UNIT ADMINISTRATOR: Department of Social Work  

School: Arts & Sciences

Unit Administrator: Carol M. Boyd, ACSW, LCSW

I. Data and information for department:

II. Personnel

Noteworthy activities and accomplishments:


- Department of Social Work will receive $45,000 for Child Welfare Training Institute from MS Department of Human Services.

- Alinda C. Sledge received United Way Grant: $3,600 for Delta Volunteers

III. Mission Statement

The B.S.W. program at Delta State University seeks to prepare students for beginning professional social work practice. The focus is to prepare generalists who are able to function professionally in a variety of settings with systems at the micro, mezzo, and macro levels. The emphasis is on resolving problems related to the transactions between people and their environments. While preparing for entry-level professional practice in any geographic setting, the Social Work Department seeks to meet the particular needs of the Delta region, a largely rural and impoverished area where the populations at risk are predominantly African American, children, women, and elderly. The assumption is that the rural, holistic focus of the department equips students to meet the particular social work staffing needs in the Delta and other rural areas, with competence that is built on a foundation or ability to practice social work outside of rural areas as well.

IV. SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT MISSION, GOALS, AND OBJECTIVES
The Bachelor of Social Work program at Delta State University seeks to prepare students for beginning professional social work practice as generalists, who are able to function in a variety of settings with systems at the micro, mezzo, and macro levels. Emphasis is on resolving problems related to the transactions between people and their environments. While preparing students for entry-level professional practice in any geographic setting, the Social Work Department seeks to meet the particular needs of the Delta region, a largely rural, impoverished area where the populations at risk are predominantly African American, children, women, and the elderly. The assumption is that the rural, holistic focus of the department equips students to choose to meet the particular social work staffing needs in the Delta and other rural areas, with competence that is built on a foundation or ability to practice social work outside rural areas as well.

Goals:
1. To prepare generalists social workers who are able to function professionally in a variety of settings with individuals, families, groups, organizations, institutions, and communities;

2. To prepare students who demonstrate a commitment to continue their own professional growth and development which may include graduate education in social work and other disciplines;

3. To prepare students to develop a professional identity which will incorporate the values and ethics of the social work profession;

4. To emphasize preparation for providing direct services to diverse populations, particularly African Americans, children, women, elderly, and those in rural areas, to alleviate poverty and oppression and to provide social and economic justice for all citizens;

5. To provide students with content about social contexts of social work practice, the changing nature of those contexts, the behavior found in organizations, and the dynamics of change.

Educational Objectives as required by the Council on Social Work Education:
1. Practice within the values of the social work profession and with an understanding of and respect for the positive value of diversity.

2. Identify and assess problems in the relationship between people and social institutions (including service gaps), plan for their resolution, and evaluate their outcomes.

3. Understand the forms and mechanisms of oppression and discrimination and the strategies of change that advance social and economic justice.

4. Communicate effectively with others in a purposeful way, encouraging open and trusting relationships.

5. Understand the history of the social work profession and its current structures and issues.

6. Assess the needs of populations-at-risk with emphasis on working with rural populations as
both client and action systems.

7. Demonstrate the following skills in working with systems of varying sizes, including rural populations: interviewing, defining issues, collecting data, recording, assessing, planning, contracting, intervening in alternative ways, evaluating, terminating, and follow-up.

8. Demonstrate the professional use of self.

9. Use communication skills differentially with a variety of client populations, colleagues, and members of the community.

10. Apply critical thinking skills within the context of professional social work practice.

11. Analyze social policies and how they impact client systems, workers, and agencies.

12. Understand agency structure, allocation of role performance, and the impact of organizational power and policies on client systems and, under supervision seek necessary organizational change.

13. Evaluate research studies and apply findings to practice and, under supervision, evaluate their own practice interventions and those of relevant systems.

14. Use supervision appropriate to generalist practice.

15. Apply knowledge of bio-psycho-social variables that affect individual development and behavior and use theoretical frameworks to understand the interactions among individuals and between individuals and social systems, i.e., families, groups, organizations, and communities.

