



Editor's Introduction

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Professional Development: The International Journal of Continuing Social Work Education is a refereed journal concerned with publishing scholarly and relevant articles on continuing education, professional development, and training in the field of social welfare. The aims of the journal are to advance the science of professional development and continuing social work education, to foster understanding among educators, practitioners, and researchers, and to promote discussion that represents a broad spectrum of interests in the field. The opinions expressed in this journal are solely those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the policy positions of The University of Texas at Austin's School of Social Work or its Center for Social Work Research.

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Editor's Introduction

Seymour J. Rosenthal, MSSW

This issue contains a variety of interesting and cutting edge articles, all of which offer significant implications for continuing education programs in the future.

One article, by Helene Jackson and Jennifer Elkins, concerns the presentation of an online course for social service staff that deal with childhood trauma worldwide. On a more micro level, Rebecca Thomas, et al, assist the reader in examining major barriers to employment in low-income neighborhoods.

In an article on domestic violence, Brian K. Payne, et al, have shown that the incidence and prevalence of this form of violence has led to an awareness of training needs for social service workers who are engaged in this highly sensitive field.

Timothy B. Conley, et al, address the lack of adequate preparation for rural master's-level

professionals who work in addiction communities, and offer solutions to this problem.

Lastly, Jay Sweifach and Heidi Heft-LaPorte outline a study that examines the manner in which doctoral students use online technology. The authors discuss the implications of this study and present strategies to enhance the use of technological resources within the social service profession.

Our next issue of *Professional Development* will be a special double issue that will follow up on a topic presented in our summer, 2003, issue: child welfare. We will report on the findings, programs and policy proposals that were first addressed in that issue. Together, these two issues will provide a substantive and useful packet of information for developers of child welfare programs.

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