

18-MONTH POST IQAP FOLLOW-UP REPORT

January 2018

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

PROGRAM	IQAP REVIEW DATE	PREPARED BY
Bachelor of Social Work	Last review: 2013	Dean of Applied and Professional Studies

PROGRESS OF PPC RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION	% COMPLETE	RESPONSIBLE MEMBER/UNIT	EXPECTED COMPLETION
Minor revisions to Stage II program proposal document	100%	Social Work Department	Completed in 2012

At the PPC meeting on November 23, 2012, minor revisions to the Stage II program proposal document were recommended by PPC. These revisions were completed and Senate approved the proposal on December 14, 2012. The University then submitted the finalized proposal to Quality Council on May 1, 2013.

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS TO DATE

Since approval to deliver the Social Work program was granted by Quality Council in 2014, much progress has been made. Below are some program highlights:

Quality Council Correspondence

- On May 1, 2013, the University submitted its Stage II Program Approval Proposal to the Ontario Universities' Council on Quality Assurance (OUCQA)
- On March 13, 2014, OUCQA informed Nipissing that the Social Work program was approved to "Commence with Report"
- On February 2, 2017, Nipissing submitted a first report to OUCQA reporting on the appointment of a Director of the Social Work program
- On March 1, 2017, OUCQA provided a response recommending that the Social Work program be "Approved to Continue, without Condition"
- On November 15, 2017, Nipissing submitted a second report to OUCQA that provided:
 - An update on the implementation of the faculty and staff hiring plan
 - A list of placements confirmed for the practicum component
- On December 15, 2017, OUCQA provided a response recommending that the Social Work program be "Approved to Continue, without Condition"

Student Recruitment

- The first cohort of social work major students were admitted into the program in Fall 2015
- 14 students were accepted into the first of two professional years in September 2017
- The following is a table showing the number of social work majors by year of study as of January 2018:

Year of Study	Number of BSW Majors
1	61
2	31

Faculty and Staff

- Director of Social Work and Full Professor, Mary Pat Sullivan, was hired effective 5 October, 2016
- Anne Wagner, Associate Professor, and Mark Duffie, Assistant Professor, were appointed effective 1 July, 2017
- Field Education Coordinator was hired effective 14 August 2017
- The following Proposed Faculty and Staff Plan for 2017-2021 was submitted to Quality Council on November 15, 2017

Academic Year	3 rd Year Students	4 th Year Students	Equivalent Number of Courses ¹	Tenure Track Faculty ²	Staff	Approximate FSR
2017/18	14	-	13 (11) ³	3 FTE	1 FTE	1:5
2018/19	40	14	25 (20)	5 FTE	1 FTE	1:9
2019/20	40	40	25 (22)	5 FTE	2 FTE ⁴	1:16
2020/21	40	40	25 (22)	5 FTE	2 FTE	1:16

¹ The required courses in the generalist years are include here. For the planning purposes, the each Field Practicum course (SWRK3505 & SWRK4605) is being considered equivalent to 2 courses given the complexities involved in their delivery. Social Work Professional Skills Development (SWRK3216) is being considered equivalent to 2 courses as it will be delivered in 2 sections as the number of students grow. In this model, the total number of courses also only includes the delivery of 2 of 6 electives offered in 4th year.

² Social work registered faculty.

³() number of courses that will be delivered by full-time tenure track faculty as per the Collective Agreement. The shortfall will be covered by part-time instructors.

⁴ Includes the Field Education Coordinator and a Field Education Clerk (as per CASWE recommendations).

Curriculum and Program Delivery

- Substantial revisions to curriculum completed and approved by Senate in December 2016
- Consultation with Indigenous academics and social work practitioners on curriculum content and methods of assessment commenced December 2016
- Social Work Community Advisory Circle Terms of Reference approved February, 2017
- BSW Program and Field Education Handbooks completed September, 2017
- Social Work Information Hub, Twitter account and Facebook page developed September, 2017
- Consultation to address Indigenous student recruitment and alternative models of BSW delivery commenced October 2017
- Social Work Student Association developed September, 2017
- Initiatives to develop a participatory model of social work education with 'experts by experience' commenced December, 2017

Field Education

As of November 2017, the Bachelor of Social Work Field Education placement standings are as follows:

- 24 organizations accepting students for the 2017/18 academic year. Although we only have 14 students this will allow for last minute re-allocation if need be
- 15 organizations have agreed to accept students, but not until 2018/19 academic year
- 9 organizations currently on hold due to staffing/program capacity, but interested in students for 2018/19 or 2019/20 academic year