Other Unit Goals
1. The faculty will attend professional social work conferences to keep abreast of social work theory and teaching techniques according to the Council on Social Work Education guidelines.

2. The department will provide increased educational opportunities for social work field instructors through sponsoring workshops on campus to enhance their social work knowledge and practice skills and to provide them with social work continuing education credit.

Other Student Outcomes
1. Students will demonstrate proficiency in using social work knowledge, values, and skills necessary for entry into professional social work careers.

2. Social work majors will demonstrate their ability to organize and effectively express their thought and ideas on writing prior to entering Field Instruction – SWO 475.
3. Graduates of the Social Work Program will readily find employment in their field of study.

Major: Social Work
Degree: BSW

V. Educational Goals 1 – 15:

Institutional Goal:
Review and update undergraduate and graduate programs to address, adequately basic skills, knowledge, and competencies necessary for students to be prepared properly in their chosen fields, to complete licensure requirements, enter the work force, and/or continue advanced study in graduate or professional school.

Expected Results:
All graduates of the social work program will demonstrate a mastery of the program's educational goals.

Assessment Results: A survey that uses the 15 educational goals on the evaluation instrument was mailed to six agency administrators in the Delta Region that employs social work majors. Each administrator had to identify whether our graduates as a group had mastered each one of the 15 educational goals.

Actual Results: Three of the six employers returned the survey. The three agencies stated that over the last three years they have employed 50 of our graduates. They rated our graduates very good to excellent as a group in all of the 15 educational objectives.

Use of Results: Results are used to confirm or change curriculum where appropriate.

Major: Social Work
Degree: B.S.W.

Unit Goal 1:
The faculty will attend professional social work conferences to keep abreast of social work theory and teaching techniques according to the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) guidelines.
Institutional Goal:

Promote faculty development through a comprehensive program designed to strengthen the faculty in teaching, service, and research.

Expected Results:

All faculty will attend at least one professional social work conference per school year.

Assessment Procedures:

Faculty document in their annual report workshops/professional conferences attended each year.

Actual Results:

- Boyd attended the Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Director’s Conference;
- Boyd, Tullos, and Sledge attended Council on Social Work Education Conference;
- Boyd, Tullos, and Sledge, and Donahoe attended MS Chapter National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Annual Conference;
- Tullos and Sledge attended AL/MS Social Work Education Annual Conference

Use of Results:

Faculty share information and resources obtained from conferences with each other at faculty meetings and use this material to improve teaching skills and keep abreast of current trends and information in social work.

Major: Social Work

Degree: B.S.W.

Unit Goal 2:

The Department will provide increased educational opportunities for social work field instructors through sponsoring workshops on campus to enhance their social work knowledge and practice skills and to provide them with social work continuing education credit.

Institutional Goal:

Strengthen the cooperative relationship with business and industry, service organizations, and other institutions.
Expected Results:

The department will sponsor or co-sponsor at least two workshops/conferences per year for field instructors and other social workers in the community.

Assessment Procedure:

The faculty will document all workshops/conferences conducted along with the agenda of each. Social workers will also be required to evaluate each workshop/conference and sign-in at the beginning of each session.

Actual Results:

The department co-sponsored conferences as follows:
- 5-H Institute (Healthy Mothers + Healthy Fathers = Healthy Babies = Healthy Families = Healthy Communities)
- Domestic Violence Conference

Use of Results:

The workshops are used to ensure that the social workers in the community who often supervise our seniors and other students while in the field and labs will be kept up-to-date on current social work techniques. The social workers also receive continuing education credit needed to keep social work licenses up-to-date.

Major: Social Work

Degree: B.S.W.

Student Outcome 1:

Students will demonstrate proficiency in using social work knowledge, values, and skills necessary for entry into professional social work careers.

Institutional Goal:

Review and update undergraduate and graduate programs to address, adequately basic skills, knowledge, and competencies necessary for students to be prepared properly in their chosen fields, to complete licensure requirements, enter the work force, and/or continue advanced study in graduate or professional school.

Expected Results:

100 percent of the students enrolled in SWO 475 Field Instruction will receive credit.

