# MSWwp News School of Social Work



**GENERATING KNOWLEDGE AND EDUCATING ADVOCATES FOR INDIVUALS, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES** 

In this issue we wish you the best as we end this year with some advice for all our students, and highlighting a few of our very own!

## Taylor Fast, MSW, RSW, Field Learning Specialist

Taylor earned her undergraduate and master's degrees in Social Work at the University of Windsor. She has worked in a variety of environments including shelters, in-patient and out-patient hospital settings for mental health and substance abuse, a supportive school setting for youth, and most recently within a health centre for youth. She is currently supporting students in achieving their field learning goals.



# Renee Gilliam BSW MSW RSW, Field Learning Specialist



Renee has over twenty-five years of social work experience in various service sectors within children's mental health including youth justice, day treatment, residential services, supervised access, crisis services, and outpatient counseling. As a leader in healthcare she has acquired experience in program management and development, operations and clinical supervision, change management, system navigation and accreditation reviews. Renee has provided clinical and operational oversight to large Social Work and multidisciplinary teams. In addition, she has actively collaborated with many community partners to help ensure seamless transitions for clients and build strong community partnerships. She is a graduate of the University of Windsor's BSW and MSW programs and has played an integral role in the coordination and supervision of many BSW and MSW students within their field practicum placements.

Please join us in welcoming Taylor and Renee to the MSWwp Field Education Team

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# **Instructor Spotlight**

#### **Festus Moasun**

Festus has a PhD in Social Work from Wilfrid Laurier University, a Master of Philosophy in Social Work and a Bachelor of Arts in Social Work with Political Science both from the University of Ghana. In the University of Windsor's MSWwp, teaches part-time at the Faculty of Social Work, Wilfrid Laurier University, and the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, King's College, London, Ontario. He previously taught at the Department of Social Work, University of Ghana. His research focuses on understanding how cultural and structural systems predispose vulnerable populations like women, children and persons with disabilities to oppression and marginalization; mental health, critical race, anti-Black racism and decoloniality. He is an unflinching fan of Asante Kotoko Football Club of Ghana and Chelsea of England, and usually spend my fun time watching games involving these two clubs. And he loves the Toronto Raptors too!



# **Student Spotlight**

#### Samita Sarwan

Samita is a registered social worker with the OCSWSSW. She has a SSW diploma, a BASC in Family and Community Social Services and most recently completed certificates in Palliative Care and Non-profit management. She loves learning and taking new classes/courses. Her primary focus is Gerontology and hopes to work one day in a policy development or an advocacy role.

#### Some of her self care tips include:

She loves sleeping and getting my rest. She also loves to listen to music and dancing. Getting up and moving, like going for walks outside with her headphones plugged in helps to unwind. And cuddling in bed with her two cats and throwing on a movie or show really helps her to decompress.



#### **Anita Alabi**

Prior to her Masters, she completed an Honours Specialization in Family Studies as well as a B.A in Criminology. She has a huge interest in learning about social policy and how it influences her professional practice. Hence, why she chose to complete her practicum at CASWE-ACFTS to develop a better understanding of how policy influences and affects social work education. For the next few months, she will work with the Social Policy and Advocacy Committee to create a Policy Analysis and Development Toolkit. As social policy is a required component of curriculum content in the CASWE-ACFTS Standards for Accreditation, this toolkit will be designed to enhance the teaching and learning of social policy in universities.

#### Important to Keep in Mind:

Registration with the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers for Students and New Graduates <a href="https://www.ocswssw.org/applicants/students">https://www.ocswssw.org/applicants/students</a> and new graduates/

#### **Registration Prior to Convocation**

In some circumstances you may need to register with the College before convocation. This is not the case for all new graduates. If you are graduating with a degree in social work or a diploma in social service work and require membership in the College prior to convocation – but after you have completed all the academic and practicum requirements of your program – the Registrar may issue a general certificate of registration provided all other registration requirements are met, and you agree to a term, condition and limitation on your certificate of registration. (This term, condition and limitation will be removed once the College receives verification from your academic institution that you have obtained a degree in social work or a diploma in social service work.)

