
We are excited by and support discussions amongst our members in regards their engagement for social justice either as individuals in your community, or activities you work in with others.

Background

ANZASW shares with you our members, the vision that all social work contributes to social justice. The Board, in consultation with the Social Justice advisory group, wishes to develop social justice around these two themes (listed below) to best enable the Association in its obligations to the vision. While these two themes are distinct they are obviously related and can be understood this way.

The two dimensions of the social justice work:

1) responsiveness and organisational capacity - immediate responsiveness, preparation of larger documents and submissions etc and ways of monitoring and reviewing progress on this front and
2) engaging members - engaging members both in contributing to the development of Assn positions and in putting their experiences into the mix so that the Assn could identify emerging issues/experiences.

Discussion:

The recommendation of the SJ Committee is for a Board discussion to generate ideas for a ‘Pilot’ over the next 12 months to identify the most effective ways to move forward and to clearly identify the resources required. This Pilot would require specific review points to scope future development and social justice themes.

The Committee identified the following four components for the Pilot:

1) To include opportunity for the profession to be quickly responsive to social justice issues in local/national/global communities.
   a) Members comfortable and empowered to speak as individuals in local and national issues e.g. A Christchurch member spoke on Employment law changes recently.
   b) Members able to alert issues that ANZASW would be more appropriate to speak into as a collective voice. e.g. ANZASW identifies a range of views with the priority of whanau wellbeing being central.
   c) ANZASW at National Office having an identified pool of members who are experts in a particular field. These members would be available to offer expertise as required to enable analysis and informed response to SJ issues by President or CE.

In considering a Pilot, one measure could be to include an acknowledgment of you as members working already in diverse professional groups with social justice advocacy in focus. This is respect, whakawhanaungatanga, which remains critical for our roopu, members, and as an Association. Another measure may be to identify and log associated work with key groups we as a National Office /Board/Profession link within Te Whakakoha Rangatiratanga. The Pilot may help the Board identify how
best to make this link work. e.g. CPAG, NZCCSS, Income Equity (Aotearoa). These ‘works in action’ can eventually be accessible through the website for members to view, and in newsletters.

We offer and invite members to post to Social Justice issues on ANZASW FaceBook page: https://www.facebook.com/ANZASW

We encourage you with other members to develop specific interest groups via the ANZASW website to enable your collective analysis, planning and action on specific social justice projects (http://my.anzasw.org.nz/).

We invite you to consider sharing your social justice experiences, by posting them also as stories. Add your name and the information of projects, or simple daily activities with which you alone, or with branch, roopu, or community are involved in (http://my.anzasw.org.nz). Click on Groups, then Social Justice E-community. Please note you must register with MY.ANZASW in order to access this secure forum for collaboration.

Your/ our activities inform a base-line of information. There may emerge issues in which the ANZASW profession is also active; one is the White paper for Vulnerable Children. We would work also on some projects together as a profession.

We look to your entries and our contribution towards the building of a socially just Aotearoa. 'When we stop talking about what is important to us, part of our life begins to die' (M. Luther King).

Nga mihi nui, Nga mihi manaaki
Jane Maidment Andrew Lynch
Bella Wikaira James Makowharemahihi
John White Merrill Simmons Hansen
Jim Anglem

And the Social Justice Committee:

Merrill Simmons-Hansen, Hanny Naus & Mike O’Brien

Management of the Competency Assessment Process – Supporting our Members

ANZASW would like to highlight to our members the ways in which we keep in contact with you and support you over the Competency Process (both initial competency and recertification)

Notification / Reminders that Initial Competency / Recertification is Due

Notifications are sent at the following intervals unless the portfolio is received prior to the next due reminder:

- Six months prior to expiry – with documents
- 5 months prior to expiry - reminder
- 4 months prior to expiry – reminder
- 3 months prior to expiry – with documents
• 2 months prior to expiry - reminder
• 1 month prior to expiry – with documents

Once the portfolio is received the member receives e-mail notification:

• Confirming that the portfolio is received
• Advising that the portfolio is waiting for an Assessor (this signals that the portfolio is ‘fully completed’)
• Advising that the portfolio has been sent to an Assessor & who the Assessor is
• The Assessor advises the assessment date and Panel make-up
• When competency is approved, sending the outcome letter and an electronic copy of the certificate

A tick box question has been included in the recertification template:

☐ You authorise ANZASW to advise SWRB that your fully completed recertification portfolio has been received.

