Happy New Year! I hope the break left you all feeling rested & ready to tackle this brand new semester! The New Year is often filled with new goals and exciting opportunities. The MSWSA executive council is starting this new year with a change in our leadership. Becca Smith has stepped up to take the role of Vice President leaving her former post of Secretary/Historian open for any student looking to join us in a position of leadership. We would love for a foundation year student who is excited about the program to step up and join us in finishing out this year and who can carry the torch into next year!

We have lots of exciting events planned for this semester and are really looking forward to providing some great events for students and the Tulsa community. Please consider joining us as MSWSA Secretary/Historian, it’s a great opportunity to work with some wonderful people and make a positive impact (and build a stellar resume!!!!). Please speak to Dr. Havig or any of the executive officers if you are interested, or e-mail us at: k.havig@ou.edu or taylor.kilburn@ou.edu.

Best regards,

Taylor Kilburn
Each month we will feature an OU-Tulsa MSW faculty member to help everyone get to know more familiar faces on campus. This month we feature one of my all time favorite professors/people, Dr. Tonia Caselman.

Have a faculty member you would love to see featured? Have a question you want the faculty to answer? Let me know at: Taylor.Kilburn@ou.edu

Tonia Caselman, PHD, LCSW
Associate Professor
tcaselman@ou.edu

Education Background: BA in English Literature, MSW, and PhD in Child Development

Classes Taught: Currently teaching Generalist Practice I, Advanced Practice with Families, Advanced Integrative Seminar and Child and Adolescent Mental Health

Years teaching at OU: This is my 14th full time year at OU-Tulsa. Prior to that I was an adjunct for a couple of years.

Experience in the field: I have worked with children and youth at several levels of care: inpatient, residential treatment, therapeutic foster care and private practice. I have also been a hospice social worker.

What do you love most about social work: I love the holistic and person-in-environment perspective that social work embodies. I love the versatility in the many fields of practice that social work offers. And I love the social work colleagues that I have had along the way. While my PhD is in Child Development, I have always identified myself as a social worker - and I'm very proud of it!

Favorite course to teach & why: I love practice classes, of course!

One thing you would like all MSW students to take away from their time in the program: I would hope that MSW students would leave their academic programs with a commitment to evidence-based practice(s) and to life-long learning. I would hope that they have the abilities to individually apply those evidence-based techniques in diverse situations and to think critically and outside of the box.
Shirts are in!
If you have not picked up your MSWSA shirt please contact Paige at:
Paigemelton@ou.edu

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!
Professional Development Day is March 12, from 9am-4pm!
We will have:
- Speakers from the licensure board & NASW
- LMSW test prep breakout sessions
- Self-care, and much more!!!

Join us for a film and panel discussion:

RACE RELATIONS IN TULSA

February 5, 2015
5:30 – 8:00 p.m.
Perkins Auditorium OU-Tulsa campus
FREE and open to the public
Refreshments will be provided

NASW OKLAHOMA CHAPTER:
Annual State Conference
April 26-28, 2015, Embassy Suites Hotel & Conference Center, Norman, OK
Students are invited to attend this event, and may use student funds ($250 allocated to each student every school year) for travel expenses.

Upcoming Events

Human Trafficking Awareness Event
January 24th, 10am-4pm, OU-Tulsa Innovation Commons

MSWSA General Meeting
TRIVIA NIGHT EDITION! Join us for a fun trivia event with prizes & dinner!
January 27th, 4:30pm, LC222

Race Relations in Tulsa
February 5th, 5:30-8pm, Perkins Auditorium,
January is Human Trafficking Awareness Month!

Help Stop Human Trafficking

Volunteers Needed!

You can be part of a small group that will be going into the Tulsa community to:

- Provide informational resources to key hospitality organizations
- Establish relationships with business leaders to recognize and stop human trafficking.

When?
January 24th from 10AM-4PM

Where?
OU Tulsa Innovation Commons
4502 E 41st Street

A brief training session will start at 10 AM in the Innovation Commons. Information regarding groups, designated locations and community informational resources will be provided then. All groups will meet back at the Commons at 3 PM for a debriefing and a light meal!

If you are interested in participating, please contact Kate Quinton at kathleen.a.quinton@ou.edu by Friday, January 16th!