Assessment Procedures:

- SWO 475 Field Instruction - Each student is evaluated two times during the Spring semester by the agency Field Instructors.

- Results of all student evaluations are mailed to the Coordinator of Field Instruction at Delta State University. The Coordinator of Field Instruction and the Social Work Faculty Field Liaison determines whether students receive credit or no credit for field
based upon the evaluation given by the Agency Field Instructors.

- Students are also required to complete a series of projects. Students receive a pass/fail on each of the projects. They are allowed to repeat at least one other time, if they fail on the first attempt. The projects include:
  * 1 macro agency research project
  * 1 in-depth case study
  * Answer a question of the week for a total of 13 questions related to what they do in field and to the course objectives

These projects are evaluated by the two Social Work Faculty Liaison.

**Actual Results:**
The results of student’s performance in field are used to determine if students have mastered the course objectives and the department’s educational objectives.

All 21 students enrolled in SWO 475 Field Instruction received credit. None of the students showed a deficiency in any of the course objectives.

**Use of Results:**
The results determine if students have mastered the necessary knowledge, values, and skills necessary to graduate from the social work program.

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**Major:** Social Work  
**Degree:** B.S.W.

**Student Outcome 2:**

Social Work majors will demonstrate their ability to organize and effectively express their thoughts and ideas in writing prior to entering Field Instruction - SWO 475.

**Institutional Goal:**

Provide opportunities throughout the curriculum for students to further develop their skills in writing and in critical thinking.

**Expected Results:**

All majors who take the Writing Proficiency Exam will pass the exam or successfully complete ENG 301 with a grade of ‘C’ or higher.

**Assessment Procedures:**
Writing Proficiency Exam - ENG 300 or Expository Writing - ENG 301.

Prior to entering senior year, faculty advisors review student records to determine if this requirement has been completed.

Actual Results:

All of the 21 students who entered SWO 475 either passed the ENG 300 exam or completed ENG 301 with a grade of ‘C’ or higher.

Use of Results:

The results are used as one of the requirements for admission into the senior field practicum course.

Major: Social Work

Degree: B.S.W.

Student Outcome 3:

Graduates of the Social Work Program will readily find employment in their field of study.

Institutional Goal:

Review and update undergraduate and graduate programs to address, adequately basic skills, knowledge, and competencies necessary for students to be prepared properly in their chosen fields, to complete licensure requirements, enter the work force, and/or continue advanced study in graduate or professional school.

Expected Results:

One hundred percent of those seeking employment or graduate school will be employed or in graduate school within six months of graduation.

Assessment Procedures:

Students complete a survey that is mailed to them six months after graduating from the Social Work Program.

Actual Results:

2001 Graduates - 21
  16 - employed in social work positions
  2 - in graduate school in social work
2 - unknown
1 - employed in non-social work management position

Use of Results:

The results are used by faculty to determine whether to provide job placement assistance to graduates. None is needed at this time.
FORMAT

ANNUAL REPORT OF EFFECTIVENESS  
Academic Year 2001-2002

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES  
DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY

July 1, 2002

I. Departments and divisions with a recent review by a professional accrediting agency  
(ACS, CSWE, NASAD, NASM, NCATE, SACS )

Discuss the major findings of your accreditation self-study, the recommendations of the accrediting agency, any improvements already made as a result of the accreditation review, and improvements being planned. Place special emphasis on the accreditation self-study and review as they relate to student learning outcomes. Describe improvements made as a result of the self-study assessment and accreditation review.

II. Other departments

General format for report

A. Statement of department goals (for example, to increase the number of grant proposals) and student learning outcomes (What are your graduates expected to know or to be able to do?)
B. Method used for assessment of goal and outcomes
C. Result of assessment
D. Improvements made as a result of assessment
E. Other action being planned as a result of assessment

Use this format to briefly describe any major department or division goals and three of the most important student learning outcomes you expect for each degree program. Describe assessment and improvements made as a result of assessment. The most important part of your report is the description of improvements made as a result of assessment.

April 8, 2002