☐ You are a registered social worker and want your electronic certificate e-mailed to the SWRB

If these tick boxes are not checked it is the member’s responsibility to ensure that SWRB is informed and sent a copy of the Certificate of Competency.

The expectation is that Assessors will complete the assessment and return the outcome letter within four weeks of receiving the portfolio.

The ‘fully completed portfolio’ date is used as frequently incomplete portfolios are received which means it is not appropriate to send the portfolio to an Assessor until all the required material is available.

A ‘fully complete portfolio’ includes:

a. The completed questionnaire
b. The supervisor’s reference
   a. A copy of the supervision contract
c. The Manager attestation if required
d. The colleague reference
e. The client reference
f. A CPD log detailing 20 hours CPD per year
g. For initial competency – the case study

C50 Anniversary – Letter from Fiona Robertson

Kia ora, Talofa and Greetings to ANZASW Members,

The establishment of the Social Workers Association in 1964 gives us fantastic reasons to celebrate next year. In 2014 we can focus on 50 years of efforts to gain recognition of social work as a profession in this country: something for all of us to feel proud of.
In the early years groups began meeting all around the country and they gradually became affiliated as branches and roopu of the national association. During our “50th anniversary year” we envisage that roopu, branches, workplace groups, places of education etc will enjoy local celebration opportunities. Your innovative ways to commemorate and celebrate the establishment and the achievements of ANZASW are welcome! To get started, here are some suggestions from the C50 Team for you to consider and develop into events for your area (in alphabetical not priority order):

- Advocate for social service agencies to support events you plan in your area
- Articles in local community rag / newspaper
- Afternoon / morning tea bringing older and newer members together
- Bicultural / multicultural social work focused event / discussion
- Commemorative focus events e.g. plaque, art work, garden / tree plant
- Competitions e.g. cake baking, posters
- Debate / ‘soap-box’ / korero / public speaking events
- Develop social work images: e.g. song, poetry, dance, art for an exhibition etc.
- Displays about social work in local libraries, community centres, museums etc.
- Focus to raise public awareness on a social justice issue / local concern
- Food for celebration event e.g. hangi, pot luck dinner etc.
- Fundraising activities for your roopu / branch or for another organisation/movement
- Hui to focus on specific issues or celebrations
- Local “roll call” event to honour our social work ‘legends’
- Network with related organisations to share a celebratory activity
- Oral history / korero / ‘focus on past years’ sharing opportunities
- Photo collections of local social work or social justice issues history
- Presentations to social work students at local tertiary education providers
- Professional development activities
- ‘Remembrance’ service for social workers or social history events
- Reunions of older / retired / kaumatua / kuia members
- Stands at ‘careers events’ to champion social work opportunities to young people
- Thanksgiving opportunities to social workers who have inspired / mentored others
- “This is our branch / roopu” life book
- Use specific dates of local or national significance to publicise local roopu / branch and social work e.g. Te Ahi Kaa, National or International social work days

Use opportunities this year such as Social Workers Day 2013 to brainstorm and start planning for events in your region next year. We plan to finish the year with national ‘C 50’ events, so plan for your local events between March and October of 2014.

The sooner we know of your plans the more we can advertise them through ANZASW networks. We are keen to include your activities on the website, which will have a calendar of 50th celebration events throughout 2014.