- 9 organizations have been contacted and waiting for response to confirm suitability and capacity
- 11 agencies have been contacted and found to be unsuitable or lack capacity

Total agencies engaged or in active outreach: 57

- 14 organizations have been identified as possible placement sites and due to be contacted. Further sites are being explored for contact
- The Department is currently exploring alternative models of placement delivery to enhance our capacity in a highly competitive environment, for example:
 - The development of student learning units at key organizations such as the Children’s Aid Society (talks underway), North Bay Regional Hospital, etc
 - Process for out-of-province or international placements
 - Delivering alternative field education courses in the spring/summer
 - Developing capacity in volunteer sector using external registered social workers to support students in community development field education work on behalf of the sector
 - Placements in the far north

Research & Scholarship

Current externally funded projects:

- ‘Academic Researchers in Challenging Times (2017-2021) Acker, S.S. (PI) (OSIE/University of Toronto), Wagner, A.E. (Nipissing University), Haque, E. (York University) and McGinn, M.K. (Brock University) *SSHRC-CSRH, \$127.61*
- ‘Echoes around the Home’ (2017-18) Firth, N. (PI) (University College London) and Sullivan, M.P. (Nipissing University) *UCL Collaborative Social Science Domain, £4,000*
- ‘Seeing What They See: Compensating for Cortical Visual Dysfunction in Alzheimer’s Disease’ (2014-18) Crutch, S. (PI), Tyler, N. (University College London), Sullivan, M.P. (Nipissing University), Gilhooly, M., Gilhooly, K., McIntyre, A. (Brunel University London), Lengyel, I. (University College London), Frost, C. (London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine) and Peto, T. (Moorfields Eye Hospital) *Economic and Social Research Council and National Institute for Health Research, £2.7 million*

Current internally funded projects:

- ‘Old and Lonely: The Loneliness Narrative, Moral Regulation and the Media’ (2018-20) Sullivan M.P. (PI) (Nipissing University) and Victor, C.R. (Brunel University London) *Nipissing University Start Up Award, \$5,000*

Accreditation

- In April 2017, an application for Pre-Accreditation status was submitted to the Canadian Association for Social Work Education (CASWE).
- On June 6, 2017, CASWE responded with a decision to defer Pre-Accreditation on account of various gaps identified by the Commission on Accreditation.
- Nipissing’s next progress report is due to CASWE on April 1, 2018.

LIST OF ACTION ITEMS LEADING UP TO 4-YEAR FOLLOW-UP REPORT

ITEM	RESPONSIBLE MEMBER/UNIT	PROJECTED COMPLETION
Faculty & Staff:		
Appoint 2 full time tenure track faculty for 2018-2019 including 1 Indigenous scholar	VPAR/SW Department	September 2018
Hire 1 full time Field Education Clerk	SW Department	2018
Physical Space:		
Secure dedicated departmental space <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reception and administrative area and minimum 6 offices • Minimum of 2 dedicated social work classrooms/teaching areas for active learning and skill development 	SW Department/Facilities	Awaiting University's space review
Curriculum and Program Delivery:		
Establish a program delivery model specific to Indigenous field of study	SW Department/OII, Partnership Manager	2019/20 academic year
Develop SWRK 1007 for online delivery	SW Department	September 2020
Develop 1-2 certificates (e.g. Dementia Care, Social Work Enterprise)	SW Department	September 2020
Establish Experts by Experience Partnership Committee	SW Department	October 2018
Student Recruitment & Engagement:		
Establish reserved student positions for Indigenous students	SW Department/Registrar	September 2018
Establish 1-2 scholarships/awards for BSW students	SW Department/Meghan Venasse/Advancement	September – December 2018
Establish Social Work alumni group	SW Department	Summer 2019
Research & Scholarship:		
Submit edited book proposal on northern, rural and remote social work	SW Department	September 2019
Submit internal funding application for community based social work research project in cooperation with the Community Social Work Advisory Circle	SW Department	January – March 2019
Establish a social work research seminar series	SW Department	September 2018
Accreditation:		
Obtain pre-accreditation status from CASWE (Canadian Association for Social Work Education)	SW Department/University	June 2018

CONCLUSIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS/NEXT STEPS

While much has been accomplished to date to get the Social Work program up and running, addressing the shortage of faculty and staff within the department will be vital to the future growth and sustainability of the program as well as the attainment of pre-accreditation status from CASWE.