Please note that this is a two-step process and is not a required step to registration. For the College to issue a certificate of registration on this basis, you must submit the following to the College:

- Completed application form for registration as a social worker or social service worker.
- Non-refundable application fee and registration fee. You may be eligible for a reduced fee.
- Confirmation of the Completion of Requirements for a Social Work Degree Form completed by the dean/director of your social work program OR Confirmation of the Completion of Requirements for a Social Service Work Diploma Form completed by the coordinator of your social service work program, and forwarded directly to the College.
- Student/Applicant Declaration, Consent and Undertaking Regarding a Social Work Degree Form OR Student/Applicant Declaration, Consent and Undertaking Regarding a Social Service Work Diploma Form, signed by you agreeing to the term, condition and limitation on your certificate of registration.

Due to the multiple steps in this process, it may take up to six weeks to process your application.

**Important Note:** If you will be obtaining your social work degree or social service work diploma within approximately six weeks from the date the application is received at the College, you do not need to follow these steps. Click here to take the next steps and join the College.

Contact Email: registration@ocswssw.org

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#### **Applying to Gradtuate:**

The window to Apply to Graduate for SPRING 2021 CONVOCATION will tentatively open on DECEMBER 1, 2020. At that time, to apply to graduate, please log on to <u>UWinsite Student</u>.

#### **SPRING 2021 Convocation:**

All students who will have completed their degree requirements by the end of the winter term, must apply to graduate whether you plan on attending your Convocation ceremony or not. If you are eligible to apply to graduate for Spring 2021 Convocation, please note the no-fee deadline is MARCH 1, 2021. Late applications to graduate will be accepted from March 2 to April 26, 2021. If you apply during the late application period, and wish to attend your Convocation ceremony, a non-refundable, non-transferable \$80 fee will be charged. No applications to graduate will be accepted after April 26, 2021.

The application to graduate process is completed in <u>UWinsite Student</u>. For complete instructions, please read this <u>ask.UWindsor article</u>.

• Choose "Winter 2021" as your Expected Graduation Term as this is the term in which you will complete your degree requirements.

After you have applied to graduate, it is recommended that you check your graduation eligibility status in UWinsite Student regularly, as applications are being evaluated on an ongoing basis. For instructions on how to monitor your graduation eligibility status, please refer to the ask.UWindsor article.

**Note:** Your graduation eligibility status will be "Approved" or "Conditionally Eligible" if you have been deemed eligible to graduate.

### Specifically:

- "Approved" indicates you are approved to graduate.
- "Conditionally Eligible" indicates you are conditionally eligible to graduate based on the successful completion of your courses.

**Important:** All graduation email correspondence will be directed to your UWin email account. All graduation mailings will be sent to the mailing address on file on your UWinsite Student profile. Please ensure that your current mailing address is up to date.

#### **COVID-19 Update**

The University of Windsor has now moved to an "essential services only" model, and most of our faculty and staff are working remotely. This is to support both the federal and provincial initiatives to help mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus, and to protect the health and safety of our campus community. Please see our MSWwp School of Social Work website for contact information or please e-mail msw@uwindsor.ca if you have any questions. Please read more on the University of Windsor's Coronavirus updates - https://www.uwindsor.ca/coronavirus/

#### **Upcoming Information Sessions:**

Thursday, December 10, 2020 Noon - 1:00 pm Register Here



If there are any further questions, please contact us at msw@uwinsdor.ca



Hi! My name is Katelyn and I am a 3rd year Business student, specializing in Marketing and Communication. I am the Special Projects Marketing Assistant for the MSWwp program, and I would like to thank you for reading this installment of the MSWwp Newsletter. If you have achieved success in the field/program or have any information about an upcoming event that you would like to see highlighted in our next newsletter. I would love to chat with you about how we can make it happen! Please feel free to email me at: jacquesk@uwindsor.ca



Did you enjoy reading this Newsletter? Would you like to see more of the same or something different? Please follow the link below and complete the short survey to let us know how we can improve for future newsletters: MSWwp Newsletter Feedback