Many of the people who played a significant part in the formative years of the Association are no longer active and we’d like to be able to reach them with an invitation. Can you help us spread the word and help us contact past ANZASW members. Email us at C50@anzasw.org.nz or via our face book page with information.
Dr Dugald McDonald is leading the C50 History Project and if you have any comments and snippets about our history you would like to share do email Dugald at C50history@anzasw.org.nz

In 2014 our National event will be held in Christchurch with a day of Workshops related to social work practice on Friday 28 November; and a Reunion day on Saturday 29 celebrating the profession and people of social work across the decades. Around these dates will be social events. Mark your calendars now.

Fiona Robertson

On behalf of the C50 Team

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Draft of International Definition of Social Work – Add your Voice

Members are invited to have their say on the Draft International Definition of Social Work. Individual, group, Branch, Roopu, Special Interest or workplace responses are all welcome. The Draft Definition is to be presented to the IFSW General Meeting in July 2014. Responses should be e-mailed to Lucysandford-reed@anzasw.org.nz

The Future of Social Work

From: http://ifsw.org/get-involved/the-future-of-social-work/

The future of social work is being discussed...

Add your voice to the international debate on how social work should be described in the coming years. Does the current definition of social work reflect your reality and understanding of social work?

Does the current definition reflect the daily realities for social workers in Afghanistan, America, Armenia, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Algeria, Albania, American Samoa, Aruba, Azerbaijan, Austria. It makes you think?

The new Draft Global Definition of Social Work below is a result of extensive consultation carried out independently but in a coordinated fashion by IFSW and IASSW. To reach this point each organisation ran regional workshops, and many countries, organisations and individuals also submitted their contributions into the process.

These submissions were brought together by nominated representatives of both organisations and have resulted in this Draft Global Definition of Social Work that will enable further comment, reactions and feedback.

In the process of developing this draft each organisation tried to respect the following, and sometimes competing considerations:

- To include the wide range of perspectives that have been voiced in the submission process
- To keep the definition short
- To ensure that the words and meaning are easily translatable
- To make the wording relevant to governments and their policy development departments
- To ensure that it is understandable to people who are not social workers
- To maintain the depth and complexity of the profession
A defining feature of this draft is that it recognises that there are many new voices in social work and it is designed to co-exist with regional interpretations that address the differing contexts and roles of social work. The draft definition also attempts to make clear the link between the social worker’s role and the goal of the person(s) using the social work service to influence their environment to achieve wellbeing.

The draft definition also stresses that the profession is based on social work theory and indigenous knowledge as well as the broader social sciences. Lastly, the draft links together the concepts of human rights and collective responsibility.

The next steps involve both the IASSW and IFSW boards’ consideration of the draft. It was expected this process be completed by 31\textsuperscript{st} March 2013. These processes may result in changes and it is anticipated that there will be further consultation and feedback. A final draft will be voted upon by members of both organisations. Timeframes will be posted on this website.

All comments on the Draft Definition will be warmly welcomed, please email your feedback to global@ifsw.org.

“\textit{The Global Definition of The Social Work Profession [i]}:

- Regional and national definitions [iii] may be more specific taking into account their regional and national contexts.
- Social work facilitates
  - social development and
  - social cohesion [iii].
- Core to social work is supporting people to influence their social environments to achieve sustainable wellbeing.
- The profession is underpinned by theories of
  - social work,
  - social sciences, and
  - indigenous knowledges [iv].
- Principles of human rights, collective responsibility [v] and social justice are fundamental to practice[vi].”

i. This title reflects that the definition applies to social work professionals and not necessarily to people working in non-professional social work roles.
ii. Regional and national interpretations must not undermine the global definition.
iii. The word ‘facilitate’ has been chosen rather than ‘promote’ as it is more active and indicates actual change rather than intention.
iv. ‘Indigenous knowledge’ has been included to show the importance of cultural knowledge and to highlight that there is more than just Western theoretical models.
v. ‘Collective responsibility’ has been included along with human rights to highlight that rights and wellbeing can only be fully recognised when citizens/people take responsibility for their actions and for others. It is implicit that the Social Work profession advocates for human rights legal frameworks.
vi. The word ‘practice’ has been included to highlight that social work is a practice based profession.

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UPDATE!

The International Executive Committee of IFSW and the Board of IASSW have both agreed upon a ‘point-in-time’ Draft International Definition of Social Work that takes into account the feedback and submissions received so far.

This new draft formally starts the final consultation phase, which is from April to December 2013.

Feedback can be submitted to ANZASW National Office to inform the ANZASW response to the definition and related commentary by 30 November 2013.

After this consultation representatives from both IFSW and IASSW will review new feedback and revise the draft accordingly. This final draft will then be presented to the IFSW General Meeting and the IAASSW General Assembly for a membership vote in Melbourne in July 2014.

The point-in-time draft that has been endorsed by both IFSW and IASSW Executive/Board in March 2013 is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>International definition of the social work profession</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The social work profession facilitates social change and development, social cohesion, and the empowerment and liberation of people. Principles of social justice, human rights, collective responsibility and respect for diversities are central to social work. Underpinned by theories of social work, social sciences, humanities and indigenous knowledges, social work engages people and structures to address life challenges and enhance wellbeing.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above definition may be amplified at national and/or regional levels.

The following draft ‘commentary’ has not been formally endorsed by the above bodies but is also included in this consultation phases for feedback:

**COMMENTARY**

The commentary serves to unpack the core concepts used in the definition and is detailed in relation to the social work profession’s core mandates, principles, knowledge and practice.

**Core mandates**

The social work profession’s core mandates include facilitating social change, social development, social cohesion, and the empowerment and liberation of people.

The social work profession recognizes that interconnected historical, socio-economic, cultural, spatial, political and personal factors serve as opportunities and/or barriers to human wellbeing and development. Structural barriers contribute to the perpetuation of inequalities, discrimination, exploitation and oppression. The development of critical consciousness through reflecting on structural sources of oppression and/or privilege and developing action strategies towards addressing structural and personal barriers are central to emancipatory practice where the goals are the empowerment and liberation of people. In solidarity with those who are disadvantaged, the profession strives to alleviate poverty, liberate the vulnerable and oppressed, and promote social inclusion and social cohesion.

The social change mandate is based on the premise that social work intervention takes place when the current situation, be this at the level of the person, family, small group, community or society, is deemed to be in need of change and development. It is driven by the need to challenge and change those structural conditions that contribute to marginalization, social exclusion and oppression. Social change initiatives recognize the place of human
agency in advancing human rights and economic, environmental, and social justice. The profession is equally committed to the maintenance of social stability, insofar as such stability is not used to marginalize, exclude or oppress any particular group of persons.

Social development is conceptualized to mean strategies for intervention, desired end states and a policy framework, the latter in addition to the more popular residual and the institutional frameworks. It is based on holistic bio-psychosocial, spiritual assessments and interventions that transcend the micro-macro divide, incorporating multiple system levels and inter-sectorial and inter-professional collaboration. It prioritizes socio-structural and economic development, and does not subscribe to conventional wisdom that economic growth is a prerequisite for social development.

**Principles**

The overarching principles of social work are respect for the inherent worth and dignity of human beings, doing no harm, respect for diversity and upholding human rights and social justice.

Advocating and upholding human rights and social justice is the motivation and justification for social work. The social work profession recognizes that human rights need to coexist alongside collective responsibility. The idea of collective responsibility highlights the reality that individual human rights can only be realized on a day-to-day basis if people take responsibility for each other and the importance of creating reciprocal relationships within communities. Therefore a major focus of social work is to advocate for the rights of people at all levels, and to facilitate outcomes where people take responsibility for each other’s wellbeing, realize and respect the inter-dependence among people and between people and the environment.

Social work embraces first, second and third generation rights. First generation rights refer to civil and political rights such as free speech and conscience and freedom from torture and arbitrary detention; second generation to socio-economic and cultural rights that include the rights to reasonable levels of education, healthcare, and housing and minority language rights; and third generation rights focus on the natural world and the right to species biodiversity and inter-generational equity. These rights are mutually reinforcing and interdependent, and accommodate both individual and collective rights.

In some instances “doing no harm” and “respect for diversity” may represent conflicting and competing values, for example where in the name of culture the rights, including the right to life, of minority groups such as women and homosexuals, are violated. The Global Standards for Social Work Education and Training deals with this complex issue by advocating that social workers are schooled in a basic human rights approach, with an explanatory note that reads as:

> Such an approach might facilitate constructive confrontation and change where certain cultural beliefs, values and traditions violate people’s basic human rights. As culture is socially constructed and dynamic, it is subject to deconstruction and change. Such constructive confrontation, deconstruction and change may be facilitated through a tuning into, and an understanding of particular cultural values, beliefs and traditions and via critical and reflective dialogue with members of the cultural group vis-à-vis broader human rights issues.

**Knowledge**

Social work is both interdisciplinary and trans-disciplinary, and draws on a wide array of scientific theories. ‘Science’ is understood in this context in its most basic meaning as ‘knowledge’. Social work draws on its own constantly developing theoretical foundation, as well as theories from other human sciences, including but not limited to community development, social pedagogy, administration, anthropology, ecology, economics, education, management, nursing, psychiatry, psychology, public health, and sociology. The uniqueness of theories in social work is that they are applied and emancipatory. Much of social work theory is co-constructed with service users in an interactive, dialogic process and therefore informed by specific practice environments.
This proposed definition acknowledges that social work is informed not only by specific practice environments and Western theories, but also by indigenous knowledges. Part of the legacy of colonialism is that Western theories and knowledges have been exclusively valorised, and indigenous knowledges have been devalued, discounted, and hegemonised by Western theories and knowledge. The proposed definition attempts to halt and reverse that process by acknowledging that indigenous peoples in each region, country or area carry their own values, ways of knowing, ways of transmitting their knowledges, and have made invaluable contributions to science. Social work seeks to redress historic Western scientific colonialism and hegemony by listening to and learning from indigenous peoples around the world. In this way social work knowledges will be co-created and informed by indigenous peoples, and more appropriately practiced not only in local environments but also internationally. Drawing on the work of the United Nations, the IFSW defines indigenous peoples as follows:

- They live within (or maintain attachments to) geographically distinct ancestral territories.
- They tend to maintain distinct social, economic and political institutions within their territories.
- They typically aspire to remain distinct culturally, geographically and institutionally, rather than assimilate fully into national society.
- They self-identify as indigenous or tribal.

[http://ifsw.org/policies/indigenous-peoples](http://ifsw.org/policies/indigenous-peoples)

**Practice**

The participatory methodology advocated in social work is reflected in “Engages people and structures to address life challenges and enhance wellbeing.” As far as possible social work supports working with rather than for people. Consistent with the social development paradigm, social workers utilize a range of skills, techniques, strategies, principles and activities at various system levels, directed at system maintenance and/or system change efforts. Social work practice spans a range of activities including various forms of therapy and counselling, group work, and community work; policy formulation and analysis; and advocacy and political interventions. From an emancipatory perspective, that this definition supports social work strategies are aimed at increasing people’s hope, self-esteem and creative potential to confront and challenge oppressive power dynamics and structural sources of injustices, thus incorporating into a coherent whole the micro-macro, personal-political dimension of intervention. The holistic focus of social work is universal, but the priorities of social work practice will vary from one country to the next, and from time to time depending on historical, cultural, political and socio-economic conditions.

It is the responsibility of social workers across the world to defend, enrich and realize the values and principles reflected in this definition. A social work definition can only be meaningful when social workers actively commit to its values and vision.

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**Exciting Discovery of ANZASW Historical Documents in IFSW Files**

By Fiona Robertson

ANZASW member and International Federation of Social Workers Treasurer, our Fiona Robertson finds 1967 editions of The New Zealand Social Worker in IFSW files in Berne.

IFSW, with financial support from the IFSW Friends programme, has embarked on an exciting project to make the Federation’s archives more accessible to social workers around the world. Fiona accepted to lead the project and during her month stay in Switzerland she...
spent many long hours in the basement. She is supported in this Archives Project by IFSW Publications Officer Nigel Hall, the Secretary-General Rory Truell and the Publications and Communications Officer René Schegg.

The shift to the new IFSW office in Basel was a great opportunity to go through and review all the records held by IFSW in Berne. Fiona stated “My IFSW roles and length of service with IFSW gave me a sound knowledge base of the tasks and going through the records both current and historical, was a privilege. Secretariat personnel Rory and Rene were wonderful support and it proved a great learning experience for them. Nigel Hall (who wrote the IFSW Golden Jubilee history for the Munich Conference in 2006) helped with filling in the information gaps and provided great practical assistance as did Sue Dworak-Peck the Ambassador of the IFSW Friends Programme who provided support remotely.

Significant historical and archival material was located including a significant book telling of the IFSW foundation in 1956 (was found with a tied up bundle of “old books”). This book includes in three languages the proceedings of the 8th Assembly of the International Conference on Social Work in Germany. 50 years later IFSW held their golden celebration in 2006, in Germany.

Information was evidenced which ties the past and present IFSW together in what Fiona believes is essentially three phases of IFSW

- Pre-IFSW 1928 to 1950's
- The role and further development of social work in post World War Two reconstruction and the later involvement of IFSW in the Industrial Social Work growth and development.
- The achievement in 1956 when IFSW was formed and the development to the present day

Records have been merged and the wealth of information they hold will now be much easier to access. All the countries’ files are now in one filing system under the name of the country. All the meeting papers and yearly reports have been centralised into date order back to 1956. Other records have been sorted into significant IFSW subject areas. IFSW have also started to put historical material on the IFSW website and over time will add more, including the newsletters.

Link to the IFSW article

We are looking for GREAT Social Worker Stories

Please assist us by sharing your stories about great social workers. We will be publishing stories on a special ANZASW page on our website, and in our NoticeBoard e-newsletter.

Contact: fionas@anzasw.org.nz

Social Media – Social Work: Thinking into the Issues

Social media is a new phenomenon in our societies and is significant for Social Work practice. This is the first in a series of articles inspired by a recent webinar exploring the relevance of social media for Social Work. In these articles, I use the term ‘social media’ as a catch-all to include social networking sites, apps, blogs, forums, chat applications, games and so on.

Part 3: A Tool for Advocacy

A colleague tells this story from a recent episode on Twitter:

My friends wanted to book a local venue for their wedding after the Marriage Equality legislation came into effect in August. They rang around a few venues, decided on one and asked to make a booking. During the conversation it became clear that it was for a same sex wedding and suddenly the agent became flustered and refused to complete the booking. They claimed they couldn’t do it because there was a chapel on the premises and so they were ‘covered’ by the religion exception to the Discrimination Act.

I got so angry I tweeted about it, just to vent. The venue had no basis to refuse. What they were doing was not just discriminatory, it was illegal. Within minutes of me sending out the tweet, I was getting tweets from politicians and media outlets wanting to interview me about it. I said it wasn’t my story to tell so I passed on all the information to my friends so they could choose. All I did was tweet!

A range of social media platforms, including Facebook, Tumblr, Twitter and a huge array of blogging sites, provide a stage upon which anyone may promote a perspective or opinion. While most of us may first think of more frivolous or personal uses, there is a clear tradition of using them for organizing around public issues. They are being used for organizing, sharing ideas and messages and promoting to the wider community. One of the most significant benefits is being able to publish information independently of traditional media to a global audience. Twitter and Facebook have been recognised as key tools for the Arab Spring in 2011 and the Occupy movement during 2012. The GetUp! organisation in Australia is another example of the capacity to use social media to organise real support, including donations, for promoting political and social justice messages. At a more grassroots level, platforms such as Facebook are being used by community groups to organise and plan action. These are illustrations of the power of these digital tools for advocacy.

The term ‘slacktivism’ is an amusing contrast. It has been coined to refer to the proliferation of online petitions and “Like this to support <insert emotive issue here>!” posts that would be familiar to many social media users. At its most extreme, slacktivism refers to ‘liking’ a post to say you support a cause or opinion but not doing anything.
further. This is mocked sometimes for being ‘too easy’ compared to getting involved with activism ‘in real life’, contributing to change in society and ‘getting your hands dirty.’ It is easy to share information online. Social media is designed to do this with alarming ease. It is also powerful and is gathering an increasing degree of social ‘currency’. For some people, it may be their primary source of information and sharing. Some social media activism is not slacktivism because it can and does generate wider action and change.

One of Social Work’s enduring values is to translate private problems into public issues. While social media has its pitfalls, it is a remarkably efficient and effective means of getting attention, and communicating ideas and opinions to an incredibly wide audience. My colleague’s story illustrates how many organisations pay a lot of attention to social media to gauge public opinion and hot topics. While it means that it is just as easy to share ignorance and prejudice, it is also a powerful tool for activism and advocacy. Sometimes, as in the case of my work friend, the activism may be accidental but that detracts nothing from its effectiveness. Individual Social Workers may already be engaged with social media activism and advocacy. It presents an opportunity for the profession to gain wider reach and impact through a medium ideally suited to public advocacy for social justice.

Justin Canty is a PhD Fellow at University of Otago Wellington and a Registered Social Worker. His research topic focuses on children’s experiences of social media. He has worked in a variety of settings, including most recently in child adolescent mental health.

Social Workers’ Day
ANZASW National Office

We enjoyed morning tea at our desks.

Waikato DHB

A group of health social workers at Waikato DHB publicised and held a collection of good used clothing for Hamilton’s Men’s and Women’s Night Shelters, and the Women’s Refuge. We had great support from staff, both hospital and community based, and around eight large black bags of clothing, towels and footwear was donated. The recipient organisations were happy with the donations, and the message we publicised was social responsibility towards vulnerable homeless persons.
A comment heard often from other health colleagues was "What a great idea - and so much more profile-raising for our profession ...."

We were too busy collecting, sorting and distributing the clothing to take any photos! But I enclose the picture I sourced off the web to illustrate our publicity posters.

Open Home Foundation

Open Home Foundation had its National Practice Gathering which included a Kapa Haka Competition.
Timaru Child Youth and Family

A peek at what Timaru site at CYF did to celebrate Social workers Day - A Mad Hatters Breakfast which was enjoyed by those who attended.

Back to Top
A special breakfast.

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Clinical skills for treating posttraumatic stress disorder (Treating PTSD)

This two-day (9am-5pm) program presents a highly practical and interactive workshop (case-based) for treating traumatised clients; the content is applicable to both adult and adolescent populations. The techniques are cognitive behavioural, evidence-based, and will be immediately useful and effective for your clinical practice. The emphasis is upon imparting practical skills and up-to-date research in this area.

1-2 May, Gold Coast
8-9 May, Canberra CBD
15-16 May, Townsville CBD
22-23 May, Melbourne CBD
29-30 May, Sydney CBD
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5-6 June, Cairns CBD
17-18 July, Melbourne CBD
24-25 July, Sydney CBD
31 July-1 August, Auckland CBD
13-14 November, Adelaide CBD
20-21 November, Sydney CBD
30-31 October, Newcastle CBD

Program Fee for each activity is in Australian Dollars (AUD)
Travel to Australia $500 AUD (when you fax this form to pay for an Australian workshop with a Visa or Master card)
Auckland Super Early Bird $550 AUD (pay online by 31/12/13) Auckland Early Bird $600 AUD (pay online by 31/3/14)
Auckland Normal Fee $650 AUD (pay online after 31/3/14)

Program fee includes program materials, lunches, morning and afternoon teas on both workshop days
Direct your enquiries to Joshua George on (00612) 9823 3374 (phone/fax/voice) Email: mail@talominbooks.com
For more details about these offerings and books by Leah Giarratano refer to www.talominbooks.com

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